

CROSS TALK – the Benefice Magazine

Dear Friends

As many of you know, part of my ministry is spent in these parishes, and part as an Anglican Chaplain in Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service. I have worked in prisons since 1999: for two years I was on placement and then for six years I was the full-time chaplain in a maximum security prison for men; for the last six years I have been part-time chaplain in a resettlement (open) prison, again for men (and in between times, for six years I was based solely in parish ministry). Prison ministry is something that I find challenging – and highly rewarding and a great privilege. One of the focal points for the year is the national week of prayer, Prisons Week, that runs during the autumn, this year from 13th to 19th October. It is good to know that, particularly during this week, others are praying with and for us. Throughout this edition of Cross Talk, you will find various reflections and prayers that have been written around this year's theme of **What does Freedom mean to You? (and are you free?)** The introduction is given by the Venerable James Ridge, our Chaplain General, who says:

*'He sets his people free.
He made his agreement everlasting.
He is holy and wonderful.'*
Psalm 111:9

God's will and intention for all his people is freedom – the freedom to be the people he created them to be. As Prison Chaplains we work with people who often find it hard to believe that God has any interest in them or their lives. They struggle with the concept that they are made in the image of God and do not dare to hope that they may have a future in God which does not involve crime, arrest and imprisonment. In the same way, those whose lives have been marred by crime and its effects, or whose work brings them into daily contact with its destructiveness, often struggle to see a new future in which the promise of freedom in Christ might be fulfilled. This Prisons Week we give thanks that the freedom which God offers is available to all, even to those whose liberty has been temporarily or permanently taken away by society. As we pray together for all those who come into contact with the criminal justice system in any way, we share in that work of establishing God's covenant of redemption – that each person, precious to God, might discover what freedom can truly mean for them.

Will you pray with and for us? Your prayers will be much appreciated. Thank you, from us all.

The Prisons Week Prayer is this:

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

With all good wishes and every blessing,

Susanne

The Rev'd Susanne Jukes, Vicar (contact details on back page)

Prisons Week

MONDAY: PRAYING WITH PRISONERS

Is freedom found outside the walls or inside ourselves?

Holy God of all creation, you see inside each one of us, knowing us better than we know ourselves. You see the hurt and harm, the brokenness and sin. You know the truth about our past and our present, all that traps and imprisons us. Unlock our hearts to let Christ in, so that his love and strength can help overcome all that imprisons us and lead us to the freedom he promised in life, in death and in eternity. Holy God, set us free. Amen.

“Take me prisoner, Lord And truly set me free; Help me lay down my sword, Then victorious I shall be.”

A prisoner’s prayer for Prisons Week

All is safely gathered in

Come and join us for our

Harvest Thanksgiving

*as we give thanks to God for all his goodness
and remember the needs of the world*



Dalton	Friday 27 th September	7.00pm	Harvest Thanksgiving and Supper
Dalton	Sunday 29 th September	11.00am	Benefice Harvest Communion and Bring-your-own Lunch
Skipton on Swale	Friday 4 th October	7.00pm	Harvest Thanksgiving and Supper
Baldersby St James	Sunday 6 th October	10.45am	Harvest Communion
Topcliffe	Sunday 7 th October	6.30pm	Harvest Thanksgiving and Supper

Prisons Week

TUESDAY: PRAYING WITH THE VICTIMS OF CRIME

Where is freedom now?

Loving God, always close to us, be very present in lives shattered by crime, and with those searching for a freedom unjustly taken away. May your Spirit of comfort and healing find ways of breaking through walls of mistrust, fear and injustice, working through all who build us up with love and care, taking one step at a time on the path to freedom. Loving God, set us free. Amen.

“Unbind me from the bonds of grief and fear that I may become again the person you created me to be – a person of joy, of love, of trust, and hope.”

Prayer of a victim of crime

Services during October 2019

Churches:

Topcliffe – St Columba’s Church, Church Street, Topcliffe YO7 3PA

BSJ – St James’ Church, Wide Howe Lane, Baldersby St James YO7 4PU

Rainton – Mission Room, Sleights Lane, Rainton YO7 3PH

Dalton – St John the Evangelist Church, Dalton YO7 3JA (follow signs to Sessay)

Skipton – St John’s Church, just off the A61 by the post-box, Skipton-on-Swale (Skipton Bridge) YO7 4SB

Page numbers refer to the blue Common Worship Lectionary; we are now in Year C of the three-year cycle of readings. This month we give thanks for the Harvest and at the end of the month we come to the end of the long ‘green’ period, the six-month season of Trinity, during which we have followed Jesus’ teaching in Luke’s Gospel.

