



# Ackworth Parish Magazine



*All Saints'*



*St. Cuthbert's*

Join us for our



# BONFIRE PARTY

## NOVEMBER 5TH

IN THE RECTORY GARDEN 5.30 - 9.00 pm

CHILDREN OF ALL AGES WELCOME

FAITH SUPPER

BONFIRE BUILDING SATURDAY AFTERNOON - 1ST NOVEMBER  
(AND POSSIBLY SUNDAY TOO!)

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

See Posters for Details

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## *The Rector's Letter*

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*Dear Friends*

This month we begin the season which for many Christians combines the extremes of human emotion and experience. Even the name of the season itself is rich in expectation - Advent - the anticipation of things imminent; something is approaching and about to happen. Whole books, and large proportions in other books in both the Old and New Testaments have been inspired by expectations of Advent; for example Daniel, Ezekiel and Revelation are concentrated wholly or to a large extent upon the major themes of Advent.

In all the readings set for Advent Sunday we read of signs and portents. The day of the Lord - a time when *"we will see the Son of Man coming on a cloud with great power and glory,"* a time when judgement will occur - the separation of sheep and goats. We are exhorted to be alert and awake; *"Now is the time to wake out of sleep; for our salvation is nearer than when we first believed."* We are told that if we remain faithful we will share in the victory of good over evil and we will see deliverance and liberation. It all sounds rather overwhelming and frightening if, as we should as committed Christians, we begin to consider its implications.

What I do suggest is, that if the idea of Advent frightens us maybe it is because we have a tendency to pick up on the negative aspects it portrays. We become so wrapped up in the judgmental side of this penitential season that we forget that repentance and the judgements that go with it, offers us the hope of change, of forgiveness and new beginnings. After all, although we shouldn't dwell upon it as the sole meaning of Advent it is also a time in which we look forward and prepare for one of the two greatest festivals of the Christian year - Christmas. We open our lives to God's great forgiving love in order that we may receive him into our hearts with even greater joy as we look back to a time when he first came into this world to offer hope to all mankind.

Advent is a time which combines the extremes of human emotions and experience. At the one timeless moment we see combined vivid contrasts - opposites in fact. We have ends and beginnings, the end of the old year in the liturgical calendar and the beginning of a new one: the end of both the earthly and heavenly order of things and yet the beginning of a new order - the new Jerusalem in the framework of Christian belief. It is a time when we look both forward and backwards. We look forward to the second coming of Jesus Christ - the Day of the Lord as it is described in the apocalyptic traditions of scripture. And we look back to that first coming of our Lord at the incarnation as we make our preparations for Christmas. It is a time to be wary perhaps; in fear and trembling. We are told to be alert and awake because we know neither the day nor the hour when it will happen. And yet it is a time for great joy and hope - *"for now our salvation is nearer than we first believed."* I could go on highlighting the many contrasting themes and feelings which surround this important time in the Church's life and in the life of every Christian.

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## *The Rector's Letter*

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**T**hough Christianity has often been termed an 'other worldly' religion and accused of dwelling too much on the end times; the end of the world as we know it being the herald of the second coming; for this year it will be very much a beginning to remember. Two adults Joanna Ibbotson and Ann Hopton, plus four of our young people - Mark Cavill, Georgina Sharp, Rebecca Gardham and Sophie Ibbotson will be confirmed on Saturday 29th November at 10.30am in Wakefield Cathedral and take their first communion on Advent Sunday. Please hold them in your hearts and prayers on what will be a very special beginning for them. Those two days will mark big changes for those people in their lives as they commit their lives anew. It is a time of change for the Church too as we begin a new liturgical year, a year in which we will see the gradual introduction of new liturgies to go alongside the new lectionary of reading already introduced by Synod to start this Advent though not yet being taken up in this parish.

