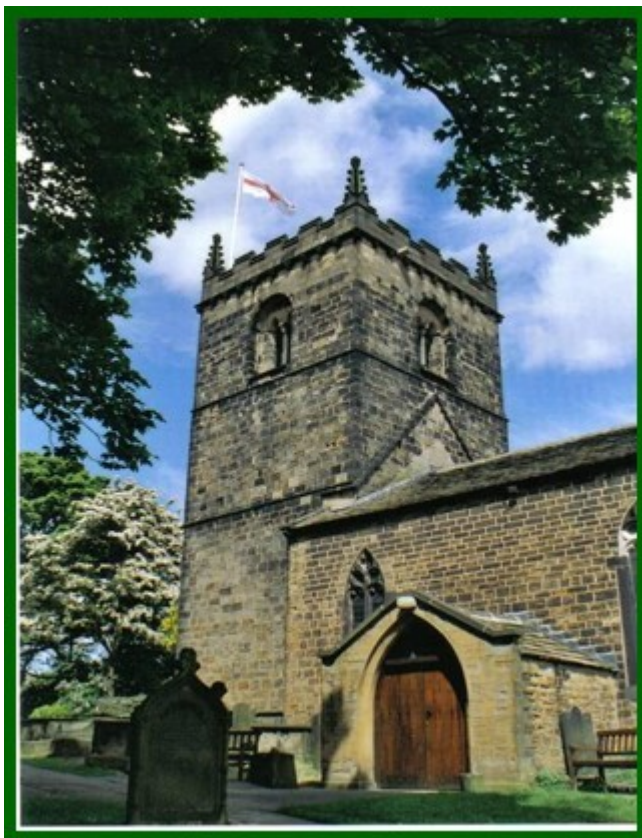


Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

Summer 2021

July-August 2021



Worship Online at:
[Facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Who's who at Woodkirk

- Vicar of St Mary's:** **Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.**
Woodkirk Vicarage, 1168 Dewsbury Road,
Dewsbury, WF12. 7JL
01924 472375/07539466724
E-mail: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org
- Reader:** Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963
- Lay Pastoral Minister** Gail Townsend 0113 2528710
- Churchwardens:** Gary Mortimer 01924 405790
Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
- Assistant Churchwardens:** David Townsend, Pernoe Liburd
- Deanery Synod Reps** Brian Gledhill
Gary Mortimer
- Verger:** Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
- Organist:** TBC
- PCC Secretary:** Dawn Tattersfield
- PCC Treasurer** Barbara Tate
- Social Chairman:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
- Parish Centre Hire:** Sally Shaw 01924 475048
-
- Child Protection Officer:** Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963
- Health & Safety Officer:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963
- Electoral Roll Officer:** Dave Townsend 0113 2528710
- Data Protection
and Legacy Officer** Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001
-
- Magazine Editor &
Weekly News Sheet:.** David Townsend 0113 2528710
Email: Dave@stmarywoodkirk.org
Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month.
Contributions for the Weekly News Sheet
by Thursday evening please.

Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Laura Mortimer, Barbara Tate, Gail Townsend, Sandra Gledhill, Pernoe Liburd, David Townsend.

If you enjoy the magazine— a donation of 60p really helps to keep it going!

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Welcome!

Enjoy reading this Parish magazine and, if you wish to know more about Church Groups, please get in touch with the Movers and Shakers - their names are on the inside front & inside back covers. Service times are on the back page. You'd be most welcome to join us. May God bless you and all whom you love.

Parish News by Post

This magazine can be delivered monthly by sending a minimum donation of £12 a year to cover magazine costs including post and packaging to: Margaret Longden, 64 Woodkirk Gardens, Dewsbury WF12 7JA. Call Margaret on 01924 473064. It's a brilliant gift for friends or family living near or far. Cheque's to Woodkirk PCC please.

Web site & Twitter

Further news and pictures of what is happening at St Mary's can be found on our web site located at: www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Copies of the magazine can be downloaded from the web site from the middle of the month of publication.

We are on Twitter: twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk

Wheelchair Access

A wheelchair is available to help people move easily between the

I like gardening. It's a place where I find
myself when I need to lose myself.

– Alice Sebold

Vicar's letter – July/August

Well here we are at the end of the month of June when we had hoped to see the Government open up the country fully. Sadly, that didn't happen and at the minute cases are rising locally. As you may be aware St Mary's Church reopened on Easter Sunday for worship and has remained open on Wednesdays and Sundays since that date.

Myself and the PCC have always prioritised safe practice when meeting and we, like everyone else, were looking forward to organising some events and we had tentatively booked in a Family Fun Day for July but unfortunately this was not possible.

The Government are planning to announce any new changes on the 12th July and these will take effect from the 19th July. Thanks to the vaccine and the extra month given for younger people to be vaccinated – it would seem that at some point we are going to have to get on with our lives with the risks of COVID which if you have had two vaccinations will be manageable.

