**Benefice Online Magazine**

**for the Parishes of Topcliffe, Baldersby with Dishforth, Dalton and Skipton on Swale**

 Cross Talk

 **September 2021**

Cross Talk is published monthly and distributed by email. If you know of anyone who would like to be added to the email list please ask them to contact kitnorris@live.co.uk

Cross Talk contains the weekly Collect and readings together with details of Church services in the Benefice and news and items of interest supplied by our readers.

The magazine will also be available on the web sites ACNY and baldersbychurch.com.

**CHURCH SERVICES**

*The following services are planned subject to changes in the Covid-19 regulations.*

Strict measures will be in place for wearing of face masks, hand sanitisation before and after each service, and social distancing. Please observe spaced time of arrival and departure to avoid mingling.

**St. James’ Church, Baldersby St. James with Dishforth and Rainton**

Sunday 5th September, 10.45am Holy Communion

Sunday 12th September, 9.30am Prayer Breakfast

Sunday 19th September, 10.45am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th September, 9.30am Morning Prayer

**St. Columba’s Church, Topcliffe**

Sunday 5th September, 6.30pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 12th September, 10.45am Holy Communion

Sunday 19th September, 10.45am Matins

Sunday 26th September, 10.45am Holy Communion

**Music at Junction 50 at St James’ Church, Baldersby St James**

Thursday 2nd September at 7pm Concert by **Genovia Bassoon Quartet**.Details on page 6.

**Grand Attic Auction, Topcliffe Village Hall, Saturday 4th September.** Details on page 7.

**Baldersby St James Book Fair:** Sat 11th, Sun 12th, Mon 13th September, 10am-5pm each day.

**Charity Soup and Sweet Lunches at Topcliffe Village Hall, Topcliffe.**

Wednesday 1st, Wednesday 15th & Wednesday 29th September at 12 noon. Details on page 7.

**Organ Recital by Matthew Atherton**

**7.30pm Friday 23rd September at Holy Trinity Church, Darlington. Details on page 8**

**Collects and Readings for the 14th Sunday after Trinity to the 17th Sunday after Trinity**

*(Page numbers refer to the Common Worship Lectionary.)*

**Sunday 5th September : 14th Sunday after Trinity**

**Collect**

Almighty God,

whose only Son has opened for us

a new and living way into your presence:

give us pure hearts and steadfast wills

to worship you in spirit and in truth:

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Readings** (Proper 18, Related, **p.665**)

Isaiah 35, 4-7a

Psalm 146

James 2, 1-10, [11-13,] 14-17

Gospel: Mark 7, 24-37

**Sunday 12th September : 15th Sunday after Trinity**

**Collect**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit

 upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:

grant that your people may be fervent

in the fellowship of the gospel

that, always abiding in you,

they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Readings** (Proper 19, **p.671**)

Isaiah 50, 4-9a

Psalm 116, 1-8

James 3, 1-12

Gospel: Mark 8, 27-38

**Sunday 19th September : 16th Sunday after Trinity**

**Collect**

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers

 of your people who call upon you;

and grant that they may both perceive and know

 what things they ought to do,

and also may have grace and power

 faithfully to fulfil them;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Readings** (Proper 20, **p.676**)

Wisdom 1.16-2.1, 12-22 *or* Jeremiah 11, 18-20

Psalm 54

James 3.13-4.3, 7-8a

Gospel: Mark 9.30-37

**Sunday 26th September : 17th Sunday after Trinity**

**Collect**

Almighty God,

you have made us for yourself,

and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:

pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,

and so bring us at last to your heavenly city

where we shall see you face to face;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Readings** (Proper 21, **p.682**)

Numbers 11.4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19.7-14

James 5.13-20

Gospel: Mark 9.38-50

**Sunday 3rd October : 18th Sunday after Trinity**

**Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God,

increase in us your gift of faith

that, forsaking what lies behind

and reaching out to that which is before,

we may run the way of your commandments

and win the crown of everlasting joy;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Readings** (Proper 22, **p.688**)

Genesis 2.18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12

Gospel: Mark 10.2-16

**September Reflection**

In the United Kingdom, the ‘silly season’ for news is the period lasting for a few summer months when there was often a reduction in ‘serious’ news which resulted in an increase in frivolous news stories in the media. An early 20th century edition of Brewer’s Dictionary of Phrase and Fable defined the silly season as "the part of the year when Parliament and the Law Courts are not sitting (about August and September)".

