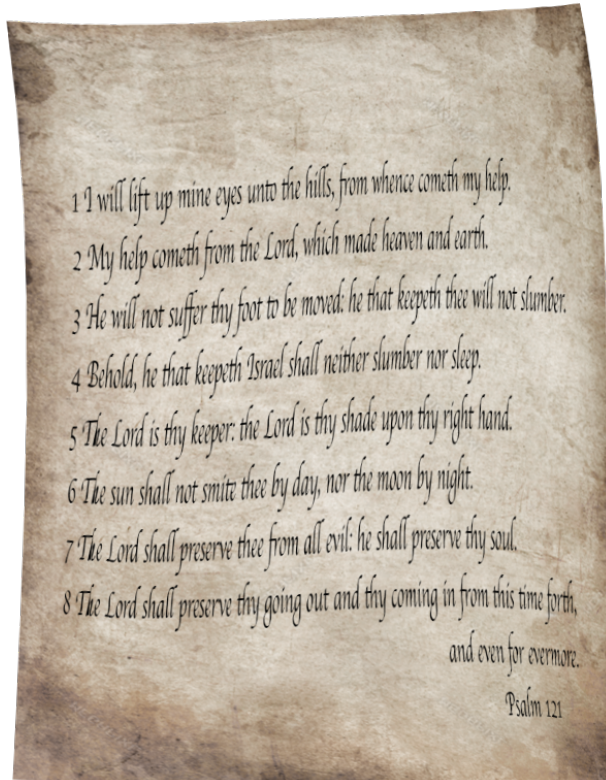


Parish of Pontefract

St Giles with St Mary



March 2023





Bishop Tony invites you to

Follow Me 2023

at Wakefield Cathedral

the eighth series of evening teachings
to explore faith and discipleship

Session Running Order:

18:30 Choral Evensong*

19:15 Simple Supper

19:45 Teaching

21:15 Finish

Feel free to join for the whole evening or a selected part.

*optional

Upcoming sessions:



Thursday 09 February - The Rt Revd & Rt Hon Rowan Williams

104th Archbishop of Canterbury from 2002 to 2012, and a noted theologian and writer. Widely revered for his personal qualities, he is also an intellectual giant who towers over almost all his predecessors as Archbishop of Canterbury. Among other achievements, he rounced the atheist Richard Dawkins, and published over twenty well-regarded books, including volumes of poetry and a major study of Dostoevsky.



Saturday 11 March - Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield

Join Bishop John Pritchard for his session named 'Sleeping on the Job', this Quiet Day at the Community of The Resurrection, Mirfield, gives attendees the opportunity to pause and reflect during our often busy schedules (**NOTE altered time of 10:00-15:00**)

(£10 per person, drinks provided, please bring a packed lunch).



Thursday 20 April

Canon Mark Oakley Dean of St John's College, Cambridge

The third Follow Me session of 2023 is once again hosted at Wakefield Cathedral featuring a talk from Canon Mark Oakley, Dean of St John's College, Cambridge and Canon Theologian at Wakefield Cathedral.

Please email **Caroline Asquith, PA to Area Bishop of Wakefield** at caroline.asquith@leeds.anglican.org to book your place (including any dietary requirements) or for more information.

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

Father Michael writes:-

I officiated at a funeral just before Christmas and the family requested that psalm 121 was read. It is gratifying to me that thought had been given to the inclusion of the psalm.

When I was a chorister at the Old Parish church of All Saints, Pontefract, we would sing the psalms appointed for the day, along of course with the usual canticles, Venite, Te Deum etc. for morning prayer. Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis for evening prayer.

We used the Cathedral Psalter, of which my father presented me with my own copy on the 7th February 1961. So it is somewhat appropriate that I mention this 63 years down the line. It has seen better days!

Psalms are wonderful pieces and psalm 120-134 are known as "Songs of Ascents".

Psalm 121 has stuck with me.

121 *I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.*

² *My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.*

³ *He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.*

⁴ *Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.*

⁵ *The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.*

⁶ *The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.*

⁷ *The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.*

⁸ *The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.*

What are Psalms of Ascent? The Psalms of Ascent(s) have also been called the Song of Degrees, the Pilgrim Songs, as well as the Gradual Psalms. They are named this because of the phrase appearing before each psalm in Psalms 120-134. Each is called "a song of ascent" at the beginning of the psalm and would have been sung by pilgrims as they ascended mountains on their annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

>>>>>

Life is full of many dangers.

