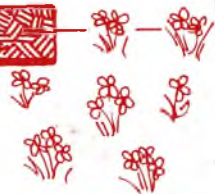


Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3.00 per year) APRIL 1998

Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who?

<u>Rector:</u>	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, High Ackworth.	602751
<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 Richard Beavis, 5 Lindale Avenue.	614072
<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 Anne Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613
<u>Children and young people:</u>		
<u>Junior Church:</u>	Dr Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Mums & Tots Group:</u>	Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Children's Society:</u>	Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank.	614400
<u>The Howard C E School:</u>	Mr Harry S Armitage, Headteacher.	611243
<u>Third World and Missions:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Women's Groups:</u>		
<u>Mothers' Union:</u>	Mrs Emmie Upright, 21 St Clement's Court.	617537
<u>Parish Women's Group:</u>	Mrs Erica Davies, 21c Hill Drive.	700413
<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>Parish Magazine:</u>		
<u>Publishing/Advertising:</u>	Mrs Linda Steer	614716
<u>Weekly news sheet:</u>	Mrs Maureen Richardson	612859
<u>Magazine Distribution:</u>	Mrs Mollie Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500
<u>Church Cleaning Rotas:</u>	Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Rd.	610694



Sunday Services

St Cuthbert's	10.15 am	The Parish Communion and Junior Church
All Saints'	8.30 am	Holy Communion
All Saints'	3.30 pm	Evensong (6.30 pm in Summer)

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 at St Cuthbert's Church

Baptisms and Marriages: Please contact the Rector for an appointment

From the Rector's Study

Events which have shaped our religion

We come round once again to what, in terms of our Lord's life on earth, is the most significant week as regards the events which have shaped our religion. From Palm Sunday (5th) to Easter Day (12th) we are presented with a series of events which cover the extremes of emotional intensity: events which have become an integral part of our Christian lives and worship.

Utter dejection and despair

From the triumphant call of "Hosanna" on Palm Sunday, when many thought that Jesus would be proclaimed king - a king who would secure peace and salvation for the people of Israel, we move to the utter dejection and despair of the same people when they see their king humiliated and put to death on the cross. From the desolation and fear of the apostles as they huddled together in the upper room of Easter Eve after their world had been shattered by the Good Friday events, to the *unbridled and overflowing joy* of Jesus' ultimate victory over death on Easter Day.

Discipleship will mean suffering

On Maundy Thursday, we have the Last Supper from which we take our central act of worship - the Holy Communion. In the action of washing his disciples feet our Lord gives us the principle which governs our

ministry towards others - that of servanthood. Through the stark reality of the cross on Good Friday, we learn that our discipleship will mean suffering. Finally, on Easter Day the promise of victory and salvation to all who take up the cross and follow Christ is offered through the eternal hope consummated by the resurrection a hope which promised the ultimate victory over the ultimate event of our earthly lives, death itself! These many things, vital to our

Christian religion, condensed into such a short period of time in our Christian calendar are those without which there would be no such thing as Christianity and yet they stretch our understanding and acceptance to the limits and beyond.



Questioning the resurrection

Many of you will no doubt remember the furore caused by David Jenkins when, as the Bishop of Durham, he questioned the resurrection, but was that the first time that questions have been asked concerning the resurrection? Some of you may have read the book by John A.T. Robinson when he was the Bishop of Woolwich entitled "But that I can't believe". First printed about 30 years ago, it contains in his chapter on the resurrection very similar questions and arguments raised by David Jenkins - there is nothing new under the sun so they say. This sort of view is often countered by the

absolute claims of the Biblical fundamentalists who assert the Bibles accounts of these events to be literal truth. Meanwhile the majority of us are left scratching our heads, having been tugged from one direction to the other and been left not quite knowing what we believe. Yet in terms of this most holy of weeks, I think we must find our terms of understanding in which we can believe. The claims and challenges of Holy Week cannot be ignored.

says; "It is distracting and futile to try to force ourselves into an attitude towards scripture that we do not possess. mainly because we think it will be more religiously efficacious. We can only approach it as we are.... We must use what is available encountering Jesus as we can and not as we can't, but we must always remember that we are bound by our limitations so we must not fundamentalise them and insist that others follow our approach"

Encountering Jesus

Perhaps these words of Bishop Richard Holloway which I read recently may offer hope to the majority of Christians who feel trapped between the strong pulls of the two widely differing viewpoints described above. On the way we interpret meaning for our own lives from the scriptures he

I hope you are all able to find meaning for your lives at this deeply significant time of year and may I wish you all a Happy and Holy Easter from Sue, Chris, Phillip, Sarah and myself.

Yours in Christ,

Paul.

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

22 Feb Ross Alexander Parkinson

8 Mar Amelia Victoria Bloomer

FUNERALS

16 Feb Edwin Bennett, 37 Mount Pleasant, Ackworth, aged 71.

6 Mar Ronald Shadlock, 13 Wakefield Road, Ackworth, aged 78.



THE BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

Reading the Bible from start to finish can be a daunting prospect. However, with the aid of The Bible Reading Fellowship Notelets over a three year period every part of the Bible is dipped into and, by reading a few verses each day, with comments from well known writers and speakers, is an ideal way to encourage you to discover more.

