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Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3 per year)

March 1999

Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who?

<u>Rector:</u>	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, 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 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.	611243
<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>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 (except ~ see below)
All Saints'	4.00 pm	Open Door Service (Last Sunday of the month)

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

The Rector Writes ...

When looking at the Church's calendar for March, one of the things that struck me about the saints whom we commemorate this month, was the number of Bishops amongst them - all from the British Isles. There are seven in all, namely: St David (1st); St Chad (2nd); Edward King (8th); St Patrick (17th); St Cuthbert and Thomas Ken (20th) and Thomas Cranmer (21st). Why so many died in Lent I can but guess. Maybe the rigours of Lent are felt too severely by senior clergy.

Whatever the reason, perhaps it is a useful reminder particularly at this time of year with its dominant theme of discipline that the call to Christian ministry embodies an element of discipline and obedience to Christ.

Obedience is also a Christian duty reflected in some of the other commemorations or festivals which we mark this month; on the 14th we have Mothering Sunday, the 19th St Joseph, the husband of Mary and the 25th we recall the Annunciation of our Lord to Mary - all having strong connections with family life; a place in which obedience should have a high priority.

Even Palm Sunday and Holy Week, near the end of the month, reminds us that even our Lord Jesus himself was under the discipline of



Family life - a place in which obedience should have a high priority

obedience. There are many indications in the Gospels that he would rather not have made that ride into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday - a ride that sealed his fate.

Obedience is something which is demanded of us all, at many stages in our lives; to both earthly and heavenly authorities. It is something which we all fight against at one time or another, some for the whole of their lives. It is also something which the refusal to accept can often cause pain and anguish.

However, this does not necessarily have to be a burden especially in terms of our Christian commitment. Obedience is necessary to serve our Lord and though it needs concerted effort, it is ultimately

something that frees us. As Jesus tells us in chapter 11 of the Gospel of Matthew immediately after spelling out the conditions of discipleship: *"Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and your will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

As I have said frequently in the past, the call to obedience in the service of Christ comes in many and various ways, no matter what stage you are at in your journey of faith. If you happen to be near the beginning of your journey perhaps your calling is to confirmation. If you feel it is the right time to

strengthen your commitment and take that next step of obedience along that same road upon which many have trod, Bishops and Archbishops included, then come and see me in preparation for confirmation training which will be starting next month.

As we prayed in the Collect of that first Sunday in Lent for grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to the Spirit, so may we continue to strive towards conquering our desire to reject authority and responsibility and to offer ourselves to the service of Christ. A service which we should remember is perfect freedom.

Yours in Christ

Paul.



During the week commencing the 11th April we will be starting our training classes in preparation for confirmation by the Bishop of Wakefield. This will be held in our own parish church on Sunday morning the 11th July.

If you feel that your or any of your children are ready to take this important step in their journey of faith, then please contact the Rector or Paul Fox before Easter.



Publicity and Communication



Following recent discussions at PCC, it was felt that we should seek an individual or small working group who could begin to tackle the wide ranging and very important tasks involved in communication both within the Church and out to the wider community.

If you feel you would like to explore further this vital aspect of the church's ministry then please contact the Rector or any member of the PCC, so we can make a start on this.

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The End of the Beginning...

Last month I wrote about beginnings, and how I am always the one who enjoys a fresh start, because a fresh start means a blank sheet, one upon which I draw what I want. However, it is often the case that things don't always go to plan, and mistakes are made, and things go wrong.

Last month I wrote about Creation, as told in Genesis. There we read that God created the world, and that God saw that it was good. That being the case, what has gone wrong, because it is clear that all is not well with the world we know today, and clearly not all is good. So what has gone wrong? Genesis chapters 3 and 4 attempt to explain this.

Man was created at the climax of creation, and placed in a garden, where he had perfect fellowship with God. There he walked and talked with God, and there was no problem. In chapter three we read about what happened next. Man

was subject to a certain amount of temptation, even in the Garden of Eden where all was good. Even there, when God was not beside man, temptation was present. And man, who is not God, finds it difficult to resist.

This is the theology behind the story of the fall as in chapter three. The serpent is the

representative of Satan, and

tempts Eve to eat of the tree from which they were forbidden to eat. Having done that, the serpent disappears and leaves God to judge the results.

There then follows the judgement from

God. Man is cast out of the Garden where all is good, and is made to toil and to suffer pain and agony. This is a turning point in the history of humanity, God and man are separated. Gone is the perfect union with God, left is only a shadow of that union. God is still there, but seems to be further away.



This is a dangerous situation to be in, because in being further from God than he would like, means that we are further tempted by sin and evil. This is what is behind the story of Cain and Abel. Jealousy and temptation again. Wherever God seems to be absent, there we will find sin and evil flourishing. As Christians must strive at all times to be with God, remembering that God is within each of us, and the more of us there are, the greater will be His presence. Unity is so important to God, (which is why I may seem to be constantly going on about it!), it's what God wants of us. If we do not have unity, it means that we have disharmony,

and whilst we are concentrating on our differences, Satan will see the cracks and get in there to make them even wider. The result is that some will even turn their backs on God and move away. In this case Satan has won a small battle. And God will be left saying, as he did to Cain, "What have you done?" And what will our answer be, we will have no defence. God will judge us as he did Cain.

