



Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3.00 per year)

DECEMBER 1997

Christmas Services

SUNDAY, 21 DECEMBER

**3 00 pm Village Carol Service, St Cuthbert's Church,
organised by Churches Together in Ackworth
NB NO EVENSONG AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**



CHRISTMAS EVE, WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER

**5 30 pm Carols on Christmas Eve - a service for all the family.
Children are invited to bring toys, games, etc to be given to
underprivileged children.
Please gift wrap and mark 'boy' or 'girl',
and suitable age. Retiring collection for the Prince of Wales Hospice.
(St Cuthbert's)**

11 30 pm Midnight Mass (St Cuthbert's)

CHRISTMAS DAY

8 30 am Holy Communion (All Saints')
10 15 am The Parish Communion (St Cuthbert's)

ST STEPHEN, FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER

10 00 am Holy Communion (said) (St Cuthbert's)

ST JOHN, SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER

10 00 am Holy Communion (said) (St Cuthbert's)

SUNDAY, 28 DECEMBER

8 30 am Holy Communion (All Saints')
10 15 am Parish Communion (St Cuthbert's)

MONDAY, 29 DECEMBER

10 00 am Holy Innocents (said) (St Cuthbert's)





Dear Friends

Although it may not be apparent, the major Christian festival of Christmas is a time when the theme of journeys or travelling has a high profile. This theme was very much a part of the nativity story in the gospel of Matthew and Luke (the only two books of the New Testament which narrates the birth of our Lord in the popular sense which most people relate to!) It is also a feature of many people's Christmases today as a growing number of people jet off to warmer climes or travel to stay in a hotel. Many more make the journey home to be with their families at this time of year; mirroring that other great theme of family given the supreme expression in the Holy Family.

If we return to the story which surrounds the family of our Lord, the Nativity, we see within that story many journeys, in the first instance we have the journey of Joseph and Mary to register with the authorities in Joseph's home town. That journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem was a harsh one, through rough terrain, a distance of some 70-80 miles; a journey with no welcome at its end! We have the journey of the shepherds down from the mountains to the city, possibly still shocked and dazzled by the angel's message. We have the very long journey of the Magi from the Far East: as T.S. Elliott calls it in his poem "The Journey of the Magi;" *"A cold coming we had of it ... Just the worst time of year for a journey,*

and such a long journey." And then the greatest journey of all, of Christ, the son of God, who came from highest heaven, down to one of the lowest places on earth - a manger in an animal stall.



When God came down from heaven into this world as a helpless baby, he took the longest journey of all, far and above any of the limited journeys we are able to take. From the infinite to the limitation of our finite world: From the transcendence to humble humanity; from immortality to a life dominated by pain and death. This is the journey which God

took for us; a journey that we can only conceive of by thinking in terms of miracles.

Many long and hard journeys took place on that first Christmas and some will be making arduous, difficult journeys for all sorts of reasons this Christmas. There is a journey we must all make each Christmas however, probably the hardest journey we ever have to make in our lifetimes, whether we leave the comforts of our own homes or not. We have to lay aside our pride and sophistication, all that our modern commercialised world has made us and make this most important journey of all as we walk in the footsteps of those simple shepherds and wise men from the east. With them we must turn aside at the inn and enter the lowly door of the stable. We must stand in



awe and gaze in wonder at the miracle of Gods love for us.

Whatever your journeys this Christmas, may they be joyful and safe. A happy and holy Christmas and every blessing for the New Year from Paul, Sue, Chris, Phillip and Sarah.

AN INVITATION

After the morning service
at St Cuthbert's
on December 28
Everyone is invited to join us
for drinks and mince pies at
the Rectory

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

26 OCT *Jessica Emily Jane Scott*

WEDDINGS

1 NOV *Stuart M R Mitchell and Catherine Esther Cook*

FUNERALS

22 OCT *Margaret Brookes, 8 College Terrace, aged 82*

23 OCT *Louisa Westwood, Roop Cottage, Fitzwilliam, aged 85*

30 OCT *Mary West, 16 Rhyddings Drive, Ackworth, aged 71*

30 OCT *Margaret Canning, 37 Purston Lane, Ackworth, aged 77*

31 OCT *William Ellis, 108 Wakefield Road, Brackenhill, aged 67*



ADVENT PREPARATION

As part of our preparation to receive our Lord into our hearts at Christmas, on Thursdays the 4, 11 & 18 December there will be an evening of prayer at 7.30 in Saint Cuthbert's. The evenings will consist of a teaching session of different forms or ways of praying followed by prayers for Advent.

