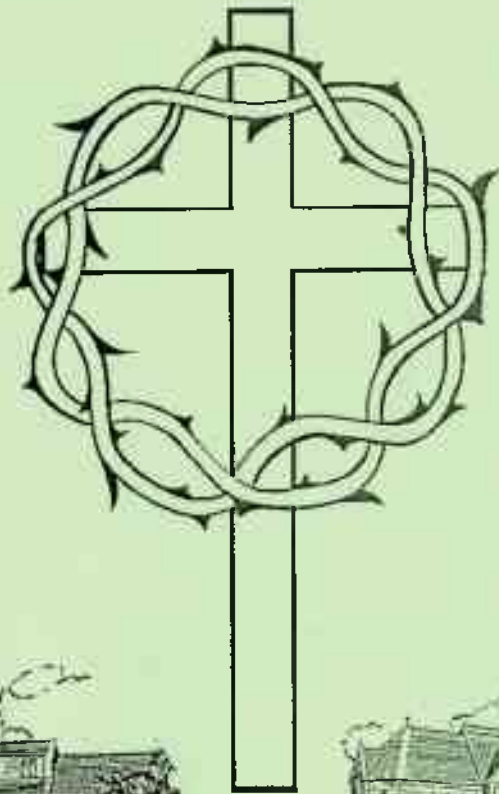


Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3 per year)

April 2000

Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who?



<u>Rector:</u>	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth.	602751
<u>Lay Reader:</u>	Dr. Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove. Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Road.	610590 610694
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Christian Stewardship:</u>		
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill.	616074
<u>Covenant Secretary:</u>	Mr John Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500
<u>Stewardship Recorder:</u>	Miss Ada Pritchard, 4 Oddfellows Clubhouses.	611086
<u>Car Lifts to Church:</u>	Mrs Ann Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613
<u>Children and Young People:</u>		
<u>Junior Church:</u>	Dr Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Mums & Tots Group:</u>	Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Children's Society:</u>	Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank.	614400
<u>The Howard C E School:</u>	Mr Harry S Armitage, Headteacher.	611243
<u>Third World and Missions:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Women's Groups:</u>		
<u>Mothers' Union:</u>	Mrs Barbara Firth, 7 Lindale Ave.	611728
<u>Parish Women's Group:</u>	Mrs Biddy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove.	610590
<u>Church Flowers/Brasses:</u>		
<u>St Cuthbert's:</u>	Mrs Phyllis Asquith, 70 Pontefract Road.	704732
<u>All Saints':</u>	Miss Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Rd.	611258
<u>Weekly News sheet:</u>	Mrs Maureen Richardson, 45 Woodleigh Cres.	612859
<u>Parish Magazine:</u>		
<u>Publishing:</u>	Mrs Sue Hartley, The Rectory.	602751
<u>Advertising:</u>	Mrs Linda Steer, 54 Holly Bank.	614716
<u>Distribution:</u>	Mrs Mollie Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500

I am sorry to say it, but I feel a bit down at the moment. I know it's not the done thing for the Christian or the British 'stiff upper lip,' but that's just the way I feel

I think its peculiar to the British race, but when someone asks "how are you?" regardless of how we feel, we always reply – "Alright," "not so bad," or "fine" when what we really feel like saying is "I'm fed up" "I've had it up to here," "I've just about had enough." Well, I've decided to be honest for once and say that due to events of the past three weeks or so, with two break-ins at the Rectory, seven funerals and an increase of administrative work due to the APCM etc., I am feeling somewhat at a low ebb.

We could all do with being honest about how we feel occasionally, especially within the church, our Christian family. It's nothing to be ashamed of, but we should feel able to do it readily without feeling guilty or embarrassed, as St Paul said in his letter to the Galatians 'Bear one another's burdens and thus you shall fulfil the law of Christ' or as the old saying puts it 'a trouble shared is a trouble halved.'

So if you don't feel fine or alright, share it and let the love of Christ which is within each one of us and which we share in our fellowship surround you and comfort you. For it is that love which has the power to transform, to lighten your burdens. It is that

love which mankind tried to snuff out almost 2000 years ago by nailing it to a wooden cross. It was that love which took upon itself all of your burdens in the epitome of love itself, the figure of Jesus Christ. That love which grows in our hearts and within our Church family, transformed even death itself and absolved the great weight of sin that brought death. 'Love changes everything' (as the song goes) and what bigger change can there be, than that which we see in this month of April. What greater contrast can we observe than that change from holy Week to Easter week?