It is a time of change, and change can often leave us feeling uncertain, even helpless at times. However, one thing never changes - the Christian hope which we all hold dear, a hope expressed in that well known Gospel passage (Luke 21:25-33) "*Heaven and earth will pass away; my words will never pass away.*" As St. Paul said in his first epistle to the Thessalonians (4:18) - "*comfort one another with these words.*"

*Yours in Christ,  
Paul*

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

12 October Amy Jay Greenaway  
12 October Laura Haigh



#### Weddings

20 September Chad Richardson and Rebecca Kitson  
27 September John Stergden and Sharon Tindall  
12 October Christopher Wathen and Janine Lloyd

#### Funerals

23 September Florence Emily Draper, Halsteads Nursing Home, Grimethorpe, aged 82.  
10 October Reverend Stanley Edward Cuthbert Whitcombe, The Old Vicarage Nursing Home, Featherstone, aged 90.  
14 October John Roberts Osgerby, 194B Stapleton Hall Road, London, aged 53.  
15 October Rose Annie Turton, 31 Doncaster Road Estate, Ackworth, aged 72.

**Q. According to the Bible, why do we have to work for a living?**

**A. Because we have sinned. Genesis 3:14-21.**

I wonder if you have asked that question, as often as I have. I sometimes think, after seeing the one hundredth snotty nose of the week, wouldn't it be nice not to have to work. People around me tell me that I would soon get bored. I have to say that I think I would fill my time with other things if I didn't have to work. But all this is wishful thinking. We all have to work to survive. The question is why doesn't God provide everything for us?

Genesis chapter 3 gives us the answer. It is because of sin. You might be wondering why we have to work, when it wasn't us who sinned. The question then arises, who did sin? This is not a simple answer when you think about it. It is quite certain in reading about The Fall, that no-one admits to it. Adam blames Eve, Eve blames the snake.

What we have here is a story about disobedience. Not a story about the disobedience of one or two people, but the disobedience of a species. The Bible tells us that God created us in His image. We are part of creation, and at the same time, apart from creation. When we read the story of Adam and Eve, we are not reading the story of two people, but the story of mankind. In Hebrew, the language in which Genesis was written, Adam means mankind.

We too are guilty of not obeying God. There must be many times in our lives when we have disobeyed God. What we are also

guilty of is blaming someone else for it. Indeed this article is blaming Adam and Eve as the reason for having to work.

What this story is telling us is that we are not blameless, and that we too are sinners. It is because of our sin that we have to toil and work for a living. It is because of our sin that we find life so difficult sometimes. It is only when we repent of our sin that we can release some of that pressure which is upon us. It is only when we repent of our sins, that our sins can be forgiven.

Next month...

**Will God ever save His creation?**

**Helpers Wanted  
to make  
Christingles**  
on Saturday 29 November at 2pm  
St. Cuthbert's Vestry  
**Ring Helen Parkinson on 614400**  
for further details

**BRACKENHILL FISH SHOP**  
ACKWORTH  
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Thurs 11.30 - 1.30 and 4.00 - 10pm  
Fri 11.30 - 1.30  
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## *Special Services*

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During the month of November there are a number of special services which commemorate particular events or festivals. These are as follows:-

**1st November**     *All Saints Day*  
Holy Communion with Hymns at 10.30am at All Saints' Church

**2nd November**     *All Souls Day*  
5.00pm at St Cuthbert's, a service of commemoration for the faithful departed. At this service all who have lost loved ones over the past year have been invited to join us in a service where there will be an opportunity to remember their dearly departed and light a candle. All are most welcome to join us at this poignant and reflective service and remember their departed friends and relatives of the past in the same way.

**9th November**     *Remembrance Sunday*   
There will be a short communion service (said) at 10.00am at St Cuthbert's followed by a service of Remembrance at 11.00am. All uniformed organisations are invited to parade at this service.

**29th November**     *Confirmation Service*



Six members of our congregation will be confirmed at Wakefield Cathedral. The service begins at 10.30am. Do come and support our newly confirmed who will receive their first communion on the following day - Advent Sunday

**30th November**     *Advent Sunday*  
This year in the evening there will be two Christingle services; 4.30pm at St Cuthbert's and 6.30pm at All Saints'  
That morning there will be a joint service at St Cuthbert's at 10.15am. The purpose of this is to present to the **WHOLE** parish feedback from the diocesan lay conference held in Harrogate in September - **Doors of Hope** which was attended by 13 members of our congregations. It is very important that as many people as possible come to this service which will have vital implications for the future of this parish



## Bishop John writes ....

**Sacred cows need a health check from time to time.**

One looking rather sick is the slogan, "All the Lord's People round the Lord's Table on the Lord's Day". It goes back at least to the 1950s and the heyday of the Parish and People movement. The thinking was that in an ideal church there would be one Sunday Eucharist and the whole Church family would worship together. Even in the 1950s this seldom worked out smoothly—a sizeable number of people determinedly came at 8am and evensong still had its devotees: the idea of the congregation at worship together was often an illusion.

