

Revol 18 + 1

Ackworth Parish Magazine



Shrove Tuesday
7th March

30p per copy (£3 per year)

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

This month marks a time of great spiritual regeneration and growth in the churches year.

The season of Lent, which begins on of the 8th March (Ash Wednesday), is a time for what might be called a great spiritual spring clean. A time to brush away the dust and cobwebs of old grudges, angers and resentments and clear out those old sins which we have been storing up. That great burden which is part of the often unneeded and unused baggage we all carry around with us. All those things which hold us apart - helps us to keep our distance from God and which prevent us from blossoming out into the beautiful and wonderful beings that we can be. That precious individual inside each one of us which God created and continues to love, despite all the rubbish surround and protect ourselves with.

In short, don't think of Lent too much in terms of the sackcloth and ashes aspect of its major theme of penitence, but try to think of it more as an opportunity to 'get your house in order' as regards your relationship with God and to prepare for that abundant life which was his promise to us

all, through his Son and which we see in the great outbursting of on Easter Sunday

There are of course many ways to prepare for this glorious promise during the course of Lent. Giving up one of life's little luxuries - the twenty-first century's equivalent of fasting - taking on some extra spiritual reading, or attending Lenten study groups (look out for details of ours!) Whichever way you observe Lent however, it is all useless unless it is combined with one essential element - PRAYER.

The prayer of reflection and repentance which allows us to examine our lives and ask God's forgiveness of those things buried deep inside or even painfully aware of on the surface, that we would rather not face. All of the Lenten exercises or disciplines, no matter how severe or painful, are a waste of time unless they help us to get to know ourselves and God better, help us to renew our lives, put past mistakes behind us and begin to move towards our full potential as Christian (human) beings.

Hopefully our Lent course - entitled 'The Ministry of Prayer' - will help us in this



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The Rector Writes ...



process. It should help us in our prayers, not so much by direct instruction or teaching, but by actually doing it ourselves - by experience. Learning how to use our prayers will, hopefully, teach us how to listen to what God has to say. We will above all be helped to establish



the habit of setting aside time for prayer and making it a feature of our everyday lives - something which is more than ever needed in our busy and

stressful existence. Just a few minutes a day or week, may just give us the 'breathing space' to calm and settle our inner turmoil; without which we would 'burn out' to use a modern term.

Remember that, to use the words of that wayside pulpit slogan I used in a sermon at the beginning of February "*Seven days without prayer makes one weak.*"

I hope you have a renewing and fulfilling Lent and are refreshed and ready to meet our risen Lord at Easter.

Paul Hartley

A Prayer for Lent

Help us this Lent, O Lord, to know ourselves better, and give us strength to rid our lives of the hidden sins and weak spots in ourselves.

Help us this Lent, O Lord, to know ourselves better, and give us self-control where we are most likely to give in to temptation.

Help us this Lent, O Lord, to turn away from selfishness, that we may be more ready to give of our time, our energy, and our leisure in service to others.

So may we come to the joyful season of Easter stronger and more faithful disciples of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ. Amen.



Hunger Lunch

After the family service on Sunday March 12th the Third World Committee will provide a simple lunch in the vestry at St Cuthbert's. Donations will go towards the 'Give Water for Life' initiative piloted by Christian Aid. Details of this project can be found in All Saints' or St Cuthbert's churches.

We hope the lunch will not just be a fund raising event but a time to socialise and perhaps provide a moment to consider and be thankful. Do come!



LENT 2000

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

THIS YEAR'S STUDY PROGRAMME IS A MUST FOR ALL WHO BELIEVE IN THE IMPORTANCE AND POWER OF PRAYER.

TIMES AND VENUES ARE LISTED IN BOTH CHURCHES. SIGN UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO JOIN ONE OF THE GROUPS WHICH WILL BE MEETING THROUGHOUT LENT.

Social Committee News

Many thanks to all those who attended our 'Fellowship Quiz Night.' The evening was a resounding success which we hope to repeat in the future; our grateful thanks go to Mr Richard York – our quiz master for the evening.

'A Spring Extravaganza'

Friday 19th to Sunday 21st May



Our 'Spring Extravaganza' has events happening over a three day period. As many helpers as possible are needed to make these events successful. There will be a variety of lists in church soon asking for volunteers. Please do sign up if you can offer some time to this – our largest fund raiser and social event this millennium!

Gift Day

Many thanks to all who made contributions to the Gift Day at All Saints' during November 1999. The final total raised towards the repair of the steeple and general improvements to All Saints church was £746.75.

Jesus was a teacher. There is no refuting this fact. Even if Jesus is considered no more than an ordinary man, no-one can deny that he was a teacher.



He spent most of his time teaching, and you don't have to read very much of the Gospels to realise that this is indeed the case; the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew; the many parables such as that of the sower. He is even found teaching in the Temple of Jerusalem at the age of twelve.

Jesus taught using a variety of methods. He taught using straightforward fact. He taught using pictures, mainly taken from life. He taught using parables. He taught using the Old Testament Scriptures.

What he taught is still being taught today!

