

The Saint

Benefice Magazine

2021
complimentary issue

4

OCT-NOV-DEC 2021

Faith
Hope
Love

EVANGELISTIC MISSION

— THE —
BENEFICE OF
ACKWORTH AND BADSWORTH
FAITH † HOPE † LOVE

“

Statement of Mission

'We are a Benefice which has the desire to nurture a church of Faith, Hope and Love, which reflects God's presence, helping us to serve and transform the communities of which we are a part.'

~ THE BENEFICE OF ACKWORTH AND BADSWORTH ~ Who's Who ~

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<u>Self-Supporting Minister:</u>	Rev'd Mike Croft	611250
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	Ute Plett-Graef (Ackworth)	611244
	Jackie Dawson (Ackworth)	610800
	Karen Barker (Badsworth)	07807224859
	Alison Ferguson (Badsworth)	616935
<u>PCC Secretaries:</u>	Pamela Lunn (Ackworth)	615032
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WELCOME

Welcome to this edition of our magazine. This edition is covering a wide range of topics, because it starts just after our Harvest celebrations, and finishes with Christmas and New Year. This is traditionally been one of the busier times of year for the church.

In the last edition of our magazine I mentioned that some of our church activities were hoping to start again. I am pleased to say that in addition to our Knit and Natter Group, our baby and toddler group, Little Friends, has started meeting on the first and third Thursday of each month at All Saints' Church, as has our Thursday Coffee morning, which is open each Thursday morning between 10:00am and 12:00 noon at All Saints' Church. Our events group has been discussing further activities that hopefully will start in the New Year.

I am also pleased that we are able to engage with the schools in our village again, with face to face meetings, collective worship, and visits to church. We hope we can continue these over the winter and into next year.

As well as our Harvest celebrations, and a visit by the Bishop, there will be several extra services that we hope to host between now and Christmas. There are details elsewhere in the magazine. But please keep a check via our Website, notice boards or FaceBook, for any changes that may be imposed upon us.

We are all looking forward to more normal Christmas celebrations this year, and I hope to meet many old and new faces over the coming months.

Rev Paul Fox

Some thoughts on Evangelism by Rev Paul Fox

Evangelism is often a word that strikes fear into many people, whether they be Christians or not. The thought of having to stand on a box in public and preach to passers by. Or to go knocking on doors and talking to strangers in their homes about the Bible. Or on the other side of the coin, crossing the road when you see a person on a box preaching, or hiding in the shed when you see someone about to knock on the door.

But evangelism is far more than these kinds of activities, and in fact it is usually much gentler, and a lot less coercive than it may seem.

One of the greatest frustrations for me over the last 2 years, has been the inability of our churches to be obviously active. And I was extremely saddened by all the posters that began to spring up all around us, including in some churches. Posters telling us what not to do. It was all very negative. Because Christianity is not a religion of "Thou shalt not", but a religion of "Thou shalt". As we begin to plan for our Christmas services, times when we welcome large numbers of people, we are having to ask ourselves how many people we can accommodate in our buildings. But the Christian message is a positive one, and full of hope. To quote a writer in the Church Times, if you cannot find hope in the church, where can you find it?

Over the last two years, as a church, we have had to find new ways of showing our presence in the community. A lighted candle in a church window, as a symbol of ongoing prayer. Lighting up the church building. A blanket of poppies laid outside our church. A lit crib outside our church. An Easter trail, and an Angel Trail, leading to one of our churches. Churches decorated for Christmas. Churches as a place for silent prayer. Even a vicar walking and running around the village in a dog-collar!

All of these things are small examples of gentle evangelism, of showing the churches' presence in the community, and of being able to share something of the Christian message with those who wanted to know more.

The pandemic has had an immensely negative impact on the world, and our community here in Ackworth, including the church and its leaders. None of us have been left untouched by its effects. And somehow, we have to find a new way of being community again. I have been really pleased and proud of how our community has come together, to help each other, and support each other, and to work together. Because that is the Christian message of evangelism, and that is the message of Christianity in action, whether we go to church or not.