Today society has changed, sadly Sunday morn-



ing is no longer a quiet oasis, a change of pace in the week which brought a sense of harmony to many. Super-market car parks are overflowing, car boot sales attract thousands, every football pitch is being used, traffic jams point the way to tourist attractions, divorcees take their offspring on an outing. A considerable proportion of people have to work on a Sunday: The "conscience clause" promised in the Sunday trading legislation has long since vanished. With the best will in the world many people cannot come to the main Sunday Eucharist.

Alongside this has been

a change in educational practice. Children are no longer expected to be seen and not heard. The fairly lengthy and complex liturgy of the Eucharist means that they are usually excluded from most of the service and "brought in at the Peace".

Forty years ago the bulk of the population at least knew the hymns and many were confirmed. No longer can this be taken for granted, and the bewilderment of some baptism parties who find themselves at a Parish Eucharist is obvious. By centering on the Eucharist as often our only service do we shut people out of church?

Furthermore the Church has changed. Forty years ago the range of Anglican spirituality was comparatively narrow: today there is a wide rainbow of spiritualities within a single parish. This can easily be seen in the music which people like. Church people used to be content with the English Hymnal or Hymns A&M. Today Taize and Iona, Kendrick and plain-

chant vie with each other in people's affections. The same is true of styles of prayer and teaching and atmosphere: some look for a boisterous celebration, others for mental stimulation, and others for a sense of the Presence. The result can be an uneasy compromise at the Parish Eucharist which may satisfy no one's spirituality.

Perhaps we should not put all our eggs in the Sunday morning basket. Perhaps we need services at other times which cater for different spiritualities. Perhaps we sell our children short.

Of course there are magnificent Parish Eucharists which seek to tackle all the social and ecclesiastical changes. Of course the sacrament has to be central to a Christian's life. Of course we should not necessarily go along with a 'pick and mix' society. But we still need to ask the question, "Is this a sacred cow which needs to die"?

*+ John Pontefract*



## People and Places ....

The Revd **Andrew Hudson**, at present curate at Christ Church, Moldgreen, is to be Priest-in-Charge of Saint Mary Magdalene, Lundwood, Barnsley. The licensing will take place on December 2nd at 730pm.

The Revd **Mary Gaskell**, formerly Trust Chaplain at St James' Hospital, Leeds (Diocese of Ripon) was licensed on 30th September, as part-time Chaplain at Rishworth School, Halifax.

The Bishop has appointed The Revd **Alastair A Ross**, Vicar and Rural Dean of Halifax; The Revd **John A Hawley**, Team Rector of Dewsbury Team Parish and The Revd **John Hudson**, Vicar of Royston St John the Baptist, Priest-in-Charge of Carlton St John and Rural Dean of Barnsley, as honorary Canons of Wakefield Cathedral. The Installation will take place in the Cathedral on Sunday 16th November at 4pm.



### Wakefield Cathedral Choir

#### **New improved Choral Scholarships!**

We are looking for boy Choristers for the Cathedral Choir.  
Choristers attend the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Wakefield.  
*Scholarships are worth 1/3 of the fees in the Junior School  
and 40% of the fees in the Senior School.*

The School Entrance Examination is on Monday 2nd February.  
The Cathedral Voice Trial is on Saturday 7th February.  
Age — 7 to 10 years.

There are immediate vacancies to fill !

#### **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.

## A Tribute to Ted Henderson

(read at the funeral by the present Archdeacon of Pontefract)

Ted will long be remembered in the Diocese of Wakefield with enormous affection and respect. His many friends and admirers here speak warmly of him as an outstanding parish priest and archdeacon —whose obvious integrity came from a tremendous personal faith.

