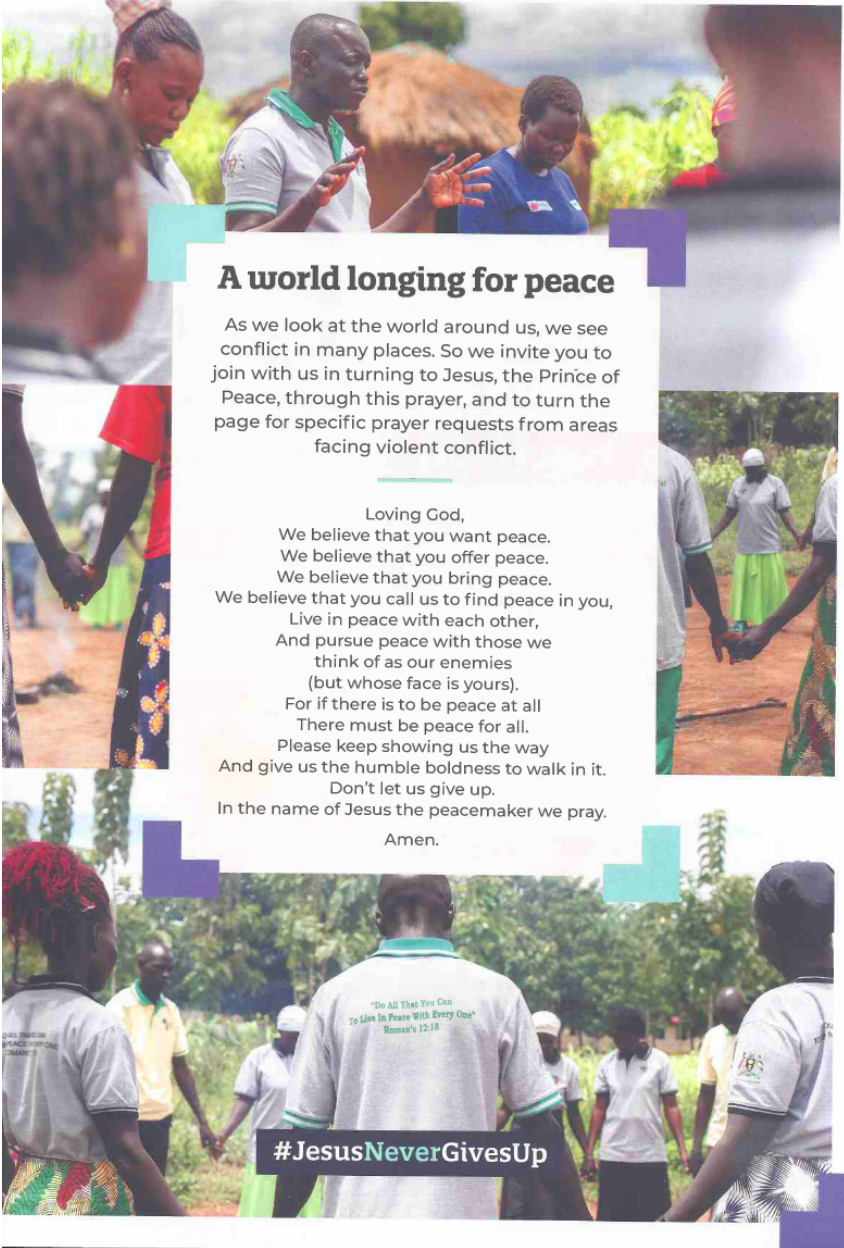


*Parish of Pontefract
St Giles with St Mary*



March 2024



A world longing for peace

As we look at the world around us, we see conflict in many places. So we invite you to join with us in turning to Jesus, the Prince of Peace, through this prayer, and to turn the page for specific prayer requests from areas facing violent conflict.

Loving God,
We believe that you want peace.
We believe that you offer peace.
We believe that you bring peace.
We believe that you call us to find peace in you,
Live in peace with each other,
And pursue peace with those we
think of as our enemies
(but whose face is yours).
For if there is to be peace at all
There must be peace for all.
Please keep showing us the way
And give us the humble boldness to walk in it.
Don't let us give up.
In the name of Jesus the peacemaker we pray.
Amen.

#JesusNeverGivesUp

This prayer has been published in the winter 2024 edition of the CMS magazine. The magazine includes information about CMS peace projects across the world. A copy has been placed on the leaflet rack in St Giles reception.

