

Parish of Pontefract
St Giles with St Mary



September 2022



**Whose (is) the boss?
Join us in St Giles' on Saturday
17th September
to learn more!
See pages 10-11 for details**

It is amazing, nay God driven, where one gets inspiration to write an article such as this:-

I was in the vestry preparing for a Friday mass. Picking up a book mark lying on the desk it has a prayer that I took to. From that day on I have incorporated it in my worship. A prayer attributed to St Teresa of Avila:-

Let nothing disturb you.

Let nothing frighten you.

All things pass away

God never changes.

Patience obtains all things.

Those who have God find they lack nothing.

God alone suffices.

Who was St Teresa of Avila

Teresa of Ávila also called **Saint** Teresa of Jesus, was a Spanish noblewoman who was called to convent life in the Catholic Church. She was born on the 26th March 1515 and died 4th October 1582 at the age of 67 years,

She was a mystic and author of spiritual writings and poems. She founded numerous convents throughout Spain and was the originator of the Carmelite Reform that restored a contemplative and austere life to the order.

Teresa is the Patron Saint of Missions and florists.

Her mother died in 1529, and, despite her father's opposition, Teresa entered, probably in 1535, the Carmelite Convent of the Incarnation at Ávila, Spain. Within two years her health collapsed, and she was an invalid for three years, during which time she developed a love for mental prayer. After her recovery, however, she stopped praying. She continued for 15 years in a state divided between a worldly and a divine spirit, until, in 1555, she underwent a religious awakening.

In 1558 Teresa began to consider the restoration of Carmelite life to its original observance of austerity, which had relaxed in the 14th and 15th centuries. Her reform required utter withdrawal so that the nuns could meditate on divine law and, through a prayerful life of penance, exercise what she termed "our vocation of reparation" for the sins of humankind. In 1562, with Pope Pius IV's authorization, she opened the first convent (St. Joseph's) of the Carmelite Reform. A storm of hostility came from municipal and religious personages, especially because the convent existed without endowment, but she staunchly insisted on poverty and subsistence only through public alms.

Continued >>>>>>

But what is the prayer?

It is simple in all respects, clear instructions.

Teresa's method of prayer emerges from the awareness that God is a Person. She approaches God as Father, Beloved, Spouse, His Majesty, and most notably, Friend. Her writings explain how to develop this personal relationship. All ascetical practices, attentiveness, and effort are a result of this awareness.

Let nothing disturb you.

Let nothing frighten you.

All things pass away

God never changes.

Patience obtains all things.

Those who have God find they lack nothing.

God alone suffices.

I hope this helps in some small way.

God Bless

Fr Michael

BOTTLE TOMBOLA

A Bottle tombola will be taking place on **Saturday, 17th September.**

Donations would be gratefully received of anything from water to whisky, indeed anything in a bottle! All donations should be brought in for the attention of Pam Mercer. Thank you.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!



Patronal Festival including Baptism and Confirmation will be held on **Sunday, 4th September at 10.15am.**

Bishop Tony Robinson will preside and preach.



heritage open days

Saturday, 10th September, 10.00am – 12.00pm. Visit the bell tower and ringing chamber; this is a part of the church which is rarely open to the public so do take advantage and explore.

Saturday, 10th September at 4.30pm. Organ recital with Thomas Moore in St Giles' Church. Free admission, but donations most welcome.

Saturday, 17th September 2022, 10.00am – 2.30pm. Visit St Giles' church, it's full of history and much more right here in the centre of Pontefract.



The **Harvest Supper** will now be held in the Masonic Hall, Ackworth Road on Saturday, 1 October 2022, 6.30pm for 7.00pm. Pie and pea supper or vegetarian option on request, apple crumble and bar. Tickets can be purchased from Sunday, 11 September at a cost of £11 per head. Children (under 16) free!



ST GILES' CHURCH, PONTEFRACT – HERITAGE EVENT 2022

Saturday, 10th September 2022

10.00am – 12.00pm Visit the tower and ringing chamber, this is a part of the church which is rarely open to the public so do take advantage and explore. The bell ringers will be available to tell you about the ancient art of bell ringing. Learn the history of the tower and some historical moments that it has been part of.

4.30pm Organ recital by Thomas Moore, played on our wonderful church organ, which is one of the best in the north of England. Free Admission, donations welcome.