Here at church we are hopeful that we can return safely to holding our community events and so with that in mind we are planning now to hold the following events:-

Family Fun Day on Saturday 14th August between 10.00am and 2.00pm – please see Poster for details on Page 12.

Open Day on Saturday 18th September between 10.00am and 2.00pm – please see Poster for details on Page 13.

Both of these events are usually well supported and enjoyed by all of our local community.

We are still dependent on Government guidelines but we are hopeful that both will be able to go ahead.

From the 24th July – we are hopeful that we are going to open the Church Building on Saturday mornings from 10.00am – 12 noon for coffee and cake, tea and biscuits. Tables will be set up and spaced possibly outside if it is nice weather – or if guidelines state that is the only way to go ahead. This is an opportunity to catch passing walkers, people visiting the graveyard or anyone who simply wants to share some time or to wonder around our beautiful church. Of course anyone is welcome. There will be no charge but if you wish to leave a donation then please do so.

Saturday Morning Café will run as follows: 10.00am – 12noon

Saturday 24th July

Saturday 31st July

Saturday 7th August

Saturday 14th August – Family Fun Day – café will be in the vicarage garden

Saturday 21st August

Saturday 28th August

I am so looking forward to seeing you either in church or at any of the events above.

Best wishes
Sharon



The past eighteen months have been difficult for everyone but more so for those without the means to feed their families. When the Foodbank was unable to meet users face to face, we moved to a delivery service. We were helped by the local council who also delivered food parcels to the needy and the Shielding.

Throughout this period your support has been invaluable as you continued to bring me food, if not to church then to my backdoor. As a Foodbank we are so grateful. Now things are easing a little and we have reopened most of our outlets, we are still reliant on donations to keep going.

The Summer months are usually quiet for donations and our stocks are lower than normal. I am doubly grateful to those of you who keep the donations going.

Our ultimate aim is to make ourselves redundant. The Trussell Trust lobbies Government for reform. I don't think this is going to happen during my tenure as Trustee but I live in hope. Prayer helps too!

Thank you so much for your support.

Barbara

St Mary's Church, Woodkirk

FAMILY FUN DAY

Woodkirk Vicarage Gardens, Dewsbury Road

SATURDAY 14th AUGUST

FREE ENTRY 10-2PM

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HISTORY OF
ST MARY'S
WOODKIRK
OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER
10AM- 2PM

**Come and Join us to find out more about the
history of your local church.**

Explore the churchyard and find lost family graves
Tours of church windows and churchyard
Refreshments and BBQ will be available

FREE ENTRY- ALL WELCOME!

Environmental Endeavours

G7 and COP26

If you were watching the news around the 12-13th June, you may have heard and seen references to these two events.

The first one, G7 is made up of the Governments of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the USA and was set up in 1975 as an informal forum of leaders from the world's most advanced economies. The G7 holds annual summits that provide an opportunity to discuss and shape political responses to global challenges. Because of their wealth and power, the group is positioned to make things happen around the world.

The G7 met in Carbis Bay in Cornwall and I'm sure discussed a number of key areas, and whilst continuing recovery from the Covid pandemic would have been high on the agenda, the G7 members joined by representatives from the Republic of Korea, South Africa and India, also discussed the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss that threaten nature, people, prosperity and security.

These representatives were joined by heads of the UN, International Monetary Fund, World Bank and OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) along with Sir David Attenborough, the COP26 People's Advocate, who called on Leaders to take urgent action to avoid environmental crises.

Sir David said

“Tackling climate change is now as much a political and communications challenge as it is a scientific or technological one. We have the skills to address climate change in time, all

we need is the global will to do so...Decisions taken at this G7 meeting, at the Biodiversity COP in China, and COP26 in Glasgow are the most important decisions humanity has ever taken”

So, the second one – COP26 is the annual UN climate conference. (‘COP’ means ‘conference of parties’).

Governments and negotiators from across the world will travel to the meeting being held in Glasgow in November and amongst many things, will discuss how to keep global temperature rises below dangerous levels and prevent the climate crisis from causing even worse catastrophes for the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people.

The COP is a summit of all the countries which are part of the UN’s climate change treaty, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change or ‘UNFCCC’. There are 197 members of this process and they are known as ‘parties’ to the treaty.

The Prime Minister invited partners at the meeting to set out the specific actions they are taking to drive a global green transition both in their own economies, and to support developing nations on a path to reaching net zero carbon emissions and set out the following four goals as the UK takes on Presidency of the event.

These four goals are;

1. Secure global net zero by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees within reach.
2. Adapt to protect communities and natural habitats.
3. Mobilising finance.
4. Working together to deliver these goals.

Now you may be wondering what this has got to do with us in our little corner of Yorkshire, well the thing is, every little thing we do can make a difference.

I have just completed a Diocesan Training Course(via online learning) called Creation Salvation where I was able to join with other people from churches across the Diocese to learn and to share information that can help us help the environment in our Parishes.