The physical: disease, injury, accident, war, infirmity, or natural disasters.

The economic: recession, depression, unemployment, outsourcing, downsizing, insolvency, debt, or theft.

The spiritual: doubt, sin, evil, corruption, fundamentalism, extremism, or false teaching.

It is well worth readings these psalms for help and encouragement with all those problems that we face.



For more information, see the article on page 18.

Dates to remember

(All events at St Giles', unless otherwise noted.)

Every Wednesday in March: **Rhythm of Life Lent Course:** 10.30-11.15am

Friday 3rd March: **Stations of the Cross:** 10am

World Day of Prayer:

Central Methodist Church: 2pm

Monday 6th March: **Mothers' Union:** Stations of the Cross 1.30pm

Wednesday 8th March: **Bric-à-Brac Stall:** from 9am

Friday 10th March: **Stations of the Cross:** 10am

Saturday 11th March: **Quiet Day** at the Community of the
Resurrection, Mirfield 10am-3pm

Friday 17th March: **Stations of the Cross:** 10am

Friday 24th March: **Stations of the Cross:** 10am

Friday 31st March: **Seated Stations of the Cross:** 11.15am

Wednesday 5th April: **Chocolate Tombola:** 9.30am-12noon

Thursday 27th April: **Fashion Show:** 7pm

From the British Newspaper Archive ...

Strange Discovery in Pontefract Parish Church.

On Saturday night the verger at the Pontefract Parish Church (St. Giles's) when going through the edifice observed a broken glass globe in the middle aisle of the church, and examining it found a discharged cartridge at the bottom of the globe near the gas burner. The cartridge case, which is now in the hands of the police, is what is known as a No. 3 bulleted cap for saloon or rifle shooting. Every examination was made in the church whether there might be others secreted. No discharged bullet could be found, and no indenture on the front of the south gallery, and no report has been heard. The shell of the cartridge is marked as though it had been placed in a rifle and missed fire, as they sometimes do if damp.

Hartlepool Northern Daily Mail - Tuesday 22 February 1881

Mothers' UNION

Monday 6th March

We meet in church at 1.30pm for our
'Stations of the Cross' service, followed by
refreshments.

Everyone is always welcome.



HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2023

(all at St Giles unless otherwise indicated)

Sunday 2nd April (Palm Sunday)

St Mary's: 9.00am Morning Worship on Palm Sunday

10.15am Parish Eucharist (includes reading of the Passion Story)

All Saints: 6.30pm Sung Evening Prayer inc 'Women of Holy Week' reading: Miriam

Monday in Holy Week

8.45am Morning Prayer

St Mary's: 7.00pm Compline inc 'Women of Holy Week' reading: Sarah



HOLY WEEK

Tuesday in Holy Week

8.45am Morning Prayer

All Saints: 7.00pm Compline inc 'Women of Holy Week' reading: Anna

Wednesday in Holy Week

8.45am Morning Prayer

9.30am Mass

7.00pm Sung Compline inc 'Women of Holy Week' reading: Susannah

Maundy Thursday

8.45am Morning Prayer

(11.00am Chrism Mass at Wakefield Cathedral)

7.00pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper inc Women of Holy Week reading: Joanna

Vigil until 9.00pm

Good Friday

8.45am Morning Prayer

10.00 - 11.00am Children's Stations of the Cross inc refreshments

12.00pm procession then 12.15pm Ecumenical Service around the Buttercross

2.00pm Liturgy of Good Friday inc Women of Holy Week reading: Salome

Easter Day 9th April

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) inc Women of Holy Week reading: Mary Magdalene

St Mary's: 9.00am Said Holy Communion

10.15am Sung Parish Eucharist

Sunday after Easter (16th April)

10.15am Parish Eucharist

St Mary's: 4.00pm Messy Church

St Giles' 3:16

In St Giles 3:16 in February we firstly told the story of the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. We talked about how John led a simple life in the desert and lived on locusts and honey. People came to listen to John and he told them they needed to get ready as the Son of God was coming. He reminded them of the 10 best ways to live and told them to come to the river Jordan and he would baptise them.

Jesus came and he asked John to baptise him. When he came out of the water the sky opened up and light fell on his shoulders like a dove landing. A voice from the sky said, 'This is my Son in whom I am well pleased.'