He was a lovely man. There was nothing parsonic about him. He was renowned on many an occasion for telling young clergy who were hesitant about taking on a new parish that "If I were still your age this is exactly the parish I'd have wanted!" Visitors to his study would note with delight the message stuck on his telephone "THINK HENDERSON"!

Ted, although I never had the privilege of working with you, your humour and holiness still live on here. From Wakefield we say to you and Vera: thank you for all you did.

May God now strengthen and comfort you and your family, Vera. And Ted, may you now rest in peace, to rise in glory with the Lord, whom on this earth you have served so well.

+ Nigel Welford

## Visit Africa

Are you young? (Well ..... 18-30). Do you want to go to Africa?

There will be a three week visit of discovery and spiritual development to the Diocese of Mara in August 1998.

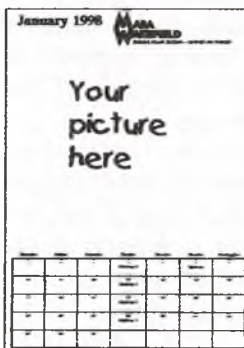
Fund-raising activities will help pay for the visit, but all participants will be expected to find sponsorship, and to bear some of the cost themselves. A preliminary meeting for those who might be interested (or for Church Youth Leaders who want more information) will take place at the Treacy Hall of Wakefield Cathedral at 7.45pm on Monday 17th November.

Details from Bill Jones, Bishops Adviser for Racial Justice, Inter-Faith and Mara (address on page 5).



## News of Mara

### Mara Calendar



A unique photo album-cum-calendar is now available from Mara Committee member Bob Wilson. The minimum selling price is £1.99 of which £1 will go to support projects in our Link Diocese of Mara. The front page carries a message of thanks from the Bishop of Wakefield. To obtain your calendar(s), call Bob Wilson directly on 01977 553977 or contact Church House 01924 371802.

### A Cathedral For Mara

Parishes around the Diocese have responded enthusiastically to the Bishop of Wakefield's appeal for contributions towards the building of a cathedral for our Link Diocese of Mara. We now expect to exceed the original target of £20,000, which represents 20% of the estimated total building costs. Key construction materials have already been purchased in Nairobi. Display materials, including an architect's sketch of the cathedral and photographs of work in progress on the building site, are available from the Mara Link Officer, Bill Jones, at 316 Huddersfield Road, Mirfield, West Yorkshire, WF14 9PY (Tel/Fax 01924 491537).

## Border Crossings

A forty-strong group of Methodists and Anglicans recently visited the Mount Pleasant Mosque in Batley to find out more about Islam on their doorstep. They were met by Mufti Faheem Mayet, who explained the workings of the Mosque and outlined some of the basic tenets of Muslim faith. The group was then privileged to witness evening worship, having first heard the Muezzin make the call to prayer, "God is most great, I bear witness that there is no God but God ....". Another group is sched-

uled to share the celebration of Sukkot at the Sinai Synagogue near Roundhay Park, Leeds with Rabbi Douglas Charing. Group visits to Mosques, Synagogues, Sikh Gurdwaras and Hindu Temples are all possible. and can be followed up with more in-depth learning about other faiths, and about our own. Please contact Bill Jones (Bishop's Inter-Faith Adviser) at 316 Huddersfield Road, Midfield, West Yorkshire., WF14 9PY (Tel/Fax 01924 491537).

## Latest from The Societies

**Tear Fund:** Consultants have recently returned from visiting partners in Hong Kong and China who are providing food for North Korea. They warn of a chronic food shortage which is getting worse. Tear Fund has provided £30,000 for emergency relief and the first convoy of food will be distributed this month.

The fund has been saddened by the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Her campaigning for the banning of landmines and her support for charities were welcomed by the agency that works in over 100 countries throughout the world. The Fund welcomed the recent deal to ban anti-personnel devices agreed recently in Oslo.