We have an Environmental Group here at St Mary's and we will be reconvening again shortly after a necessary hiatus due to the pandemic, and will be sharing with you regular updates on what we are doing, and also providing hints and tips on how you can do your bit towards this global environmental challenge. In the meantime, if I could ask you to remember the environment, world leaders, and those in the developing world (who are most at risk from harm of the effects of climate change) in your prayers that would be great.

We will also be having a special 'Climate Sunday' service, so watch out for details of that in our weekly newsheets.

One of the first tasks we had to complete as part of our course was to write a 'Psalm of Lament', and with thanks to the Book of Psalms and the Iona Community, I have set it out below...

The voice of the Lord is over the earth, the God of glory thunders,

Why don't we listen?

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire, the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness,

Why don't we listen?

*Scientists are telling us what they have found, environmental
campaigners and activists implore us,
Why don't we listen?*

*Extreme weather destroys lives, homes and habitats, this is real
and happening now,
Why don't we listen?*

*Why do the rich nations ignore instead of directing focus and
resources?*

They can make a difference

*Why do we continue with fast fashion and the throw away
society?*

We can make a difference.

*Businesses large and small need to focus on their environmental
impact*

They can make a difference

*Every plastic bottle recycled, every garment repaired, every
journey made on foot*

We can make a difference

*Creator God, - Empower us to understand the environmental
experts*

*Creator God - Enable each one of us to walk with a lighter
carbon footprint*

*Creator God - Help us to face up to the challenge of moving from
old ways to adopting new approaches*

Guide us to travel in the way you want us to go.

Amen

With love

Dawn

Christ Born of Mary’– Excavation Reveals First Evidence of Christian Settlement Near Nazareth.

A recent excavation unearthed the first proof of ancient Christian life during the

Byzantine era in the Jezreel Valley, which includes Nazareth. Prior to construction of a new road in northern Israel, archaeologists and local volunteers discovered a 1,500-year-old Greek inscription reading “Christ born of Mary.”

The inscription, which also mentions the early Christian bishop Theodosius, was on a stone portion of a doorway to a Byzantine church. Though archaeologists say discovery of a church in this area isn’t necessarily surprising, it “closed the circle” by providing evidence of Christians’ presence.

The entire inscription reads: “Christ born of Mary. This work of the most God-fearing and pious bishop Theodosius and Thomas was built from the foundation. Whoever enters should pray for them.”

Theodosius, a regional archbishop, encouraged the construction of churches and likely donated funds to that particular building, experts say.

Researchers discovered two rooms with geometric mosaics on the floors. They found the partially destroyed, seven-line inscription on a stone that had once served as a doorway lintel but was then repurposed as a wall.

“As a blessing, the inscription must have originally stood at the



entrance of the church, where people could see it,” says the lead archaeologist. “However, it was now found incorporated in the walls; therefore, we know that the stone was reused as construction material. Likely the building collapsed and was rebuilt.” Numerous earthquakes hit the region in the late fifth century.

Entering the building “The inscription greets those who enter and blesses them,” “It therefore looks clear that the building is a church, and not a monastery. Churches greeted believers at their entrance, while monasteries tended not to do this.” It is also said that the phrase “Christ born of Mary” served as a type of good luck charm, intended to ward off the so-called “evil eye.”

The find is significant, because it confirms Christianity’s presence during the early Byzantine era. “This is the first evidence of the Byzantine church’s existence in the village of et-Taiyiba,” “and it adds to other finds attesting to the activities of Christians who lived in the region.” Previously, remains of a church from the Crusader period had been uncovered at that site.

Until now,” no-one knew for certain that there were churches from this period in this area.” The settlement in the town of Taibe isn’t mentioned in the New Testament, but it’s “unsurprising” that a Byzantine-era church was unearthed there. This “Christ born of Mary” inscription has “closed the circle, and now we know there were Christians in this area during this era,”

The Byzantine period occurred during the fifth to seven centuries, and Muslims invaded the Jezreel Valley region in the year 636. “The modern Arab village grew around this structure, and some remains are still visible,” today.

Gail

Huge Congratulations

Our very own Brownie leader Hannah Tombling has won a prestigious award through the Times Educational Supplement (TES) Schools Awards 2021. Hannah is the Environment Champion of the year 2021 for her work at Diamond Wood Community Academy.



Hannah's ethos of "making the world a better place, one step at a time" is an inspiration for pupils even the youngest children are encouraged to appreciate the natural world around them.

Hannah runs an after school 'green' club and organises 'litter picks' around school with pupils, and has also promoted 'wild areas' to encourage the growth of wildflowers and encourage pollinators. In addition, pupils take an active role in growing their own produce, some of which, during the summer term, are used by the school kitchen for lunches.

During lockdown Hannah also delivered growing equipment to families so that the youngsters would not miss out on this valuable experience.

Award judge Steve Brace said "Hannah is a deserving winner for her outstanding environmental work".



Hannah is also a Director of 'Fair and Funky' a community interest company whose mission statement is 'Empowering people to take little steps to change the world'.

