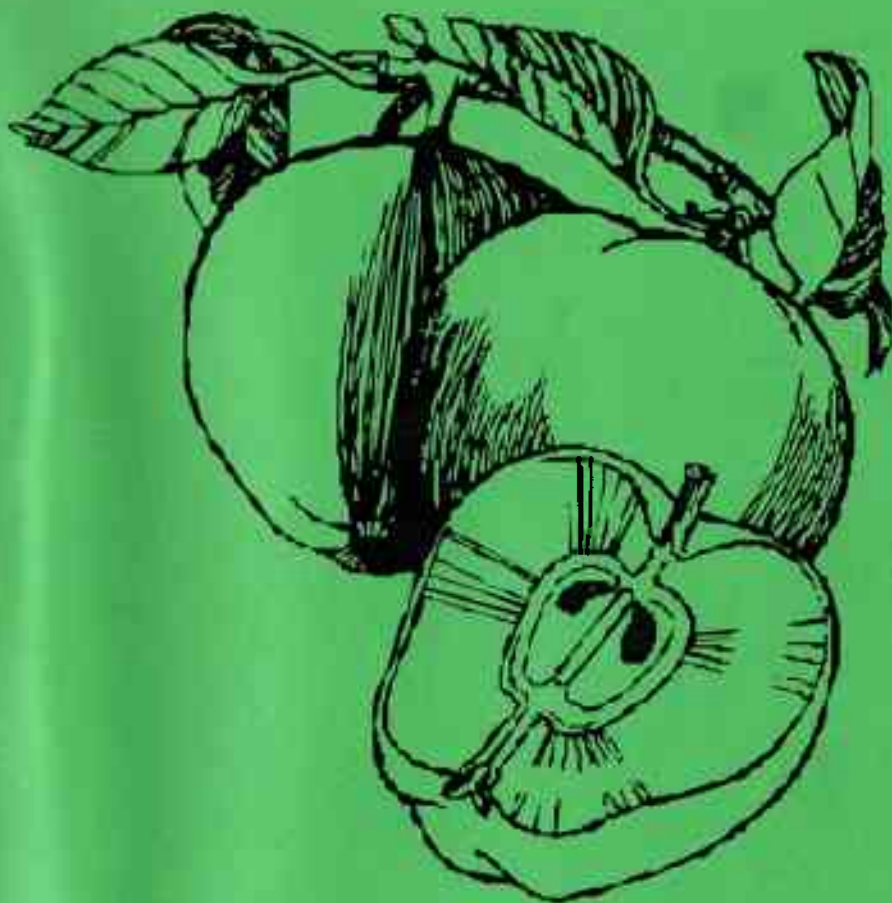


Issue 19.



Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3 per year)

October 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	722275
<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

As the weather becomes more autumnal, and at times depressing, I hope you will allow me to indulge in a holiday memory. As some of you may know, this summer we spent two gloriously hot, sunny weeks in south west Crete - the third year running we have visited a Greek island. Apart from relaxing on the beach and immersing myself in a foreign culture, I particularly enjoy visiting archaeological sites, admiring the beauty of ancient architecture, even with a wife who is less than enthusiastic!

This year on one of our excursions we visited a small site which was first settled about the 5th century B.C. Seemingly insignificant today, it was numbered as one of the three main city states of southern Crete; the ancient city of Lissos. Amongst its notable excavations were the ancient barrel-vaulted tombs and a temple dedicated to Asklepios, the god of healing, with a well preserved mosaic floor. However, the building that impressed me most deeply was a little church which we were told by the guide was first century AD, its original wallpainting, though faint, is still visible. One felt the aura of holiness the moment one stepped over the threshold of this tiny church, which would have fitted into the chancel of St

Cuthbert's with plenty of room to spare. With no furniture beyond a simple wooden priest's desk, lectern and candle-stand it had a peace and quietness about it that is indescribable. Though it was clearly not as old as we were told didn't really matter; the very stones, steeped in prayer, traced a continuity of the Christian faith back to its very origins (St Paul landed not many miles down the coast on his journey to Rome).

Later I learnt that the many thousands of little churches dotted around the islands and mainland Greece in the most remote and inaccessible of places, are still worshipped in at least once a year, on their designated feast day.

As you may have already gathered, this tiny, ancient and deeply spiritual building has made a big impression upon me; not for what it is, but for what it represents. It speaks firstly of continuity; a link reaching back almost to our Lord himself. Despite the many cataclysmic events the world has witnessed since this small place of worship was first built, it was still there, a simple, bare space, covered by a pantile roof, and worship still continued. Secondly it spoke, as do countless of these remote



The Rector Writes ...



and far flung little chapels - many seemingly accessible only by mountain goats - of God's presence, proclaimed through an unstinting faith in Jesus Christ.