Saturday, 17th September 2022

10.00am – 2.30pm Visit St Giles' church, it's full of history and much more right here in the centre of Pontefract.

1. A general tour of the church.
2. Learn about the wonderful ceiling bosses, a fascinating feature, but too often overlooked due to their location.
3. Browse the world map highlighting the many areas of conflict, which the soldiers in Pontefract were part of. View the Pontefract Roll of Honour and the flag of the Burma Star Association in St Oswald's chapel.



**Refreshments will be available
on both days in the church café**



You may recall from last month's magazine, that Peter and his happy band of brothers have been busy again. As well as removing and cleaning the double glazing over the stained glass windows, they have set about cleaning the windows themselves. The colours shine out now, as they would have done when the windows were installed, following the reordering of the church in 1865. Thank you, gentlemen, for bringing the windows so beautifully back to life.

The photos on each side of the back cover give an idea of the wonderful, delicate qualities of our stained glass. They also hold a secret that has, as far as we know, gone unnoticed for many a year. Apologies to anyone who suffers from arachnophobia, but did you know that, in one of the windows, a spider has been lurking in wait? See if you can find it, next time you're in St Giles'.



The window depicting the scene in the Temple, with Simeon holding the Christ child while Mary, Joseph and Anna look prayerfully on, is one of my favourites, not least because of its association with Evensong and the words of Simeon ...

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

... words sung by the choir at Choral Evensong, on the first Sunday of each month at 4pm, throughout most of the year. The service features not only some beautiful and uplifting music, but also calm moments of silence. It is a service that the choir loves singing and we would love to have you there to share it with us.

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Bill Bradley
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W.R.T.Bradley@btinternet.com

www.stgilescentrepontefract.org.uk



Carleton Theatre Group

If anyone wishes to join us, with a view to considering acting or helping backstage, etc, please phone

Ruth Connor on 01977 792100, or
Brenda Smith (01977 700052).

If you would like something posted on our social media platforms, please email: stgmsocialmedia@gmail.com

To keep in touch with the latest news from the Parish, please visit our websites:

www.stgilespontefract.org.uk and www.stgilescentrepontefract.org.uk

MOTHERS' UNION MONDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

We meet in Church at 1.30pm. Our flower ladies will be demonstrating how to do a flower arrangement. Everyone, as always, is very welcome to join us. Refreshments to follow.



**citizens
advice**

**Wakefield
District**

**A WEEKLY DROP-IN ADVICE SESSION AT
ST GILES' CHURCH, MARKET PLACE, PONTEFRACT.**

EVERY WEDNESDAY, 10.00am—12.00pm

Telephone: **0800 144 8848** or visit wakefelddistrictcab.co.uk

Food Share Summer Holidays Project August 2022

This summer's Holiday Food project has taken place against a background of daily press and television coverage of the "Cost of Living Crisis". It's something which is affecting us all. We have been stopped by complete strangers doing our supermarket shopping commenting on the sudden sharp rise in the cost of basic items and the worry this is causing.

These price rises have been particularly difficult for families who do not have the support of the school meal service during the long summer holidays and who then face the end-of-the-holidays-challenge of buying children's winter shoes and replacing school uniforms.

Along with other local organisations including our own Lunch with Us, Food Share has been able to play a part, through the Pantry Club as well as the Holiday Food scheme, in helping families who would otherwise struggle. But this would not have been possible without a lot of help from very many people. Our thanks go to FareShare Leeds who faithfully deliver beautiful food to us every Friday. CAP in Wakefield have provided bread, while Pontefract Morrisons and Asda have donated groceries to feed about 160 people a week during August. Our thanks are also due to our congregation for a particularly generous food collection at the beginning of August, gifts of children's books for our Book Share at No 6, and a welcome supply of carrier bags. We are also grateful to several people who pop into the shop from time to time to donate food. Finally, thank you to our delivery teams who have operated in very uncomfortable weather to deliver food to the families nominated by local schools and other agencies as being in particular difficulty this summer.

So thank you everyone who has helped Food Share at this time.

Paul and Ann Harris

August 2022





heritage open days



St Giles' Church, Pontefract



Heritage Open Day

Organ Recital

with

Thomas Moore

Saturday, 10th September at 4.30pm

Free admission, donations welcome.

