

THE LINK

Keeping you in touch with Outwood, Stanley, Wrenthorpe and Alverthorpe Churches 25th April- 1st May - 51st Edition

Dear all,

The weather is getting brighter and at least in the UK, the future seems to be too. The number of Covid cases are much lower than they were, more people are getting vaccinated or getting their second jab, and at least some people are starting to lead more normal lives. Mother Jo and I were able to get away for a break in self-catered accommodation this past week, and I know one or two others have taken the opportunity to make their escape! And we hope you've enjoyed it.

For now, church life continues more or less as it has done, but there are a few changes we're going to make as restrictions ease up in Outwood and Wrenthorpe parishes:

- From 17 May, the Link will be sent out every other week, rather than every week. It is a relatively time-consuming job getting all the material together, so we're going to cut back a bit once people are allowed to meet in homes.
- From 17 May, Mother Jo and I will begin doing regular home communion visits again in people's homes. If you received communion at home before all this business started, we'll be in touch to try to arrange times to visit. We normally go out to see people once or twice a month depending on their situation. If you'd like a home communion visit and you don't already get one, please be in touch.
- We've got a number of summer events planned in Outwood, and in due course there will be events planned in Stanley, Wrenthorpe and Alverthorpe. More information will appear in the coming weeks on the events page.

We're still in the middle of a global pandemic of course, and we keep countries like India and

Brazil in our prayers as they suffer through very serious outbreaks. We live in an interconnected world, and we will not all be safe from new variants of Coronavirus until large parts of the world's population have received a vaccine. Hopefully in time there will be things we can do as a church to help as well as to help our own local communities get back on our feet.

Every blessing,
Fr Jonathan

Prayers & Readings for Next Week

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Acts 4.5–12
Psalm 23
1 John 3.16–24
John 10.11–18

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate
of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help

we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Acts 8.26–40
Psalm 22.25–31
1 John 4.7–21
John 15.1–8

Weekday In Person Communions

Wednesdays 11 am - St Paul's
Wednesdays 2pm St Anne's

Thy Kingdom Come



This year we will again be marking the period between the Ascension and Pentecost by praying for the coming of God's Kingdom. There will also be two special benefice services to which all are welcome.

Upcoming Church Events

Ascension Day (Thurs 13th May) - 7:30 pm
Alverthorpe
Pentecost (Sun 23rd May) - 5:30 Outwood

Outwood
28 April - APCM (in church) - 7:30

St Anne's
28th April - APCM (in church and on zoom) - 7:30
11th May - Quiztarian Aid Quiz with Quizmaster Nicholas Jennings (Zoom) - 7:30

Stanley
27th April - The Tuesday Lunch Club meets for takeaway/ eating together outside - 11am-1pm

Summer Activities in Outwood Parish Church

Our church council in S. Mary Magdalene's have planned a series of events for the summer, assuming that all Coronavirus restrictions are lifted by then. These may be adapted depending on what rules may still be in place, but for now, here are some dates for you diary:

10 July at 2pm Community Garden Party
21 August at 12pm Parish Barbecue
18 September at 6pm Skelmanthorpe Male Voice Choir concert with refreshments

If you'd like to be involved in planning these, particularly the Garden Party, we're planning on a meeting in church at 7:30pm on 5 May, so please come along!

Regular events online:

All our weekday online events are hosted on Zoom, either through the benefice's website's meeting rooms, or through a meeting login. For more information about how to join and how to use Zoom, please contact us.

Sundays

- 11am Coffee Morning on Zoom for St Anne's Wrenthorpe

Mondays

- 10am 'Start the Week – Drop in for Chat and Prayer' on Zoom
- 7:30pm St Peter's Stanley Housegroup on Zoom

Tuesdays

- 10am Coffee Morning for St Paul's on Zoom

Worship Online, on the Radio and on Television

Sunday Worship is broadcast on Radio 4 at 8:10am. Songs of Praise is broadcast on BBC1 at 1:15pm. The Church of England streams a service on YouTube every Sunday at 9am.