Love has the victory, love wins the day on Easter Sunday as we move on from the foot of the cross and the empty tomb to pronounce that Jesus has risen. All who are brought low are lifted up. The downtrodden, the suffering and the oppressed are given new hope, whatever life can deal out to us, is not the end. The resurrection tells us that there is life even after death, whatever that death may be; of the body, of the heart, of the soul. No matter how empty or rejected we might feel, love will win through, Easter promises that!

We know from Jesus himself that there is no shame in feeling depressed and rejected; he has been there. His cry of dereliction on the cross – "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Is the cry of all who feel rejected, unloved, depressed and oppressed. The love which was crucified on that cross did not die,



The Rector Writes ...

but was born again, much stronger and more abundantly on Easter Day. And, for all those whose lives have been hurt or broken because they loved too much, especially those whom I have met through those recent funerals, there is the promise that love has not gone, but still lives on and will eventually renew and rebuild their shattered lives; whatever else may be said, that is the Easter message, that love conquers all.

Yours in Christ, Paul

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

Our 'Spring Extravaganza' is nearly upon us. We are hoping to make the weekend a really big fun event with lots of things to do. On Friday 19th May we welcome the Ackworth Youth Choir to St Cuthbert's, tickets for this will be available from Social Committee members from Easter onwards.

On Saturday our main event is entitled 'In an English Country Garden' our usual stalls, plus games, sponsored fun event, bouncy castle and 'Terpsicore,' a Morris Dancing group, will be with us during the afternoon. To round off the weekend, following the usual 10.15am service at St Cuthbert's, we will be having a picnic lunch (bring your own!) followed by a ramble, to finish with a 'Songs of Praise' at All Saints' church during the afternoon.

To make the whole weekend successful depends on everyone giving their wholehearted support. We cannot do it by ourselves. Come and join in – we're sure you'll find something of interest. Lots of volunteers will be needed, before, during and after the events! Check the notice boards in church. Boxes will be available in both churches for you to leave any donations for the stalls - tombola, raffle, crafts, Homemade produce and sweets, preserves, perfumery (pot pourri, lavender sachets etc) plants, cakes – or contact any Social Committee member.

The Church is hoping to decorate a float for the Ackworth Gala this year, if you have any ideas or are interested in helping with this (in any capacity) come along to a meeting on April 5th at 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's – this should hopefully be a fairly short meeting to see what support is available and to set up a working party. We shall also be having a stall at the Gala selling secondhand books. If you have any suitable books please hang onto them until nearer the time!

Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday

10.15am

Parish Eucharist
with Procession and Distribution of Palms

St Cuthbert's

Tuesday in Holy Week

10.30am

Blessing of the Oils
All Welcome

The Cathedral

Maundy Thursday

7.45pm

Institution of the Last Supper
followed by the Watch until 10.00pm

St Cuthbert's

Good Friday

10.30am

Family Service

All Saints'

2.00pm

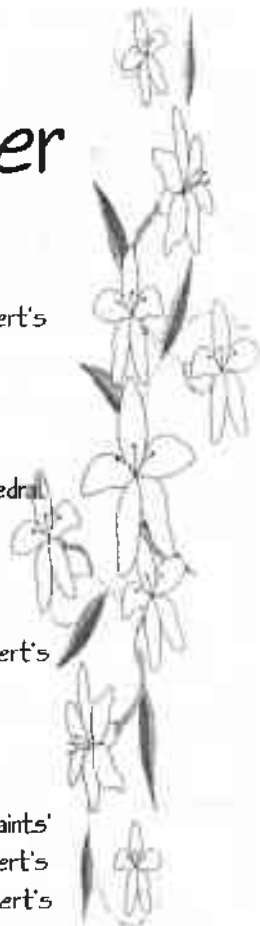
Good Friday Liturgy

St Cuthbert's

7.30pm

A Meditation of words and music
at the foot of the cross

St Cuthbert's



Easter Eve

8.30pm

Service of Light, St Cuthbert's
Renewal of Baptismal Vows & Holy Communion

(this is a very moving and symbolic service at which the Easter fire is lit, the Paschal candle is blessed and processed into a dark church to proclaim the light of Christ is risen. We then renew our baptismal vows as the recognition that Christ has come into our lives.)