Refreshments available



St Giles'

One Church, One Community



The Corporation Seal



The Bissett family crest.
Thomas Bissett was vicar from 1865-1878



A Siege Coin



The Square and Compasses: symbols of
Freemasonry



The Ancient Borough Arms



The Christie family crest.
JJ Christie was vicar of St
Giles' (1878-1899)

ST GILES' CHURCH, PONTEFRACT

CEILING BOSSES

Within St Giles' Church, we have some wonderful ceiling bosses, but how many of you have ever stopped to look due to their location? How much do you know about them and where did they come from?

It was Thomas Tew, of Leathan, Tew and Co., whose bank in the Market Place was later to become Barclays Bank, who paid for the ceiling bosses to be installed. Remarkably they are made from papier-mâché! Pontefract received its Charter of Incorporation from Richard III in 1484. The Siege Coin bears the words *Post mortem patris pro filio*, the town's motto to this day. It dates from the Civil War and reflects the royalists' declaration of loyalty to Charles II following the execution of his father, Charles I, in 1649. Pontefract Castle was the last royalist stronghold to fall.

We know what all the bosses represent with one exception. I would like to invite you all to play detective and try to find out what the unknown boss represents. Please do let me know if you find the answer.

A photograph of each individual boss will be on display in the café area for one week from Sunday, 18th September to enable you all to have a close up view.



The Mayor of Pontefract's Seal 1638



Unknown



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in your time of need!*

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Christian Aid East Africa Hunger Crisis Appeal



Christian Aid launched an emergency appeal a few weeks ago for East Africa. Field reports suggest that Ethiopia, South Sudan and Kenya are facing their worst drought in 40 years. Conflict, the climate crisis and COVID mean that millions are now facing the threat of famine. A quote from the Christian Aid website gives an indication of the severity of the present situation: "We have never seen a drought like the current one in our entire lives".

As a Christian Aid Emergency Church, St Giles has been contacted asking for the parish to support the efforts of local community organisations in the affected areas. If you can, please could you make a donation through an Emergency Appeal collection envelope available at our parish Harvest Thanksgiving service. Alternatively, online donations can be made at www.christianaid.org.uk or a cheque can be posted to Christian Aid 35 Lower Marsh Waterloo London SE1 7RL. In either case, your donation can be augmented, at no extra cost to yourself, if you complete a gift aid declaration.

Christian Aid have also published the following prayer.

Prayer for East Africa

Loving and compassionate God,
When Famine stalks the land, nothing grows.
Plants cannot, people cannot, ideas and dreams cannot
everything withers and dies.
It is a violent aberration of your will for the world
and it is multiplied now
by conflict, climate change and covid.
God of the flourishing field, there is enough to feed us all.
Call us to that sacred sharing
neighbour to global neighbour
Your gifts of food, water,
a chance to live the life so delicately crafted
by your divine spirit.
We will not turn away but turn towards each other
with generosity and a justice-driven compassion
that searches for solutions.
Famine stalks the land, so may our outrage grow,
may our determination steel itself,
may our solidarity spur us into action.
God of the flourishing field,
help us feed each other.
Amen

All in the month of SEPTEMBER

It was:

1900 years ago, from 13th September 122 to 128 that Hadrian's Wall was built in northern England. It ran for 80 miles from coast to coast and marked the northern limit of the Roman Empire. The Roman Emperor, Hadrian, wanted to separate the Romans from 'the barbarians.'

200 years ago, on 11th September 1822 that the Catholic Church admitted that the 16th century astronomer Galileo Galilei might have been right about the Earth orbiting the Sun. The College of Cardinals reversed the Church's condemnation of his ideas. Galileo had spent the last nine years of his life under house arrest for publishing his work on the subject. He died in 1642.

100 years ago, on 13th September 1922 that the highest temperature ever recorded in the world was reported to be 57.7 Centigrade (136 Fahrenheit) in Al'Aziziyah in Libya. (Unofficial record)

90 years ago, on 23rd September 1932 that Saudi Arabia was founded when the Kingdoms of Hejaz and Najd were unified.

80 years ago, on 12th September 1942 that "(I've Got a Gal In) Kalamazoo" by Glenn Miller and His Orchestra hit #1 on the Billboard singles charts.

70 years ago, on 6th September 1952 that the Farnborough Air Show crash took place in Hampshire. A de Havilland fighter jet broke apart and fell into the crowd, killing 31 people. Stringent safety measures were introduced to ensure it could never happen again.

65 years ago, on 2nd September 1957 that the Everly Brothers best-known song 'Wake Up Little Susie' was released.