Hannah is also a busy mum of three boys and wife of Dean as well as being Brownie Leader at St Marys. We would like to extend our congratulations to Hannah on receiving this award and for all her hard work that has made her a very worthy Environmental Champion .

Dawn

Christian Aid – Sponsored Walk

Hi there



I know most of you will have seen from our weekly newssheet about the final total raised from my undertaking the sponsored walk for Christian Aid, but wanted to take an opportunity to thank you for all your generous support.

As you know, we were unable to do envelope/collection box collections due to Covid restrictions but you still chose to support this excellent cause with donations in envelopes and bank transfers.



The walk was great fun and I joined in with friends from West Ardsley Methodist Church.

Although the forecast was poor, I think the rain moved around us...until that is the last mile (typical!) We were across fields and at one point one of the group (not me) nearly lost a boot in the gelatinous mud...

The final total raised was £450 which was fantastic, thank you so much. (And made getting wet more worthwhile)

Dawn x

Help available at the Numbers below...

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(24hrs)

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0808 2000 247
(24hrs free)

Mind
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(Mon-Fri 9-6)

Victim Support
0808 168 9111
(24hrs)

Cruse Bereavement
0800 808 1677
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

ChildLine
0800 1111
(24hrs)

Action on Elder Abuse
0808 808 8141
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

Respect - Men's Advice Line
0808 801 0327
(Mon-Fri 9-5 or 8pm)

Samaritans
116 123
(24hrs free)

National Centre for Domestic Violence
0207 186 8270

Pastoral Care

Telephone Calls—We understand times have been difficult—please know we are here if you need anything. Gail Townsend is our Pastoral Minister and she regularly telephones those who are unable to leave their homes at this time. If you would like Gail to give you a weekly call then please do not hesitate to contact her on 0113 252 8710.

Baptisms—We are still able to arrange Baptisms but with a limited number of people attending depending on tier levels—if you wish to make an enquiry or book a Baptism please contact Barbara Tate on 0113 253 1266.

Weddings, funerals, Ashes, or the reading of banns—in the first instance please contact our Verger who co-ordinates these events. Again there are limitations on numbers depending on tier levels. Our Co-ordinator is Gail Townsend on 0113 252 8710 or email: gail@stmarywoodkirk.org.

Notice Sheets—If you would like to receive a copy of our weekly Notice Sheet via email—then please drop me an email giving me permission to add you to the list.

We are GDPR compliant-vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org.

Thinking About The Holy Spirit

Many of us still remember the “Holy Ghost” from the old King James Version. For most modern people, a ghost is associated more with Halloween than with Pentecost Sunday. Especially in our age, the Holy Spirit is regarded (when taken seriously at all) as the “spooky” member of the Trinity. If you are into that sort of thing—the paranormal and sensational—then the Holy Spirit is for you.

Who exactly is the mysterious third person of the Trinity? Why does he seem to possess less reality than the Father and the Son? Perhaps we think of the Holy Spirit as a divine force or energy that we can “plug into” for spiritual power. Or as the kinder and gentler—more intimate—side of God. But a person—in fact, a distinct person of the Godhead?

I think this maybe unfortunate all around, because it distinguishes his work too sharply from that of the Father and the Son and also because it distracts us from the vast range of his activity in our world and in our lives. On both sides of the Pentecostal divide, maybe we too easily treat the Holy Spirit as a placeholder for the “extra” things in Christianity.

Sure, we have the Father and the Son, but we also need the Holy Spirit. You may be redeemed, but have we been baptised in the Spirit? The Word is vital, but we must not forget the Spirit. Doctrine is important, but there is also experience.

Consequently, the Spirit becomes typecast into predictable roles—mostly cameo appearances, especially from the book of Acts—that provoke debates over whether we should expect the same signs and wonders today.

What do we think of him when we are talking about regeneration and sanctification and when we are arguing about his more controversial gifts. Otherwise, he is out of sight and out of mind to us.

The Holy Spirit is the easiest person of the Godhead to depersonalise—and not only because of cultural forces. One might even say that, for the Spirit, being somewhat forgotten is an occupational hazard. Maybe some of our confusion about the Holy Spirit arises from a distortion of genuinely biblical truths. Here are four ways in which we can go wrong. First, we should remember that God is an incomprehensible mystery.

He has revealed enough about himself for us to apprehend him in faith, but we do not know his inner essence. Maybe we should think that subsistence's of the Godhead not persons in the way that three human beings are persons, with separate centres of consciousness, wills, and so forth. Scripture provides us with sufficient revelation of the Spirit's identity and mission, but it is often difficult for us to remain within these bounds. Second, even when we embrace the incomprehensible revelation of God as Trinity, it is not easy to connect the Holy Spirit to our experience.

We know what a Father-Son relation is in human terms, but where does the Spirit fit? Mary has sometimes been given something close to the status of the third person in popular Roman Catholic piety. Some recent theologians have even referred to the Spirit as Mother to make the triad more resonant with our familial experience. However, I think this move lacks exegetical foundation. Even if the Spirit is likened to a mother or a hen in a few verses, this is in the Spirit's relation to creation, not within the immanent Godhead. We simply do not have many passages about the Spirit's role in the immanent Trinity. Even in John's Gospel where we find the bulk of our Lord's teaching about the Spirit, the emphasis falls on the relation of Jesus as eternal Son to his Father. Nevertheless, we have a great deal of revelation concerning the Spirit's mission in the economy of creation and redemption.