Easter Day

10.15am

Parish Eucharist St Cuthbert's
followed by egg rolling in the churchyard and judging of decorated eggs.

WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT GOOD FRIDAY?

A Poem by Marie Lewis

If you were in church last Easter you may remember this poem which was dramatised by the children of our church.

What's so good about Good Friday?

Jesus shared the last supper
He broke the bread and shared the wine
He said "they are the body and the blood
Remember they are mine."

What's so good about Good Friday?

Alone in the garden he prayed....
"take this cup?" he asked...
but then "Not my will but yours," he said
He was not afraid...

What's so Good about Good Friday?

The soldiers came, arrested Him
He was betrayed by a kiss.
Fear, anger confusion, swords
Our Lords work come to this?

What's so good about Good Friday?

A fixed trial for someone wrongfully
accused
Pilate asks "Who are you?"
Herod is confused
Is Jesus King of the Jews?

What's so good about Good Friday?

Tortured, beaten, broken
People jeer and mock
A crown of thorns upon his head
On his shoulders the burden of the
cross.

What's so good about Good Friday?

Taken to the hill and nailed
An agonising painful death
Darkness, Fear, denial
Jesus is dead

What's so good about Good Friday?

Gently laid in a cold tomb
Wrapped in linen cloth
Guarded by soldiers... just in case
Just in case of what?

What's so good about Good Friday?

An empty tomb with nothing inside
Joy, Disbelief
Indescribable happiness
Jesus is ALIVE!

What's so good about Good Friday?

Its just so hard to take it in
Jesus died for us upon that cross
He took away our sin
It is through him we can be forgiven
And have eternal life with him in heaven.

WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT GOOD FRIDAY?

EASTER DAY!!

'Find the Need, Deliver the Care'

were the words on the report cover of the 6th Annual General Meeting of White Rose Children's Charity which I recently attended. Listening to the various report I realised that this is what this particular Charity does so well. A comparatively small group of retired men and women of Sheffield achieve so much.

During the past six years their efforts have brought help to children both in the U.K. and overseas. This last year there have been many appeals for help and by spreading their limited funds they have been able to respond.

In the Chairman's report special mention was made of the knitted blankets which are made by volunteers in Ackworth and Ossett.

Blankets have been delivered by 'Aid to Poland' to Kosova and the Warsaw Memorial Hospital for children with Cancer and Leukaemia.

I have been asked by members of the Charity to pass on their sincere thanks to everyone who helps to produce the colourful, warm knitted blankets, they are very much appreciated.

Betty Rowe.

Please keep knitting! Here is a reminder of the pattern:-

DK wool
No. 8 needles
40 Stitches
approx. 70 rows in
garter stitch.



Send your squares (in ones, twos or more!) to Mollie Gardham who will then join them together to make whole blankets.

A Prayer for April

Love of Jesus, fill us,
Joy of Jesus, surprise us,
Peace of Jesus, flood us,
Light of Jesus, transform us,
Touch of Jesus, warm us,
Strength of Jesus encourage us,
O Saviour, in your agony forgive us,
in your wounds, hide us,
and in your risen life take us with your,
for your love's sake

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Readers and Readings

2nd Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2:1-10

Mr D Cook

Helen Parkinson

2 Cor 1:3-7

Mr D Cook

Helen Parkinson

9th Passion Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Miss E Smith

Hebrews 5:5-10

Miss E Smith

16th Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Mrs V Cook

Mrs Riley

Phil. 2:5-11

Mrs V Cook

Mrs Riley

23rd Easter Day

Isaiah 25:6-9

Mrs K Cooper

Sue Hartley

1 Cor 15:1-11

Mrs K Cooper

Sue Hartley

30th 2nd Sunday of Easter

Ex. 14:10-31 & 15:20,21

Dr McWilliam

1 John 1:1 - 2:2

Dr McWilliam

Sarah Hartley



Flowers: **23rd Apr** Co-op Funeral Services, Pontefract (SC)
The Congregation (AS)