A Sum of Comfort



Size 8 knitting needles
+ double knitting wool
+ 40 stitches
+ approximately 70 rows
= a little warmth and comfort
x 54
= one blanket



Many people think that because 'Save the Children Fund' no longer accept blankets, there is no outlet for their knitted squares. However, the 'White Rose Children's Aid International Charity' founded in November 1993 met with representatives of SCF and the blankets are taken, by them, to places of need, eg Albania, Poland and the Third World. In 21 months the White Rose Charity raised in excess of £70,000 in cash and goods.

A member of the Ackworth Branch of SCF takes the blankets to a member of the White Rose Charity, so please keep supplying me with squares so that I can sew them together and pass the blankets on. I look forward to receiving lots of squares.

Many thanks to all those people who have contributed squares in the past. SCF have been extremely pleased with the blankets that have been received.

See Link

From January 1998, as a cost cutting measure, See Link will no longer appear in the middle of this magazine.

However, copies of See Link will be available to anyone who would like one, free of charge.

Pick up your copy from the back of church.

WELCOME

Linda and Maureen would like to welcome
**Mollie Gardham, Sue Hartley
and Bidy Branston**

on to the **Parish Magazine Editorial Committee.**

It's great to have some help, support and, hopefully, lots of new ideas for future issues. We hope YOU our readers will continue to send in articles or snippets of interest. Hand them to Linda, Maureen, Sue, Mollie or Bidy by the first Sunday of the previous month.

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Bishop Nigel writes

A few weeks ago I prayed at the graveside of William Walsham How, the first Bishop of Wakefield. In the nearby parish church of Whittington near Oswestry—where he had been a much-loved Rector for 28 years—I had the privilege of being the first Bishop of Wakefield for over one hundred years to preach in his pulpit. But, for me, the most moving experience of all was sitting at the Victorian desk where he wrote so many of his hymns.

On Friday 5th December, in this centenary year after his death we will be commemorating our first bishop at a special service in Wakefield Cathedral. On that occasion we will also



remember all our previous bishops including the Archbishop of York—who will preach, and dedicate a stone plaque bearing their names.

Walsham How is fondly viewed as a “Children’s Bishop” and, above all, as a

hymn writer. His stirring “For all the Saints” has become a great favourite here—and not least in Wakefield Cathedral, which is dedicated to All Saints. Mistakenly, some think he must have written the hymn for us. The truth is he wrote it years before he came here—possibly even before he had ever heard of Wakefield!

To think of our distinguished first bishop simply in terms of children and hymns is

to sentimentalise his memory. References to him in my library at Bishop's Lodge—from the early biography written by his son to the more recent study by Frank Carless—show that there was far more to Walsham How than popular perception now recognises.

His writings about Christian faith and devotion were a widely used resource within the Victorian church—one title alone selling more than half a million copies. But not even that matched the respect with which our first bishop was held in intellectual circles—as a scientist.

The Revd Michael Roberts, currently vicar of Chirk, who has been researching into Darwin and the relationship of Genesis and theology in the 19th century, has written a fascinating short article on Walsham How's love of botany and his specialisation in "calicole" (lime-loving) plants—on which he was an authority.

Walsham How may well have been among the first clergy to accept Darwin's theories, thereby combining evolution with Christian faith. Roberts suggests that he may also have joined in conversations about this at dinner when being entertained at Chirk Castle by the family of Darwin's first girl-

friend!

We do know that How preached on Science and Religion. Indeed two of his sermons at gatherings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science were published. His message was that if evolution is proved, then "this was the wonderful way in which the Lord God formed man out of the dust of the ground. We then behold God creating by Evolution instead of by isolated and unconnected acts of creative energy."