With thanks to Ann Harris.

Over many years I have had the privilege, and it is a privilege, to read the Passion Gospel. As we near Easter we will hear it read again. I have to say it is an emotional piece of scripture. It is difficult to read to a congregation without immersing oneself in the story.

A few years ago my wife Judith and I visited friends in Vienna. On the many trips out, monasteries seem to be the order of the day, along with coffee shops and drinking establishments of course!

One visit took us to a village whose name escapes me (I put that down to age). A church, but what that led to were Stations of the Cross. Nothing unusual about that, but they were on the hillside adjoining the church. To walk up a hillside, along cobbles and pausing at each station, reflecting on the walk that Jesus took on His walk to Crucifixion. The emotion was quite intense. A difficult walk, but full of reflections.

Think of the Stations of the Cross around St Giles'. It's a warm atmosphere, on level ground; but you reflect: try doing it on a hillside! It's good to think and put yourself in another place and think what Jesus went through.

As we approach Easter we have Lent to ponder through. Watch and Pray. In the Garden of Gethsemane His disciples fell asleep. Jesus had asked them to stay with Him. He was alone in his hour of need.

Before I finish, I take this opportunity to welcome Fr Ian and his wife, Mikela, to our Benefice. I have known Ian for many years prior to his curacy here at St Giles'. Exciting times!!

God Bless you all.

Fr Michael

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

SPECIAL SERVICES TO EASTER 2024

Wednesday (9.30am) and Friday Mass (10.30am) at St Giles.
Lent Course (10:30 - 11:15am, Wednesdays): 14th February, 20th March
Stations of the Cross (10.00am, Fridays): 16th February - 15th March
All at St Giles unless otherwise indicated.

Sunday, 3rd March (Third Sunday of Lent)

9.00am—*Morning Worship (St Mary's)*

10.15am—Sung Eucharist

4.00pm—Choral Evensong

Sunday, 10th March (Mothering Sunday—Fourth Sunday of Lent)

9.00am—*Holy Communion (St Mary's)*

10.15am—Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 13th – Collation Service for Revd Ian Bullock

7.30pm - Joint Benefice Service (incl. All Saints, Carleton and East Hardwick)

Sunday, 17th March (Passion Sunday)

10.15am—Sung Eucharist

4.00pm—*Messy Church (St Mary's)*

Friday, 22nd March

11.15am - Stations of the Cross (seated), with art and poetry

Sunday, 24th March (Palm Sunday)

9.00am—*Holy Communion St Mary's*

10.15am—Sung Eucharist, including a reading of the Passion

Monday, 25 March (Monday of Holy Week)

10.00am - Holy Communion

7.00pm - *Compline St Mary's*

Tuesday, 26th March (Tuesday of Holy Week)

8.45am - Morning Prayer

10.00am - Holy Communion

7.00pm - *Compline (All Saints)*

Wednesday, 27th March (Wednesday of Holy Week)

8.45am - Morning Prayer

9.30am - Said Mass

7.00pm - Sung Compline

Thursday, 28th March (Maundy Thursday)

8.45am - Morning Prayer

(11.00am *Chrism Mass at Bradford Cathedral*)

7.30pm - Eucharist of the Lord's Supper (with Foot washing, then Vigil until 12.00pm)

Friday, 29th March (Good Friday)

10.00am-11.00am - Family Stations of the Cross inc refreshments

12.00pm - procession then 12.15pm Ecumenical Service around the Buttercross

2.00pm - Watch by the Cross

7.00pm - Liturgy of Good Friday

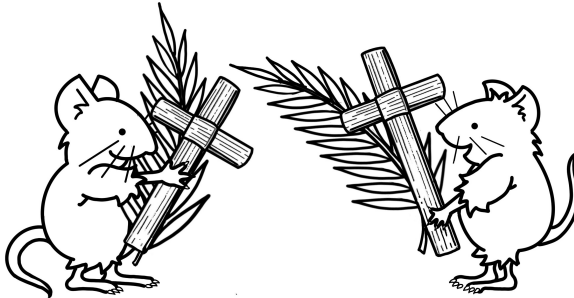
Saturday, 30th March (Easter Eve)

Sunday, 31st March (Easter Day)

8.00am - Holy Communion (BCP)

9.00am - Holy Communion (St Mary's)

10.15am - Sung Eucharist



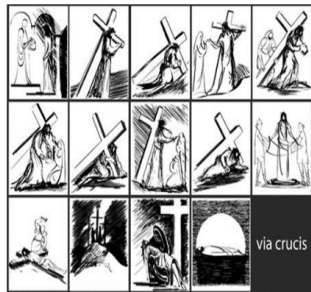
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Fridays during Lent, we will be holding morning services of **Stations of the Cross** at St Giles' Church.