Jesus was the ultimate teacher. Any teacher reading this would do well to see how Jesus taught and just how effective he was. He must be the teacher of all teachers, after all, what he taught is still being taught today.

He is an example which we all could aspire to. However, there is more.

Jesus was no ordinary teacher. He was an extraordinary teacher, and this fact is made plain to us through reading the Gospels. I read the Gospels regularly, and I often wonder what it would have been like to have been there on the mount, listening to Jesus teach and preach. Of course if I read the Gospels carefully I will find out. Because there is just such a comment in Luke 4:32.

"They were all amazed at the way he taught, because he spoke with such authority."

Jesus didn't just teach, he taught with authority, the authority which comes from God alone. It was the kind of authority which is so transparent. A quality of teaching which always leaves you wanting more.

Jesus explained his parables

When we read the Gospels, we might find a certain passage a little difficult to get to grips with. But then have the luxury of being able to spend a few days or weeks or longer trying to work it out. The disciples did not have that luxury. Whilst they were struggling with one of Jesus' teachings, he would be moving on to the next. Perhaps that is why we sometimes read that Jesus explained his parables to the disciples when the crowds had left them.

I hope that we can always learn from such a remarkable teacher.

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Readers and Readings

5th Sunday Next Before Lent

2 Kings 2:1-12	Mrs K Cooper	Mrs H Walters
2 Cor 4 :3-6	Mrs K Cooper	Mrs H Walters
Mark 9:2-9		

12th 1st Sunday of Lent

Genesis 9:8-17	Dr Mc William	
1 Peter 3:18-22	Dr Mc William	
Mark 1:9-15		

19th 2nd Sunday of Lent

Gen. 17:1-7,15-16	Mrs S Hall	Miss Parker
Romans 4:13-25	Mrs S Hall	Mark Cavill
Mark 8:31-38		

26th 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17	Mrs M Walker	Mr F Davies
1 Cor. 1:18-25	Mrs M Walker	
John 2:13-22		



(following recent enquires, the weekly gospel readings will be listed when space allows - ed)

Brasses: Mrs Sutcliffe

From the Registers

Baptisms

- 30 Jan Karis Francesca Hopes
Emily Haigh
- 13 Feb Grace Susan Richardson
Brandon Pearson Cook



Funerals

- 2 Feb Dick Crummack, 87 Mount Pleasant, aged 72
- 7 Feb George Wood, 31 Tan House Lane, Low Ackworth, aged 69

Diary



1	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>(M.U. Corporate Communion)</i>	All Saints'
		7.30pm	Magazine Committee	The Rectory
3	Friday	Parish Weekend at Scarborough		
6	Monday	7.30pm	P.C.C.	vestry - St Cuthbert's
8	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday		
		9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
		7.30pm	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
12			Lent Hunger Lunch <i>(after morning service)</i>	St Cuthbert's
13	Monday	8.00pm	Social Committee	vestry - St Cuthbert's
14	Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddlers	All Saints'
15	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
		7.45pm	Women's Group	vestry - St Cuthbert's
20	Monday	St Cuthbert's Day		
		7.30pm	'The Life of St Cuthbert'	Quaker School
26	Sunday	Clocks Change!		
22	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
29	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
30	Thursday	2.30pm	Mother's Union at Mary Lowther Almshouses	

Forthcoming dates for your diary.

MAY

19-21 Weekend	Spring Extravaganza	Church Event
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JUNE

24 Saturday	Ackworth Gala	Village Event
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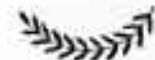
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It's the biggest day of your life. All the arrangements have been made, everything booked, invitations sent out etc, etc, etc. In amongst all the hype just what part does the church play in all this?

The Church of England has a dual role to play in the marriage ceremony – the legal part – and the religious part. Marriages can be performed by a registrar in the registry office (or a number of other places these days!). Certainly if you are planning a wedding in church the religious part is the most important; after all a marriage in church takes place in the sight of God and His blessing is bestowed on the newly married couple

Saturday is still the most popular day for weddings particularly during the summer months. The church needs to be booked early for the popular dates, however, with careful planning it is often possible to 'do' several weddings on the same day.

There are however, a number of constraints placed on the C of E as regards the marriage service:

1. The bride or bridegroom

must be resident in the parish, unless they are regular worshippers at the church they wish to marry in. Alternatively it may be possible to apply for a Special licence, but they are not readily granted by the Archbishops Registrar and cannot be guaranteed. If residency rules are fulfilled but for some reason Banns (see later) cannot be read, then a 'Common Licence' may be applied for.

2. Neither party should be divorced with their former partner living (any alteration to this rule will be several years in the future – contrary to recent media reports).

3. Church of England clergy can only perform marriages in church and not anywhere else.

Most marriages take place after 'banns.' This is a legal requirement, which means one of the couple should be resident in this parish, the banns being read at three consecutive Sunday services within three months of the marriage. If one of the couple is not resident in the parish then banns have also to be read in the parish where they reside as well; upon completion a banns certificate will be



issued by the C of E priest of the other parish. This has to be given to the priest who is performing the marriage.