Jesus stayed in the desert and prayed. We followed the story with 'I wonder' questions that we posed to the children. These are always great for opening up thoughtful conversations:-

- I wonder how the people felt when they came to be baptised and how they felt when they went under the water and when they came back up?
- I wonder what they thought to getting ready to be close to the Son of God?
- I wonder if everyone heard the voice from the sky?

For racial justice week we brought in lots of Play Mobile characters for the children to sort into groups. It was interesting to see the final groups Emily chose:-

- Princes, Princesses and kids
- Kings, Queens and kids
- Fairies
- Mermaid, merman and kids
- People and kids
- Swimmers

We talked about what was different and what was the same in the different groups.



A Stitch in Time



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Sarah Brightmore
Owner

sarahsbright1996@gmail.com

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Service and Fun for the

'Under 5s'

+ their Parent, Grandparent or Carer

Thursdays

(during term time)

At St Giles' Church

10.30 a.m. till 11.45a.m.

Refreshments available - small donation

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quotation +

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Some kind of lamb

If I were some kind of lamb,
soft, easy to attack,
fragile in the field

I would listen for the shepherd
who loves the colour
and texture of my wool
and the way I raise my head
when the sun shines:

He would overlook
the awkward way I run
and hit my knees
against protruding fences
in the night

and he would pick me up
for no good reason

by Tim Lenton

RHYTHM OF LIFE—LENT COURSE 2023

Journeying with Jesus through Lent: What does it mean to be a disciple in the world today?

Throughout Lent in St Giles every **Wednesday** morning in March (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) at 10:30am - 11:15am. Can't make all sessions, dip in and out as you can.

The course, developed by the Diocese of Leeds, includes a Lent retreat at the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield on **Saturday 11 March**. The retreat, also part of Bishop Tony's *Rhythm of Life* series, will be hosted by + Tony with guest speaker + John Pritchard. Spaces are limited and booking in advance is necessary.

Email caroline.Asquith@leeds.anglican.org to book. There is a fee of £10 to cover costs, hot drinks will be provided, participants will need to take a packed lunch. We hope to be able to car share to enable those without transport to attend so please let Jill Clapham know if you have booked to go.

A standalone course that can serve as a stepping stone for further engagement with the Rhythm of Life.

- Five sessions, with online material & videos.
- Lenten themes combined with some key issues like Poverty, Racism and the Environment.

Sessions will provide an opportunity to engage with the *Rhythm of Life* areas for deepening commitment:

Praying Reflecting Encouraging Sharing
Resting Celebrating Creating



CARING FOR EACH OTHER....

If you haven't seen someone for a while, please either try and find out how they are or let us know and we will try and make contact. Please also ask the person if they would like to go on the service prayer list (using their full name or just first name). A note to us giving a contact number or address of the person concerned often helps.



Missions Committee

Missions will once again be holding our annual Chocolate Tombola stall outside church on *Wednesday 5th April 2023* starting at 9.30 a.m. and finishing at noon.

Donations of chocolate products and Easter eggs would be greatly appreciated and can be handed to Missions Committee members.

(Sheila Roydhouse, Barbara Lavine, Hilary Plumbley and Edie Barber)

Living in Love and Faith Debate General Synod February 2023

Archbishop Stephen Cottrell's letter to the clergy and people of the Diocese of York written soon after the General Synod debate in the first week of February.

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. Galatians 3:26-27 (NIV) I have been present over the last few days as the Living in Love and Faith debate has been taking place at General Synod at Church House in London. The debate concluded earlier today with Synod voting to welcome proposals which would enable same-sex couples to come to church after a civil marriage or civil partnership to give thanks, dedicate their relationship to God and receive God's blessing. In addition, Synod members also voted to lament and repent of the failure of the Church to welcome LGBTQI+ people and for the harm that LGBTQI+ people have experienced – and continue to experience – in churches.

I realise that some in the diocese will welcome this decision by Synod, while others will feel that it does not go far enough. Others will feel that it goes too far. I write to you briefly now, to offer clarity on what has taken place and reassurance where there may be anxiety.

There are three things that I would like to clarify:

First, there is no change to the doctrine of holy matrimony. The draft Prayers of Love and Faith which were circulated to Synod members have not changed what the Church believes about holy matrimony as set out in Canon Law. This was emphasised by the acceptance of an amendment from a member of the General Synod.

Second, the Church will be able to offer the opportunity for couples who have entered into same-sex civil partnerships and civil marriages to have that relationship acknowledged and celebrated, and to receive a blessing within a Service of the Word or Holy Communion.