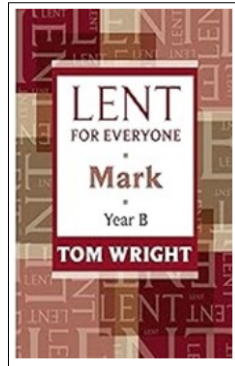
The next service will be at **10:00am**, prior to the Friday Mass, on **Friday 1st March (until Friday 15th March)**.

There will also be a 'seated' Stations of the Cross service with poetry and artwork on **Friday, 22nd March at 11.15am**, following the Friday Mass.

All are welcome.



Benefice of Pontefract: Lent 2024



This year there will be two complementary Lent courses taking place across the Benefice.

One will be taking place at St Giles' each Wednesday morning from Ash Wednesday (14th February) through to the Wednesday in Holy Week (20th March) at 10:30-11:15am. Fr Sam and Jill will be leading a reflection on a set psalm from Tom Wright's book *Lent for Everyone : Mark*.

Alternatively, Fr Mark will be hosting a Lent course 'Lentern Psalms' each Thursday evening throughout Lent at All Saints' Vicarage, 6:45pm for a 7pm start.

All are welcome and we do hope you will be able to join us at one or more of the sessions.

A gentle reminder to all our lovely readers that annual subs are now due.

£10 to David Leigh please for another year's happy reading!

See p10 for details.

Dates to remember

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

Friday 1st March: **Organ Recital: Phil Higgins:** 1pm

Sunday 3rd March: **Food collection for No.6**

Choral Evensong: 4pm

Monday 4th March: **Mothers' Union:** (see **p11** for details.)

Saturday 9th March: **Follow Me:** at Wakefield Cathedral (see p19)

Wednesday 13th March: **Lent for Everyone:** 10.30-11.15am
(see panel opposite)

Collation Service for Revd Ian Bullock:
7.30pm

Thursday 13th March: **Lenten Psalms:** 6.45pm for 7pm
 at All Saints' vicarage
 (see panel opposite)

Sunday 17th March: **Messy Church** at St Mary's 4.00pm

Wednesday 27th March **Chocolate Tombola:** (see p11)

Friday : 5th April: **Organ Recital: Tim Harper:** 1pm

The deadline for submissions to the **March** magazine is
Wednesday 21st February

During a visit to the UK in February, the Palestinian priest and theologian Revd Dr Munther Isaac – pastor of Christmas Evangelical Church in Bethlehem – delivered an address at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, in London. In his sermon, he issued an uncompromising call to the UK church. In the midst of the horrors unfolding in Gaza, it is vital that we hear the voices of Palestinian Christians, crying out for justice.

An extract of his address is reproduced below. A complete version can be found online, at <https://www.bloomsbury.org.uk/christ-under-the-rubble-a-vigil-for-gaza/>

**Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church - Jesus under the Rubble
Delivered February 18, 2024**

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke? (Isaiah 58:6)

Sisters and brothers

It has been more than more than 130 days since the war on Gaza began. It is beyond my comprehension to believe that this war, this genocide is still going on.

28,000 thousand killed, including 12,500 children. Thousands more still under the rubble. 68,000 injured. 1.7 million displaced; trapped and starved. This is beyond inhuman!

What happened to the conscience of world leaders; I say world leaders, and the lord of wars, because the voices in the street are sending a different message. They are speaking loud and clear: stop this genocide. But sadly, the war lords are not listening.

The International Court of Justice was clear in its description of what is happening and its rebuke to Israel and those complicit in it, yet even the ruling of the ICJ was not enough to stop this genocide. And now we fear that Israel will assault Rafah! Could it even get worse?

The people of Gaza broadcast to us scenes of their genocide, and the war leaders declared to us and to the world their intention to wipe out Gaza and recolonize it, and the world is still debating and deliberating whether what is happening is a war of genocide or not.

Israeli soldiers are posting mocking videos of the destruction of an entire civilization... while the world still debates and deliberates!