Third, the Holy Spirit is so actively involved in our lives, subjectively, that we can take his presence for granted or identify him with our own inner self.

Domesticating the Spirit to an individualistic mysticism, I think the Holy Spirit becomes one's inmost voice. But again, maybe this is a distortion of a truth. The Holy Spirit is the person who works within us, even to the point of indwelling us and interceding in our hearts. But we should be careful the Holy Spirit is not our spirit, and his voice is not to be confused with our own. I think we should think of the Spirit of being a divine person within us, not a divine part of us.

Fourth, from a proper focus on Christ we may improperly infer that the Holy Spirit has a minor part in the biblical drama. As in the other dangers, let us think about his is this error a distortion of the truth rather than an outright contradiction of it. After all, Jesus taught us to read Scripture with himself at the centre (Luke 24:25–27; John 5:39). Jesus himself taught us that the Spirit “will bear witness about me” (John 15:26; 16:14–15). One does not stare into the light but beholds the Saviour by that light. You can, therefore, be sure where the Spirit is active: wherever Jesus Christ is held up as the Saviour of sinners. Even when we turn the spotlight on the Spirit, we find him engaged always in something related to Christ.

For all of these reasons and more, I think we need to take a step back every now and again to focus on the Spirit himself—his person and work—in order to recognise him as someone other than Jesus or ourselves, much less something, such as a divine power or resource. We need to explore the vast territory of the Spirit's operations. And then, hopefully, we obtain by this contemplation a fresh dependence on the Holy Spirit in every area of our lives.

Scriptures: John 15:26, John 16:15, John 5:39, Luke 24:25

Gail

Lessons Learned (the Hard Way!).

Referring to the above article in the January/February Parish News, I too was a Tom and Jerry fan, but what happened to them? The treatment of Tom was considered by the Snowflake Army to be too awful for the eyes of children and was thus banned by the BBC. But have you seen the disgusting cartoon figures shown to children today by the BBC programme CBEEBIES? They frighten me, never mind the children.

Dawn also reminded us of the story of Zacchaeus. Now whenever I hear the mention of Zacchaeus my thoughts always return to my Sunday School days almost eighty years ago, where we were taught to sing the story of Zacchaeus. If my memory serves me right, it goes something like this:-

*Now Zacchaeus was a very little man, and a very little man was he.
He climbed into a Sycamore tree, for the Saviour he wanted to see.
For the Saviour he wanted to see.*

*Now as the Saviour passed that way, He looked into the tree, and
said,
Now Zacchaeus, you come down, I am coming to your house for tea.
I am coming to your house for tea.*

Another little song we were taught went like this:-

*Climb, climb up Sunshine Mountain, every breezes blow.
Climb, climb up Sunshine Mountain faces all a glow.
Turn, turn your back against it, looking to the sky
Climb, climb up Sunshine Mountain you and I.*

Of course we had to do the actions as well.

Anyone else remember their Sunday School songs?

Trevor Sykes

Religious Insights

LOT 'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark ?'
'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'

HIGHER POWER

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, 'We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But, there is a Higher Power. Can anybody tell me what it is?'
Jimmy replied, 'Aces!'

MOSES AND THE RED SEA

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

'Well, Mum, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt . When he got to the Red Sea , he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.'

'Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?' his Mother asked.

'Well, no, Mum.. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!'

Sharon

Defibrillator Update/News

Hi there

I think most of you will be aware that we have a Community Defibrillator which was bought after an appeal and some excellent fundraising from our own St Mary's Playgroup.

The defibrillator is located on the front wall of the Parish Centre in a lovely bright yellow and green box.

I just wanted to bring you a bit of an update on our defibrillator, in two areas.

Firstly, you may be interested to know that our defibrillator has been accessed on at least three occasions this year. We receive notifications so that we can check it on its return. As it happens, on these three occasions, the defibrillator wasn't activated, but I'm sure it was a great reassurance to have at the scene just in case it was required.

Secondly, in relation to the defibrillator, it has two sets of electrode pads within it (the parts that are sticky to attach to the persons' body), and these pads are coming up to a date of expiry.

The cost of replacements pads is around £45 per set (inc postage) and I would like to make an appeal if anyone would like to donate towards the cost of the replacement pads.

Please do not feel that you must donate the total amount, however, if you feel you would like to donate to this most important community emergency equipment, any donations would be most gratefully received.

You can place envelopes marked 'Defib' in the collection plate if

you're in church, or if you wish to donate online, you can do so via the church bank account details are given below:-

Account Name – Woodkirk PCC

Account Number – 31405751

Sort Code 05-01-31

Please put Defib in the reference.

And thank you so much if you do feel able to help support this appeal.