3rd October Thursday
11.00am Topcliffe Mid-week Communion

4th October Friday
7.00pm **Skipton** **Harvest Thanksgiving**

6th October **Harvest**
9.15am Dalton Holy Communion
10.45am BSJ **Harvest Thanksgiving with Holy Communion**
6.30pm Topcliffe **Harvest Thanksgiving**

Readings: for Harvest Communion	<i>Page 1089</i>	<i>Green</i>
Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalm 100	Philippians 4:4-9
		John 6:25-35

10th October Thursday
11.00am Topcliffe Mid-week Communion

13th October **Trinity 17**
9.15am Skipton Holy Communion
10.45am Topcliffe Holy Communion

Readings: Proper 23 (<i>continuous</i>)	<i>Page 1056</i>	<i>Green</i>
Jeremiah 29:1,4-7	Psalm 66:1-11	2 Timothy 2:8-15
		Luke 17:11-19

17th October Thursday
11.00am Topcliffe Mid-week Communion

20th October **Trinity 18**
9.15am Rainton Prayer Breakfast
10.45am Topcliffe Holy Communion
6.30pm Dalton Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)

Readings: Proper 24 (<i>continuous</i>)	<i>Page 1061</i>	<i>Green</i>
Jeremiah 31:27-34	Psalm 119:97-104	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
		Luke 18:1-8

24th October Thursday
11.00am Topcliffe Mid-week Communion

27th October **Last after Trinity/ Bible Sunday** *clocks go back*

9.15am	Skipton	Holy Communion
10.45am	BSJ	Holy Communion
10.45am	Topcliffe	Matins (Book of Common Prayer)

Readings:	for Bible Sunday	Page 1092	Green
Isaiah 45:22-25	Psalms 119:129-136	Romans 15:1-6	Luke 4:16-24

31st October		Thursday
11.00am	Topcliffe	Mid-week Communion
7.30pm	Topcliffe	Service for All Souls – Sung Eucharist

Services during November 2019

Churches:

Topcliffe – St Columba’s Church, Church Street, Topcliffe YO7 3PA

BSJ – St James’ Church, Wide Howe Lane, Baldersby St James YO7 4PU

Rainton – Mission Room, Sleights Lane, Rainton YO7 3PH

Dalton – St John the Evangelist Church, Dalton YO7 3JA (follow signs to Sessay)

Skipton – St John’s Church, just off the A61 by the post-box, Skipton-on-Swale (Skipton Bridge) YO7 4SB

Page numbers refer to the blue Common Worship Lectionary; we are now in Year C of the three-year cycle of readings. This month we move into the Kingdom Season (‘From All Saints to Advent). In recognition that much of our reflection this month will be on those who have died, the colour is red.

3rd November		All Saints’ Sunday
9.15am	Dalton	Holy Communion
10.45am	BSJ	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Topcliffe	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)

Readings:		Page 1071	White
Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18	Psalms 149	Ephesians 1:11-end	Luke 6:20-31

7th November		Thursday
11.00am	Topcliffe	Mid-week Communion

10th November		Remembrance Sunday
9.15am	Skipton	Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance
10.45am	Topcliffe	Act of Remembrance, followed by Coffee and then a shortened Service of Holy Communion
2.15pm	Dishforth	Act of Remembrance at the Cemetery

Readings:		Page	Red
Isaiah 2:1-5	Psalms 46	Revelation 21:1-7	John 15:9-17

14th November		Thursday
11.00am	Topcliffe	Mid-week Communion

17th November		Second Sunday before Advent
9.15am	BSJ	Prayer Breakfast, Rainton
10.45am	Topcliffe	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Dalton	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)

Readings:	<i>Page 1083</i>	<i>Red</i>	
Malachi 4:1-2a	Psalm 98	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19

21st November		Thursday
11.00am	Topcliffe	Mid-week Communion

24th November		Christ the King
9.15am	Skipton	Holy Communion
10.45am	BSJ	Holy Communion
10.45am	Topcliffe	Matins (Book of Common Prayer)

Readings:	<i>Page 1086</i>	<i>Red</i>	
Jeremiah 23:1-6	Psalm 46	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43

28th November		Thursday
11.00am	Topcliffe	Mid-week Communion

Prisons Week

WEDNESDAY: PRAYING WITH FAMILIES

Why was our freedom taken away with theirs?

