

Recast 19



Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3 per year)

August/September 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 Bamsley 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

In light of several disappointments over the first half of the year feel that my article this month must dwell on more serious matters that the happy laid-back mood that these holiday months usually engender.

What is causing me concern is the poor take-up of the opportunities that myself and others (mainly members of the WMS core group) have worked hard to provide, in terms of Biblical study. Let me offer a few examples!

Through March and early April we offered a house study course on the subject of 'The Ministry of Prayer,' a course based on the main scripture readings of Lent. Having planned five groups in various areas of the parish on different evenings, to give people as wider choice as possible, we eventually had to cancel two groups because of a low response, of the three that did meet, we had an average of about 20 people attending.

More recently, in May, we began a series of thematic Bible studies on the subject of 'Faith, Love and Marriage' – a topic of current concern to both Church and society. At our first meeting, at which we had a guest speaker (Rev'd Dick Swindell – F.L.A.M.E. officer) we had an attendance of 22, even with the offer of refreshments afterwards! We printed 50 attractively presented study booklets which have been available in church for anyone

who wished to follow the study at home; quite a number of these still remain in church unused. On the subsequent meeting for study we have had 11 at the first meeting in May, 4 in June and 5 although 14 signed up originally.

As we have somewhere between 110-120 regular church attenders (sadly not all on the same Sundays) the overall response to these events are, to say the least, disappointing.

The 'Sunday Link' notice sheet which has some, albeit 'lightweight' teaching of the faith, has 20-30 copies left each week (out of 100), many are left in books or on pews. If you don't want them yourselves, perhaps a housebound person may appreciate them.

Whilst it may be that some may have their own ways of studying the Bible (if you do I would be comforted to know), there are still many people who attend church regularly who don't seem to be engaging with issues of their faith, particularly Bible reading and study which is the 'bedrock' of Christianity and that deeply concerns me.

If what has currently been on offer to give people an opportunity to engage and be challenged in this way is not what is wanted – as attendance figures would seem to suggest, then please could you let me know what you do want to



The Rector Writes ...



help you in this, so I and others can deploy our energies and time to greater effect.

By way of explanation as to why I am so concerned, let me offer a little impromptu study of the scriptures based on the readings for Pentecost Sunday. As I frequently say in Pentecost sermons, the Holy Spirit can strike at anytime to renew and refresh the church and the faith of its people.

This is a little of the inspiration I found in those readings. First of all we had that rather spooky sounding teaching from Ezekiel (37:1-14) set in the valley of dry bones. The subject of course is not as macabre as it would seem to suggest, but is actually about exactly what I have been writing about earlier, the scriptures - the word of God and their power to bring life to those dead to the faith. The passage begins with the prophet, set in the midst of a valley full of bones being asked the question by God, "*Son of man, can these bones live?*" Dry bones are about as dead as you can get, the prophet cannot find an answer and turns to the only possible answer; God himself; "*O sovereign Lord, you alone know.*" God's reply is the instruction "*Prophesy and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.'*"

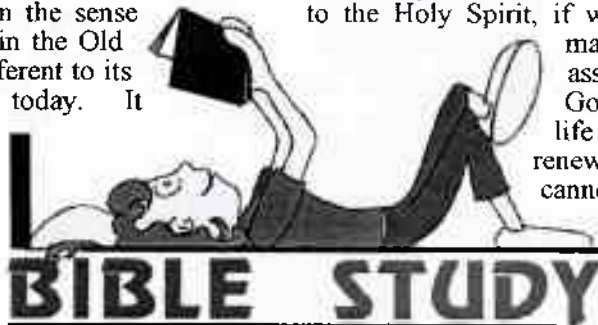
There are two important points here! That prophecy, in the sense that it was used in the Old Testament, is different to its popular meaning today. It does not refer to the practice of speculative prediction as indulged in by writers of horoscopes, or

such people as 'Old Mother Shipton' or Old Moores Almanack.'. The O.T. prophets were involved in a more precise science, so to speak. Such prophecy was more a measure judgement or comment upon the state of the church or society of its day, using the tenets of faith/belief in Gods will as a yardstick.