Roberts concludes his monograph by recalling that on 10th August 1897 a statue of Charles Darwin sitting in studious pose was unveiled outside Darwin's school in Shrewsbury (now the Library). Several bishops were invited, including the Archbishop of Canterbury and William Walsham How. Neither could attend. How was on holiday in Ireland, but on that very day the aged Bishop of Wakefield passed away — to join all the saints who from their labours rest.

+ Nigel Wallace

(A copy of the short article referred to is available from Bishop's Lodge.)

People and Places ...

The Revd **Raymond Adair**, at present Vicar of St Saviour, Brownhill, is to retire on 30 November 1997.

The Revd **Robert E Whitehouse**, at present Priest-In-Charge of St Philip the Apostle Birchencliffe and part time Diocesan Youth Officer, is to be full time Diocesan Youth Officer with effect from January 1st 1998.

The Revd **Ian Burkinshaw**, at present NSM at St John the Baptist, Chapeltown (Diocese of Sheffield) is to be curate at All Saints' Normanton.

The Revd **Peter J Jeffery**, at present Vicar of Sowerby Bridge with Norland, is to be Priest-In-Charge of Walsden St Peter and Cornholme St Michael and All Angels.

THE INTERNET: Is there anybody who would like to maintain and develop our diocesan World-Wide-Web pages? If you are interested then please contact Ashley Ellis at Church House on 01924 371802. There is no salary involved, you'd be doing it for the love of the Diocese, and the Church of England.

You can find the Diocese of Wakefield web pages at:
www.anglican.org.uk/wakefield/



5% Increase — Again!

Despite further reductions in funding from the Church Commissioners and the first year of the transition into full pension payments the Diocesan Board of Finance has once again been able to keep the average parish share increase to about 5%.

Pension contributions have been partly offset by transitional assistance from the Church Commissioners but this has still resulted in an additional cost to the diocese of £66,000. This figure represents 1.8% of the parish share increase.

Clergy stipends have been increased by 4.21% in line with the national average.

Individual parish share increases are, at the time of writing, still to be agreed by the Board of Finance, but are likely to be in the range of 4%—7%. Those parishes whose share is currently less than the cost of ministry will pay between 5%—7% whilst those parishes currently contributing more than its cost of ministry will have an increase of between 4% and 5%.

Several people have asked for the poem Bishop Nigel quoted at the *Doors of Hope* Conference at Harrogate.

*Not merely in the words you say, not only in the deeds confessed
the most unconscious way is Christ expressed.*

Is it a very saintly smile? A light upon your brow?

Oh no! I felt His presence when you laughed just now.

For me 'twas not the truth you taught, to you so clear, to me so dim

But when you came to me, you brought a sense of Him.

*So from your life He beckons me, and from your heart His love is shed
Till I lose sight of you and see the Christ instead.*

Anon

Inside Out Trust

The Inside Out Trust works with prison staff and prisoners to establish projects which will benefit all sorts of people. We strongly believe that people in our prisons, whose lives have often been negative and chaotic, should be given opportunities to contribute positively to the needs of others and that, by so doing, they can improve their own prospects and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

Three excellent bookbinding projects in HMPs Lewes, Birmingham and Wormwood Scrubs provide a service to non-profit organisations such as schools, colleges, churches, charities and organisa-

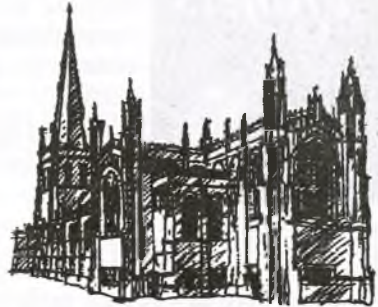
tions. The men involved in this work take pride in a high standard of achievement. More projects can be established if the need increases.

Please contact the Trust if you would like to use this service. Hymn books, prayer books, psalters, anthem books can all have their useful life extended if a new hard cover is provided. We ask for a contribution to the costs of the materials but that is all.