As George Herbert writes in his hymn: "The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly." Some of these roughly built chapels seem to cling to the edges of precipices and yet even in the most inhospitable of places God's presence is proclaimed through the steadfast faith of those who built them and continue to worship in them.

God's continuity and presence: this set me thinking! As one who has always insisted that, particularly where the Church is concerned, it was people who always came first and buildings a poor second, I have begun to think that

buildings perhaps do have a significant purpose in the proclamation of God's saving love. On those remote, narrow, craggy mountain passes of Crete, were it not for a deep faith in Jesus Christ, there would be no evidence to testify to the presence of Christianity.

Regardless of the debate, which will continue long beyond my lifetime, of how important buildings and places of worship are compared with people, we must recognise that for many Christians, monuments and buildings are symbols of God's presence and continuity in that community, True, they can never take first place above the needs of people (our Lord himself placed great emphasis on 'living temples' and not 'hearts of stone!') but we should not underestimate the potential of places to inspire and uplift even the most marginal of believers.

This all leads my thoughts away from holidays in far away places and back to home, to our own churches in Ackworth and, as the Fabric Committee work towards formulating a plan for the repairs and refurbishment of our buildings, to ask the question; "How important are our church buildings to us and to our community and will they still serve as symbols of God's presence and continuity at the start of the next millennium?"

Our response to appeals to restore our crumbling churches in the near future will be the only answer to that question.

Yours in Christ,

Paul



One of the many churches which abound on the Greek Islands



Cool Kids!

Can you make a Bible verse from this code?

AN D/JES US/SA W/A/GRE AT/MUL TITUD E/AN D/WA
S/MOV ED/WIT H/COMPAS SION/TO WARD/TH EM/AN
D/H E/HEA LED/TH EIR/SICK.

This comes from Matthew Chapter 14. Which verse? _____



Jesus cared and provided for the hungry crowd. How does he show he cares in these verses?

Fill in the missing word

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Matthew 8 v. 3 | Jesus _____ a man of leprosy. |
| 2. Matthew 11 v. 28 | He gives _____ to the weary. |
| 3. Matthew 14 v.30 -31 | Jesus _____ Peter from drowning. |
| 4. Matthew 18 v. 12 | Jesus cares for us like a _____. |
| 5. Matthew 19 v. 14 | Jesus loves _____. |
| 6. Matthew 20 v. 28 | Jesus came to be a _____. |
| 7. Matthew 28 v. 20 | Jesus promises _____. |

Answers to last puzzle.

I am the bread of life.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

Son of God

Paul Fox

Last month's article left us at a precipitous moment. Either we believe that Jesus is the Christ, or we don't. If we do, then there are enormous implications, which will affect our lives, and the lives of those around us, forever.

A time when God will act

The Old Testament is basically the story of God's relationship with his people, the chosen race, the Jewish nation. It is littered with God's contact with his people, and it is also littered with prophecies about God's salvation and how he will achieve it. I gave more detailed accounts of these in last year's articles. The Old Testament is pointing towards a time when God will act; when he will appear and live among his people, and by doing so will enact salvation for them.

The person who will appear among these people is called the Messiah, or the Christ. And so you can see the implications of believing that Jesus is the Christ.

God incarnate

If you believe that Jesus is the Christ, then you will also have to believe that he is God incarnate, which means he is God himself in human form. This is an incredible statement to make: that God actually came down from heaven and took on human form in order to live with his people. Do you believe this? This is the question which everyone must answer for himself.

In the days of Jesus it might have been easier to believe because you would have been able to see him in action. However, we know from reading the Gospels that this was

not always the case. Many people did not believe in him.

'This is my beloved Son'

To say that Jesus is the Christ is also to say that Jesus is the Son of God. We read from the Gospels about his baptism. There the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit came down on Jesus, and God is heard saying: "This is my beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17).

Further on in the Gospels we read about the transfiguration, when Jesus' Glory is revealed, and again we hear the voice from God saying: "This is my Son" (Luke 9:35).



And so our understanding of Jesus gradually begins to deepen. We know now that he is more than just a man. He is The Christ, he is the Son of God. It is through him that God will act out his salvation for his people.

All it takes is belief in who he is.