'The word of the Lord' was the perceived revelation of God to his people, whether that be the written word or through prayer; a revelation which is ongoing. The word is life-giving, even that which may seem as dead as dry bones; the very breath of life, as we see later in verse nine where the prophet is commanded to 'Prophesy to the breath.' The breath brings us nearer to the theme of the day, Pentecost, the sending of the Holy Spirit, which first breathed life into the new church. The connection between 'the breath' and the Holy Spirit is further reinforced by the reference in John 20:22 '*and with that he breathed upon them and said, "receive the Holy Spirit."*'

In verses 11-14, beginning with the Israelites plaintive cry, "*Our bones are fired up and our hope is gone; we are cut off,*" coupled with the Lord's reply, "*I will put my spirit in you and you will live*" teaches us that we are never beyond hope. However, if we are open to the Holy Spirit, if we renew and

maintain our association with God's word then life will be renewed. Faith cannot exist without the word of God; reading and



(cont'd on page 6)



Cool Kids!



Work out the picture code.
Who did Jesus say he was?



John Chapter 6 v. 48



THE



John Chapter 6 v. 51

Answers to last puzzle.

1. Loaves
2. Fish

3. Baskets
4. Andrew

5. Galilee
6. Philip

7. Crowd
8. Passover

(cont'd from page 4)

study gives nourishment to our faith, feeds our spiritual bodies in just the same way as food and water keeps alive our physical bodies.

This theme continues in the readings set for Pentecost - Acts 2:1-21 and the Gospel - John 15:26-27 & 16:4b-15. Bringing both these two pieces of scripture together, we are instructed to testify about Jesus Christ and by so doing will bring him glory - by making known to others what has been passed on to us.

Clearly the preaching of the word and the task of prophecy were vitally important tasks of the work of the new church. Unless that continuing church attends to the word of God, how can it teach it and moreover how can it prophecy? That new church was given life by the Holy Spirit and that life

would grow and be sustained by the word of God, written in the scriptures and revealed through prayer, teaching, study and fellowship.

Perhaps if I return to where I started; to encourage all who are, to whatever degree, members of the Christian faith, to feed that faith by studying the word of God in the scriptures. If I, or others in the core group, who have worked hard to try and offer you something in the past (though a disappointing response can help in that task), then please, please let me, or one of them, know how we can best do this for you.. How we can best put our time, talents and energies into serving the needs of the Gospel.

Yours in Christ

Paul.



Heavenly Balm

*A Prayer for Resting by Trevor Thorn,
taken from 'Celtic Prayers.'*

Quieten me, quieten me, O Lord:
Ease me from the intense busy-ness that assails me.

Quieten me, quieten me, O Lord;
Draw me away from the incessant noise.

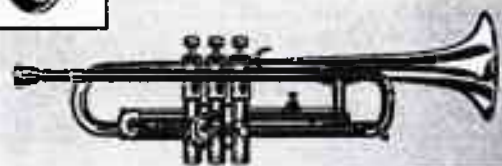
Still me, still me, O God:
Help me to yield up the need to chatter.

Still me, still me, O God;
Let me be immersed in your deep stillness.

Then, Lord,
When my heart, my soul, my mind and my spirit are at rest,
Open me to hear your voice of calm.

And, Lord,
In that deep stillness of eternity.
Bestow on me your heavenly balm.

The Parish
of Ackworth
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During the August Bank Holiday Weekend the Bishop of Pontefract will be walking the Calder and Hebble Navigation from Castleford to Todmorden.