50 years ago, on 5th September 1972 that Palestinian terrorists invaded the Olympic Village in Munich, West Germany during the 1972 Olympic Games and took 11 members of the Israeli team hostage. All the hostages were killed, as well as five of the eight terrorists and a German police officer, when a rescue attempt failed.

40 years ago, on 14th September 1982 that Princess Grace of Monaco, formerly the American film and TV actress Grace Kelly, died in a car crash, aged 52.

30 years ago, on 7th September 1992 that the radio station Classic FM began broadcasting in the UK.

25 years ago, on 5th September 1997 that Mother Teresa, Macedonian-born/Albanian India nun and humanitarian died. She founded the Missionaries of Charity and was winner of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize. She was beatified in October 2003.



INVITATION

TO JILL CLAPHAM'S LICENSING SERVICE AS A
LICENSED LAY MINISTER
(FORMER TITLE READER)

All members of the congregation are warmly invited to the Episcopal Area Lay Minister (Reader) licensing service to be held at St Giles' on Sunday 18th September at 3.30pm.

Please hold Jill in your prayers as she prepares for the service and come to support her if you are able.

Cath Fox, who was on placement with us earlier this year is also to be licensed in the service.

Bishop Tony Robinson and the new Archdeacon of Halifax (also warden of Readers), Bill Braviner, will be leading the service.

Priory Gardens

Nestled in the popular town of Pontefract in West Yorkshire, Priory Gardens is a lovely, purpose-built care home offering residential, nursing and residential memory care for those living with dementia.

Our welcoming care home offers a home-from-home where older people receive the care they need and the support they want to continue to live their life with dignity and choice.

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- Beauty salon
- Little break – Short term care
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- Overall 'Good' CQC rating

To find out more information on the care that both homes can offer you, or your loved one, please visit our website or contact our Home Manager, Tamsin Ryan.



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Organ Recitals in St Giles'

Market Place
Pontefract WF8 1AT

2022/2023 Series Fridays at 1.00pm

(unless otherwise stated)

September 10th (Saturday, at 4.30pm)	Thomas Moore
October 7 th	Paul Dewhurst
November 4 th	Chris Newton
December 2 nd	Ivan Linford
December 16 th	NCP
February 3 rd 2023	Marc Murray
March 3 rd	Paul Dewhurst
April 14 th	David Baker
April 21 st	NCP
May 5 th	John Dunford
June 2 nd	Scott Senogles
July 7 th	Sean Montgomery

Friday Admission £5 per recital

Weekly organ concerts are advertised at www.organrecitals.com

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt. 13: 3-8, Mk 4: 1-9, Lk 8: 4-8

Crowds of people now came to hear Jesus, so he used stories to teach them; those who really wanted to learn would work out the meaning.

A farmer went out to sow a field of corn.



Some seed fell on the path



Some fell among thorn plants and



The seed on the path was eaten by birds

The seed that fell on the rocks sprouted...



The seed that fell among the thorns grew well to start with,



then it was outgrown by the thorn plants.



But in the good soil the seed grew well and gave a fantastic harvest!

Jesus explained to his disciples what it meant.



Some people don't even listen to what he says.

For some it is the best thing ever!



But soon they move on to another 'best thing'

Some listen gladly...



but then worries and busyness take over.

But some hear what Jesus says and learn from it,



and that makes all the difference!

s	f	i	e	l	d	z	t	b	f	e	e
p	a	t	h	m	o	i	l	w	q	c	
r	n	b	m	s	m	i	e	r	a	u	w
o	t	c	e	y	o	a	g	d	t	w	r
u	a	q	z	s	u	w	r	s	e	e	d
t	s	m	i	a	t	e	e	n	r	s	j
e	t	n	b	l	g	v	w	r	k	r	s
d	i	f	f	e	r	e	n	c	e	t	f
c	c	z	z	a	o	r	o	m	n	h	d
b	u	e	h	r	w	r	r	a	h	o	z
e	a	t	e	n	n	a	l	c	o	r	n
s	w	p	u	k	f	p	d	g	r	n	g