During a week of intense grief, the world was hit by yet another death, that of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Tear Fund partners working in Calcutta in a drug rehabilitation centre, maintained an informal working relationship with her. The Fund's Communications Director visited her a while ago when she wrote in his Bible, *Be holy, for Jesus who loves you is holy.*

**The Children's Society** are suggesting that as we are planning celebratory meals this coming Christmas, we should use the occasion to *Light up a Child's Life* by turning the event into a Candlelit Supper. Everyone can take part—whether it be an intimate supper with friends or a

large event for many to enjoy. Just ask guests to make a donation to The Children's Society appeal for runaway children in danger on the streets this Christmas.

A free pack with everything you need to make your Candlelit supper a success, including helpful tips, invitations, celebrity recipes, is available from The Children's Society, 3rd Floor, Prudential House, 28-40 Blossom Street, York, YO2 2AQ (01904 627866).

**Bible Society:** more than two decades of pioneering work were celebrated at a top London restaurant last month—Planet Hollywood—the 21st anniversary of the *Good News Bible*. This 21st birthday party also highlighted the recent launch of the *Good News Study Bible*, seen as a further demonstration of the Bible Society and HarpurCollins partnership at work to present the Scriptures in accessible and relevant ways.

The Bible Society is also offering students across the UK & Eire a copy of the Gospel of John, inviting them to break-through into the text.

The charity **Prisoners' Week** draws attention to the fact that Prisoners' Week this year is to be 16—22 November. They ask that Christians focus their thoughts and their prayers on prisoners, their families, victims of crime, prison staff and all those working in this field.



## WHAT'S ON

- Oct 31-Nov 2 **CMS Yorkshire Retreat Weekend** "It's good to pray". Details from CMS Yorkshire, 4 Crestville Close, Bradford, BD14 6DZ.
- Nov 1 & 2 **Art Exhibition** at St John's Church, Denby (Huddersfield). Water-colour paintings of landscapes and flowers by Pamela J Thorpe. Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 11am-4pm. Refreshments. Easy parking.
- Nov 8 **Craft & Gift Fayre**, St Stephen's Church, Lindley Huddersfield. 10am-4pm in Lindley CofE Infants' School, East Street. In aid of the Church Building Fund appeal. 50p. Refreshments.
- Nov 8 **Table Top Sale** at St Barnabas, Hightown, Liversedge. Tables £5. Details 01274 861023. Refreshments.
- Nov 8 **Extravaganza** in Cleckheaton Town Hall 10am-1pm. In aid of the parish of St Luke's with Whitechapel Church Funds.
- Nov 8 Holmfirth Parish Church annual **Autumn Fair** from 1030am. Entrance 60p adults, 10p children includes coffee or orange and biscuits. Lunches available.
- Nov 8 **The Centenary Dickinsian Fayre** at 230pm at Saint John's Parish Church, Staincross, Barnsley. Refreshments.
- Nov 8 **Autumn Bazaar** at Church School, Vicarage Lane, Royston, 130pm. Usual stalls and refreshments. Five-a-side football Competition, Roller Hockey display. Admission 20p.
- Nov 11 **In celebration of an Inclusive Ministry**. Wakefield Cathedral Lady Chapel 545pm. Prayer & Meditation. Refreshments to follow. Details from 01977 513980.
- Nov 11 St Martin's Womersley 730pm **Patronal Festival Eucharist**, preacher the Archdeacon of Pontefract. Celebration of 1600th anniversary of St Martin. Followed by refreshments in Church.
- Nov 15 **Autumn Fayre**—St John's Church Hall, Calder Grove. 2pm.
- Nov 15 St Augustine's Church, Scissett, Huddersfield, **November Fair** in the Church School. 1030am-3pm. Various stalls, Tombola, snackbar and lunches.
- Nov 15 **Autumn Craft Fair** South Crosland Junior School, Moor Lane, Netherton, Huddersfield. Entrance adults 50p, children free. Arts & crafts on display and for sale, craft demonstrations, and activities for the children. Lunches & light refreshments. If you wish to sell your arts and crafts or require more details contact Caroline Jones 01484 663427.
- Nov 18 **The Church in Community** open meeting with Bishop Nigel for parishes in Wakefield and Chevet Deaneries. 730pm at the Cathedral High School, Thornes Road, Wakefield. Further information from Revd Keith Williams, Rural Dean of Wakefield 01924 822184 or Revd John White, Rural Dean of Chevet 01924 255360.
- Nov 22 **Christmas Market** 2pm. Womersley Village Hall, various stalls, raffle, refreshments. In aid of St Martin's Womersley.
- Nov 22 **Affirming Catholicism**: 1130am Sung Eucharist in St Catherine's, Sandal, followed by lunch and a talk by the Rt Revd Jack Nichols, Bishop of Lancaster on "A Faith worth sharing and a Church worth joining". Further information from Fr Gary Mann 01484 713290.
- Nov 22 **Book Antique & Collectors Fair** in the Parish Room Honley. 10am-430pm. Adm 25p A small & select event that benefits Honley Church & USPG.
- Nov 27 Heptonstall Parish Church Hall; an illustrated talk by Peter Thornborrow **In and Around Heptonstall**. 730pm.
- Nov 28 **Honley Theological Society** 745 for 8pm. Speaker Bishop John Finney—Celtic Christianity. Parish Room, Honley.
- Nov 28 **Honley Theological Society** 745 for 8pm. Speaker Bishop John Finney—Celtic Christianity. Parish Room, Honley.
- Nov 29 **Renewal Vigil** 730pm St Mary's Mirfield (Speakers Stuart & Carol Henderson). Details contact Peter Craig-Wild 01924 492188 or Nils Bersweden 01924 402064.
- Nov 29 **St John's Church Fair** Penistone begins at 10am for coffee, tea and light lunches. Stalls and attractions including crafts, gifts, cakes and preserves, bric-a-brac, tombola, facepaint-