With love and thanks

Dawn



'Defibrillators – a thing you hope you will never need, but are glad that it is there should you need it!

Raring to go...

Hi there

Are there television advertisements that you remember from years ago? Well I was reminded of one recently. It was the image of a car engine and the voice over intoned something along the lines of “...as soon as you turn the key, the components of your engine need to get from cold to fully functional within a split second, and for the best performance you need to choose an engine oil that will protect these moving parts...”

If I tell you that the product was Castrol GTX that may jolt your memory.

The thing is, I got to thinking about this, as when I get up in a morning, I’m going from resting to fully awake and moving within a very short space of time (well perhaps a slightly longer time than it took a couple of decades ago, tee hee).

I also remember my first car had a manual choke, if you’ve only had a car since the early nineties perhaps this is unknown to you.

Basically it was a helping boost of fuel to help start your engine.

So what’s all this rambling about chokes and cars about then?

Well, it just made me think what amazing beings we are, yes really. Yes you may be a bit older than you once were (aren’t we all!) and you may not move as swiftly as you once did. But for some of you, think about it...This body of yours has continued to work non stop for perhaps 65, 75 even 85 years or more. I bet there is nothing else you’ve had in your life that has kept working through all of your life.

Some of you may have given birth, some of you may have had very physically demanding jobs, but through it all, you’re still going. When you think about it like that, perhaps it’s not surprising that you are a little bit slower than you once were.

For example, if you’re 70 years old, that’s 25,550 days.

The average person (moderately active) walks approximately 3.5 miles a day, so multiply that out and you may have walked as much as 89,425 miles. This is the equivalent of walking around the world 3.5 times. Phew I think I need to sit down and have a cuppa at the very thought!

I studied my trusty online bible to find a suitable bible reference and found this passage in Psalm 139:14 (NIV):

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

I wonder why it is that we don't focus on this fact more.

I suppose the thing is, in present times there is a lot of emphasis on perfection - cosmetic surgery etc, and young people struggle so much with body positivity. But we were never made to be perfect and we can read about this in St Paul's letter to the Ephesians 2:10:

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

How much more perfect do we need to be other than to be God's masterpiece?

Our bodies are amazing and we often forget to appreciate all they do for us. It's perhaps not surprising that we sometimes find it a challenge to live in a society where we are bombarded with television advertisements showing very active more mature people trekking on long walks, playing a round or two of golf, or taking a spin on a bicycle, when it may have been a struggle for us to get out of bed and get dressed this morning.

Just think, even while you are sleeping, your body is still working; you are breathing air into your lungs, your blood is being taken all around your body. Your digestive system is ensuring nourishment is provided, your nerves are sending messages to your brain, the list is endless. Then in addition to all that, you wake up, whether you come around gently or whether you jump out of bed ready for a run or walking the dog - a shower, and our bodies are instantly awake, blood pumping, breathing increased, and all of this within split seconds.

We are truly wonderfully made.

I hope as you read this, you feel re-energised or happier with yourself today. Yes you might have bulges here and there, creaking joints, but remember **YOU** are God's masterpiece and I want to tell you that you are beautiful, and your body is perfect just the way you are right now.

With love Dawn

Right on time??

Time is a funny old thing isn't it? When you're young it goes too slowly and as you get older it passes too quickly...

I'm not a slave to clock watching (unless I have an appointment, and sadly even then my timekeeping isn't all it should be), indeed during the first lockdown last spring I actually stopped wearing my watch. I got up when I woke up, went to bed when I was tired and ate when I was hungry (and sometimes when I wasn't, tee hee).

But I do like a clock by the side of the bed so I know what time it is when I wake up, I have a 'remote controlled' clock which through some atmospheric or satellite wizardry I don't need to alter, it keeps time, even moving forward in spring and back in autumn automatically.

So a week or two back I awoke, looked at my clock and saw that it was almost 8.00am which is surprising as I'm normally awake by around 6.30 – 7.00am. I also felt a bit sluggish on waking, so thought, 'oh well, I'll just lay here and come round for a bit' then looked a short while later and on seeing that it was 8.20am thought 'right, come on Dawn, time to get up', got out of bed, went and washed my face, then came back into the bedroom and noticed David's radio alarm clock was showing 6.20am, with my clock still showing 8.20am.

I looked at my mobile phone which said 6.20am and even went downstairs and looked at the cooker and microwave clocks which all confirmed that it was indeed only 6.20am. By now of course I was wide awake with no chance of dozing off, so went downstairs and started my day.

But it made me think of time more so than normal which of course led me to the quite well known passage in the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV)

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens

Well on this occasion, I certainly had more time in the day than usual, getting up probably a good hour and a half before I normally do!

Other than for appointments, buses, trains etc, we perhaps don't think about time as a commodity, it's just something that's there, and as such, are there occasions when we might take it for granted.

This passage from Ecclesiastes is quite often used during a funeral service, reminding us that there is a time to be born and a time to die, and a time to weep and a time to laugh, and it is most poignant at times of bereavement, because when we lose someone, there is always something that we wanted to tell them or share with them, and now there is no time to do that.