Please contact: Ninaickers, Project Administrator, Inside Out Trust, 108 High Street, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex BN6 9PX. Tel: 01273 833050. Fax: 01273 833744.

William Walsham How

William Walsham How became the first Bishop of Wakefield when the Diocese was created in 1888. There will be a major celebration of his life and work at Wakefield Cathedral this month. As we remember his ministry, we also celebrate our life as a Diocese, giving thanks for the ministry of all our Bishops and all the people they have led, and reflecting on our task in the coming century.



Walsham How was an energetic leader with many enthusiasms. He was one of the founders of what became the Church of England Children's Society. He is best remembered today as the author of several well-known hymns, especially "For all the Saints".

As we remember William Walsham How, we think afresh about who we are as a Diocese, and about how we can carry forward the vision which he fostered of a Church which is both rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and sensitive to the particular needs both of ourselves and of our children.

Wednesday 3 December, 730pm in the Cathedral:

Bishop's Lecture by the Rt Revd Colin Buchanan, Bishop of Woolwich, who will talk about **HYMNS**.

Thursday 4 December, 630pm in the Cathedral:

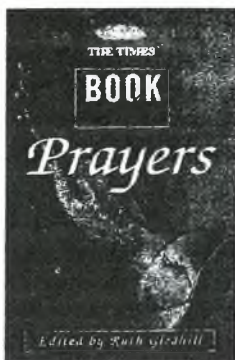
Choral Evensong which will include musical settings of words by William Walsham How.

Friday 5 December, 7pm FESTIVAL SERVICE in the Cathedral:

This will be a major event in the life of the Diocese. Parishes have been invited to send three representatives each (tickets required). The preacher will be Archbishop David Hope. Bishop Colin James will be present, together with representatives of all the previous Bishops of Wakefield. A new stone plaque commemorating our Bishops will be dedicated during the service.

Saturday 6 December, Diocesan Children's Service at 11am.

Bishop Nigel will bless a "Boy Bishop" as a sign of continuing episcopal ministry. Children from all parishes are welcome — information packs have already gone out (if you haven't had one please contact the Revd Betty Pedley at Church House on 01924 371802). The service will last no longer than fifty minutes, but there will be lots of action and interest for children of all ages.



The Times Book of Prayers is edited by Ruth Gladhill (Religious Affairs Correspondent for the Times) and contains prayers submitted by readers for inclusion in a book. With contributions from people of all ages and all walks of life, all speaking from the heart, and with their own intensely personal stories to tell. The illustrations were specially commissioned from pupils of Rugby School.

Published by Cassell. Paperback 139 pages. £9.99
ISBN 0-264-67442-1

Wakefield Cathedral Choir

We are looking for boy Choristers for the Cathedral Choir. Choristers attend the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Wakefield, but there are also vacancies for choristers from other schools. The School Entrance Examination is on Monday 2nd February. The Cathedral Voice Trial is on Saturday 7th February.

Age — 7 to 10 years.

To find out more:

Contact the Organist, The Cathedral, Wakefield, WF1 1HG
Telephone 01924 373923 as soon as possible.

Come to the Choir open evening on Sunday 25th January
at 515pm after Evensong at 4pm.

Are you a "Reluctant Organist"?

Many people who play our church organs are recruited because they "play the piano a bit". They have no special training in organ playing, and pick it up as they go along. Sometimes they long for a few helpful hints, but aren't sure who to ask.

If that sounds like you (or your church organist) then you should be interested in an afternoon of just such helpful hints, and opportunities to try something different. The date is Saturday 21st February 1998, the place is St Mary's Church, South Elmsall. The time is 2—5pm. The afternoon is being organised by members of the Area Committee of RSCM, who promise not to be too high-powered or technical, but just to give you the down to earth help you are looking for.

Further details may be obtained from the Area Secretary, Revd John Marshall, 1 Church Walk, Northowram, Halifax HX3 7HF (01422 202551).