Friends. Truth is evident for all to see. There is nothing to debate. Apartheid is clear. Genocide is clear. We don't need to explain anymore. Truth is evident for all to see. World leaders know the truth. They are denying it. In fact, they have been denying it for 76 years. How many delegations did we receive? How many lectures did we give? How many times did we explain things?

Meanwhile, Israel alleges that some members from UNRWA were involved in the attacks on October 7th, and support to UNRWA stops directly from countries around the world, including the UK. The amount of hypocrisy is incomprehensible. The level of racism involved for such

hypocrisy is appalling. I cannot get beyond this.

Some world leaders and church leaders are beginning to change their stance. It is too late! You already showed up to Tel Aviv to show support; you provided the theological and political cover, you described it as self-defence and as such gave a green light; you even paid the bill, and now you are showing concern? I am sorry...you cannot undo what happened. You cannot change history. You cannot wash the blood from your hand.

Indeed, the conscience of the world is dead. They have grown numb. World leaders are obsessed about their thrones. They are intoxicated with power. They are literally signing / autographing the missiles! They love war. They don't care for the victims. In fact, they already labelled them as terrorists, animals, and evil.

Don't tell me it is not racism! Those complicit in this genocide do not see us as equals, as humans. How else do you explain this lack of empathy for human lives? For children dying, pulled from under the rubble, for babies found decomposed in Gaza hospitals?

We are tired of sharing these stories; we are tired of sharing about the killing of our people. We have been pleading "Lord, Have Mercy!" for more than 130 days; indeed, for 76 years.

As Palestinians... we find comfort in our faith. We find hope in the Word of God. This Sunday is the first Sunday of the season of Lent. As we journey towards the cross, may we reflect on the meaning of this season:

- It is time of Repentance.
- It is a time of fasting, and such a time to reflect on the meaning of true piety
- It is a time to reflect on the mystery of suffering and how the road to glory goes through the Cross

All three have profound meaning and message to what is happening in Gaza today.

Repentance: oh, how our world needs to repent today from apathy; from numbness to suffering; and from normalizing and justifying a genocide.

When world leaders watch a genocide and ethnic cleansing unfold live on TV and social media, yet continue to explain it, while only raising concern over the death of innocent civilians—our collective humanity is at stake.

When churches justify a genocide or are silent watching from distance, making carefully crafted balanced statements—the credibility of the Gospel is at stake.

We need to repent from our racism, superiority, and bigotry. This war confirmed to me that the world does not look at us as equals. They describe a genocide as a "misstep", or "over the top". We need to repent from the sin apartheid – the idea that certain people are more entitled than others.

In this Lent season, we are also called to reflect on our religious practices. God's message to us through fasting: Piety that does not produce compassion and mercy is false piety! Piety that does not lead to hunger for justice is false piety.

Is not this the fast that I choose:

>>>>>>

to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

Our world is full of false piety, a piety that lacks mercy, justice, and truth. Today's reading from Isaiah is as if it were talking about today.

Friends, these words from Isaiah go beyond "charity". This is about taking a stance and active participation to bring justice and liberation.

This is not about making a statement. Jesus did not say: I was hungry, and you prayed for me and made a statement! Jesus said: I was a prisoner and you came to me!

This is not about "praying for peace", "raising concern", and sending support. Piety, says Isaiah, means active participation in loosing the bonds of injustice, undoing the straps of yoke, letting the oppressed go free, and breaking every yoke. This is active solidarity; this is about action.

I ask: Is this what the church is doing today? Let us be honest with ourselves! Do you see why I have been crying out—"where is the church"? The question when we face injustice and suffering should not always be "where is God?" Many times the question is "where the church?"

Remembering those whose Year's Mind falls in March:-

01 Nancy Atkinson	12 Kenneth Wilson Frankland
01 Arthur Haigh	Claire Jennings
Beatrice Hopwood	Alan John Spedding
02 Olive May Hyomes	Terry Taylor
03 Irene Lavine	15 Kath Taylor
Josiah Worrell	17 Robert Haley Milnes
04 Margaret Carter	23 Evelyn Clark
Charles Henry Coverdale	24 Stanley Taylor
05 Ernest Sambrooks	Roger Michael Whitaker
07 Richard Haigh	25 Jonathan Bellamy
08 Hilary Dalglish	Ida Swann
10 Mary Conway	28 Donald Richard Chessman
	31 Junee Coad

Are You on the Electoral Roll?

If not, this is your opportunity to become a full voting member of the parish.

The electoral roll is being updated. The formal notice of revision is on the church notice board as required. If you need to check whether you are on the roll please contact the parish administrator Vivienne Smales (stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com).