My hope is that we can share many times together over the coming weeks. Whether sharing the solemnity of Remembrance, or sharing in the celebrations, joy and madness that make up Christmas.

“God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour” John 3:17

St Cuthbert's and All Saints' Churches
GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW 2021

**Win a Luxury Christmas Hamper,
or one of
Several Other Exciting Prizes.**

We are planning to hold our usual Grand Christmas draw again this year. Tickets will be on sale from November from some PCC members and the Churchwardens and at the Thursday Coffee morning (10 am to 12 noon) at All Saints' Church, Wakefield Road. The draw is expected to take place around 11 am on Thursday December 17th at the Coffee Morning at All Saints' Church, but this date may change.

Please support this effort and in particular come along to the Thursday Coffee Mornings to join in with our social activities. If you would like to provide items for the hamper, or any other prizes for the draw, please see the notices to be posted in the churches in November.

If you would like tickets or wish to donate prizes and cannot get to church or the coffee morning ring Bill Branston on 01977 610590 and he will collect the prizes or bring some tickets to you at your home.

Can you find the missing pound??

3 men go into a hotel to book a room.

The man behind the desk said the room is £30.00 so each man paid £10.00 and they went to the room.

A while later the man behind the desk realised the room should only have cost £25.00 so he sent the bellboy to the 3 guys' room with £5.00 in coins.

The bellboy couldn't figure out how to split the £5.00 evenly between the 3 men, so he gave each man a £1.00 and kept the other £2.00 for himself.

This meant that the 3 men each paid £9.00 for the room, which is a total of £27.00. If you add the £2.00 that the bellboy kept for himself this = £29.00

Where is the other pound?

(It is really quite easy – We shall give the answer on one of the weekly news-sheets)

Naming the twins

A young pregnant lady was in a terrible car accident and went into a deep coma.

After being in the coma for nearly six months, she woke up and saw that she was no longer pregnant. Frantically, she asked the doctor about her baby.

The doctor replied, 'Ma'am, you had twins; a boy and a girl! The babies are fine now, but they were poorly at birth and had to be christened immediately. Your brother came in and named them.'

The woman thought to herself, 'Oh dear – not my brother - He's clueless!'

Expecting the worst, she asked the doctor,
'Well, what's my daughter's name?' "Denise,"
said the doctor.

The new mother is totally relieved. "Wow,
that's a beautiful name. I guess I was wrong
about my brother. I like Denise"

She then asked the doctor, "What's the boy's
name?"

"Denephew" said the doctor. **OH DEAR!!!**



Don't Quit

This poem was found in Dad's things after he died. He had survived Dunkirk and four years as a Japanese POW, mainly in the notorious Changhi prison. He then brought up six children, at one time having three jobs to support us all. He certainly knew about having to carry on regardless.

Jackie Dawson

When things go wrong as they sometimes will;
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill;
When the funds are low and the debts are high;
And you want to smile but you have to sigh.
When all is pressing you down a bit-
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Success is a failure turned inside out;
The silver tint on the clouds of doubt;
And you can never tell how close you are;
It may be near when it seems far.
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit –
It's when things go wrong that you must not quit.

John Greenleaf Whittier

Events Update

We are pleased to announce that the Events Committee met on 15th September and a number of social events have been discussed. Coffee mornings resumed on Thursday 23rd September 10-12 and will continue hopefully each week. Volunteers to help with coffee and to bake cakes are welcomed. Please contact Ute. It was agreed to hold a

Christmas Special Event.

at All Saints' Church

Date: Saturday 11th December. Time 2-4pm



Coffee, Tea, seasonal cakes/ mince pies will be on sale as well as a Christmas themed Tombola, a 'Bottle in a bag' Tombola and a homemade Christmas crafts stall.