You can also join in with our church services online! We're showing them live on the churches' Facebook pages. If you don't have Facebook, you can still watch the services: type your church's name and 'Facebook' into Google, and click on the first link. The videos should be available to view during the service or after it has concluded.

The pattern for online services is as follows:

Sundays:

- 10am Parish Mass (St Mary Magdalene Outwood)
- 10am Parish Eucharist (St Anne's Wrenthorpe)
- 10am Holy Communion (from St Peter's and St Paul's on alternate weeks)
- 5:30pm Reflection

Mondays

- 9am Celtic Morning prayer
- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (live from St Mary Magdalene's)

Tuesdays:

- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Wednesdays:

- 9am Celtic Morning Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)
- 9pm Sung Compline (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Thursdays:

- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Fridays

- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Saturdays:

- 12:30pm Midday Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)

Rhythm of Life Course



From Monday May 3rd, the St Peter's Monday night group will be starting the "Rhythm of Life" course. This is a way to explore how you can live out your faith more deeply in everyday life! If you are interested in joining them, even if you aren't already part of the group, please let Rev'd Glenn know.

Christian Aid Week



Christian Aid Week starts on May 10th, and there are a couple of fundraising events happening in St Anne's. Envelopes will be going out for donations (but they will not be collected - people will be asked to return them to a central address) - please speak to Jane Illingworth if you are not one of the regular volunteers but would like to be involved.

There will be a quiz evening on the 11th of May on Zoom which will be led by Nicholas Jennings - everyone is invited to take part. And Jane Illingworth is doing a "long term sponsored walk" with a target of 300000 steps in May, do let her know if you want to sponsor her.

Watch out for an announcement about a joint service with the Methodists on Zoom!

Good News from Around the World

Walker Saved By Stranger's Odd Hobby

American hiker Rene Compean had got into serious trouble hiking in the South Californian mountains. Hopelessly lost, he was in an area with bad phone reception, and darkness was falling as the wind rose. His phone was nearly dead, and he sent off a text to a friend with two photos to try and give a sense of his location to the rescuers. But location services on his phone was off, and only one photo, mostly showing his knees, got through. The baffled Sheriff's Department couldn't

make much of it, but shared it with the internet while they searched, along with the location Compean had started from. Astonishingly, they were contacted by Ben Kuo, whose hobby is trying to identify filming locations, and has developed all kinds of tricks to identify places on satellite imagery. Kuo also spends a lot of time monitoring local wildfires, to help people who need to evacuate, so he knew the area well, but it's still incredible that his prediction was accurate to less than a mile. LA County Sheriff's Department say they'd have struggled to find Compean, who was suffering from exposure but is now recovering well, without Kuo.



Welsh Community Wins Top Film Prize



Volunteer student film-makers in Tredegar, Wales, made a documentary called "Together - Volunteers of a Covid Community", following the "Tredegar Taskforce" as they, like thousands of others up and down the country shopped, filled prescriptions, and dropped off supplies, school meals, and educational resources.. Initially the idea was that they were creating a record for the archives, but the editor, Richard Warner, began to realise they had created something special. The

film, which won two prizes at the North Europe Fusion International Film Festival, is a moving tribute to the volunteers who kept their communities going - and to the power of kindness. Judges praised the film as speaking a message of solidarity to the whole world.

Rewilding the Sea-Bed



Much of the sea grass which used to cover the ocean floor of British coastal waters has been damaged or destroyed by trawling and various kinds of pollution. This is bad for various marine creatures, including sea-horses and fish like pollock, and prevents the grass from sequestering carbon from the atmosphere. Now a pilot project in Plymouth is planting several hectares of sea-grass with the help of volunteer who will drop sandbags filled with seed, to restore this valuable habitat. They hope it will help improve the health of our seas and our planet- and become part of a new national marine park.

Wrenthorpe & Kirkhamgate Food Bank



Regular collection boxes for the food bank which serves Outwood, Wrenthorpe, Stanley and Alvethorpe are hosted in both St Anne's and St Mary Magdalene's churches. 72% of families with children who depend on foodbanks are in work, and the need for support is growing, especially in the current Covid-19 restrictions. Please bring non-perishable food and toiletries to church when you are able to, and the boxes will be taken to the food bank as they fill up.