WHAT'S ON

- Dec 5 & 6 **Santa's Grotto**—St Philip & St James, Scholes, Cleckheaton. Gifts, games, refreshments etc. Santa will be there. 630—9pm Friday and 10am—2pm Saturday.
- Dec 6 **Christmas Fayre**, King Street Mission, Huddersfield. 10am—1230pm. Stalls, tombola, home-made cakes. Coffee & biscuits, soup and sandwiched. Huddersfield Methodist Choir.
- Dec 6 **Christmas Fayre** in the Parish Room, All Saints', Darton at 2pm. Various stalls and refreshments.
- Dec 24 **Family Crib Service** in Wakefield Cathedral, 5pm.
- Jan 12-17 St Giles' & St Mary's Pantomime Society presents **Dick Turpin** in Pontefract Town Hall, 7pm, Sat also 2pm. Tickets £4.50 (Concessions £3.50) from 01977 794563.
- Feb 10-14 Lindley Church AOS presents **Kiss Me Kate** at the Lawrence Batley Theatre, Queen's Square, Huddersfield. 715pm, mat Sat 215pm. Tickets £8.50, £6.50, £4.50, concessions available. Theatre Box Office 01484 430528.
- Ignatian Open Door Retreats** specifically designed for those unable to attend a residential retreat. They comprise 9 consecutive weekly meetings of 2 hours duration. Two retreats are available in Huddersfield Parish Church Crypt: Mondays Feb 9—Apr 6 commencing at 1030am & 730pm. Further information please send sae to Mrs Olive Taylor, 44 Falconers Ride, Netherton, Huddersfield, HD4 7LJ

MUSICAL MATTERS

Dec 5 **Christmas Carol Concert** by the South Kirkby Singers in All Saints' Church, South Kirkby. 7pm. Silver collection in aid of Church funds. Refreshments available in the Church Hall.

Dec 5 St Mary's Youth & Friends present

An Evening of Music, Song & Dance at St Mary's Church, Luddenden. Tickets at door £4 (£3 children under 12), including glass punch/fruit juice and mince pie.

Dec 5 **The Ovid Ensemble** concert of music by Bach, Martinu, Mozart & Brahms. Elland & District Music Society in the Parochial Hall, Westgate, Elland at 730pm.

Dec 6 **An Organ Concert of Carols & Christmas Music** by Dr Arnold Loxam at Whitechapel Church, Cleckheaton 730pm. Adults £2.50 children 50p. Details from 01274 870434.

Dec 6 A festive evening with **Thurloston Brass Band** at Christ Church Staincliffe 730pm. Adults £3 children under 16 £1.50 Coffee and mince pies included.

Dec 6 Ackworth Parish Church **Christmas Fayre** at the Howard School, Low Ackworth, 130pm. Lots of stalls, bran-tub, tombola, refreshments, raffle. Admission 20p accompanied children free.

Dec 6 **Messiah**, Festival Chorus in Wakefield Cathedral 715pm. Tickets £6 (£4)

Dec 7 Holy Trinity Church, Church St, Ossett, **Special Advent Service** by the Huddersfield Friends of Church Music, 330pm. (Including the new RSCM Advent Service, published this year.) Director Jim Cowell, organist Malcolm Hinchcliffe.

Dec 9 **Messiah** sung by Huddersfield Methodist Choir in Huddersfield Town Hall, 715pm. £6.50 and £3.50.

Dec 9 **An Evening of Seasonal & Sacred Music** presented by the Goole Choral Society, 730pm, followed by winter-warming refreshments. St Martin's Church, Womersley. Tickets £2.50. 01302 700220.

Dec 11 Holy Trinity Church, Church St, Ossett. **Music for Christmas** Concert, 730pm. The Huddersfield Singers and Gawthorpe Brass '85. Tickets £3 at door. Refreshments: Coffee & Mince Pies.

Dec 12 St Michael's Church, Emley, **Carol Concert**—Traditional &

Gallery Carols. 8pm. Mulled wine & mince pies after concert. Tickets £3 (incl). Contact M Jessop 01924 848702.

Dec 13 **Rodillian Singers Christmas Concert** 730pm at St John's Church, Wakefield. Guests—Alex Kerr (Violin) & the Penny Williams Woodwind Group. £4 & £3.50 including refreshments.