As I make progress with my task of reading the bible in a year, I have just read passages related to the time leading up to Jesus' arrest and crucifixion in John's Gospel, particularly chapter 13 verse 33 where Jesus says

"Little children, I am with you only a little longer."

Despite being the Son of God, Jesus didn't have endless time to do the tasks that God gave him to do. In fact, as some of you may know, Jesus' ministry was actually very short, only being around three years.

Time to be with those we love and care for is something we have come to appreciate more since the pandemic robbed us of the freedoms to spend time with them, and perhaps our family ties are stronger because of it. Sadly for some, their families will never be the same again as they suffered bereavements.

But here I use another well known saying about time;

Time is a great healer.

Let us remember, whether we race about trying to cram as much into our time as we can, or whether we have a more laid back approach, or indeed if we're somewhere in between, remember that through God there is time for every purpose under heaven. And I'll leave you with a saying I pinned up on my wall at work, where I never seemed to have enough hours in my day...

You will never 'find time for anything.

If you want time, you must make it.

With love

Dawn

Alberts Summer Quiz

1. What is the largest carnivore in Britain?
2. What was the name of the (now defunct) Belgian state airline?
3. Which novel begins “It was the best of times; it was the worst of times”?
4. In which year was the Great Fire of London?
5. In 1998 which German car maker bought U.S car giant Chrysler?
6. What is the most popular name of the Chinese gooseberry?
7. In 1875 who became the first man to swim the English Channel?
8. What is the capital of Paraguay?
9. What is unusual about a Basenji dog?
10. In which modern country are the ruins of Carthage?
11. Who succeeded Nicolae Ceausescu as President of Romania?
12. What is the English translation of ‘Sinn Fein’?
13. Which part of the British Isles has a three- legged emblem and the Latin motto “Quocunque jeceris stabit” meaning “Whichever way you throw it, it will stand” ?
14. Who lives at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue?
15. How many days are there between Easter Saturday and Whit Sunday?
16. Who was the husband of Queen Victoria?
17. According to the old song who was the pride of our alley?
18. An English and Manchester United fullback shares his surname with the playwright George Bernard. What is this surname?
19. Today’s answers include the names of two people that have attended St. Mary’s since 1970s. Who are they?
20. The couple named above celebrate their wedding anniversary on the 8th July. For how many years will they be celebrating?

(Answers on page 37)

Church Mouse Tales

The other day I raced excitedly down the aisle. I could see my friend Hubert, the Black Canon going about his daily routine in his usual calm and deliberate manner.

'Nice to see you Misha', he greeted me warmly.

'You too!' I exclaimed. 'We have to decide what to do!' I continued unable to contain myself.

'Decide to do what?' asked Hubert in a more measured tone.

'At the end of lockdown', I explained without explaining.

'I will definitely be saying a prayer of thankfulness.' agreed Hubert.

'Yes - of course - but what shall we do to celebrate?'

'Celebrate?' Hubert raised his not inconsiderable eyebrows.

'Yes - we should be finally coming out of lockdown at the end of July and we should do something - don't you think?'

'Do something?' Hubert seemed confused.

'Yes - you know - have a party, get some friends round, play some crazy games....'

'Oh - er, well....'

'Who can we invite?' I persisted excitedly.

'Some of the other Monks from the Priory?'

'er - do they like parties with crazy games?' I asked hopefully.

'Not so much.' Hubert pulled the corners of his mouth down.

'Oh.' I tried not to sound deflated.

'They can do some chanting?' he offered helpfully.

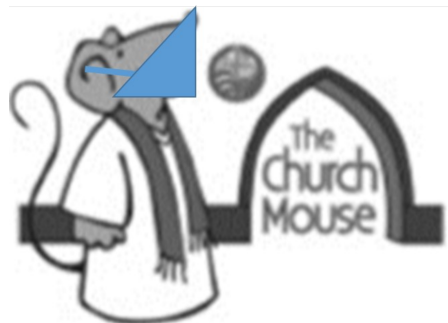
I thought for a moment.

'So - just you and me then?' I shrugged.

'Seems like.' he agreed in a calm and deliberate manner.

It's going to be some party...

Misha x



How do I join an on-line Service?

If you are not so familiar with the on-line world but you would like to join one of the services, here's some good news! It's easy!