ing and games.

Dec 6 **Christmas Fayre**, King Street Mission, Huddersfield. 10am—1230pm. Stalls, tombola, home-made cakes. Coffee & biscuits, soup and sandwiched. Huddersfield Methodist Choir.

## MUSICAL MATTERS

Nov 1 **Saint John's Singers** Concert at All Saints' Church, Darton, 7pm, in aid of the Bell Fund. Admission £2.

Nov 2-8 **Marsden Parish Church AO&DS** present **Guys & Dolls**. Parochial Hall 715pm. £4—£5.50. 01484 845311.

Nov 8 **Wakefield Concert Society** presents Elaine Clark—violin and David Clark—piano. Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Bach, Bartok and Brahms at Wakefield Town Hall at 730pm. Tickets £7.50, £6.50 (concessions) £2.50 (students) from Mrs Carol Morris 01924 276897 (evenings).

Nov 18—22 **Meltham Parish Church Gilbert & Sullivan Society** presents **The Sorcerer** in the Church Hall Meltham. 730pm. Sat Matinee 215pm. £6 (concessions Tues, Thurs & Sat matinee £4) available from Hutson's Newsagent, Market Place, Meltham or Gordon Sanderson 01484 850565.

Nov 23 The **Halifax Choral Society** present their unique presentation at Elgar's "The Kingdom", a truly English Choral work full of majestic harmony. The Victoria Theatre, Wards End, Halifax HX1 1BU (centre of Halifax). North of England Concert Orchestra. £4—£15 (with concessions). To book ring 01484 714636 (until 20 Oct) or Victoria Box Office 01422 351158 (till performance).

Nov 29 **Thornhill Parish Church Dewsbury: Concert** with Gordon Stewart, Kirklees Borough Organist (organ) and Dewsbury Wind Orchestra. 730pm.

Nov 29 **Wakefield Concert Society** presents the **Northern Saxophone Quartet** performing a varied programme at Wakefield

Town Hall at 730pm. Tickets £7.50, £6.50 (concessions), £2.50 (students) from Mrs Carol Morris 01924 276897 (evenings).

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

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

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.

**Composers / arrangers** have your hand written scores professionally set in print using the latest and best computer technology. Enquiries to: The Final Score, 01484 866589.

**Organist available** for weddings, funerals and emergencies. Tel: 01484 864303, Fax: 01484 865838.

## 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.

**Canon BJC4200 Colour Printer** & supply of ink cartridges for sale. £100. 01977 662876.

**Solid Oak Altar** 8ft long with set of traditional frontals. Price negotiable. Towards Trinity, Batley Carr, Reordering. Also leatherette kneelers free. 01924 462875.