Initially, first contact is made either in person or via the telephone to make an appointment to see the Rector (or Vicar) so that all relevant details can be noted. Depending on personal circumstances you will need your fathers full name and occupation, your full name, address, date of birth and place of baptism (if applicable), your occupation and country of birth and name of the parish in which you currently reside.

There will be other details needed relating to the marriage service itself, hymns, music, whether you want the bells rung, a video recording of the ceremony and flowers in church. Some of these may be arranged at a later date when your plans are more settled.

The cost of using the church varies depending on what you want. Some of the cost is statutory which covers the legal charges, other costs relate to the use of the church itself and what you want in terms of music etc.

In St Cuthbert's church the Rector will make sure that there is an organist and bellringers booked if you want them. Flowers can be organised

with our flower arrangers, but you may prefer your own florist.

Photographs and videos are your responsibility. The church has service books and hymn books but you may have your own 'order of service' printed after checking the actual 'order' with the Rector!

There are a great many myths surrounding the 'whys' and 'wherefors' concerning church



weddings. Many of them are based on tradition, some may be based on fact, the only way to be really sure what is right is to ask the Rector. Regardless of what you may hear has happened to someone, somewhere at sometime, it may not necessarily be what happens, either then or now!

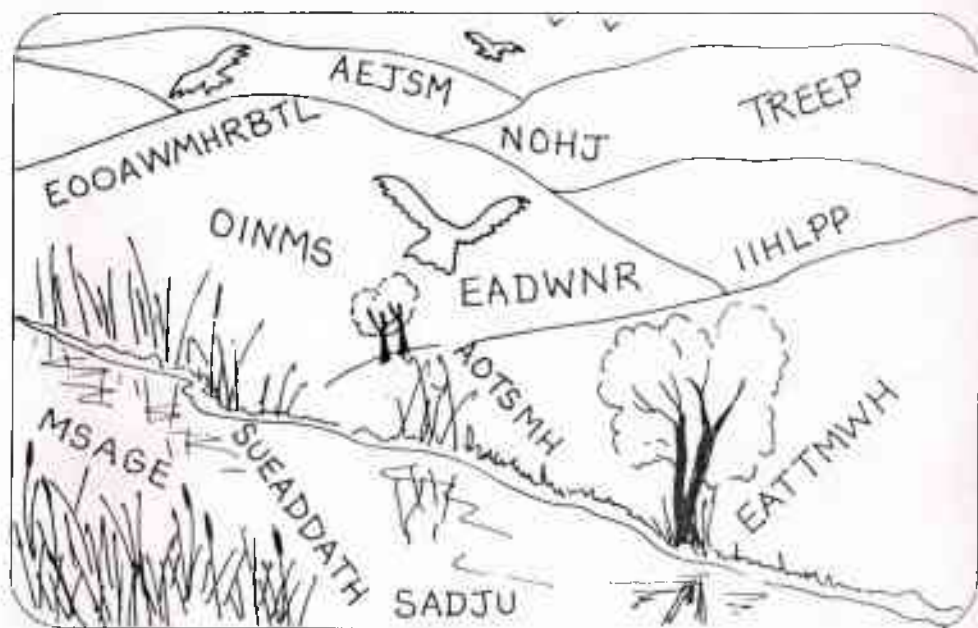
Until the rules change it is not possible, in this parish, to marry anyone who has been divorced, in these circumstances it may be possible to offer a service of blessing following a civil ceremony. The legal necessities having already been attended to therefore do not apply if a blessing takes place in church. The only way to be sure is to contact the Rector.

(The details contained in this article refer to St Cuthbert's, Ackworth, however, the legal requirements are universal within the Church of England).



Cool Kids!

Unscramble the names of Jesus' disciples...



and write them in the spaces below

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. P _ _ _ _ | 5. H _ _ _ | 9. A _ _ _ |
| 2. _ _ _ _ S | 6. I _ _ M | 10. I _ _ A S |
| 3. _ _ H _ | 7. _ _ I _ _ _ | 11. S _ _ _ |
| 4. _ _ D _ _ | 8. _ _ O _ _ | 12. _ U _ _ |

Answers in next month's 'Cool Kids!'

News, Events and Dates for your Diary



THE MOTHERS' UNION

March 2000

- 1st Corporate Communion at All Saints' Church, 9.30 a.m.
- 3rd Women's World Day of Prayer. Service at the Methodist Church, Barnsley Road at 7.15 pm.
- 21st Deanery Committee Meeting, St. Giles' Church, Pontefract, 2 pm.
- 25th Lady Day. Diocesan Service in Wakefield Cathedral, 12 noon.
- 30th Service and Branch Meeting, Mary Lowther Almshouses, High Ackworth, 2.30 pm. Speaker: Edward Wynn.

Barbara Firth

Churches Together in Ackworth

The Northumbria Community
presents

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THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH



St Cuthbert's and All Saints'

Sunday Services

March 2000



5th March

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

12th March

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion and Parade	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

19th March

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

26th March

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	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