Go to: facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk

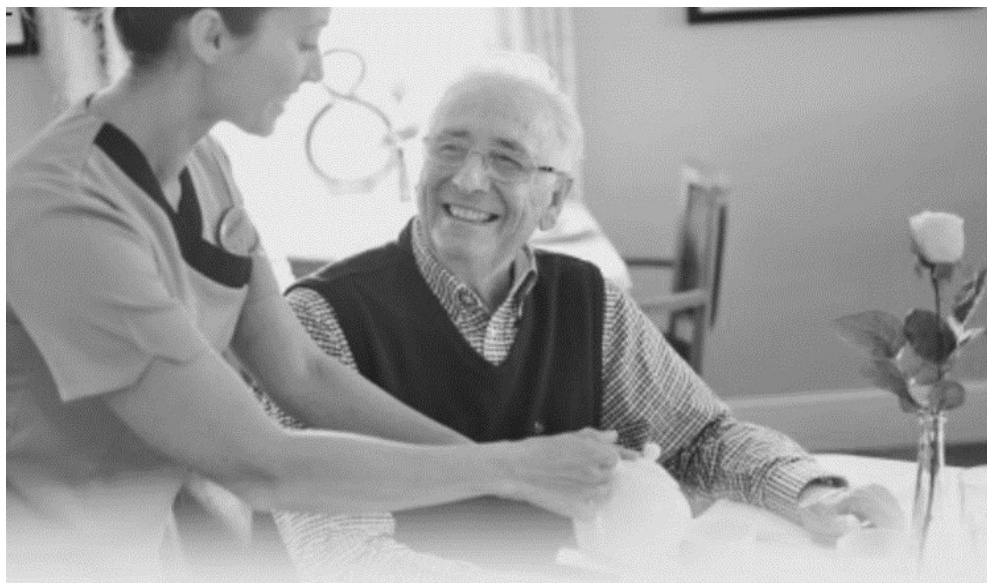
Then select 'Videos' from the side bar.

To join a 'Live' service look for the right time on the Diary page. You can also view previous services from the same location.



QUIZ ANSWERS

- (1)The Grey Seal, (2) Sabena, (3) A Tale of Two Cities, (4) 1666True , (5) Daimler Benz, (6) Kiwi Fruit, (7)Captain Matthew Webb, (8) Asuncion, (9) Can't Bark, (10) Tunisia, (11) Ion Iliescu, (12) Ourselves Alone, (13) Isle of Man, (14) US President, (15) Fifty, (16) Prince Albert, (17) Sally, (18) Shaw, (19) Albert an Sally, (20) 60 years.



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Son of Resident at
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(carehome.co.uk review)

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☕ ————— *Passing by? Pop in for a cuppa ...* ————— ☕

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01924 355 020

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idealcarehomes.co.uk

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS—We welcome into our Church family:-
Jack George Harrison
Rosy Belle Goodall



DEATHS



We give thanks for the lives of all those who have died within our Parish:

Isabel Gunn
David Avison
Valerie Auty
Lee Duell
Audrey Tattersfield

WEDDINGS

Charlotte McDermott
& Daniel Ciurarv



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Did you know?

We place our Parish Magazine on our website each month therefore YOUR Advert reaches many more people.

To advertise in St Mary's Parish Magazine

Contact: The Editor (see page 2)

Annual Fee for Advertising:

Quarter Page £35.00

Half Page £70.00

Full Page £110.00

Shirl's Curls

Local fully qualified Ladies Mobile Hairdresser with over 20 years' experience.

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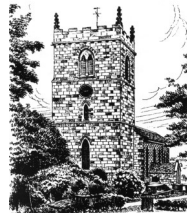
Parish Centre Rentals

We have space for Groups who may be interested in using the Parish Centre at various times of the week.

**Nominal Cost is £60 for
3 hours.**

**Contact: Sally Shaw
01924 475048 for more
information.**

**Loving.
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TINGLEY

What's on (please check with the leader due to current tiers)

Playgroup Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

9:30am to 11.25am

Becky Schofield 07811 146958

ABC Group Adults, Babies and Children

Wednesday 9:15-11:00am (Term time)

Cheryl 07948271688

Stepping Stones Sunday Children's Group (3-12 years old)

4th Sunday of the Month

10:30am in Church

Rainbows Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm

Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 607393

Brownies Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm

Hannah Tombling 01924 501892

Keep Fit Class Thursday 8:00pm (Over 60's)

Margaret Hampshire 01924 476721

Young at Heart 1st & 3rd Thursdays 2:00pm

Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078

Beavers Friday 5:00pm to 6:15 pm

Joanne Rutledge 07950 580877

Cubs Friday 6:30pm to 7:45 pm

Marianne Ingham 07778 542302

Scouts Friday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927

Explorer Scouts Friday 7:45 pm to 9:30 pm

Chris Ingham 07816 517838

Diary and Services this Month

Sunday Services.

Each Sunday there will be a Holy Communion Service at 10.30am in Church as well as Online.

Weekday Services

Mondays 9am	Morning Prayer
Tuesdays 6pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesdays 10am	Holy Communion in Church & On-line.
Thursdays 9pm	Night Prayer
Fridays 9am	Morning Prayer

Special Services:

Thursday 15th July: 11:00am Holy Communion
At Lydgate Lodge

Saturday 24th July: 10-12pm Café open in Church
Then every Saturday until the end of August

Thursday 19th August: 11:00am Holy Communion
At Lydgate Lodge

Wednesday Services will be in Church as well as
streamed via St Mary's Facebook Page.

Please see Page 37 for details of how to join a streamed
service