Donations of Christmas themed items or bottles in a Christmas bag for the tombolas would be greatly appreciated. The bottles can be anything - from sauce to squash to water to wine!

We would also appreciate donations of homemade craft items for the craft stall, so get busy crafting, knitting or sewing for our Christmas Craft Stall.

Donations can be left in church or given to members of the committee. Volunteers to help on the day would be great! Please contact our church wardens, Jean, Jackie or Ute if you can help out.

We will also be holding a Christmas Raffle. Tickets will be on sale in November and December. The 1st Prize will be a Christmas Hamper (a list will be put in Church asking for donations for Hamper and other raffle prizes.) The raffle will be drawn at the last coffee morning before Christmas.

Remembrance Day

Thursday 11th November 2021
10.50am Act of Remembrance at
Ackworth War Memorial

Sunday 14th November 2021
10.45am
Service of Remembrance
Saint Cuthbert's Church



Poems by Thelma Millar

Thelma responded to our call for contributions for the magazine in the last issue. We are hugely grateful Thelma and we would encourage many more of you to send us your offerings, which can be sent to j.e.davis9@btinternet.com and lynne1ward@googlemail.com

Born the granddaughter of a Salvation Army Preacher, Thelma Millar was converted on 9th October 1987 at The Pontefract Congregational Church (Evangelical), Finkle St. As a child she attended Sunday School at the Apostolic Church, Beancroft Rd, Castleford, where the first seeds of the Christian faith were sown.

Since becoming a Christian she has been divinely inspired to write these Christian poems, which she hopes will fulfil, in part, the command that was made to her at her baptism on 9th June, 1991.

'You did not choose Me, I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of Him in My name.'

JOHN 15:16

Blessings from my Saviour

I long to help the blind to see
beyond this earthly land.

I long to help the deaf to hear
to help them understand.

I long to help the people
with a cold uncaring heart

I long to stir up all their souls
lead them to God's new start.
I long to make the foolish wise
with God's Word, you see,
Because all this and so much more
my Saviour did for me. Thelma Millar

Requited Love

What love is this that fills my soul
that lifts me on eagle's wings
that reaches to the very depths
and from my heart what joy it brings?
It is the holy love of God
for whom my inner being yearns.
Only He fulfils my need
makes me complete
my love returns. Thelma Millar

The Blessings of Autumn

It is that time of year again
When chill winds start to blow
When autumn puts on her fine display
And leaves begin to glow
The awesome colours delight the eye
As crisp leaves twirl and fall
And busy squirrels hide their hoard.
Beneath the trees so tall
The bright red berries tempt the birds
Each one eats their fill
And badgers make their nightly trek
On yonder wooded hill
The owls hoot loudly in the night
In swift search of their prey
And foxes stalk the countryside
Until the break of day
The deer graze calmly in their heard
Eating what they see
This season of mellow fruitfulness
I welcome with glee.



Thelma Millar

Stir-up Sunday

Sunday, 21 November 2021 is 'Stir-up Sunday', so put on your apron and gather family or friends to make a Christmas pudding. It's the day when wishes are said to come true, so get stirring!

It is a tradition that harks back to Victorian times when the family would gather together to stir the Christmas pudding five weeks before Christmas. The opening words of the Collect, used on the last Sunday before Advent, reads: "Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people," so the tradition stands that this is the day to make your Christmas pudding.

The following recipe was given to me in the early 1980s by my dear friend Mags, who is sadly no longer with us. She was always very generous and loving, and she would be delighted to know that I am passing it on to you now.

Julie

Christmas Pudding

This mixture makes two large puddings or several smaller ones.

Ingredients:

8oz white breadcrumbs
2oz plain flour
8oz shredded suet (I use vegetable suet).
8oz soft brown sugar
8oz raisins
8oz sultanas
8oz currants
2oz chopped almonds
1 rounded tsp mixed spice
1 lemon – rind and juice
1 apple or carrot, grated
4 standard eggs
3 tbsps sherry or brandy



Method

Combine all the ingredients in a large bowl.
Stir well! (Don't forget to invite family to join in and make a wish)
Put mixture into a greased pudding basin.
Cover with pleated greaseproof (greased), pleated foil and tie up with string.
Steam for 6 hours.