seed

ever

corn

difference

thorn

sprouted

soil

water

outgrown

farmer

learn

rocks

birds

good

harvest

best

field

fantastic

path

sower

plants

grew

eaten

died

A Stitch in Time



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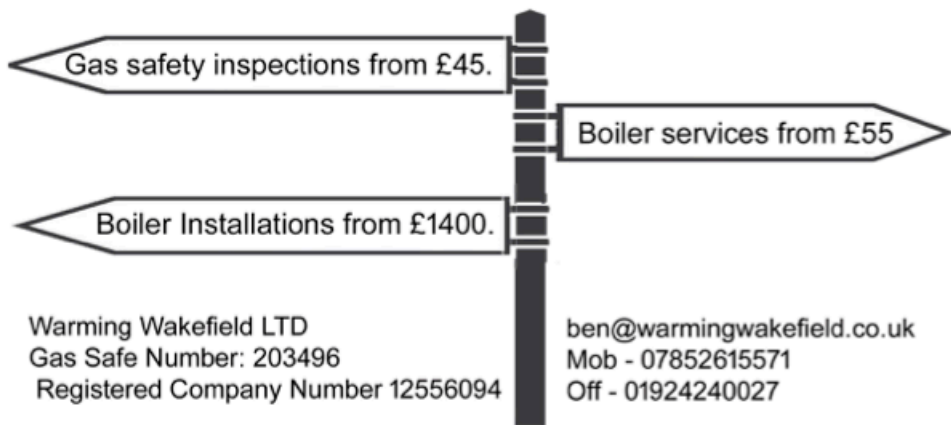




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**Wakefield
District**

Citizens Advice Wakefield District continue to offer a full range of advice and help during the lockdown period.

We can help with benefits claims including advice and support on setting up claims for Universal Credit; we can help you deal with debts and give advice if your employment has been affected.

We are free, confidential, independent and impartial

We are able to offer advice & assistance via telephone, email or webchat

(Debt/Benefits/Housing/Employment/Family)

Telephone 03444 111 444

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Telephone 0800 144 8 444

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Telephone 0808 223 1133

Email us via

www.wakefielddistrictcab.co.uk

Web chat with us at

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/contact-us/contact-us/

Citizens Advice Wakefield District is a registered charity. Although part of the national Citizens Advice network we are independent and run locally for the residents of Wakefield District.



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THE BENEFICE OF PONTEFRACT

St. Giles' with St. Mary

St Giles' Church, Market Place, Pontefract
St Mary's Church, The Circle, Chequerfield

Tel: 01977 790448

Canon June Lawson
Fr Sam Fletcher
Fr Michael Taylor (Honorary Priest)
Fr Rod Walker
Jill Clapham Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)
Tony Williams Pastoral Minister

Tel: 01977 706803
Tel: 07938 517350
Tel: 01977 702824
Tel: 07746 980727
Tel: 07740869346
Tel: 07919412797

Sunday Services

For service times please visit our website and view the latest Newsletter

<http://www.stgilespontefract.org/weekly-notices-2/>

Baptisms, Weddings, Banns: Please telephone or email the Parish Office for further details.
Please check the calendar on St Giles' website or the Order of Service for any alterations.

Reader (Hon)

David Brooks 798599

St Giles Good Share, No.6 The Circle

Paul and Ann Harris 07808 808977

PCC Vice Chairman

Barbara Sessford 699058

Mothers' Union Leader/Secretary

Janet Colvill/Marjorie Laidlaw 704864/795748

Churchwardens

Bruce Dalgleish 07809 760993

Barbara Sessford 699058

Peter Lavine 07910 377989

Pam Mercer 780804

Children's Society Box Secretary

Angela Bradley 613643

Missions Committee Secretary

Edith Barber 277226

PCC Secretary/Parish Administrator

Vivienne Smales 790448

stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com

Pro-Wardens at St Mary's

Frank Ward

PCC Treasurer

David Leigh 706526

St Mary's Church Treasurer

Delia Perrett 796223

David Leigh 706526

Organist and Choir Director

James MacDonald 790448

St Mary's Church Meeting Chair

Fr Michael Taylor 702824

Tower Captain

Adrian Garner 690154

St Mary's Community Centre

Manager: Denise Pallett 705341

Parish Magazine Editor

Bruce Dalgleish 690216

St Giles' Church School (aided)

Head teacher: Richard Grace 794175

St Giles' Altar Flowers

Barbara Chessman 700559

St Giles' Pantomime Society Chair

Andy Weston 07791 656820



TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF JOE WALKER
HIS WIFE BORN OCT 5th 1903 DIED JAN 7th 1984 THE

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace...

Luke 2:29