Faithful God, who watches and waits with those who are betrayed and suffer; draw near to family members who are affected by crime and imprisonment. Give us your strength to persevere through pain and disappointment, soothe our anger and heal the wounds of separation and loss. Help us to know your grace to find forgiveness and hope for the journey ahead. Faithful God, set us free. Amen.

“To my Son I miss U and I pray to God you won’t come back here again.”

“God, I miss my Daddy. Try to help him. Please bring him home.”

Prayers from prisoners’ families for Prisons Week

From the Parish Registers

Baptism

25th August Topcliffe **Evelyn Lily Dobreva**
We are children of the same heavenly Father: we welcome you.

Weddings

30th August Topcliffe **James Richard Robertson Smith**
and Charlotte Catherine Bruce
Those whom God has joined together, let no-one put asunder.



Funeral

Interment of Ashes

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Prisons Week

THURSDAY: PRAYING WITH COMMUNITIES

Are we free where we live?

Everlasting God, who leads his people in every age to places where we are called to be community together, make us mindful of those places in our own communities that are subject to fear, violence and rejection. Equip us by your Holy Spirit to share your love, peace and acceptance with all. May we learn to love each other as ourselves, living as neighbours were intended to and join our prayers together. Everlasting God, set us free. Amen.

“We ask that you knit our hearts, our vision & our actions together across our community that we may all be totally free to live life abundantly in your love.”

Prayers for communities affected by Domestic Violence

First Saturday of the month
St John's, Skipton-on-Swale
(Saturday 5th October)

Open Church
10.00am – 2.00pm

friendly faces and ...
refreshments, books, cakes, honey, cards
– who knows what you'll find!

The plan had been to hold these Open Church days from April to October ... but they've gone so well that they'll continue, at least to November.

Thank you all for your support.

Please use the Vestry Door round the back for entry during October
– we have an issue with the stonework at the main entrance.

Prisons Week

FRIDAY: PRAYING WITH THOSE WORKING IN PRISON

Are we free to work well?

Gracious God, who calls, equips and knows us, be with all who work in prison. May we not lose heart in a place where the reality of trauma and the risk of violence is a daily occurrence. Keep us from being imprisoned by our roles but instead set us free by your love, able to meet with others and understand their true needs in Christ. Tune us in to the surprising movement of your Spirit. Gracious God, set us free. Amen.

“We ask that you bless and protect all who work in our prisons today. Those with uniforms on, suits, overalls, hard hats, and chef’s whites. May we serve them well and rely on your strength to bring a sense of your grace and peace wherever we go.”

A Prison Chaplain’s prayer

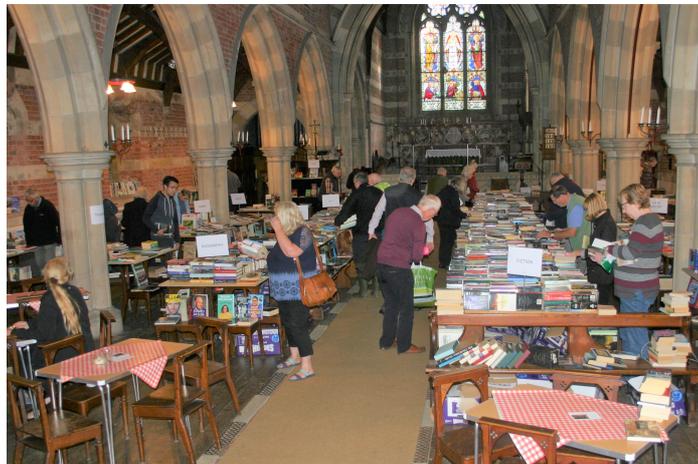
Baldersby St James’ BOOK FAIR

Many thanks to everyone who supported this event on the first weekend in September; and especially to ‘Team Baldersby St James’ under the leadership of Stuart Carter.

A fantastic weekend!

The £3,150 (inc Gift Aid) will be put to good use supporting the mission and ministry of the parish.