So if we are to be engaged in some form of spiritual warfare, how do we know who is on our side, and who isn't?

Paul Fox

Thinking About Ministry

At the start of Lent five study groups began to meet, the discussions are based on the the subject 'Thinking About Ministry.' The groups meet on different days and there is a choice of afternoon or evening sessions.

It is still not too late to join a group, just sign up on the lists that are in either church.



March Rotas

Readings and Readers

March 7th	3rd Sunday of Lent	
Old Testament	Exodus 17:1-7	Dr McWilliam/Mrs Riley
New Testament	Romans 5:1-11	Dr McWilliam/Mr Davies
March 14th	Mothering Sunday	
Old Testament	1 Samuel 1:20-28	Mrs Hall/Mrs Firth
New Testament	Colossians 3:12-17	Mrs Hall/Mrs Hartley
March 21st	Passion Sunday	
Old Testament	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Mrs Walker/Mrs Parkinson
New Testament	Romans 8:6-11	Mrs Walker/Mr Cook
March 28th	Palm Sunday	
Old Testament	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Miss Smith/Mrs Woofinden
New Testament	Philippians 2:5-11	Miss Smith/Miss Walker



From the Registers

Baptisms

31 Jan	Alvin James Briggs
	Oliver Edward Alan Rowett

Funerals

4 Feb	Gwendoline Z Burton, 22 Hillside Road, aged 89
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Silence is Golden

Following the introduction of a short period of silence for prayer and preparation for the Eucharist at the beginning of the Communion service I felt the following verse, which I once saw at the entrance of a church I was visiting, may be useful.

*"Before the service talk to God
During the service listen to God
After the service talk to one another."*





March Calendar

1	Monday	7.30pm	PCC	vestry	St Cuthbert's
2	Tuesday	1.45pm	Home Group		26 Hardaker Lane
3	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
		8.00pm	Magazine Committee Meeting		
6	Saturday	10.00am	Magazine Helpers Coffee Morning -		83 Pontefract Rd
7	SUNDAY		3rd Sunday of Lent		
		8.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
		10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church		St Cuthbert's
		3.30pm	Evensong		All Saints'
9	Tuesday	2.00pm	Mums and Tots		All Saints'
10	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
14	SUNDAY		Mothering Sunday		
		8.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
		10.15am	Family Communion and Parade		St Cuthbert's
		3.30pm	Evensong		All Saints'
17	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
		7.30pm	Holy Communion		St Cuthbert's
		7.30pm	Womens' Group	vestry	St Cuthbert's
			National Campaign for Pure Water - Ms J Jones		
20	Saturday		St Cuthbert's Patronal Festival		
		10.30am	Holy Communion		St Cuthbert's
21	SUNDAY		Passion Sunday		
		8.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
		10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church		St Cuthbert's
		3.30pm	Evensong		All Saints'
23	Tuesday	2.00pm	Mums and Tots		All Saints'
24	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
25	Thursday		The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
		2.30pm	Mother's Union		The Almshouses
		7.30pm	Holy Communion		St Cuthbert's
28	SUNDAY		Palm Sunday		
		8.30am	Holy Communion		All Saints'
		10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church		St Cuthbert's
			The blessing of the Palms and Procession		
		4.00pm	Open Door Service		All Saints'
29	Monday	7.30pm	Meditation on the Passion		St Cuthbert's
30	Tuesday	10.00am	Blessing of the Oils		Wakefield Cathedral
		7.30pm	Meditation on the Passion		St Cuthbert's
31	Wednesday	7.30pm	Meditation on the Passion		St Cuthbert's

News, Events and Dates for Your Diary

The Mothers' Union

3 March

Corporate Communion.
All Saint's Church at 9.30 am

25 March

Feast of The Annunciation.

As this feast day is observed annually as a special day of prayer and thanksgiving for the Mothers' Union, it is appropriate that our monthly Service and Meeting falls on this date this year. We shall meet in the Almshouses at 2.30 pm

Barbara Firth



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Thought for March!

We are now told that automation is a process that gets all the work done while you just stand there. When we were younger, this process was called MOTHER!

Prince of Wales Hospice Coffee Morning

**March 20th
10.00 ~ 12.00**



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Revising the Church of England Liturgy

Liturgy = words for worship

The present revision only concerns the 1980 Alternative Service Book (ASB) which is authorised until 31st December 2000. The 1662 Book of Common Prayer is permanently authorised and will remain unchanged. The new liturgy replacing the ASB will be entitled Common Worship.

Reasons for Change

After twenty years of use the ASB has been widely criticised from various angles both in its use of language, its thematic form and the content of some of the services. It also included only new material. The new services will encourage a blend of the old and new using the Book of Common Prayer and Alternative services together. In other words, the new material intends to draw the two traditions together.

Who is doing the Revision?

The process involves all parts of the Church.