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October Rotas



Readers and Readings

1st Proper 21	SC	AS
Esther 7:1-6,9,10 & 9:20-22	Mr Shaw	Mrs Hall
James 5:13-20	Mr Shaw	Mrs Hall
8th Proper 22		
Job 1:1 & 2:1-10		Mrs M Walker
Hebrews 1:1-4 & 2:5-12		Mrs M Walker
15th Proper 23		
Job 23:1-9,16,17	Mr F Walters	Mr D Cook
Hebrews 4:12-16	Mr F Walters	Mr D Cook
22nd Proper 24		
Job 38:1-7	Mrs H Walters	Miss Smith
Hebrews 5:1-10	Mrs H Walters	Miss Smith
29th Proper 25		
Job 42:1-6, 10-17		Mrs V Cook
Hebrews 7:23-28	Ann Attack	Mrs V Cook



Flowers & Brasses Sorry no details at time of going to print

From the Registers

Baptisms

- 8 Jul Megan Rita Anne Deal, Jack Anthony Harris, Ryan Paul Harris
- 30 Jul Lewis Gerald Thatcher, Imogen Ruby Wathen
- 13 Aug Olivia Jane Clark

Marrriages

- 22 Jul Peter Wilhelm Müller & Jane Walker
- 29 Jul Robin Mark Hodgeson & Rachel Louise Ellison
- 29 Jul Paul Mark Stephen & Esther Maris Gosnay
- 10 Aug Marcus Richard Laurence & Joanne Farey



Funerals

- 2 Aug Carrie Fish, Priory Gardens Nursing Home, aged 91
- 8 Aug Evelyn Marshall, 15 Sothern Croft, Darrington, aged 79
- 17 Aug Cecil Rhodes, 3a Tan House Lane, Low Ackworth, aged 78
- 23 Aug Michael Gary Jordan, 54 Doncaster Road Estate, aged 20

I will shortly be planning a new readers rota to begin this Advent and to continue until Advent 2001. If anyone would like to be added to the list - or any who would like to retire - please contact me as soon as possible. *Sue Hartley*





October Diary



2 Monday	7.30pm	PCC	Vestry	St Cuthbert's
4 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
		<i>(M.U. Corporate Communion)</i>		
	7.30pm	Magazine Committee		The Rectory
5 Thursday	7.15pm	Feast of Life*		Methodist Church
6 Friday	7.15pm	Feast of Life*		Methodist Church
7 Saturday	7.30pm	Wakefield Metropolitan Band*		St Cuthbert's
10 Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddler Praise		All Saints'
11 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
18 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
	7.45pm	Womens Group meeting	vestry	St Cuthbert's
26 Thursday		Mothers' Union*		All Saints'
28 Saturday		PCC Awayday		Gildersome

forthcoming events - November

5 Sunday		All Saints' Day		
	10.15am	Parish Communion		All Saints'
	5.00pm	All Souls Service		St Cuthbert's
8 Wednesday	7.30pm	Aromatherapy Evening*		St Cuthbert's
25 Saturday		Christmas Fayre		

Harvest

Don't forget your harvest gifts on Sunday 8th October. As in previous years your gifts of produce - fresh (or preferably) tins and packets - will be going to 'Caring for Life' the Leeds based charity which is continuing its work with homeless young people. If you would like to make a cash donation to this worthwhile charity we will be happy to pass them on with the other harvest

gifts.

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



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JARS OF GRACE

Every mealtime you could give hope to children alone on the streets

How would our children manage if they found themselves alone, without the love and support of parents or relatives? This is the reality for millions of children throughout the world who have been left isolated due to poverty, disease or conflict.

Whatever the reason, children growing up alone are left vulnerable and at risk, in danger from physical harm, abuse or exploitation. Alone, they often have to scavenge for food or find work in order to survive, or become involved in street gang delinquency or prostitution. They miss out on education, medical care and the security of knowing where they will sleep each night.

There are an estimated 100 million street children around the world, with little hope of a future. UNICEF is committed to providing street children with an alternative and through this year's Jars of Grace appeal will be raising funds for practical support for such children. Projects such as community based projects, day centres and drop-in centres provide a safe environment for them where they can be fed, wash themselves, have access to health care and, perhaps most importantly, have the opportunity to

undertake education and skills training that will improve their prospects for the future.

It costs only 7p to provide a child with a daily meal in one of these centres - just £2 to feed a street child for one month. Saying Grace is an opportunity to give thanks for the blessings that we enjoy every day - but by dropping a coin in a jar at each mealtime between Harvest and Christmas you can also help provide a better start in life for some of our world's most vulnerable children.

Leaflets and labels will be available in church after Harvest Festival or contact Lynne Ward (616384) for more details. Thank you.

UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, is helping children in over 160 countries around the world, working with local people and governments regardless of race, politics, religion or nationality. UNICEF is not funded by the UN but depends upon voluntary contributions to carry out its vital work

The Children's Society
Collection boxes may be brought to church for emptying during October or alternatively contact Helen Parkinson.
Once again, many thanks for your continued support.

News, Events and Dates for your Diary

Ackworth Methodist Church

The Feast of Life

5th & 6th Oct
7.15 pm

The Parish of Ackworth presents

Wakefield Metropolitan Band in Concert

October 7th, 7.30 pm
St. Cuthbert's Church

Tickets: Adults £4.50
Concessions £2.50
Accompanied children £1

Refreshments available

Tel: 613178 or 602751 for tickets
or at the door.



Likisma Oils

Aromatherapy Evening

An Introduction to the Use of Essential Oils

St. Cuthbert's Vestry
Wednesday 8 November 7.30 pm

Everyone Welcome
Refreshments available

Admission Free

The Story of Hallowe'en

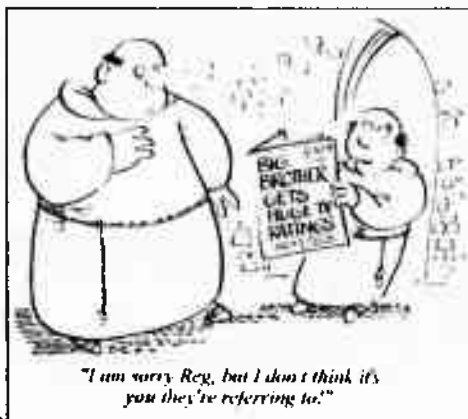
Our modern Halloween celebrations have their roots with the Celtic peoples of pre-Christian times. On the last night of October, these ancient peoples celebrated the Festival of Samhain, or 'Summer's End'. The priests (Druids) performed ceremonies to thank and honour the sun. However, there was a darker side: Samhain also signalled the onset of winter, a time when it was feared that unfriendly ghosts, nature-spirits, and witches roamed the earth, creating mischief. So the Druid priests lit great bonfires and performed magic rites to ward off or appease these dark supernatural powers. Then the Romans arrived, and brought their Harvest Festival which honoured the Goddess Pomona with gifts of apples and nuts. The two festivals slowly merged.

When Christianity arrived still later, it began to replace the Roman and Druid religions. 1st November - All Saints' Day - was dedicated to all Christian Martyrs and Saints who had died. It was called 'All Hallows' Day'. The evening before therefore became an evening of prayer and reparation called 'All Hallows' Eve', The Holy Evening, later shortened

to 'Halloween'.

For many centuries, however, fear of the supernatural remained strong. During the Middle Ages, animal costumes and frightening masks were worn to ward off the evil spirits of darkness on Halloween. Magic words and charms were used to keep away bad luck, and everybody believed that witches rode about on broomsticks. Fortune telling was popular, and predicting the future by the use of nuts and apples was so popular that Halloween is still sometimes known as Nutcrack Night or Snap-Apple Night.

Today, Christians have learned to turn to prayer instead of charms to overcome the powers of darkness. And the deeper, true meaning of All Hallows' Eve, should not be forgotten. As Christians, we all draw closer to Christ when we remember and give thanks for our loved ones and for others who have gone before us through the gates of death.



Etcetera...

A Prayer for Harvest

May God who clothes the lilies
and feeds the birds in the sky,
Who leads the lambs to pasture
and deer to water,
Who multiplied loaves and fishes
and changed water into wine,
Lead us, feed us, and change us
to reflect the Glory of our Creator.
Now and Always,

Amen



ACKWORTH PARISH WOMEN'S GROUP

The Women's Group started in 1987 and has continued over the years with many interesting speakers, demonstrations and activities. However, over the past few years membership has declined and speakers have become quite expensive, making it difficult for the group to remain viable.

Last year membership fell to fourteen with very low attendances at meetings. The committee have decided reluctantly, therefore, to recommend the suspension of the group at the AGM and Supper in January 2001. Thank you to all past and present members for their help and support over the years.

Biddy Branston

THE MOTHERS' UNION

October 4th

Corporate Communion, 9.30 am, All Saints' Church.

October 25th

Diocesan Quiet Day, 10.30 - 3.30 pm. Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield.

October 26th

Service and Branch Meeting, 2.30 pm, All Saints' Church.

Speaker: Dorothy Knowles - 'Memories in Music'. Visitors welcome.

Barbara Firth

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THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH



St Cuthbert's and All Saints'

Sunday Services

October 2000



1st October

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

8th October

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Harvest Thanksgiving	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Harvest Praise	St Cuthbert's

15th October

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

22nd October

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

29th October

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