Third, clergy will be free to choose whether or not they opt to use the forthcoming Prayers of Love and Faith. Furthermore, I am determined that in the Diocese of York no one will ever be disadvantaged by the decisions they make whether to use or not use these prayers. On this you have my assurance, though I realise there is work to be done to provide a framework within which we can minister together with our conscientiously held disagreements. We need to work closely with the whole Church of England on this.

By Synod voting in favour of this motion, work will now continue on refining the draft Prayers of Love and Faith, and pastoral guidance will be produced which will replace Issues in Human Sexuality. There is a strong commitment to working collaboratively on this, ensuring that all voices are represented and heard in both the Prayers and the pastoral guidance. Until the Prayers have been reviewed, commended and issued by the House of Bishops, which won't be until the pastoral guidance has been issued, they are not yet available for use.

To those who welcome this development, can I remind you that you are not yet at liberty to use these prayers.

To those who are troubled by this development, can I ask for your patience and forbearance as the work is done to ensure that freedom of conscience is properly respected.

Some people have said that the Church of England may split because of this. I pray and give myself to something much harder and much more beautiful: we learn to live with profound difference, respecting the conscientiously held but incompatible views we hold, ensuring that everyone has a place, and showing the world the more excellent way of love.

Please pray for me and be assured of my prayers for you.

+Stephen Ebor

The full motion, as amended, put to Synod was:

That this Synod, recognising the commitment to learning and deep listening to God and to each other of the Living in Love and Faith process, and desiring with God's help to journey together while acknowledging the different deeply held convictions within the Church:

- (a) lament and repent of the failure of the Church to be welcoming to LGBTQI+ people and the harm that LGBTQI+ people have experienced and continue to experience in the life of the Church;
- (b) recommit to our shared witness to God's love for and acceptance of every person by continuing to embed the Pastoral Principles in our life together locally and nationally;
- (c) commend the continued learning together enabled by the Living in Love and Faith process and resources in relation to identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage;
- (d) welcome the decision of the House of Bishops to replace Issues in Human Sexuality with new pastoral guidance;
- (e) welcome the response from the College of Bishops and look forward to the House of Bishops further refining, commending and issuing the Prayers of Love and Faith described in GS 2289 and its Annexes;
- (f) invite the House of Bishops to monitor the Church's use of and response to the Prayers of Love and Faith, once they have been commended and published, and to report back to Synod in five years' time;
- (g) endorse the decision of the College and House of Bishops not to propose any change to the doctrine of marriage, and their intention that the final version of the Prayers of Love and Faith should not be contrary to or indicative of a departure from the doctrine of the Church of England.'

Votes were recorded as follows:

Bishops 36 for, 4 against, 2 abstained
Clergy 111 for, 85 against, 3 abstained

Laity 103 for, 92 against, 5 abstained

FUNDRAISING

Given St Giles' current finances, it is imperative that attention be given to raising much needed funds.

I am aware individuals and small groups continue to 'battle on' raising money.

As a congregation, giving is part of our Christian service, but we need to tap into the community and around us and encourage their participation in forthcoming initiatives.

Therefore, I ask you thoughtfully to consider joining a proposed fundraising group to develop ideas and bring them to fruition.

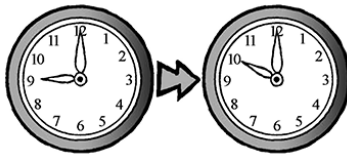
I wish this to be a positive, forward looking group!

Please contact myself (Fr Rod) or Pam Mercer for further details, either in person or via email or telephone. My details are on the front cover. For Pam, please email or phone via the parish office (stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com)

Yours prayerfully

Fr Rod





Remember! The clocks go FORWARD on the 23rd March!

MISSIONS COMMITTEE LENT APPEAL

Our **Lent Appeal for 2023 is Church Army**. There will be two alternative ways for you to make your donation. One is by using the Treasurer's Box in the Reception Area, marking your envelope 'Lent Appeal', or by bank transfer using the following details:

Account name: St. Giles' Parochial Church Council,
Sort code 05-06-71 Account number 16172795

BRIC—A—BRAC STALL

A Bric-a-Brac stall is to be held on **Wednesday, 1st March from 9.00am**. In aid of church funds. Any donation of items towards the stall would be most welcome. It is hoped to run a monthly stall so there will always be a need for items. The next one will be Wednesday, 19th April. Thank you. Fr Rod.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Fridays during Lent, we will be holding morning services of Stations of the Cross at St Giles' Church. These will be at 10:00am, prior to the Friday Mass. They will take place on **Friday 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th March**.