However, things have been very different over the last few weeks and if we just look at the world around us there is a real sense of chaos and confusion. There have been wildfires in Greece and other places, floods in China and Tennessee in the USA, droughts that continue in Southern Australia and parts of California all attributed by many to climate change. Also there has been a major earthquake affecting Haiti followed by Tropical Storm Grace. In addition to natural events there has been a mass shooting in Plymouth and the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan has seen both killings in the fighting and deaths of people trying to get out of the country as they fear for their lives under the new regime.

Around the world the Covid pandemic continues to take lives and although the people now worst affected are in the poorer countries that have not been able to afford mass vaccination programmes, a significant number of people in the UK are still being taken ill, the number in hospital with Covid is still high and deaths continue to occur.

And yet in the midst of this, we were reminded that God is the God who has acted throughout history to bring light and hope even in the midst of the most difficult times.

Compared with many parts of the world we are indeed fortunate. The weather may not have been the typical summer weather that we may have wanted but we have not had any serious extreme weather locally and the natural world around us is very much as we expect. The grain harvest is underway, there is fruit on the apple, pear and plum trees and blackberries are beginning to ripen in the hedgerows.

As I write this, the swifts have been and gone for another summer and the house martins and swallows will soon be leaving. We have much to be grateful for. We could be led to believe that climate change is something that is happening elsewhere. Only when we experience more violent changes in our own weather do we feel that there is indeed some change happening.

And when we consider the situation in Afghanistan we realise how lucky we are to be living in a relatively stable political environment. Despite political differences our leaders have worked together throughout the Covid pandemic to do what they believe has been in our best interests even if as individuals we have not always agreed with the policies.

So, in our prayers we need a balance of praise for all that is good in our lives whilst remembering peoples throughout the world whose lives are infinitely harder. We may feel powerless to do anything immediately useful as we watch the fires, floods and droughts on TV but hopefully we can all make some change to our lives that will reduce our carbon footprint. As we pray about these problems, we need to listen to what God would have us do and that will vary from person to person depending upon their situation.

We may feel powerless to do anything immediately useful in face of the suffering in Afghanistan and other war-torn parts of the world, but we can ensure that we do everything in our power to reduce conflict in our immediate circle of acquaintances.

And we know that we can take actions that will reduce the spread of Covid in our immediate areas: washing hands, wearing masks when appropriate and maintaining social distancing together with vaccination all appear to help reduce the virus spread.

And so, as we reflect on all that is happening in our world, both good and bad, we must remember that God is to be trusted now, even as the People of God have waited and trusted throughout history.

**The Lectio 365 Resource**

Have you ever thought of using a Christian App to help you with your daily prayers and reflections? Here's one you may choose to try. Lectio 365 aims to ‘help you pray the Bible every day‘ and has quickly established itself as one of the most popular Christian apps in the UK since its launch at Advent 2019. Its name and format is inspired by the ancient practice of meditating on Scripture, Lectio Divina (Latin for ‘divine reading‘).

Lectio 365 contains devotional content to help you pause and pray at the start and end of every day:

**MORNING PRAYERS**

Inspired by Lectio Divina, a way of meditating on the Bible that has been used by Christians for centuries: follow daily Bible readings, thoughts and prayers that follow a simple P.R.A.Y rhythm:

P:ause to be still.

R:ejoice with a Psalm and R:eflect on Scripture.

A:sk for God‘s help

Y:ield to His will in your life.

On Sundays, stop to pray a special Sabbath prayer of rest, and journey through special seasons including Advent, Lent and current events.

**NIGHT PRAYERS**

Reflective questions, Bible readings and prayers to help process the day and prepare to sleep.

Reflect …on the day that has passed, relinquishing stress and control

Rejoice …in God‘s goodness, noticing his presence throughout the day

Repent … of my sins, receiving forgiveness for what has gone wrong

Rest …in readiness for sleep

**SHAPE YOUR FAITH**

Lectio 365 content explores the core values of 24-7 Prayer: how to love God through prayer and creativity, love others through justice and hospitality, and love the world through mission and learning.