The pudding can be reheated when you want to use it, either by steaming or with a quick blast in the microwave.

An update from Badsworth

St Mary's Church

Singing has returned!

We are now able to sing in church and services are as they were before the Covid 19 restrictions. We do ask if possible that visitors try and space out for the time being.

Plans are still in place for the sound system and lights in church.

We are hoping to hold a joint Christmas Fair again with Badsworth School, we have provisionally agreed Saturday 27th November.

St Mary's Centre

As things start to get back to normal we are now busy taking bookings for the St Mary's Centre and are pleased to announce that Coffee Mornings are returning. The first one will be on Saturday 30th October 10 - 12 in the St Mary's Centre. Please do come along and join us. We are always in need of help on the day and any cake/bun donations; please contact us if you are able to help in any way.

We have plans to replace the heating in the centre in the next two weeks, just in time for the cold weather returning.

Karen Barker

St Mary's Church Warden

'Down Memory Lane'

A singing group for people in the early to moderate stages of dementia and their carers.

Every Wednesday from 1.30pm to 3pm at All Saints' Church

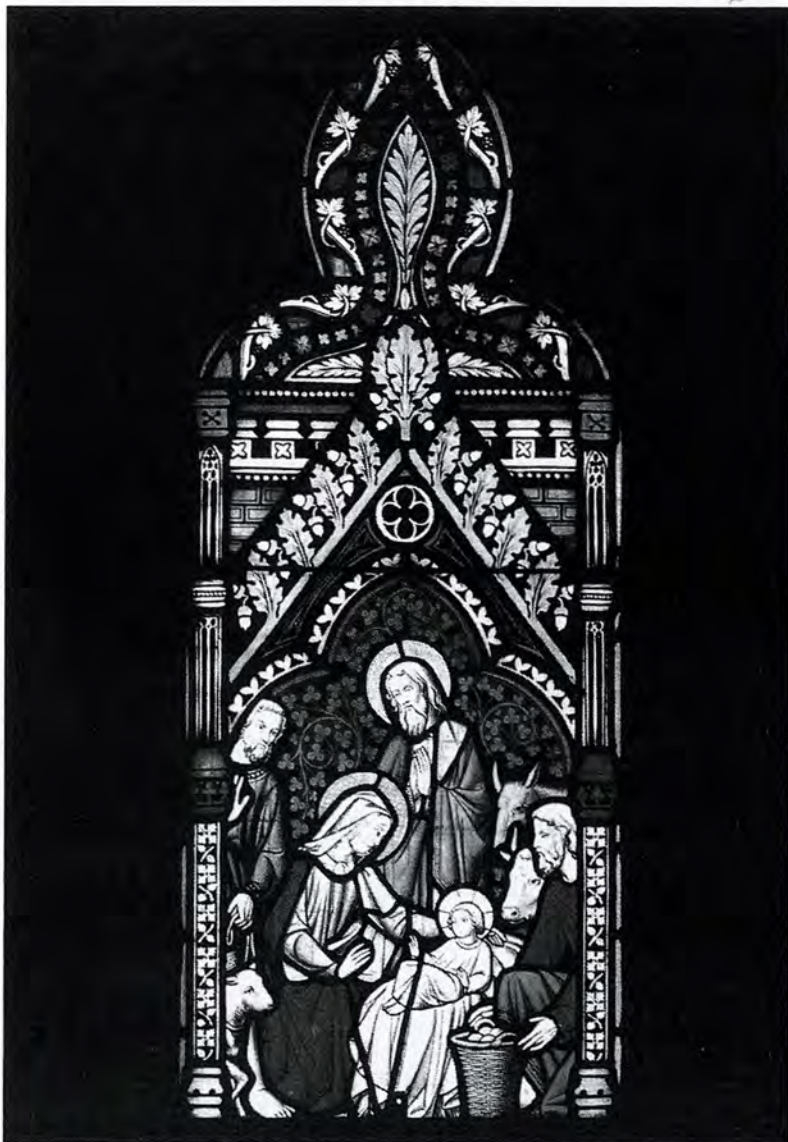
Strengthen existing relationships, share experiences and find support.