The notelets are £8.10 for the year: a new booklet will be ready to start on May 1st. Contact Kitty Cooper on 611274 if you would like to subscribe.

Holy Week & Easter

	Palm Sunday		
5th	10.15am	Parish Eucharist with Procession and Distribution of Palms	St Cuthbert's
	Monday in Holy Week		
6th	7.30pm	Meditation on the Passion	St Cuthbert's
	Tuesday in Holy Week		
7th	10.30am	Blessing of Oils and renewal of Ordination Vows	Wakefield Cathedral
	Wednesday in Holy Week		
8th	7.30pm	Meditation on the Passion	St Cuthbert's
	Maundy Thursday		
9th	7.45pm	Institution of the Last supper followed by the Watch until 10.00pm	St Cuthbert's
	Good Friday		
10th	10.30am	Good Friday Family Service	All Saints'
	2.00pm	The Good Friday Liturgy	St Cuthbert's
	7.30pm	A Meditation of Words and Music at the Foot of the Cross	St Cuthbert's
	Easter Eve		
11th	8.00pm	Service of Light, Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
	<i>(this is a very moving and symbolic service at which the Easter fire is lit, the Paschal candle is blessed and processed into a dark church to proclaim the light of Christ is risen. We then renew our baptismal vows, the recognition that Christ has come into our lives.)</i>		
	Easter Day		
12th	10.15am	Parish Eucharist followed by egg rolling in the churchyard and judging of decorated eggs	St Cuthbert's

The usual pattern of services continue throughout April, Holy Week and Easter, details can be found elsewhere in the magazine





Rotas for April



Readings and Readers

April 5th	PALM SUNDAY	
Old Testament	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Mrs Cooper
New Testament	Philippians 2:5-11 (Gospel only at St Cuthbert's)	Mrs Cooper
April 12th	EASTER DAY	
BCP	Colossians 3:1-7	Mrs Hall
Old Testament	Isaiah 12	Mrs Riley
New Testament	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Mr Shaw
April 19th	EASTER 1	
Old Testament	Exodus 16:2-15	Miss Smith/Mrs Woofinden
New Testament	1 Corinthians 15:53 - end	Miss Smith/Mrs B Firth
April 26th	EASTER 2	
Old Testament	Ezekiel 39:7-16	Mrs Walker/Miss Walker
New Testament	1 Peter 5:1-11	Mrs Walker/Mr F Davies



Flowers

- St Cuthbert's/All Saints'
- 12th The Congregations
- 19th Mrs Forster/The Congregation
- 26th Mrs Clayton Smith/Mrs Mills



Brasses

Mrs Sutcliffe

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Will take place on Sunday 19th April at 7.30pm in St Cuthbert's Church.
 Please make a note in your diary and make every effort to attend.
 This is your opportunity as members of the Electoral Roll to have your say and to elect new members to the PCC.



Calendar for April



5 SUNDAY	PALM SUNDAY	<i>'The Way of the Cross'</i>	
	8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion with Parade and Procession of Palms	St Cuthbert's
	6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'
8 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'

**There is a full range of various services throughout Holy Week
concentrating on the special events of this most holy of weeks.
Please check the special feature in this magazine for full details.
All our other usual services are as listed on this page.**

12 SUNDAY	EASTER DAY		
	8.30am	Holy Communion - BCP	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
	6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'
15 Wednesday		No Midweek Communion	
19 SUNDAY	EASTER 1 - Low Sunday	<i>'The Bread of Life'</i>	
	8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion Rev. Dr John Williams preaching	St Cuthbert's
	6.30pm	Evensong Followed by APCM	St Cuthbert's
22 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	7.45pm	Parish Women's Group	Vestry - St Cuthbert's
25 Saturday	ST MARK		
	10.30am	Holy Communion (said)	St Cuthbert's
26 SUNDAY	EASTER 2	<i>'The Good Shepherd'</i>	
	8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
	6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'
28 Tuesday	1.45pm	Mums And Tots	All Saints'
29 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
30 Thursday	2.30pm	Mothers Union	All Saint's

Note - there are various groups and activities which will be taking a short break over Easter - please make sure you make a note of any alterations.

News, Events and Dates for Your Diary

SPRING CLEANING

**'Thou shalt purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean:
thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.'** (Psalm 51 v.7)

With such a prompt from the Ash Wednesday Psalm, I feel the time has arrived to give our churches their annual 'thorough going over'. As many hands make light work, could we have as many volunteers as possible for our Churches' Spring Clean. Bring your own hyssop, brushes, dusters etc.on

Friday 3 April, 7.30 pm onwards and **Saturday 4 April from 10 am**
at St. Cuthbert's and

Friday 18 April (evening) and **Saturday 19 April (all day)** at All Saints'.