If your name is not on the roll, you are aged 16 or over and you would like to be included on the roll, please fill in a form obtainable from Bevil Edwards, Vivienne Smales or a church warden.

Forms must be returned no later than Sunday 7th April 2024. Notes about the use of email addresses and other personal data are included on the application form.

If you are under 16 but your 16th birthday is before 7th April 2025 you can apply now and your name will be entered on the roll when you become 16.

If you have any questions please ask Bevil Edwards.

Our next monthly **food collection** will be **Sunday, 3rd March**. Food donations can be made directly at No. 6 The Circle (Mon/Fri mornings) and through St Giles' Church.

Thank you for your continued support.

Tinned Tuna—Breakfast cereals
Jam—Baked Beans—Soup
Meat pastes—Cook-in sauces—Rice
Pasta—Noodles—Mash—Tinned veg
Tinned meat/pies—Tinned fruit—
Rice pudding—Instant custard—
Biscuits—Tea bags
Coffee—Long-life milk

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the December and January magazine. Please do keep your articles coming, we need them! Please send any items to both Bruce Dalglish, (brucedalglish0@gmail.com) and Vivienne Smales (stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com), or simply hand them to a churchwarden.

The **deadline** for the **April** edition is **Sunday, 17th March**. Any items received after this date will be included in the March magazine.

PARISH MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for a printed copy of the parish magazine are now due at a cost of £10 - we hope you will continue to support the church through this publication. Please let David Leigh have your subscriptions as soon as possible, preferably in cash, by bank transfer or even by scanning the QR code—just let David know. If you receive a digital copy of the magazine by email, a donation would also be very welcome.

Account: St Giles Parochial Church Council
Bank: Virgin Money, 81 Carlton Street, Castleford, WF10 1BW
Sort Code: 05-06-71 Account Number: 16172795

1. Open your phone camera
2. Scan the QR code
3. Click the link displayed
4. Donate



MISSIONS COMMITTEE LENT APPEAL

Our **Lent Appeal for 2024** is **The Leprosy Mission**.

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', the other is by bank transfer using the following details:

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



The Leprosy
Mission

Mothers' UNION

We meet again in Church at **1.30pm on Monday, 4th March** for our Lent service, 'Stations of the Cross', to be led by Fr Mark.

Everyone is always welcome.

Tea & biscuits to follow.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee will once again be holding our annual **CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA** stall outside church

on **Wednesday, 27th March 2024**

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)



THE BENEFICE of PONTEFRACT

ST GILES'
with ST MARY'S

Organ Recitals 2024

Fridays at 1.00pm

(unless otherwise stated)

Come and join us on the following dates:

February 2nd

Paul Dewhurst

March 1st

Phil Higgins

April 5th

Tim Harper

May 3rd

Ivan Linford

June 7th

Scott Senogles

July 5th

Thomas Moore

Friday Admission £5 per recital

(includes tea/coffee served from 12.30pm before the recital)

Emmaus

(Luke 24:13-32)

In the breaking of the bread
Our eyes were opened,
We knew Him then.
The Lord was with us in Emmaus,
There was no doubt.
He was alive and with us,
The scriptures made sense.
What a difference!

But thinking back
To that journey –
To the grief that overwhelmed us,
The discussions, disagreements
And debilitating disappointment –
A different opening of the eyes,
We never were alone.

Before the word and bread,
Because of the word and bread
He was there,
He is here,
Always,
Walking with us.

By Daphne Kitching



Caring for each other....

In these difficult times, not all of us have been able to return to church. 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.

Do you have a memory, either happy or sad, that you would like to share with our congregation, a wedding anniversary; a birthday; the passing of a loved one. Please consider sponsoring our service sheet so that we can share this with you. **Write your dedication on a form located in Reception and hand to a church warden or email to stgmnotices@gmx.com or Vivienne at stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com.** David Leigh will happily receive any sponsorship contributions. Thank you.

Hi! RAZZIE HERE!

*I knows my hoodad (Broos)
reely luvS me.*

*Weneva he forsl asleep, I
orlways puts my por on him
to mek shoor that he's
orlright.*

*If he duznt wek up straitaweay, I liks his
eer. He orlways sez, "Oh Razzie!", so I nose
he's reely greatfull.*



CHURCHES TOGETHER AT WILLOW PARK

Paula Ridley, from Pontefract Methodist Church, has shared an invitation to Christians in Pontefract to provide company and conversation for residents of Willow Park care home. Willow Park residents would welcome anyone willing to come and chat and / take part in the various activities available at the time. Simply meet in reception.