Dec 19 **Carols by Candlelight** in Wakefield Cathedral. 7pm. Tickets £5 (£4).

Dec 20 **Christmas Concert** by Sellers Engineering Band in Huddersfield Town Hall. 715pm. £8 and £4.50.

Dec 20 **Music and Carols for Christmas** at Thornhill Parish Church. Wakefield Cathedral Choir directed by Jonathan Bielby with Louise Marsh (organ). 730pm.

Dec 20 Yorkshire Chamber Choir **Christmas Music** in Wakefield Cathedral, 730pm. Tickets £6 (£5 & £4).

Dec 20 **Christmas Concert on Pipe & Electronic Organ**, given by Dr Arnold Loxam in St John's Church, Carlinghow, Batley. 730pm. Admission £3 including refreshments.

Dec 21 **Nine Lessons & Carols** Service in Wakefield Cathedral. 4pm.

Dec 28 **Carol Service** at St Martin's Womersley, 3pm.

Jan 4 Holy Trinity Church, Church St, Ossett, **Service of Carols & Readings** 4pm—Holy Trinity Church Choir & All Saints' Singers.

Feb 17-21 Christ the King Church, Battysford, Mirfield, presents 1998 Musical **Follow the Star**. Adults £3.50, children (under 16) & Senior Citizens £1.50. Contact G. Broadhead, 01924 470454 or 01924 450059.

Organist & Choirmaster required for the United Benefice of Roberttown with Hartshead. Please contact the Revd Nils Bersweden, 01924 402064.

St Mary's Gomersall are looking for an **Organist** for Sunday mornings, other occasional services and weekly choir practice. Also to work with music group. Please contact Fr Michael Rawson on 01724 872131.

The Huddersfield Singers are in need of singers, especially tenors, with some sight reading ability. Secretary 01484 421235.

MARKET PLACE

Hire our hall: Westwood Christian Centre between Golcar and Slaithwaite. Parish picnic or PCC day away. Youth group weekend. Seating for 80, large kitchen, sleeping loft. Ring David and Glenys Greenwood, 01484 845042.

Christmas cards, Gifts, Recorded Music, Souvenirs, Books available from the Wakefield Cathedral Bookshop. Open Mon-Sat 9am—4pm.

Christian Children's Entertainer wanted for Fund Raising Day—early February 1998 3—430pm. Reply to Mrs Rae, 01924 250423 or Parish Office, Sandal Magna, 01924 259966.

100 Assorted Chairs, stacking and wooden. All Saints' Darton. Offers. 01226 384151.

Technics U50 electronic organ and stool for sale. Good condition. Ideal for beginner. £350 ono. Tel: 01924 369585.

Ambassador Telephone System needs a good home, offers? Tel: 01924 373923.

ITEMS FOR SeeLink should be sent to: SEE-LINK EDITOR The Revd Michael Bootes ocs, The Vicarage, 1 Manor Farm Close, Kellington, Goole, DN14 0PF, in writing please [or by Fax on 01977 663072], for one insertion only, by **SIXTH** of the preceding month,

CHANGES-OF-ORDER. Please write to Miss Donna Rusling, Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP. Changes-of-Order are concerned with how many copies each parish receives and whether the copies are FLAT or FOLDED. The cost from Jan 1st 1998 is £4.25 per 100 per month.

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GOD IN THE CAVE

G K Chesterton wrote 'God on the Cave'. Because there was no room in the inn, Christ was born in a cave, one that was used by the mountaineers of the uplands around Bethlehem to shelter their cattle at night. A cave was like 'a hole or corner into which outcasts were swept like rubbish - something despised yet also a hiding-place of something valuable.'

When you think about it, a cave is an empty space, but a space is also a capacity, capable of containing something.

We ourselves are like caves. If, in our broken pride, we realise and acknowledge our need, our great unending insufficiency, our nothingness, our emptiness, then we can offer God our capacity, an empty space, a spiritual womb, in which Christ can be 'quickened' spiritually and grow and be born and live and fill us to overflowing with his love.