- The Liturgical Commission produces draft material which goes to --
- The House of Bishops which studies the material and, when satisfied, sends it to --
- The General Synod, where representatives of the clergy and laity debate the drafts with the Bishops. The drafts are also considered in --
- Revision Committees, where suggestions are received not only from members of the Synod but also from the wider public, whose views are also fed into the earlier stages of the process.
- A two-thirds majority in each House -- Bishops, Clergy and Laity -- is needed for final authorisation.

The new Calendar, Lectionary, Collects and Post Communion Prayers were authorised for use in November 1997 and have been in use in our church since November 1998. The new Lectionary is based on the Revised Common Lectionary, an ecumenical revision of the Roman Catholic Common Lectionary and one used by many denominations throughout the English-speaking world. Unlike the ASB lectionary, the new lectionary is not based on 'themes.' Rather it provides for the continuous reading of the

using the Book of Common Prayer-based collects and, where possible, the inclusion of additional festivals.

What happens next?

New Baptism Service - involving more participation by the congregation.

New Communion Services - still under consideration - Orders 1 and 2 with variants 1a and 2a.

The new liturgy will be 'field tested.' 800 parishes have been authorised by the two Archbishops to use draft forms on an experimental basis before introduction to General Synod. New Marriage and Funeral Services have already been sent out to these parishes.

The Rector and PCC aim to keep the worshipping congregation fully informed of all the new developments, as and when the information becomes available. It is hoped that the transition to Common Worship will be relatively smooth and stress free.

Fred Davies



Suzy Fund

The total raised by the Ackworth Branch last year was £939.25.

Since the branch was formed in February 1996 a total of £2,831.93 has been sent to the fund. The Women's Group has contributed £393.79 to this sum, the Mothers' Union £176.27, collections at St. Cuthbert's on the first Sunday of each month have totalled £914.87 and £1.347 has been given by regular donation.

We are most grateful to everyone who has given to the fund and we hope friends of 'Suzy' will continue to support this very worthwhile cause.

Vera McWilliam and Barbara Firth



LENT

Lent, before Easter, is like Advent before Christmas, a time of preparation. Lent is when we remember that Jesus prepared himself for starting his ministry by going away by himself for 40 days of fasting and prayer. You can read about it in your Bible: Matthew, chapter 4, verses 1-11; Mark, chapter 1, verses 12-13 and Luke, chapter 4, verses 1-13.

Jesus went into the wilderness – a quiet lonely place away from people – where he could think things out. He knew that his work would be hard, that many people would not listen to him, or if they listened, they would not believe him. During these 40 days Jesus made his choice: to work in God's way however hard that might be.

This year Lent started on 17th February and goes through the whole of March - have you thought about how YOU are going to prepare yourself to follow Jesus this Lent?

By Angela Webb

SPRING COLOURS

The missing words in this puzzle are all colours which are mentioned with these things in the Bible.



1. Pastures, herbs and olives are all _____.
2. A sea, tents and wine are _____.
3. Hangings in the Temple, pomegranates and doors of tents were all _____.
4. A horse, robes and teeth were all _____.
5. Kings' raiment (clothing), Jesus' robe and the dye that Lydia sold were all _____.
6. One of the gifts to the baby Jesus, candlesticks and spoons were _____.
7. A raven, clouds and chariot horses were _____.
8. Lips, a thread tied to a window and robes are _____.

Answers at the bottom of this page.



What's blue, V-shaped and flies?

The Red Arrows in disguise.

What do you do with a green monster?

Wait till he's ripe.



Answers: 1. green 2. red 3. blue 4. white 5. purple 6. gold 7. black 8. scarlet

Many Thanks from The White Rose Charity



The White Rose Charity is very grateful indeed to everyone who knits blankets. The following is an account of just one request for help from a girls' home in Wloclawek, run by nuns caring for youngsters with various problems. After their first visit members of the White Rose team felt that they could not return and ignore their plight. Two things were to influence their decision to give continued support ...

Poland: Jumpers and blankets have arrived

The White Rose Charity of Sheffield has now been established for six years and along with three fellow members of the Ackworth Branch of SCF I recently attended the AGM at Sheffield.

Present was the Rt. Hon. David Blunkett MP, Vice President of the Charity

The Charity was set up by a small group of retired British Rail officials who wanted to 'put a little back' into society. The group of unpaid officials and volunteers has made a difference to thousands of youngsters' lives, both in this country and abroad.

In Albania it was a traumatic experience to witness the plight of children with special needs living in unbelievable conditions. The Charity gives support to many schools attending to children with special needs, both locally and further afield.

Project Poland has seen deliveries of aid to orphanages, a home for children with special needs and hospitals.

1. Before leaving, Sister Teresa, the nun in charge, explained how they had prayed for help and the White Rose team had appeared.

2. They had also pleaded that they should not be forgotten.

The White Rose Charity has made eight deliveries of aid, to date, which have included basic medical equipment and blankets. After one of the visits every girl in one of the orphanages had received a blanket for her bed ~ something of her own!

On behalf of the White Rose team in Sheffield I thank everyone for their continued support by knitting blankets. These are very much appreciated, bringing warmth and comfort to children in need.

Betty Rowe SCF

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