Second Tuesday of each month from **Tuesday 13th February** – beginning at **10.00am** for approximately one hour. If you have any questions, you can email Paula at pridley@aireandcaldercircuit.org.uk.

citizens
advice

Citizens Advice Wakefield District
St Giles' Advice Outreach Service
EVERY WEDNESDAY IN ST GILES

citizens
advice

10.00am—12.00pm

Email us via www.wakefielddistrictcab.co.uk

(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

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

All are welcome to a service to mark the
World Day of Prayer 2024 on Friday 1st March, 2pm
at **Micklegate Methodist Church.**

God in Music

‘Glorious the song when God’s the theme’: Allegri’s *Miserere*

In the 1980s thanks to Godfrey Smith, a columnist for The Sunday Times, there was a series of letters about particular pieces of music that have the TQ – the Tingle Quotient. As we listen, the music sends a shiver of excitement up and down the spine and opens out for us a new world of beauty and wonder.

The letters started with a novelist writing about his travels across the Sahara. In moments of desolation and loneliness he would think of music that meant the most to him and which he thought he might never hear again. Then a schoolmaster in Rochester, he wrote of a production of ‘Romeo and Juliet’ where the funeral scene virtually brought the house down. Juliet entered a darkened school hall, lit only by glimmering candles with music sung that brought the audience to tears.

For both novelist and schoolmaster, the work that had that TQ factor was Allegri’s *Miserere*. It provided consolation in the cold desert nights, and it created the impact in that production of Shakespeare’s play. Other readers supplied their list of TQ music, and always the *Miserere* was in the top five. I suspect that this music strikes the TQ for many of you as well.

Why is it, I wonder? We can provide an answer by talking of the contrast between the plainsong sung by the men’s voices and the responses from the choir that lead to that small group of solo voices where the treble or soprano reaches a high C and comes down the scale to the cadence. We can point to the intriguing history of this work for the setting by Gregorio Allegri (1582-1652) was the exclusive possession of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. To copy the music was a crime punishable by excommunication.

In spite of this, a 14-year-old Mozart heard the piece in 1770 and wrote it down from memory, paying another visit to verify some of the notes he had copied down. The Emperor, Leopold 1, the king of Portugal, persuaded the Pope to grant him a copy. When it was performed in his own imperial chapel, he was disappointed. He even thought the Pope had palmed him off with an inferior work. Then he realised that the beauty and magic of the music lay in its being sung in the Sistine Chapel where the plainsong and the high C cadences could ring out among the pillars and arches of that great building.

The *Miserere*, or Psalm 51 is the heart-felt cry of the Church for mercy. As one of the penitential psalms, it is a very personal expression of sorrow for sin and a moving appeal to God for mercy and restoration.

In Allegri’s setting that high C is reached as the individual acknowledges his sin, and again as he cries for mercy and finally as he proclaims that his tongue will sing of God’s grace and righteousness. A single voice in the music scales the heights of heaven to represent all of us as we turn to God with that same awareness of sin, that same plea for mercy, and that same affirmation that we will then turn to God with thanksgiving and the offering of a humble and contrite heart.

And so with the psalmist and with Allegri, we can pray ‘Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness.’



There is an old Jewish saying: *God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.*

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods – our human mothers – all of them have been part of the celebration of ‘Mothering Sunday’ – as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as ‘live-in’ servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families – which is how ‘Mothering Sunday’ got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mother’s Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.



A Stitch in Time



Alterations for all occasions

Sarah Brightmore
Owner

sarahsbright1996@gmail.com

16 Gillygate
Pontefract
WF8 1PQ
07449501045

Perfect 10

Nail Studio

Gillygate, Pontefract

01977 704003

CND Acrylic nail extensions, Glitter and artwork available.

Shellac, Vinylux manicure.

Minx and deluxe Pedicure.

The perfect tan: LA spray tanning now available at *Perfect 10*.