There will also be a 'seated' Stations of the Cross service using audio visual material on **Friday, 31st March at 11.15am**, following the Friday Mass. All are very welcome to attend.



NOTES FROM THE PCC MEETING, HELD 31st JANUARY 2023

Fifteen members of the PCC attended the meeting and apologies were received from two. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting, which opened with a prayer from Fr Sam.

The Minutes of the last Meeting held on Tuesday, 22 November 2022 were agreed and accepted. It was noted that the mobile projector and stand have now been received and already been put to use during a funeral. Karen MacDonald gave notice that she would like to step down as the Parish Safeguarding Officer at the APCM in March. A replacement has been identified, with good safeguarding experience, who would be willing to act as PSO across the Benefice.

Correspondence has been received regarding the House of Leity Deanery Synod elections. Potentially 4 people can be elected and this will form part of the APCM in March. The Pontefract Community Showcase for voluntary organisations will be taking place in Pontefract Town Hall on Saturday, 18 March. No.6 St Giles Foodshare will be taking a table and will be happy for Lunch With Us and/or Messy Church to join them. An open invitation has been received from Bishop Tony to a special meeting of all three Deanery Synods in the Wakefield Episcopal Area at 7.15pm on 21 February at Wakefield Cathedral. Choral Evensong will precede the meeting at 6.00pm.

A shorter version of the **Safeguarding Action Plan** was submitted. A number of items are still ongoing with regard to training and renewal of DBS checks. Messy Church has also been added to the dashboard as a church activity.

The draft Minutes of the **Standing Committee Meeting** held on Tuesday, 10th January were received and accepted. To note: Frank Ward has advised that he wishes to stand down as Pro-Warden of St Mary's at the APCM in March. He is currently the only person on the PCC from St Mary's. Item 7: Revision of Risk Assessment. An incident occurred at a Tuesday session of the wellbeing café, which was well handled by their staff, but which has required the risk assessment to be updated.

The Minutes of the meeting held at **St Mary's** on 22nd January were received and accepted. It was noted that a number of the congregation have commented that they would like to have a service in the morning even when Messy Church was taking place in the afternoon. Unfortunately, only one service can be held per day and so all were encouraged to attend Messy Church.

Three **Grants** have now been awarded to St Giles. An energy grant from the Diocese was awarded with an additional grant being made available of £850. A grant of £743 has been received from the ASDA Foundation. Our application had initially been 'lost', but was found some weeks later. This money is to run our Warm Space, providing food and heating, to the end of February. The application to the National Lottery resulted in £6290 being received to cover room hire and allowing Citizen's Advice to continue their services at St Giles for the coming year.

Finance reports were received. A summary of receipts and payments to December 2022 was received and showed a total deficit of £5982.76. One invoice remains unpaid, the projector and stand which will come out of the grant received from the BDF. The Summary of Receipts and

Payments will be approved at the next PCC ready for the APCM. A new smart meter was fitted in October but is not working correctly. A final bill is still due from the old supplier and a first bill from the new supplier.

The St Giles Centre account is currently £7963, including Lunch With Us money of £1379. The Summary for No. 6 St Giles Foodshare shows a healthy balance. They are currently receiving £500 per month from a local company and this will continue for the foreseeable future. Much of the money was gained through grants during Covid. Although there were some reservations about the amount being retained, this could change at any point. Electricity is likely to rise from significantly and the premises, currently rent free, could become chargeable in the future. The PCC is also liable for any property repairs.

The **Budget** for 2023 was submitted. A small group met to look at this and concluded that the amount of Parish Share to be paid this year should be paid as a percentage figure based on income and expenditure and what the church can afford without having to dip into reserves. It was previously agreed that reserves would not go below 6 months running costs. The amount of Parish Share paid in 2023 may, therefore, be considerably less than the last few years. Staffing costs could not be reduced without hurting the ministry and mission. It was agreed to accept the budget but to review it in six months. Parochial fees were increased by approximately 10% on heating and verger costs and a charge introduced for the use of a projector with second verger.

The **Fundraising** team will be meeting again in February and have already agreed to take on the running of the Christmas Draw. Marjorie Laidlaw will coordinate a monthly Bric-A-Brac stall and the Harvest Supper this year will be held in church with outside caterers. There were a number of other good ideas to follow up.