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**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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# CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF CHRISTINGLE

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Every year thousands of churches and schools take part in Christingle celebrations for The Children's Society, celebrating God's love for us and the World.

This year sees the 250th anniversary of the Christingle tradition which originated in the Moravian church in Germany in 1747 and introduced into the Anglican Church in 1968. Today the Christingle - an orange with a candle and a colourful display of fruits or sweets represents God's love for us and for the World. In churches and schools throughout England and Wales, half a million children hear the message of Jesus' love, bringing light to the World.

In this special celebration year, money raised from Christingle services will go towards helping runaway children on the streets of

Britain. The Children's Society runs three out of only four refuges for children in Britain and needs to raise over £1.2 million to maintain this vital lifeline for children in desperate need. If your church is holding a Christingle service you can help make a real difference to runaway children:

- £100 would help pay for a child's stay at one of our safe house refuges.

- £50 would help us give a young person on the streets a hot meal, essential toiletries and specialist counselling by our skilled workers.



There's still time to organise a service for this year.

Contact National Campaigns on 0171 837 4299 for an information pack and service guide.

**Ackworth Christingle Services ~ 30 November 1997**  
**4.30 pm at St. Cuthbert's and 6.30 pm at All Saints'**

**D**uring the weekend of September 13 and 14, the Diocese of Wakefield held a conference at the Harrogate Conference Centre. Twelve people from our parish attended and I was one of them. The title of the conference was **Doors of Hope**. The idea of the conference was to explore ways of opening doors, so that we can offer Christianity out of the church and into the community. Therefore, the emphasis was on lay involvement.

As I arrived at the conference centre I was struck by the number of people who were attending (about two thousand) and by the wide range of those people.

On Saturday, we were treated to an address by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who for once was preaching from a biblical perspective and not a political one. There was also a presentation showing how different parishes from around the diocese were getting out into the community, and providing a service for the community. This was followed by several workshops. One day was rounded off by a presentation by Wellspring (a Christian music group) and the Saltmine Theatre Company.

The second day was started with a Eucharist, celebrated by Bishop Nigel, during which we received an address from the Archbishop of Armagh, and his wife, Lady Eames. Once again, the afternoon was given over to several workshops, and the day was ended with a service of celebration and commissioning.

It was a weekend I particularly enjoyed for many reasons. Firstly, I always enjoy being in the company of Christians. It is somehow

comforting to be surrounded by so many people with the same basic belief. It somehow takes the pressure off. It means I don't have to explain what I am about. It is reassuring also, to know and to see so many Christians pursuing the same goal. It is also good to know that we as a parish, or myself as an individual, are facing the same problems as everyone else, and that we are not on our own.

I also enjoy hearing famous people speak. To be addressed by two archbishops and two bishops in two days was for me a remarkable achievement. Indeed, the whole weekend was very well planned, with hardly a perceivable hitch.

The quality of the speakers at the various workshops was also remarkable. To hear persons of the calibre of Fiona Castle talking about bereavement was a positive pleasure.

The highlight of the weekend for me was the celebrations. In particular, the celebration of Eucharist on Sunday morning I was overwhelmed by a sense of the presence of God at that service. The fact that we were in a conference hall and not a medieval stained glassed church mattered not at all. God was with us at that time. The presence of our Lord was almost tangible.

The weekend sums up what can and what should be achieved in our Christian communities. It is so easy to be dismissive of these events, because everyone is happy and of one mind when together like that, but that feeling is rarely translated into practice once we get back into our parish setting, and return to the mundane things of life. So what was the point of going?

If there was any point at all, it was to affirm that God wants us to be active Christians in our communities. God wants us to be effective witnesses to the Gospel, so that all nations will know his name. This is something we all know. We have read about it in the Bible. So why don't we get on and do it? The answer is that we simply run out of time, or our thoughts get bogged down in the triviality of running a parish, and making sure that services run on time and in the right place. We spend so much time doing Christian things that we often forget to be Christian people.