This group is well established with a small number of regular members. Every week we meet and enjoy singing a variety of songs together. We

also chat quite a bit between the songs too! This is a chance to meet other people with similar experiences in a relaxed setting. You can join in with the singing as much or as little as you like – and you don't need to know anything about singing before you come.

We welcome new people to the group, so why not give it a go? If you or someone you know is supporting someone with dementia, then please spread the word. Due to Covid restrictions, please give Julie a call on 01977 616121 before you come, just to check on availability.

Julie Davis



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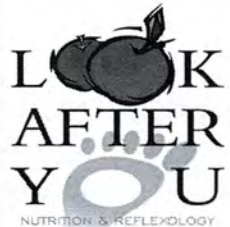
Hippocrates: Let Food Be Your Medicine ...

And Let Medicine Be Your Food

Hippocrates believed that 'dis-ease' was the product of a combination of environmental factors, diet and living habits, a philosophy that is still relevant today. The body responds well to changes in diet and has enormous healing potential

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Extra Services for October, November and December

Date	Time	Place	Service
31.10.21	10.00am	St Mary's, Badsworth	Benefice Service
07.11.21	5.30pm	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Memorial Service
11.11.21	10.50am	Ackworth War Memorial	Act of Remembrance
14.11.21	10.45am	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Remembrance Service
28.11.21	4.00pm	All Saints' Ackworth	Christingle Service. *
28.11.21	6.00pm	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Christingle Service *
12.12.21	3.00pm	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Village Carol Service with Churches Together
19.12.21	3.30pm	All Saints' Ackworth	Carol Service
19.12.21	6.30pm	St Mary's, Badsworth	Carol Service
24.12.21	5.30pm	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Crib Service. *
24.12.21	11.30pm	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Benefice Midnight Mass
25.12.21	9.30/10.00am	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Christmas Day
25.12.21	11.00am	St Mary's, Badsworth	Christmas Day
26.12.21	10.00am	St Cuthbert's, Ackworth	Benefice Service

**Please note that the asterisked services may be subject to change or to limited numbers due to Covid restrictions.*

St Cuthbert's & All Saints' Churches, Ackworth

Christingle Services

will take place on

Sunday 28th November 2021



All Saints' Church at 4.00pm

St Cuthbert's Church at 6.00pm

*Please note that these services may be subject to change
or to limited numbers due to Covid restrictions.*

THE BENEFICE OF ACKWORTH AND BADSWORTH

Statement of Mission:

'We are a Benefice which has the desire to nurture a church of Faith, Hope and Love, which reflects God's presence, helping us to serve and transform the communities of which we are a part.'

Private Prayer:

The churches are open for private prayer on the following days

Wednesday 2pm – 4pm St Cuthbert's Church

Regular Service Times: *(when the churches are open for public worship)*

8.30am Eucharist All Saints'

9.30am Eucharist St Cuthbert's

10.30am Morning Worship All Saints'

11am Eucharist St Mary's

3.30pm Afternoon Worship All Saints'

Baptisms/Weddings:

Enquiries about weddings, banns of marriage and baptisms, please contact 01977 599979 or 07874 607148

Book of Remembrance:

If you would like your loved one's name adding to our Book of Remembrance, please contact Lynne Ward (Ackworth) 01977 616384 or Margaret Spacey (Badsworth) 01977 648491.

'Little Friends' Mother and Toddler Group:

Meet first and third Thursday each month at All Saints' Church 10am to 12pm. Please contact Jackie Fox for further information 01977 613834.