Paul

DIARY DATES

IN AID OF
PRINCE OF WALES HOSPICE

11 JULY
TEA AFTERNOON
AT

THE GARDHAMS
83 PONTEFRACT ROAD

25 SEPTEMBER
QUIZ NIGHT
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AN ATHEIST

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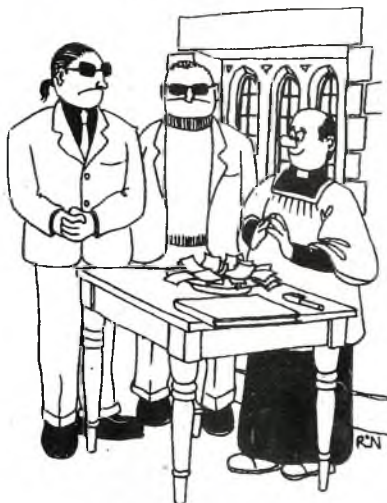
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Church of England Children's Society Collection Boxes

Please hand in your Children's Society boxes by
Sunday 19 April. If you need to have your box
collected or would like to have a box contact
Helen Parkinson on 614400.

St Gargyle's



The sidesmen were pleased to report an
increase in the weekly offerings



APRIL FOOL!

April 1st is All Fools Day, the day when people play tricks on each other. It's not sure just how it started but one idea is that it started when in 1564 the French decreed that the New Year began on January 1st as opposed to April 1st. So that the traditional New Year gifts and cards were now sent in January. For a joke some people continued to send mock gifts and cards, silly things, on April 1st. In Scotland the April Fool is an April Noddy, a cuckoo or a gowk, the same day is Boob's Day in Spain, Fish Day in France and Doll's Day in Japan.



All round the world people are busy kidding their friends that their shoelaces are undone or someone is sent to buy a pot of

striped paint - but every joke has to stop at midday. After that the joker becomes the fool.

WHAT IS IT?

There are some very strange, not to say peculiar, words in the Bible - and I'm not kidding you.

1. Is a BATH
 - a) something with bubbles, or
 - b) a liquid measure
 2. Is BAANA
 - a) a mis-spelt fruit, or
 - b) an official from Megiddo?
 3. Is NISSAN
 - a) the first month of the year, or
 - b) a form of transport?
 4. Are OREB and ZEEB
 - a) cartoon characters used to tell modern versions of Bible stories on channel TV. or
 - b) two princes killed in battle?
 5. Is KAB
 - a) a measure, or
 - b) part of a chariot?
- Guess first and then look them up - answers at the bottom of this page.



How do you part the Red Sea?
With a sea-saw.

Did you hear about the little girl who does bird impressions?
She eats worms.



ANSWERS - look them up in 1) Ezekiel 45:11 2) 1 Kings 4:12 3) Esther 3:7 4) Psalm 83:11 5) 2 Kings 6:25

As Our Saviour taught us...

Who art in heaven

Having addressed God by name, we now address Him by place also. Just as we would write a name and address on an envelope, so we use a name and a place when we talk to God.

What we are doing also, however, is putting God in His rightful place, and that of course is heaven.

Heaven is one of those words which causes many people, and many of them Christians, a great deal of trouble. It is a word which seems to ask more questions than it answers. What is heaven like, and where is it? If we could answer those two questions, we would be well on the way to knowing what God is like and where He is.

Recently, during the confirmation course for our young people, we asked them to write down what their perfect situation was. It was interesting that these descriptions were very different. Perhaps that isn't so surprising. However, what was surprising was the fact that they all had a similar strand. In each of the descriptions was to be found peace, tranquillity and an overwhelming sense of warmth and victory. It would appear that most people would

have a picture of heaven which involves these elements.

Pictures of Heaven

There are pictures of heaven in the Bible, notably in Daniel and in Revelation. These pictures and images from the Bible give us a sense of a wonderful place, far more wonderful than any of us could even begin to imagine. Then in the middle of this wondrous and glorious place we find pictures of God.

All these images and pictures can get quite confusing and sometimes quite frightening. However, perhaps it is no surprise to find that we are frightened of God or by heaven. After all, God is the most powerful being in the universe. We would do well to be cautious. If heaven is where we will meet with God, then we would do well to enter His gates with trepidation. We have, however, been assured of salvation by our belief in Jesus, but even so, I think I shall be just a little nervous to know that I am about to meet with my maker. What will he make of me, I wonder!

Paul Fox

Apologies to Paul for printing his articles in this series in the wrong order. The next 'As Our Saviour taught us' will be 'Thy kingdom come'. *Linda Steer*

Mothers' Union ~ April Notices

- 1 April 9.30 am** Corporate Communion
- 30 April 2.30 pm** Service and Meeting at All Saints'. Our theme will be 'My Favourite Hymn'. A time of listening to each other and sharing love and fellowship.
- 30 April 10.15 am to 3 pm.** A Mothers' Union Diocesan Quiet Day at the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, led by Brother Patrick Souter.

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