Brasses: Mrs Sutcliffe

From the Registers

Baptisms

27th Feb Alexandra Helen Anne Clarke

12th Mar Heidi Victoria Winter & Ella Rylatt-West

Funerals

6th Mar Patrick Clarke, 81 Town End Ave, aged 84

6th Mar Martin Hazelgrove, 24 Mont Ave Hemsworth, aged 79

8th Mar Ethel J Jeremiah, 47 Station Rd Low Ackworth, aged 79

9th Mar Edith Wigham, 90 Mouny Pleasant, aged 78

13th Mar George Skidmore, 20 Hillside rd, aged 77

14th Mar Dorothy Common, 44 Rhyddings Ave, aged 96

23rd Mar Nellie Stephenson, 36 Rhyddings Dr, aged 81



Diary



5	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>(M.U. Corporate Communion)</i>	All Saints'
		7.30pm	Magazine Committee Meeting	The Rectory
9	Sunday	6.30pm	Evensong followed by the APCM	St Cuthbert's
10	Monday	7.30pm	Social Committee Meeting	St Cuthbert's
11	Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddler's	All Saints'
12	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
19	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
27	Thursday	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	

Forthcoming dates for your diary.

MAY

9	Tuesday	7.30pm	'Faith be Taught' speaker Rev'd Dick Swindell	St Cuthbert's
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Spring Extravaganza Events

19	Friday	7.30pm	Ackworth Choir	St Cuthbert's
20	Saturday	11.30am	'In an English Country Garden'	The Rectory
21	Sunday	12.00am	Picnic & Ramble	Church Event
		3.30pm	Songs of Praise	All Saints'

JUNE

24	Saturday		Ackworth Gala	Village Event
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Mrs Dorothy Common

Many people in our parish will have been saddened by the death of Mrs Dorothy Common on Monday, 6th March 2000. A faithful member of our churches where she was baptised, confirmed and married and one who had lived in this village all of her life.

Dorothy will be missed by many. A member of the Mothers' Union for over fifty years and a resident of Ackworth since her birth over 96 years ago, she has been a committed member of both Saint Cuthbert's and All Saints' and has been involved with all aspects of church life.

She was a gentle and loving person who always found good in everyone she met, she never complained, but was content with even the smallest of mercies. She gave her love and time freely and unselfishly to any one whom she came into contact with, those who met Dorothy had their lives enriched by her charm and humility. A lady of great faith and an inspiration to us all, I, as well many others, will miss her especially the way I was ministered to whenever I called with the intention of ministering to her. In short, she was the epitome of that passage from the first letter of St Peter which described her Christian life as '... more precious than perishable gold ... faith which has stood the test' (1 Peter 1:9)

Paul Hartley (Rector)

A Quick Look Back ...

I think I speak for everyone who went to Scarborough for the Parish Weekend, by saying that it was a well planned, well delivered, exciting, fun, communal event enjoyed by all.

I volunteered as a children's worker, joined by Peter and Bernadette Taylor, and Stephen Morgan from Wakefield. The children's sessions in the afternoon went without a hitch and I thought that Stephen, Bernadette and Peter had worked well beforehand to make it a complete success. From what I heard from the adults who attended the sessions led by Paul Hartley and Douglas Brown, the overall impression was that they were both enjoyed and of great value to people

The entertainment on the Saturday evening certainly did show the stars in people's eyes, with numerous unknown talents coming out from the undergrowth – most of which from the younger members of the church, but the adults didn't disappoint us, with a visit from 'The Management' with a new recruit, and our very own version of the pantomime classic, Cinderella, which, to say the least, was more than "Alright!"

Overall, the weekend filled my expectations and more, and left me on a high for days. I'd also like to thank all who made it possible, especially Lynne Ward and Paul Fox.

Sarah Hartley

April Editorial

by Sue Hartley

At the end of last year Mrs Linda Steer resigned as editor of this magazine. Unfortunately following several advertisements asking for a volunteer to take her place on the editorial committee no-one came forward. To enable the magazine to continue I took over as the Editor.

Although Mrs Steer is no longer a member of the committee, she continues to help by organising our advertisements as well as putting together several pages of the magazine each month, without her valuable help the magazine would cease to exist.