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August &

Rotas

Readings and Readers

6th August: Proper 13

2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a

Mr Shaw

Dr Mc William

Ephesians 4:1 - 16

Mr F Walters

Dr Mc William

13th August: Proper 14

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Sue Hartley

Mrs S Hall

Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2

Sue Hartley

Mrs S Hall

20th August: Proper 15

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

Mr F Davies

Mrs M Walker

Ephesians 5:15-20

Mr F Davies

Mrs M Walker

27th August: Proper 16

1 Kings 3:22-30, 4:1-43

Mr D Cook

Ephesians 6:10-20

Sarah Hartley

Mr D Cook

3rd September: Proper 17

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Mrs Woofinden

Miss Smith

James 1:17-27

Mrs Woofinden

Miss Smith

10th September: Proper 18

Proverbs 22:1, 2, 8, 9, 22, 23

Mrs V Cook

James 2:1-10, 14-17

Mrs V Cook

17th September: Proper 19

Proverbs 1:20-33

Mrs H Walters

Mrs Cooper

James 3:1-12

Mrs Parker

Mrs Cooper

24th September: Proper 20

Proverbs 31:10-31

Dr McWilliam

James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a

Mark Cavill

Dr McWilliam

Flowers

6th Mrs Walters

Mrs Upright

3rd Mrs Gardham

Mrs Campling

13th Mrs Lloyd

Vacant

10th Mrs Dodd

Miss Smith

20th Mrs Branston

Mrs Gardham

17th Mrs Lee

Mrs Cooper &

27th Mrs Barnard

Vacant

Mrs Leybourn

September

Diary



Wednesday Communion 9.30am at All Saints' throughout Aug & Sept

August

4 Friday 2.00pm Teddy Bears Picnic* - Dicky Sykes Playing Field

September

4 Monday	7.30pm	PCC	Vestry	St Cuthbert's
6 Wednesday	7.30pm	Magazine Committee		The Rectory
12 Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddler Praise*		All Saints'
20 Wednesday	7.45pm	Womens Group - <i>Homestart - Lynne Ward: all welcome</i>		St Cuthbert's
21 Thursday	7.30pm	St Matthew - Holy Communion		St Cuthbert's
28 Thursday	2.30pm	Mothers' Union*		

forthcoming events - October

2 Monday	7.30pm	PCC	Vestry	St Cuthbert's
4 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>(M.U. Corporate Communion)</i>		All Saints'
7 Saturday	7.30pm	Wakefield Metropolitan Band Concert*		

* further details for these events can be found elsewhere in the magazine



Good idea - why not pull these pages out
and pin them on your notice board?

From the Registers

Baptisms

25 June Bethany Grace Watson & Alice Robinson

Funerals

21st June Hannah Heywood, Ings House, Hemsworth, aged 86

22nd June Edna Jodrell, 139 Wakefield Road, Ackworth, aged 83

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Art classes

Beginning October 2000

to be held in St Guthbert's vestry

£5 per 2 hour session to cover room rental, tuition and some materials

Dates and times to be arranged to suit interested parties.

All levels welcome.

Please contact Stina Harris - Tel 611251 - for full details



Toddler Praise

2nd Tuesday every month

At All Saints Church - Wakefield Road,
Ackworth Moor Top.

2.00pm

All Parents with pre-school children welcome.

Contact J Fox (tel 613834) or M Lewis (tel 616074) for details.

Just who is Jesus?

Paul Fox

Jesus was a man who walked and talked and breathed and ate and occasionally got angry. He was an ordinary human being just like you and me. The accounts in the Gospels about Jesus' life point to all these facts. There are also other accounts outside the Gospels: historians, both Jewish and Roman, testify to the life and death of Jesus 2000 years ago. The Gospels do not labour on Jesus' humanity, probably because they had a different purpose. The Gospels were probably written around thirty years after Jesus' death. At that time there would still have been people alive who remembered Jesus, and therefore his humanity was not called into question. It is the theologians of later centuries who have done so, and with good reason too.

An extraordinary teacher...

Previous articles have covered the fact that Jesus was a great teacher, a healer, a miracle worker. All these things are true, but he was an **extraordinary** teacher, healer and miracle worker.

I often wonder what those Jews who followed Jesus around thought about him. Who did they think he was. They followed him around the country, sometimes with their own agenda in mind, perhaps out for what they could get. But I wonder what the rest of them thought. And I wonder sometimes what some of the disciples thought when they saw Jesus in action, and listened to his teaching, for it was they who received most of his teaching. What did they think?

Again we can look to the gospels to find the answer to this question. In Luke chapter 9,

Jesus asks the disciples who people say he is. Many answers are forthcoming. Then, Jesus turns to the disciples and looks them in the eye, and asks the question "Who do you say that I am?" I suspect that that was quite a stunning question for them, and no doubt one which stopped them in their tracks. Jesus had done so many things, he was lots of things to lots of people. So just who was he?