Gift vouchers available

Tiddlywinks

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

COME AND JOIN US



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**Wakefield
Cathedral**

**Bishop Tony
invites you to**

**Follow
Me
2024**

**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

SPEAKERS



THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY 2024

**THE MOST REV'D AND RT. HON. STEPHEN
COTTRELL – ARCHBISHOP OF YORK**

The Archbishop is an old friend of Wakefield as he was Diocesan Missioner and Bishop's Chaplain for Evangelism in the Diocese of Wakefield and from 1993 until in 2001, he was called south to become Canon Pastor of Peterborough Cathedral and three years later was consecrated as Bishop of Reading. He became Bishop of Chelmsford in 2010 and served there until 2020 when he became the 98th Archbishop of York. Author of more than 20 books including children's books, he enjoys poetry, music and art. In one of his recent books, Dear England, Stephen Cottrell writes a letter to the country on why the Christian narrative still makes sense today.



**SATURDAY 9TH MARCH 2024
10:00-15:00**

THE RT. REV'D JOHN PRITCHARD

Join Bishop John Pritchard for his session named 'Sleeping on the Job', this Quiet Day at the Community of The Resurrection, Miffield, gives attendees the opportunity to pause and reflect during our often busy schedules (£10 per person, drinks provided, please bring a packed lunch.)

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.

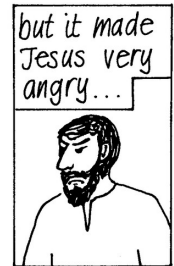
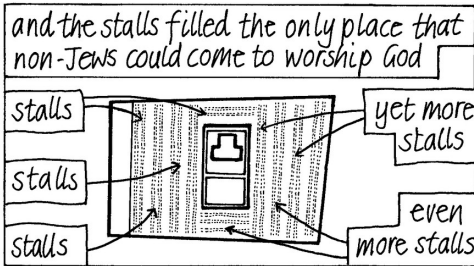
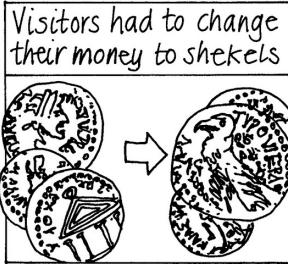
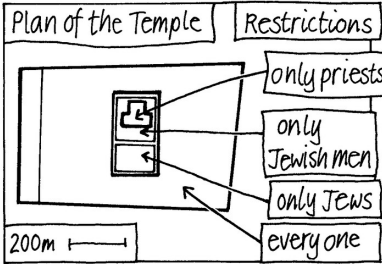
 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**
Diocese of Leeds

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt 21:12-16, Mk 11:15-18, Lk 19: 45-48

When Jesus reached Jerusalem he went to the Temple, built as a place where everyone could worship God, but with restrictions...



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

everyone

sacrifice

thieves

stalls

Jerusalem

visitors

problem

God

den

priests

Hosanna

shekels

drove

upsetting

killed

Jesus

place

crowds

prayer

worship

special

secretly

animals

Temple



*Let our family take care of your family
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Y.M.C.A. Charity Shop

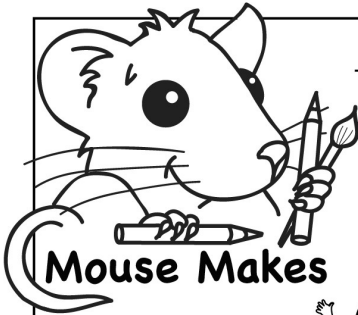
YMCA Charity Shop, Horsefair,
Pontefract.

Large white goods, menswear and
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Please ring 01977 792679 for free
collection.

Help us transform the lives of young
people in your area by donating your
unwanted goods.





"I am the resurrection and the life.
The one who believes in me will live
even though they die."

John 1:25



READ the Bible
passages to find
the answers to the
crossword clues

Matthew 21:1-11

1. Which city did Jesus ride into?
2. What did he ride on?
3. What did the crowd shout?
4. What did clothes did they put down?
7. What did they cut down to spread on the road?



Matthew 26:17-29

15. What feast did Jesus celebrate?
12. Who did he celebrate it with?
11. What did Jesus break to eat?



Matthew 27:27-61

17. What was Jesus' crown made of?
9. What was Jesus crucified on?
14. Who's tomb was Jesus buried in?
13. What did they wrap Jesus' body in?
16. What did they roll in front of the tomb?

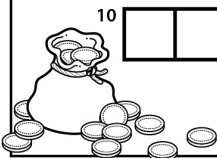
Matthew 26:36-75

6. What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
18. Who denied Jesus?



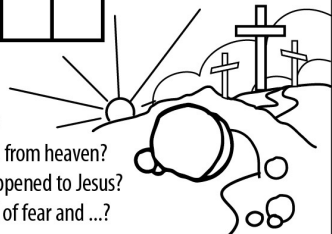
Matthew 26:14-16

- 8d. Who betrayed Jesus?
10. How many silver pieces was he paid?