The **Fabric, Health & Safety** committee have held meetings with two companies regarding the installation of solar panels on the south aisle roof. One report has already been received from Energy Oasis and a second report should be received in the next few weeks. Recommendations will be forthcoming at the next PCC. Although it is hoped to secure grant funding, some investment will be required. The PCC agreed to move forward with looking for permissions and seeking grants. Thanks were given to the team leading this project and the PCC approved, in principle, the installation of solar panels on the south aisle roof.

The first official **Messy Church** in January, authorised by the PCC, was very successful with positive feedback. 35 people attending with 14 children and 21 adults. Safeguarding training and DBS applications are underway for those involved in leading the activities.

Chair's Notes: a draft of Holy Week services was circulated and it was advised that the Lent course is being advertised in the Notices

The **APCM** this year will be held on Sunday, 26 March 2023. Reports will now be requested for the APCM booklet. Three members of the PCC are due for re-election this year and David Leigh has asked to stand down as Treasurer.

The next scheduled meeting of the PCC will take place on Tuesday, 7th March. The meeting closed with a prayer from Fr Sam.

Ring for the King!

The Coronation of the King and the Queen Consort will be held in Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6th May. It will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

A Palace statement has said that it will “reflect the monarch’s role today and look towards the future while being rooted in longstanding traditions and pageantry.”

Meanwhile, in preparation for the Coronation, a national call has been made to recruit thousands of new bell ringers to ring in the new King in May.

A new website, Ring for the King, (ringfortheking.org) has been set up for this purpose by The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, especially hoping to encourage young people to try their hand.

The website says that bellringing is “an activity like no other – a unique mix of physical exercise with mental agility that is a deep part of our history but still practised and evolving today.” It suggests that after ten to 15 hours of one-to-one tuition, a beginner can learn to handle a bell, use a bell rope, and begin to ring with others.

There are about 38,000 church bells, but only 30,000 ringers in the UK. The Central Council has said that while a swell of new recruits in time for the Coronation would be ‘fantastic’, “we hope that people find this new hobby, skill and social activity something they would want to continue with beyond 6th May.”





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The Parish of St Giles' with St Mary's
Market Place, Pontefract WF8 1AT

Organ Recitals 2023
Fridays at 1.00pm
(unless otherwise stated)

Come and join us on the following dates:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 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

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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



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Pontefract Probus Club hold two meetings per month on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the Carleton Grange Community Centre. Starts 10.00a.m. for coffee, and 10.30 a.m. for a meeting which is mainly consists of interesting talks given by professional speakers on a wide variety of subjects like local history, geography, industry and many other events and people. All for the price of a coffee.

Probus Clubs are clubs for male and female retired or semi-retired people from all walks of life. We are a non-political, non-sectarian and non-profit, autonomous club.

CONTACT US for more information

Kebir Berry 01977 793982 Treasurer

David Hogg 07910564141 President

Norman Dale 01977 703443 Vice President

John Colvill 01977 704864 Past President

Save the Date – National Day of Reflection & Great Daffodil Appeal 2023



For the third year running, Marie Curie will lead the National Day of Reflection on Thursday 23rd March.

It is a day for everyone to remember loved ones who have died, and to support people who are grieving. There will be a minute's silence at noon, a nationwide network of Walls of Reflection, and a series of grief-themed online events.

Taking place on the third anniversary that the UK went into lockdown, the National Day of Reflection raises awareness of the impact of grief on our lives and of the need for better support. Millions of people across the UK – adults as well as children – are grieving now and need support, whether in the workplace, at home, in schools or across communities.

The National Day of Reflection also ties in with the charity's flagship annual fundraising appeal in March – the Great Daffodil Appeal – with people donating and wearing one of their iconic daffodil pin badges. Every year thousands of supporters from across the UK come together to raise money to support the charity's nurses, doctors, and hospice staff so they can continue to provide expert care to people at end of life, and their families.

More details at: www.mariecurie.org.uk/dayofreflection



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

(Universal Credit – Help to Claim)

Telephone 0800 144 8 444

(Consumer goods, services, digital, events, travel etc.)

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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emergency
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At Fixx, our dedicated team are on hand to provide 24/7 assistance within your home, including electrical, boiler and plumbing services.

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Prices online:



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

Marjorie Laidlaw 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