A turning point

Peter, as usual, was the first to jump in and answer that question ~ **"You are the Messiah."**

This was a turning point in the ministry of Jesus, and certainly a turning point in the lives of the disciples. To suggest or say or admit that Jesus is the Messiah, or the Christ, is the point of no return.

Once you say that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, then you are conferring on Jesus not just humanity but also deity. You are saying that he is divine, he is God as well as human.

You can read the Gospels for all they're worth, but unless you can accept that Jesus is both human and divine, then you will miss the best part of what the Gospels have to say.

Paul



The
Feast
of
Life

5th
&
6th
October

Ackworth
Methodist
Church

7.15pm



Ackworth Concert Society Season 2000 ~2001

Saturday 16 September 2000, 7.30 pm, Fothergill Hall, Ackworth School.

AKIKO EBI ~ JAPANESE PIANIST

Japanese theme ~ exhibition and refreshments.

Saturday 14 October 2000, 7.30 pm, The Music Centre, Ackworth School.

CRUSELL ENSEMBLE

clarinet ~ piano ~ violin/viola

Saturday 4 November 2000, 7.30 pm, The Meeting House, Ackworth Sch.

SLAITHWAITE ORCHESTRA

Saturday 16 December 2000, 7.30 pm, The Meeting House, Ackworth Sch.

'MESSIAH' by G.F. HANDEL

St. Peter's Singers, orchestra and soloists.

Conducted by Simon Lindley, Director of Music at Leeds Parish Church.

Seasonal Refreshments.

Saturday 13 January 2001, 7.30 pm, The Music Centre, Ackworth School.

DARREN ABRAHAMS ~ TENOR

VICTORIA SIMMONDS ~ MEZZO-SOPRANO

OLIVIA TRAVERS ~ PIANO

Saturday 10 February 2001, 4.00 pm, The Music Centre, Ackworth School.

TRAVELLING BY TUBA II ~ THE SEQUEL

Fun for all the family. Finger Buffet.

Saturday 31 March 2001, 7.30 pm, The Music Centre, Ackworth School.

THE MUSIC SERENADE

oboe ~ clarinet ~ bassoon

Further details can be found in the brochure now available

Etcetera...

THE MOTHERS' UNION

August 2000

- 3rd Corporate Communion. All Saints' Church, 9.30 am.
15th Open Coffee Morning. Raffle and Bring and Buy Stall.
27 Orchard Drive, 10.00 am ~ 12.00 noon.

September 2000

- 6th Corporate Communion. All Saints' Church, 9.30 am.
9th Quiet Day, to be led by Canon Michael Haynes.
Bishop's Lodge, Sandal, 10.30 am ~ 3.30 pm.
11th Deanery Autumn Festival. Preacher: Father David Lethbridge.
St. Mary's Church, South Elmsall. 2.00 pm.
16th General Meeting to be held in Belfast.
28th Service and Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs Jean Rosewarne.
All Saints' Church, 2.30 pm. Visitors Welcome.
30th Provincial Service, Liverpool Cathedral.
Guest Speakers: The Primate of All Ireland, Archbishop Robin Eames
and Lady Eames.

Barbara Firth

Thoughts...

All the treasures
of the earth cannot
bring back one lost
moment.

French Proverb

He that will have
none but a perfect
brother must
resign himself to
remain brother-
less.

Italian Proverb

Your parish needs

YOU!



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- Do you want to see the Church grow?
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THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH



St Cuthbert's and All Saints'

Sunday Services

August 2000



6th August

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

13th August

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

20th August

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

27th August

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
4.00pm	Open Door Service <i>(an informal service for all ages)</i>	All Saints'

Please contact the Rector for enquiries about Marriages and Baptisms

Details of September services on back cover.

THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH



St Cuthbert's and All Saints' Church

Sunday Services

Sep-00



3rd September

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

10th September

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

17th September

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

24th September

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion & Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
4.00pm	Open Door Service <i>(an informal service for all ages)</i>	All Saints'

Please contact the Rector for enquiries about Marriages and Baptisms

Details of August services inside back cover.