But this is not a do-it-yourself undertaking. If we are stuffed full of our own self sufficiency then the embryo Christ, that foetal Body of unique spiritual potentialities and possibilities, who is in the womb-of-being of each one of us, has no room to be quickened and grow and be born and live and love. We shall remain 'dormant Christians', 'sleepers', inactivated.

Our dwelling-places are like caves - a room in a brick house, an igloo, a wigwam, a caravan, a mud hut, a cardboard box, a monk's cell, a prison cell, a hospital bed.

Christ can be born again, spiritually, anywhere, at any time.

We too can say with the innkeeper, 'Sorry. Full up. No room here.' God won't force his way, uninvited. He is so humble and courteous that he even allowed the outcome of his great purpose for humankind to rest on the consent of a young girl, Mary. She could have said, 'No'. She had free will, just as we have.

Today the outcome of God's purpose rests on each one of us. We too can say, 'No', but our God is persistent. He won't give up, ever, 'For his mercy, his steadfast love, endureth for ever.'

He will wait, cherishing each one of us in love, until we turn to him and say,

'I need you. I want you. Come, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for you.'



Ackworth Parish Church - St Cuthbert's and All Saints' - Directory

Rector:	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, High Ackworth.	602751
Churchwardens:	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove. Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Road.	610590 610694
Secretary:	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
Christian Stewardship:		
Treasurer:	Mr Richard Beavis, 5 Lindale Avenue.	614072
Covenant Secretary:	Mr John Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500
Stewardship Recorder:	Miss Ada Pritchard, 4 Oddfellows Clubhouses.	611086
Car Lifts to Church:	Mrs Anne Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613
Children and young people:		
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
Third World and Missions:	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
Women's Groups:		
Mothers' Union:	Mrs Emmie Upright, 21 St Clement's Court.	617537
Parish Women's Group:	Mrs Erica Davies, 21c Hill Drive.	700413
Church Flowers:		
St Cuthbert's:	Mrs Phyllis Asquith, 70 Pontefract Road.	704732
All Saints':	Miss Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Rd.	611258
Parish Magazine:		
Publishing:	Mrs Linda Steer	614716
Weekly news sheet:	Mrs Maureen Richardson	612859
Magazine Distribution:	Mrs Mollie Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500

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BRACKENHILL FISH SHOP
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Thurs 11.30 - 1.30 and 4.00 - 10pm
Fri 11.30 - 1.30
Sat 11.30 - 2pm
Satisfaction Guaranteed



Best Wishes
for Christmas
and the
New Year
from
Linda,
Maureen,
Sue, Mollie
and
Biddy,
your new
Magazine
Committee
(see page 5)



Q. Will God ever save His creation?

A. Yes.

The Bible begins with a story of the creation of the world and the universe, but also mankind. It is clear that the world and mankind are not as God expected or wanted them to be. So we read about The Fall. Much of the rest of the Old Testament charts mans relationship with God. Sometimes good, sometimes bad.

A large section of the Old Testament is given to the books of the Prophets. The prophets of this day were not just people who foretold the future. There is much more to prophecy than that. On reading these books it is clear that a lot of what is written is warning. Prophets were often sent to warn people what would happen if they followed a particular course of action.

However, there is much in the Prophetic books which gives predictions. They recognise the failure of man to live in perfect relationship with God, and mans inability to remain close to God. They speak of God acting to bring man back to God, in an act of salvation. Much of the Old Testament is given to foretelling the coming of the Messiah.

This is where the New Testament takes up the story, because it is here that we read about the coming of the Messiah. This is in the birth of Jesus Christ, God's only Son. It is in the New Testament that we read that it is through Jesus Christ that we will be saved, and so Jesus is called our Saviour.

It is clear, however, to us, that the world is no better a place to live since God graced

our earth in the person of Jesus. The saving act of Jesus is only the beginning of the end. It is often described as the beginning of labour pains. It is only when we get to the actual birth, that we will be saved properly.