Matthew 28:1-10

5. Who descended from heaven?
19. What had happened to Jesus?
- 8a. Mary was full of fear and ...?



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

Fr Sam Fletcher
Fr Michael Taylor (Honorary Priest)
Fr Rod Walker

Tel: 07938 517350
Tel: 01977 702824
Tel: 07746 980727

Jill Clapham Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)

Tel: 07740869346

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.

PCC Vice Chairman

Barbara Sessford 699058

St Giles Good Share, No.6 The Circle

Paul and Ann Harris 07808 808977

Churchwardens

Bruce Dagleish 07809 760993
Barbara Sessford 07485 546035
Peter Lavine 07910 377989
Pam Mercer 07999 807344

Mothers' Union Leader/Secretary

Marjorie Laidlaw 795748

Children's Society Box Secretary

Angela Bradley 613643

PCC Secretary/Parish Administrator

Vivienne Smales 790448
stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com

Missions Committee Secretary

Edith Barber 277226

PCC Treasurer

David Leigh 706526

Pro-Wardens at St Mary's

Frank Ward

Organist and Choir Director

James MacDonald 790448

St Mary's Church Treasurer

Delia Perrett 796223
David Leigh 706526

Tower Captain

Adrian Garner 690154

St Mary's Church Meeting Chair

Fr Michael Taylor 702824

Parish Magazine Editor

Bruce Dagleish 690216

St Mary's Community Centre

Manager: Denise Pallett 705341

St Giles' Altar Flowers

Barbara Chessman 700559

St Giles' Church School (aided)

Head teacher: Richard Grace 794175

Tiddlywinks

Barbara Lavine 07780 358306

St Giles' Pantomime Society Chair

Andy Weston 07791 656820

This month's cover shows two of the Stations of the Cross. The lighting in St Giles' is such that we normally see them only in stark silhouette; the photographs show them in their true, majestic light.



EASTER EGGS

During the Middle Ages the decorating and colouring of eggs was a popular custom throughout Europe. Different cultures developed their own preferred colours. In Greece, crimson coloured eggs were exchanged; in Eastern Europe and Russia, silver and gold were usual; whilst Austrian eggs often had fern and plant designs on them.

The first of the Fabergé eggs was made as an Easter gift for Empress Marie of Russia, from her husband, Tsar Alexander, in 1883. It featured a small gold egg, in an outer shell of platinum and enamel.

In England, eggs at Easter have been coloured and decorated from very early years. King Edward I's household accounts for 1307 include an entry for :-

18 pence for eggs which are to be boiled and dyed or covered with gold leaf for distribution to the royal household.

Later craftsmen made artificial eggs of silver and gold, ivory or porcelain, often inlaid with jewels. However, the ultimate must be the bejewelled wonders made by Carl Fabergé during the 19th Century. Today those magnificent eggs are museum pieces.

The chocolate egg has evolved from a simple chocolate egg wrapped in paper, to the bright coloured creations that we have today. The first chocolate Easter eggs were made in Europe in the early 19th Century, with France and Germany at the forefront. John Cadbury made his first Easter eggs in 1875. These were made of dark chocolate and the decorations were chocolate piping and marzipan flowers. In 1905, Cadbury's launched their 'Dairy Milk' chocolate, which was so popular that it significantly increased the sale of Easter eggs as a seasonal gift.



Pontrfract Choral Society

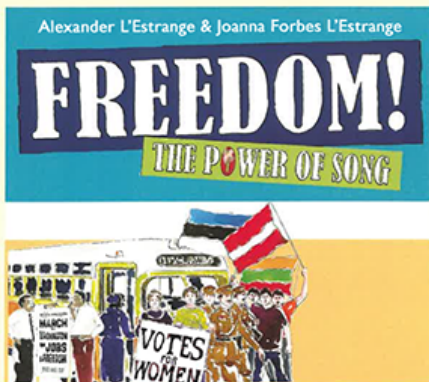
150th Anniversary Concert

Together with **WAKEFIELD FESTIVAL CHORUS;**
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Vivaldi **GLORIA**

FREEDOM! The Power of Song

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from Choir members or contact us at www.pontrfractchoralsociety.weebly.com

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Our Year - Wakefield District 2024

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OUR YEAR
Wakefield District 2024