In order that the whole parish can get a sense of what happened at the weekend, and understand what it means for us, the people who attended the conference are meeting to discuss ways of presenting it. So watch out for more information. This conference will affect you, and your church.

**"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."**

Phillipians 2: 10-11

## ETCETERA

A Line-Dancing Night is planned for the New Year. Let Doreen Seal know if you're interested in this type of event so she can make plans with an idea of numbers!

Stallholders and Helpers are needed for the Christmas Fayre on 6 December. Please ring Ada Pritchard on 611086 or Doreen Seal on 613178 to pledge help. Meetings will be notified on the News Sheet. Your contributions of goods and help will be greatly appreciated.

It's nice to see Mike Firth assisting up-front at the Sunday Eucharist at St.Cuthbert's.

You must admit he hasn't lost his touch after an absence of quite a few years!

Contemplation is a country whose centre is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere.

You do not find it by travelling but by standing still.

Thomas Merton

Do not that which you blame in another. Do not that to another which you would not another should do to you. But above all, do not that in God's sight you would not man should see you do.

William Penn



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## Calendar for November



### 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 (AS)

**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 Saturday ALL SAINTS' DAY**  
 10 30 am Patronal Eucharist All Saints'
- 2 EIGHTH SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS/ALL SOULS** 'The Fall'  
 Genesis 3.1-15 (Dr McWilliam/Mrs Woffinden); Romans 7.7-13 (Dr McWilliam/Mrs Firth);  
 John 3.13-21 ASB405  
 5 00 pm Service for the Faithful Departed **No Evensong at All Saints'** St Cuthbert's  
 26 Hardaker Lane
- 4 Tuesday** 1 45 pm Home Group All Saints'
- 5 Wednesday** 9 30 am Holy Communion All Saints'  
 5 30 pm - 9 00 pm Bonfire Party Rectory Garden
- 9 SEVENTH SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS** 'The Election of God's People'  
**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**  
**All Saints:** BCP Colossians 1.3 (Mrs Cooper); St Matthew 9.18  
**St Cuthbert's:** 10 00 am Parish Communion Genesis 22.1-18 (Miss Walker);  
 James 2.14-24 (Mr F Davies); Luke 20.9-17 ASB 410  
 11 00 am Remembrance Sunday Service
- 10 Monday** 7 30 pm PCC Meeting St Cuthbert's Vestry
- 11 Tuesday** 2 00 pm Mums & Tots All Saints'
- 12 Wednesday** 9 30am Holy Communion All Saints'
- 16 SIXTH SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS** 'The Promise of Redemption'  
 Exodus 6.2-8 (Miss Smith/Mr R Firth); Hebrews 11.17-31 (Miss Smith/Mrs Walters);  
 Mark 13.5-13 ASB 415
- 19 Wednesday** 9 30 am Holy Communion All Saints'  
 7 45 pm Parish Women's Group St Cuthbert's Vestry
- 23 FIFTH SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS** 'The Remnant of Israel'  
 Isaiah 10.20-23 (Mrs Hall/Mr Cook); Romans 9.19-28 (Mrs Hall/Miss Parker);  
 Mark 13.14-23 ASB420
- 25 Tuesday** 2 00 pm Mums & Tots All Saints'
- 26 Wednesday** 9 30 am Holy Communion All Saints'
- 27 Thursday** 2 30 pm Mothers' Union All Saints'
- 29 Saturday** 10 30 am Confirmation Wakefield Cathedral
- 30 ADVENT SUNDAY** 'The Advent of Hope'  
**(NO 8 30 AM & 3 30 PM SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS')**  
 Isaiah 51.4-11 (Miss Parker); Romans 13.8-end (Mrs Riley); Matthew 25.31-end ASB 424  
 Christingle 4 30 pm St Cuthbert's  
 Christingle 6 30 pm All Saints'

### FLOWERS:

2 Nov. Vacant SC; Congregation AS; 9 Nov. Congregation SC; Congregation AS;  
 16 Nov. Mrs Ashston SC; Mrs Firth AS; 23 Nov. Vacant SC; Miss Smith AS.

**BRASSES:** 2 & 9 Nov - Vacant. 16 & 23 Nov. Mrs Meadley & Mrs Harewood