A Recipe from Mother Jo Kershaw:

Rhubarb Clafoutis.



A classic clafoutis is made with cherries, but there's no reason you can't use other fruit. While it might not be usual in France, rhubarb is a great option, as its flavour goes really well with the soft dairy flavours of the batter. Think of it as a variant on rhubarb and custard! The rhubarb is roasted first, to assure it's properly cooked but won't fall apart. Quantities are for six, but clafoutis is good cold the next day. It's also great at a picnic!

For the roasted rhubarb:

500g rhubarb

85g caster sugar

Heat oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6. Rinse the rhubarb and shake off the excess water. Trim the ends and cut the rhubarb into inch long pieces. Put the rhubarb in a oven-proof shallow dish, tip the sugar over, toss together, then shuffle the rhubarb so it's in a single layer. Cover with foil and roast for 15 minutes, then remove the foil, shake, and give it another five minutes..Allow to cool. (The clafoutis bakes at the same temperature, so you can leave the oven on).

For the batter:

75g caster sugar

20g butter, melted, plus extra to grease

2 tbsp demerara sugar

50g plain flour

Pinch of salt

2 eggs, beaten

270ml whole milk

Finely grated zest of ½ lemon

Grease the baking dish, which should be just wide enough to hold the rhubarb in a single layer. Scatter 1 tbsp of the demerara sugar over the bottom and sides.

Sift the flour into a mixing bowl and add the salt and sugar. Whisk in the eggs, followed by the milk and melted butter, to form a smooth batter. Add the lemon zest and the roasted rhubarb and its juices and mix.

Pour into your baking dish and bake for half an hour until set but still wobbly. Sprinkle with demerara sugar and allow to cool a bit before you serve.

RIP

Please remember and pray for those who have died recently whose funerals will be led by members of our clergy team, and others from the local community.

Alverthorpe - Brian Batley

Stanley –Jean Owen

Outwood – Roy Whiteley, Mavis Turton, Lesley

Walton, David Senior, Jade Williams, Joan Dakin,

Baby Dylan June Spaven.

Wrenthorpe –Vivian Worrall

Visiting Churches



Our churches are open for visits at the following times:

Monday 4pm-5pm St Mary Magdalene's Outwood

Saturday 10-12pm St Paul's Alverthorpe

All our churches can also be visited by appointment.

Staying in touch with each other

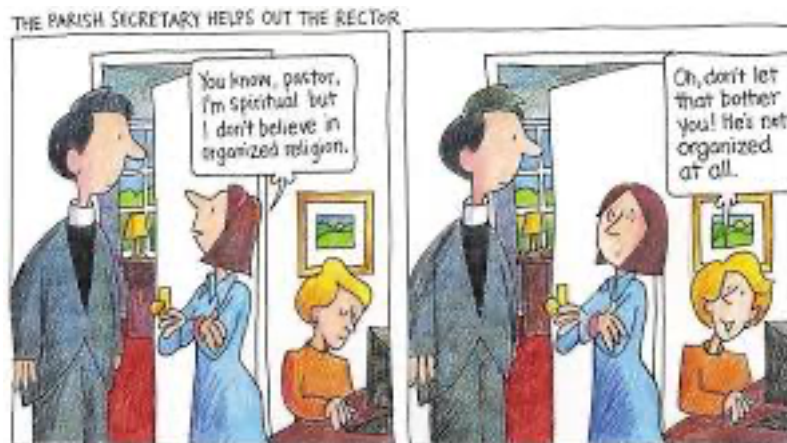
It's hard to cope with being alone or not seeing many people for a long period of time, and everyone struggles. If you want a chat, you can call any of the vicars in this team. Leave your numbers so we can keep in touch too!

Outwood: Fr Jonathan (01924 373758/
frjonathanbish@gmail.com)

Wrenthorpe: Rev'd Jo (01924 373758/
revdjokershaw@gmail.com)

Stanley & Alverthorpe: Rev'd Glenn (01924
218484/ cogginsglenn@gmail.com)

Keeping you entertained!



The Editors could not possibly comment.