However, there is still a great deal to be done to make sure that the pages are set out, typed, printed and photocopied. If you feel you are able to volunteer your help, with the photocopying in particular, (this means approximately 4-5 hours over 2-3 days prior to collating and distributing, plus attending an editorial committee meeting once a month) and you feel you have the necessary abilities to make sure that the quality of magazine is as high as possible then please contact Sue Hartley.

The editorial committee meet on the first Wednesday of each month to discuss the layout of the next

magazine and to look at what articles to include. With this in mind could all contributors to the magazine make sure that their article is in by that date to assist us in our planning.

The magazine only continues to exist with the help of all its supporters, editorial committee, article contributors, collators, distributors, typists, advertisers and subscribers, my thanks go to each one of them.

At the beginning of 1998 it was decided that rather than increase the cost of the magazine it would cease to incorporate the See-Link. However, it was felt that it was important to continue to support the diocese in a reduced capacity. Consequently anyone who would like the latest copy of the See-Link will be able to collect one from the back of our churches. Please note that the cost of the See-Link is borne by the PCC and does not form part of the magazine subscription cost.

Copy for the May magazine to be in by:



'FAITH BE TAUGHT'

Faith be taught is an item on the Diocesan Synod agenda. Under this item comes everything about teaching of the faith.

Your PCC decided last year to adopt this title as an item for discussion. This was then passed to the Wakefield Ministry Scheme for further consideration. What has come out of this is a programme of education for our Parish.

Essentially this is a programme of education which can be repeated several times each year using a different theme each time.

The first programme has been in the planning phase for several months now and is virtually ready for its launch in May lasting through until July.

There will be a one off talk to be given by someone from the Diocese. This will be followed by two or three Bible Study sessions. There will also be some Bible reading references to be used in private study.

We hope that this programme will allow people to join in a thematic study at whatever level they feel is appropriate to them. There are some final details to be attended to so keep

a look out on the notice boards for these.

The first programme has a theme of Faith, Love and Marriage. Without giving too much away, this programme will look at marriage, divorce and remarriage, and how the church is or should be involved in each of these areas.

Dick Swindell will be giving the Parish a talk on the 9th May about this subject which will then be discussed in Study Groups, there will also be Bible references for people to take away to study for themselves.

This subject is one which the Church of England is currently discussing at General Synod. It would serve our Parish well, if we could also think through some of these issues and give a considered and informed opinion. I hope as many people as possible will be able to join in this programme of study at one level or another.

Paul Fox

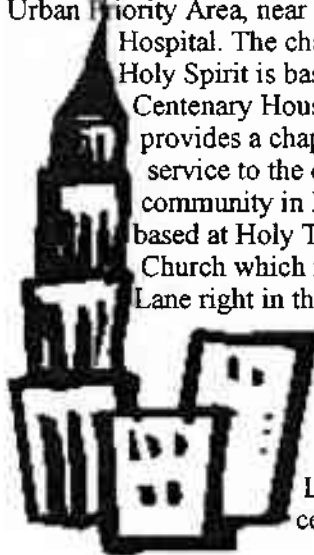


A Tale of Two Cities

By Eddie Wynne

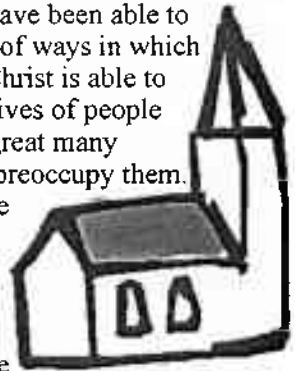
I am now part way through my placement in Leeds city centre, as part of my training on the Northern Ordination Course and hence why you have not seen me in Church the last few months. The placement involves me taking as full a part as possible in the life of a parish whilst remaining a little bit detached in order to reflect on the relationships and processes that are at work in that place.

The Parish of Leeds City comprises four churches; St Peters, which is the "cathedral" style church near the bus station, which tends to be the civic church of Leeds with a robed choir and choral services on most Days. There is the Church of St Mary, which meets in a school hall in Lincoln Green, a very depressed Urban Priority Area, near St James Hospital. The chapel of the Holy Spirit is based at Centenary House and provides a chaplaincy service to the deaf community in Leeds I am based at Holy Trinity Church which is on Boar Lane right in the heart of the commercial and business life of Leeds city centre.



