

Ackworth Parish Magazine

from

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT
High Ackworth

and

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, Wakefield Road

MARCH 1978

Price 5p

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(Tel. Pontefract 704883)

Organists:

Mr. M. W. ASHWORTH, 69 Station Road, Low Ackworth
(St. Cuthbert's)

Miss A. PRITCHARD, 4 Club Houses (All Saints')

MARCH 26 EASTER DAY. At St. Cuthbert's - 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist.
11 a.m. Mattins and Holy Eucharist.
4 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
At All Saints'. 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion.
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

MARCH 27 EASTER MONDAY. 9.15 a.m. Holy Eucharist (All Saints').

MARCH 28 EASTER TUESDAY. 9.15 a.m. Holy Eucharist (St. Cuthbert's)

MARCH 30 THURSDAY 7.15 p.m. Mothers' Union (St. Cuthbert's and
Social Centre).

APRIL 2 EASTER I. LOW SUNDAY. Services at usual times.

APRIL 4 TUESDAY. ANNUNCIATION OF THE B.V.M. - 9.15 a.m. Holy
Eucharist (St. Cuthbert's).

APRIL 9 EASTER II. Services at usual times.

HOLY EUCHARIST ON THURSDAYS AT 10 A.M. - Chiltern Court - March 2,
16, 30, April 13. St. Clement's Court -
March 9, 23, April 6.

THE RECTOR'S LETTER

The Rectory, Ackworth.

My dear People,

It is at this time of the year that we are particularly called upon to face facts about ourselves - the fact of our sinfulness, the fact of death, the fact that we are responsible people, the consequences of whose actions spread abroad for good or ill. When we face the facts then we realise how urgent is our need to give ourselves in the service of the world's healing. We call for leadership, but the leadership is already there - Christ the Leader calling us. The measure of withdrawal we make in Passiontide, and especially in Holy Week, is not a form of escapism. It is a joining of ourselves to Christ so that we may more truly be His faithful soldiers and servants.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Carolyn Charlesworth for the work she has done for the Sunday School. She has now had to give up, but the work will continue thanks to Mrs. Jupp, Mrs. Gardner, and Miss Barnard. We hope that Mrs. Charlesworth will eventually be able to resume this form of service. Meanwhile our good wishes are with her.

We congratulate Michael and Elisabeth Ashworth on the birth of their daughter, Elisabeth Jane, whom we welcome as a member of the choir whether she wants to join or not!

Your sincere friend and Rector,
Alec Courtley

Wakefield Diocesan News

MARCH 1978

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FROM THE BISHOP

Visitors and pilgrims to Jerusalem are often surprised to find the sites of Calvary and the Empty Tomb contained in one building, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Yet this aptly symbolizes the unity of the Cross and Resurrection.

Sometimes we are inclined to forget this unity, especially when we follow our Lord's life chronologically. In Church on Good Friday maybe we have even found ourselves pretending that we do not know that the news of Easter is ahead of us! This is absurd. The Cross and Resurrection are inseparable. The Easter resurrection does not reverse Good Friday. It endorses and proclaims the victory Jesus won at Calvary. Easter is the culmination of Good Friday.

Shortly we shall be keeping Holy Week. We will trace Our Lord's steps to Calvary. We will ponder the meaning of His death and resurrection, and of our own salvation. We will receive Him with joy in our Easter Communion.

Yet we shall be aware of the world's questions. In part they are our own questions, too. What is so special about Jesus' suffering? Why do we attach so much importance to it? In any case why does God allow suffering?

Suffering is evil because it destroys what God has made. It is negative and divisive, while God is positive and unifies. The significance of Jesus' crucifixion is that God is involved in the

suffering. He takes it, absorbs it and neutralizes it.

Jesus does not curse or threaten the men who make Him suffer. He accepts them as they are. This is the measure of His love. He cares for and forgives those who cruelly oppose Him. By suffering in this way He uses a negative experience positively. He overcomes hatred with love, evil with good, death with life.

The implications for ourselves are very great. As we gaze at the Cross we realise that God accepts us, too. So we are enabled to accept ourselves and to grow as persons. Our anger and resentments, our fears and frustrations are pierced by God's love.

The Cross does not put an end to suffering. It changes our attitude towards it. Christians are not exempt from suffering, but they do not suffer alone. Christ is alongside. He is involved. He enables suffering to be used positively.

How this happens is very mysterious. It is virtually impossible to describe. Yet many of us have experienced the reality. We have seen people bearing pain heal those around them and reconcile people who were estranged.

Down the ages great Christian men and women have gone out and given themselves in loving service to people, to societies, where conditions were harsh and bleak. They have worked not only to improve such conditions

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backgrounds a variety of attitudes and life experiences; some will have just left school, others will have completed professional training, and some may have worked in a shop or on a factory floor.

Thrown together they will learn how to relate; how to resolve their conflicts and discover the positive traits in each other, while at the same time fashioning a lifestyle, based on Bible study, meditation and prayer, appropriate to the needs of the parish and the members of the Group.