Resource and information taken from 24-7 prayer.com

**Richard Byas**

A man died and went to heaven. He was met at the Pearly Gates by St. Peter who led him down the golden streets. They passed stately homes and beautiful mansions until they came to the end of the street where they stopped in front of a rundown cabin. The man asked St. Peter why he got a hut when there were so many mansions he could live in. St. Peter replied, “I did the best with the money you sent us.”



**Music @ Junction 50**

To round off the series we welcome the **Genovia Bassoon Quartet** on Thursday 2nd September at 7pm who give us the chance to hear four of these wonderful instruments play together which is not to be missed. Each member of the quartet is a top orchestral player and together the music they make is joyous and a lot of fun. They will take us on a whirlwind musical tour which will showcase items from various musical genres and will demonstrate the amazing versatility of the bassoon.

*Tickets are available from: Sue Brown (Shop in Baldersby) 07840 381558*

*Colin Reid: 01765 640624 or at the door.*

*VENUE IS COVID SAFE – All up to date regulations in place.*

Charity Soup & Sweet Lunches

(Soup, bread, cakes, tea, coffee, etc)

12 noon Wednesdays 1st 15th & 29th September

FREE LUNCH (but donations to the selected Charities would be welcome)

TOPCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

**2021 GRAND ATTIC AUCTION**

**Saturday, 4th September, 2021, at 2 pm**

**in Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall**

***All proceeds to St. Columba’s Church Funds***

**Auctioneer: Mr. John Phillips**

**Viewing from 12 noon to 2.00 pm.**

We are appealing for items for the auction, so please do not discard anything during your House Cleaning which could be sold to assist the above! Books . . . Furniture . . . Bric-a-brac . . . Even Antiques!

(But please, no TV sets, beds, clothes, computers of used soft toys)

IN FACT, ANYTHING CLEAN AND SALEABLE!!!!

BUYERS: Come and browse and see what you can discover . . . .that hidden treasure, useful gadget or something you don’t yet know you can’t live without!!

**Please bring Items for the sale to the Village Hall on Saturday morning, 4th September, from 8 - 11 am.**

Limited storage might be available if items can not be held until the sale.

It may be possible to arrange transport for any bulky items. Contact John Phillips Tel: 01845 577034

Darlington & District

Organists’ and Choirmasters’ Association present

A CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR THE ORGAN

*To celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the*

*Darlington & District Organists’ and Choirmasters’ Association*

**Holy Trinity Church**

**Darlington**

Woodland Rd, DL3 7BQ

*Friday 24th September 2021 @ 7.30pm*

*The programme will include:*

 *Eug­­ène Gigout (1844-1925)­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­* **Grand Chœur Dialogue**

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)* **Toccata in F, BWV 540**

*George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)* **Hornpipe *from Water Music Suite 2***

*Gabriel Pierné (1863-1937)* **Prelude in G minor**

 *Abe Holzmann (1874-1939)* **Blaze Away**

 *Norman Cocker (1874-1939)* **Tuba Tune**

 *Edward Elgar (1857-1934)* **Imperial March**

 *Organist: Matthew Atherton*

 *Director of Music at Aysgarth School*

**Admission is free and refreshments will be served after the concert**

*There will be a retiring collection in aid of Holy Trinity Church funds*

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

**The Parishes of Topcliffe, Baldersby with Dishforth, Dalton and Skipton on Swale**

There is currently no Vicar of the parishes. Until one is appointed, please ring our Area Dean,

The Revd Fiona Mayer-Jones tel: 07450 402953 or revdfmj@gmail.com

**BALDERSBY with DISHFORTH** - PCC Secretary: Mrs Jennifer Wharton wharton370@btinternet.com

**DALTON** - PCC Secretary: Mrs Hannah Bissett tel: 07739 382831 spannerb79@gmail.com

**SKIPTON-on-SWALE** – PCC Secretary: Mr Alan Kitching tel: 01845 567457

**TOPCLIFFE** – PCC Secretary: Mrs Roz Norris RozNorris@aol.com