Thank you



'Come and See' Mission

The Northern Bishops' Mission to the Diocese of York,
12-15 March 2020

+ COME
SEE

Just a reminder to put the date in your diary, if you haven't already done so. Planning is well underway. More details in due course

Susanne

News from the Schools

Topcliffe Church of England Academy
Dishforth Church of England Primary

Baldersby St James Church of England Academy
Queen Mary's School

Welcome to The Rev'd Pauline Percy, who was formally Licensed on Saturday 21st September as Chaplain of Queen Mary's School by The Rt Rev'd Paul Ferguson, Bishop of Whitby, and The Rev'd Canon Brendan Clover, Senior Provost of the Woodard Corporation. Rev'd Pauline will work at Queen Mary's on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturday mornings. In addition, she is House for Duty Priest two days a week at Kilburn. We wish her every joy in this new ministry and rejoice in it being within our benefice.



(Pauline's other claim to fame is that she is a Tri-athlete – cycling, running and swimming. Last month she represented Great Britain in the World Triathlon Games in Switzerland and came 29th in the world in her age group. Well done, Pauline – what an achievement!

Watch out for her as she does the swimming element of her training in the River!

Pauline is seen here with the Bishop, the Provost and Mrs Carole Cameron, Head of Queen Mary's.)

Wednesday Lunches

at Topcliffe Village Hall

First Wednesday of every month
(Wednesday 2nd October this month)

12.00noon until 1.00pm
soup and cake

Donations will go towards
the installation of a new accessible path to St Columba's
and for other improvements.

All Welcome

Topcliffe

Attic Auction

(held on Saturday 14th September)

With everyone still congratulating themselves on their
bargain finds – just what they've always wanted!
And others marvelling at the space they've now achieved –
just what they've always wanted!

A chance to say a big

Thank You

to Mr John Phillips, Auctioneer,
and his committed Team.

A fantastic total of £836.00 was raised on the day.

Thank you, everyone

An Appeal from
Herriot Hospice Homecare

Many of you will have heard of Herriot Hospice Homecare and be grateful for the support that its volunteers have given to family and friends. Can you help support them?

This month: **Make a Will Month**

Herriot Hospice Homecare is urging people across the district to take care of the things that matter most by making their will as part of a 'Make a Will Month' initiative which takes place this October.

Selected local solicitors will waive their usual fees as part of Herriot Hospice Homecare's Make a Will Month. Participants are instead encouraged to make a donation to Herriot Hospice Homecare, helping the charity to continue its support for local people living with terminal illness and bereavement. It costs Herriot Hospice Homecare £1million each year to continue offering vital services, and the funds raised from Make a Will Month will help the charity to continue to reach out to families in their own homes.

Contact Herriot Hospice Homecare today to receive your free Make a Will Month pack; telephone: 01609 710 514, email fr.team@herriothh.org.uk or visit the Herriot Hospice Homecare website: www.herriothh.org.uk to request your pack online.

Have you ever wanted to go?

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Now may be your opportunity of a life-time. Next year, the Rev'd Dianne Gambol, Priest-in-Charge of the Hillside Parishes (Knayton, Leake etc) and The Rev'd Derek Simpson, Vicar of Thirsk, will be leading an 11-day trip based in Jerusalem and Galilee. The trip is organised through McCabe Pilgrimages, who are a respected and well-established tour company.

The dates: 19th – 29th October 2020.

The cost: £2,345

Further details and a booking form can be found at the back of church, via the Vicar, or by contacting Dianne on 01845 537253 or Derek on 01845 574742

Prisons Week

SATURDAY: PRAYING WITH THOSE WORKING IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Are we free to do what is right?

God of majesty and power, who establishes the order of the universe, and upholds justice in your mighty right hand, sustain and inspire all who seek to bring justice in our communities. Where the truth is complex or hidden, help those making decisions that seek to reveal the truth, to do so wisely, with a vision of your righteousness, justice and mercy. Majestic, powerful God, set us free. Amen.
“Lord, give all of us the courage we need to do what is right. And to serve you, the Judge of all, with fidelity.”

A prayer for courts and judges

An enormous

Thank You

to the Parish Council and all those in Topcliffe Village
who took part in the Village Tidy-Up in July.

What a difference it's made!

The next Tidy-Up is on

Sunday 13th October

from 10.00am

with a focus on Winn Lane cemetery

*Please help if you can –
Many hands make light work!*