Frank James reports: "The Root Groups project has caught the imagination of a large number of young people in this country and I have been overwhelmed by the response. Already more than fifty parishes are clamouring for "Rooters" to go and work in their areas.

"Many people imagine that young people have no interest in the Church — which is quite untrue. What is true is that the Church is not answering the spiritual needs of young people or taking note of their visions, idealism and beautiful dreams."

Clergy wishing to adopt a Root Group will team-up with its members at the Coseley House; but allocation to the parishes will not necessarily be on a "first come, first served" basis. Instead, the organisers of the scheme will endeavour to match personalities, sensitivities and individual needs.

Root Group houses will, it is hoped, be established in various parts of the country, and eventually become "drop-in" centres for young people.

CONFIRMATIONS

March

Wed.	1	Battleyford	7.30	W
Sun.	5	Denby	9.30	W
		Halifax		
		St. Thomas	10.30	P
		Shepley	3.00	W
		Crofton	3.30	P
		Mount Pellon	6.30	P
		Lindley	6.30	W
Sun.	12	Heptonstall	10.00	P
		Alverthorpe	10.30	W
		Kirkheaton	6.30	P
Wed.	15	Brotherton	7.30	P
		Clayton West	7.30	W
Fri.	17	Paddock	7.30	P
Sun.	19	Cornholme	10.30	P
		Barnsley		
		St. Edward	6.30	W
		Newsome	6.30	P
Sat.	25	Darton	7.30	W
		Penistone	7.30	P

APPOINTMENTS

The Revd. S. M. Hind, Vicar of Carleton St. Michael, to be Vicar of Morley St. Peter with Churwell.

The Revd. M. Storey, Assistant Curate of Illingworth, to be Vicar of Rastrick St. John.

The Revd. R. S. Stokes, Assistant Curate of St. James with St. Chrysostom, Bolton, to be Vicar of Hightown.

RESIGNATION

The Revd. L. Halstead, Vicar of Southowram — retiring.

INSTITUTIONS

Monday, 6th March
Clifton — W.

Friday, 10th March
Morley St. Peter — W.

THE FREEWILL OFFERING. The new series of envelopes begins on March 5th. Those who have previously used the system will automatically receive the envelopes unless they request otherwise. We hope that many more people will consider this method of systematic giving. It is the way of ensuring the parish a regular weekly income. We have two churches to maintain. Life is, therefore, bound to be more expensive than for a parish of the same population but with only one church. It is, for that matter, bound to be more expensive than for any parish, with however many people, with only one church. The Parish Church is very old and therefore needs constant work upon the fabric. If we want our church buildings to stay open we must be prepared to pay for them. It is as simple as that. But before we even think of maintaining, repairing, and heating our buildings, we have to find £30 every week to pay the Diocesan Quota. The Quota provides the money out of which the clergy have to be paid. Please think very carefully about these facts and consider what you can be doing to help. If you would like details of the Freewill Offering envelope scheme, I should be glad to talk to you about it.

A.P.C.

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCHYARD

CONSISTORY COURT. On Tuesday, 7th February, a Consistory Court was held in the Church by the Chancellor for the Wakefield Diocese, the Worshipful George Graham Q.C. - an interesting example of ecclesiastical history! The two applications for faculties were both granted - one permits headstones and kerbstones to be removed and the other permits an area to be set aside for the burial of cremated remains.

CHURCHYARD SCHEME. The team of young people being paid for through the Government Job Creation scheme will shortly be returning to complete the work in the churchyard. We are grateful to the Wakefield Metropolitan District Council for administering and supervising the scheme. At the front of the church, it is proposed to move only a few kerbstones - the headstones will remain. At the rear of the church it is proposed to move both headstones and kerbstones but a large number of headstones will remain (including those which have been particularly requested) with the intention of retaining the atmosphere and character of the churchyard. The whole object of the scheme is to put the churchyard into a satisfactory state and make its future maintenance possible.

BURIAL OF CREMATED REMAINS. After the work is completed it will be possible for cremated remains to be buried in the churchyard in a specially designated area. There have not been burials for years in the churchyard so, in the future, the churchyard will

again be available for its original purpose - albeit in a different form. The record will be by way of an inscription in a book to be kept at the church. Anyone wishing their ashes to be buried in the churchyard should make sure their relatives know of their wishes so that the Rector can be contacted (please pass the word around the village!).

CLOSURE OF THE CHURCHYARD. An application has been made to the Department of the Environment by the Parochial Church Council for the formal closure of the churchyard. In practice, of course, there have not been burials at St. Cuthbert's for many years. If the application is approved, it would then be possible for the PCC to pass responsibility for future maintenance to the Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (if the PCC feel they cannot manage it themselves).

Even if the churchyard is closed, this does not necessarily mean that no burials at all can take place in the churchyard. In particular, exceptions are made for cases where there are vacant spaces in graves. The records are said to have been lost some years ago. The Rector knows of one family grave where two spaces apparently remain. Would anyone knowing of vacant spaces which they or relatives wish to use please write to the Rector as soon as possible so that he can make a proper record now (please pass the word around the village!). A.B. HARRIS.