It is in the book of Revelation that we read the final prophesy of the Bible. It is here that we read that God will do away with heaven and earth, and there will be a new heaven and a new earth. It is on this new earth that we will be fully restored to the glory which God intended for us.

The Bible therefore charts the history of the universe and of mankind from beginning to end. It is also a source of great hope; the hope of salvation.

If you want to have any hope at all, you must read the Bible.

This is the last 'Where is it' from Paul for the time being. We hope you have enjoyed the series and that it has encouraged your own reading of the Bible.

Thanks, Paul.



COFFEE MORNING

**TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER
10 AM - 12 NOON
'SOLENTIA', WAKEFIELD ROAD
(NEXT TO ALL SAINTS' CHURCH)**

**BRING AND BUY
RAFFLE ~ REFRESHMENTS**

**PROCEEDS TO ALL SAINTS'
FLOWER FUND**

Don't miss our Christmas Fayre at its earlier time...

Ackworth Parish Church



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

at

The Howard School

6 December 1.30 pm

To be opened by Mr H.S. Armitage, Head of Howard School

Lots of Stalls

Bran Tub

Raffle

Refreshments

Everyone Welcome

Admission 20p

Accompanied children free

Calendar for December



Sunday Services:

St Cuthbert's: 10 15 am The Parish Communion and Junior Church
 All Saints': 8 30 am Holy Communion
 3 30 pm Evensong

Morning and Evening Prayers: Monday to Thursday

9 00 am and 5 00 pm St Cuthbert's Church

Guide, Brownie and Rainbow Parade and Family Communion:

2nd Sunday in the month 10 15 am, St Cuthbert's Church

Baptisms and Marriages: Please telephone the Rector for an appointment

1 Monday

ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE

7 00 pm Holy Communion

St Cuthbert's

2 Tuesday

1 45 pm Home Group

5 Andrews Grove

3 Wednesday

9 30 am Holy Communion

All Saints'

6 Saturday

1 30 pm CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Howard School

7 ADVENT 2

'The World of God in the Old Testament'

Isaiah 64.1-7 (Mrs Walker/Miss Walker); Romans 15.4-13 (Mrs Walker/Mr Davies);

Luke 4.14-21 ASB 430

8 Monday

) From Monday to

9 Tuesday

10 00 am Coffee Morning

) Wednesday the

'Solentia, Wakefield Road

2 00 pm Mums & Tots

) Rector will be away

All Saints'

10 Wednesday

9 30 am Holy Communion

) on a Diocesan Course

All Saints'

14 ADVENT 3

'The Forerunner'

All Saints':

BCP 1 Corinthians 4.1 (Dr McWilliam); The Gospel St Matthew 11.2

St Cuthbert's:

Gospel Matthew 11.2-15 ASB 435

17 Wednesday

9 30 am Holy Communion

All Saints'

21 ADVENT 4

'The Annunciation'

Zechariah 2.10-end (Mrs Cooper/Mrs R Firth); Revelation 21.1-7 (Mrs Cooper/Mrs Walters);

Matthew 1.18-23 ASB 439-

3 00 pm Village Carol Service

St Cuthbert's

23 Tuesday

2 00 pm Mums & Tots

All Saints'

24 CHRISTMAS EVE

5 30 pm Carols on Christmas Eve (Toy Service)

St Cuthbert's

11 30 pm Midnight Mass

St Cuthbert's

25 CHRISTMAS DAY

8 30 am Holy Communion

All Saints'

10 15 am Holy Communion

St Cuthbert's

26 Friday

ST STEPHEN

10 00 am Holy Communion (Said)

St Cuthbert's

27 Saturday

ST JOHN

10 00 am Holy Communion (Said)

St Cuthbert's

28 SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

'The Presentation'

1 Samuel 1.20-end (Mrs Hall/Mr Cook); Romans 12.1-8 (Mrs Hall/Miss Parker);

Luke 2.22-40 ASB 452

29 Monday

HOLY INNOCENTS

10 00 am Holy Communion (Said)

St Cuthbert's

BRASSES ST CUTHBERT'S: 7 & 14 December - Mrs Dodd and Mrs Barnard

21 & 28 December - Vacant