My first impression has been that of a city of contrasts, hence the title of this piece. There is the prosecuting barrister who sits next to the homeless man who carries all he owns around in a carrier bag. There is the contrast between the uplifting and grand ceremonial worship at St Peters, to the simple worship of the deaf community where no-one minds if you sing out of key! There is the rapid 'gear change' from the influential meeting about Deanery reorganisation and the use of buildings, to sharing a cup of tea with the alcoholic who has nowhere to live and even less influence.

Above all I have been able to see a variety of ways in which the light of Christ is able to shine in the lives of people who have a great many problems to preoccupy them. How a simple Gesture of a handshake, a smile, a cup of tea and a chat has more to say to them about the Love of Christ than any words in a sermon on Sunday morning.



I look forward to seeing you all again after Easter when I will be able to catch up on all your news, but in the meantime I send you greetings from Leeds and ask for your continued prayers for this city in a time of change and uncertainty.

Intercessions: A Letter to Our Lord

My dear-Lord, my Love-Lord, my liebe-Lord,

You teach me so much through these prayers called "intercessions" for those people I love or know to be in need. Thank you. Teach me more, please.



The initiative is always yours, not mine. It is your doing. I don't pray ~ I am prayed by you. You "naught" me, you make me consciously aware of my utter poverty, my ignorance, my nothingness, my emptiness, but, therefore, my capacity to be filled by your Love and to be used for your own delight and pleasure, for your own purposes, your own needs. Yes, your needs. I need you, but I know you need me too, because you hollow me out, to be a channel of your grace and Love.

You pray me to our Father, in the power of your Holy Spirit. You pray through my conscious co-operation. You pray me through my unconscious, too, because sometimes you surprise me by supplying a need for something I don't even realise is lacking.

There are precious times when I feel the sweetness of your Presence, but when I don't it doesn't matter. Intercessions don't depend on my likes and dislikes. It is your prayer through me, your uncreated Spirit through my created humanity.

There are dull times when prayer is "dry", whether through physical or mental or emotional exhaustion, or ill health. Then I remind myself that nothing depends upon me or my feelings but that everything depends only on you and your purposes. As your Love transcends my love, so your praying transcends my dryness.

I don't have to remind you or beg you or tell you how to take care of loved ones and those in need, because you know everything and care compassionately already. It is enough that each one is held before your Presence, the Source of all being and doing and Loving.

You are God, fulfilling Yourself by your Holy Spirit through the unique life-experience of each of us, skilfully adjusting your Power according to our various capacities and capabilities and degrees of awareness of your Love, and even through our unawareness.

YES, my Lord, fast-fold me in Love and prayer, and, YES, let us delight in each other, for others.

So we meet in prayer. Your need of my love meets my need of your Love, and they become one need, one Love.

"Homegrown"

News, Events and Dates for your Diary

Prepare Ye The Way!

Litter Collection!

22 April 9:30 - 12:30 pm Bell Lane Car Park

Here's your chance to join in one last penitential act of Lent, preparing a part of our village for our Risen Lord. If you'd like to make a small difference for at least two whole days to the quality of life in Ackworth then please join us. Half an hour of your time will be brilliant. This year I thought we might extend the collection to the path that runs from Dando Way to the back of Sheards'. I hope the Methodists and Catholics and Community Church will join us.

See you there!

For further info ring Kate Plant on 619069



Mothering Sunday
2nd April



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THE MOTHERS' UNION ~ APRIL 2000



4th Diocesan Spring Rally, Cleckheaton Town Hall, 10.30 - 3 pm.

5th Corporate Communion, All Saints' Church, 9.30 am.

21st Deanery Committee Meeting, St. Giles' Church, Pontefract, 2 pm.

30th Service and Branch Meeting, Mary Lowther Almshouses, High Ackworth,
2.30 pm. Speaker: Mrs Marion Williams, "Memories of Life in China."

Barbara Firth

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THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH



St Cuthbert's and All Saints'

Sunday Services

April 2000



2nd April

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

9th April

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion and Parade	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	St Cuthbert's

16th April

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

23rd April

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

30th April

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
4.00pm	Open Door Service	All Saints'

(an informal service for all ages)

Please contact the Rector for enquiries about Marriages and Baptisms

Details of Easter Services are printed inside the magazine