BIBLE SOCIETY. The 'Spring Meeting' of the British and Foreign Bible Society will be held on Tuesday, 14 March, at 7.30 p.m. in the Central Methodist Church, Pontefract. The Revd. Wesley Lutton, who is a former President of the Society in Western Australia, will speak on "The Bible in New Guinea". There will be a musical programme by the Pontefract Choral Society. Please come along and support the Society in its work.

CHILDREN'S LENT ACTIVITIES. On Tuesdays in Lent there is a Club for children in the Mission Room from 6.15 to 7.15 p.m. There will be various activities in connection with the 'Bound for Belize' Lent Appeal, and to lead up to the Children's Three Hours on Good Friday and to a play for Easter.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

March 1 Wednesday 9.15 a.m. Corporate Communion (All Saints').
March 3 Friday 7.15 p.m. Women's World Day of Prayer
Service at All Saints'. Speaker: Mrs. M.E. Calderwood. Refreshments afterwards in the Mission Room.
March 9 Thursday 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Education Conference in the Chapter House, Wakefield Cathedral. Speaker: The Revd. Philip Clarke, Chaplain of Leeds Infirmary. Tickets 30p.

March 10 Friday 6.30 p.m. Jumble Sale in Mission Room.
If you have any jumble to be collected, will you please let me know.

March 16 Thursday 7.30 p.m. Meeting at 27 Orchard Drive, to make Palm Crosses.

March 17 Friday 2.30 p.m. Deanery Meeting in St. Giles' Parish Hall, Pontefract.

March 30 Thursday 7.15 p.m. Monthly Service at St. Cuthbert's, followed by meeting at the Social Centre. The speaker will be the Rector.

Will you please let Mrs. Alderman or me have your tribute money of 75p which is due this month. The Mothers' Union Journal is 56p for the year and payment is now due. If you would like a diary for 1979 would you please let me have your name and the money before the Deanery Meeting on March 17.

K. COOPER.

THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM - At. St. Cuthbert's

Feb. 5 - Gavin John Woodhead, 16 Brookfield Drive.

Feb. 5 - Lindsay Joanne Gamble, 95 Bell Lane.

Feb. 5 - Katherine Sara Hutchinson, The Mount, Station Road.

Feb. 12 - Lee Graham, 31 Moor Top Avenue.

At All Saints'

Feb. 12 - Paul Michael Rafton, 6 Victoria Street.

Feb. 12 - Andrew Chapman, 97 Wakefield Road.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Jan 31 - Edmund Ramskill, 77 Bell Lane, aged 60 years.

Feb. 3 - Benjamin Goodwin, 37 Station Road, aged 78 years.

Feb. 8 - Edna Dando, 4 Stone Villas, Hardaker Lane, aged 54 yrs.

Feb. 14 - Thomas Turton, 52 Pontefract Road, aged 72 years.

Feb. 15 - Eveline Duncan, 42 Townend Avenue, aged 76 years.

Feb. 17 - Mary Alice Scales, 29 St. Clement's Court, aged 77 yrs.

FIGURES FOR JANUARY

	<u>St. Cuthbert's</u>	<u>All Saints'</u>	<u>Howard Sch.</u>
Communicants	245	197	19
Collections	£103.53	£47.56	£4.90
Freewill Offerings	£ 19.47	£15.35	

ALTAR FLOWERS

	<u>St. Cuthbert's</u>	<u>All Saint's</u>
Easter Day	The Congregation	The Congregation
April 2	The Congregation	The Congregation
April 9	Mrs. C.H. Hurst	Mrs. M. J. Taylor
April 16	Mrs. D. R. Roberts	Mrs. W. Alderman
April 23	Mrs. K. Storey	Vacant
April 30	Mrs. M. Clayton-Smith	Mrs. Archer

BRASS CLEANING

March - Mrs. R. Dunnington

April - Miss Lindsay and Mrs. Hinds

MARRIAGE COUNSELLING

National Marriage and Family Week which begins with Mothering Sunday on March 5th, was established in 1975 by the Marriage Guidance Council in order to focus attention on and to express concern for the whole network of family relationships. The Mother, often viewed as the focal point of the family, is also the Wife, and there is no doubt that the quality of the central marital relationship has great significance for the family which surrounds it.

Marriage, the most intimate complex relationship, is increasingly recognised as a partnership in which most people suffer tensions at some time. These may be eased or resolved by sharing with an understanding third party. Marriage Guidance Counsellors do not dictate good advice, nor pass critical judgement, but work by listening, by guiding the client to explore painful areas, by offering insight, and above all by gradually forming a relationship of mutual trust. The aim is that the understanding and confidence developed during counselling, whether one or both partners have been involved, may be carried back into the marriage.

The resultant lessening of tension as barriers between partners are removed and anxieties and doubts freely communicated without fear, undoubtedly benefits the whole family. Families, not just clients, are indeed the concern of the Marriage Guidance Council.