

# FOCUS



November 2019

FREE: Please take a copy

**The monthly magazine of the Emmanuel  
Benefice of Newsome and Armitage  
Bridge and South Crosland, Huddersfield**

 **THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
Diocese of Leeds



## CONTENTS

This month's services	2
Dates for your diary	3
Clergy pages	12-14
Bible Readings	15
Contact Information	16

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## **NOVEMBER SERVICES**

### **Sunday 3 November All Saints**

9.15am: Holy Communion @ Armitage Bridge with Junior Church

9.15am : Morning worship @ South Crosland

11.00am : Holy Communion @ Newsome

### **Wednesday 6 November**

10.00am : Holy Communion @ 11 Sherwood Drive, Netherton

### **Sunday 10 November Remembrance**

9.15am: Remembrance Service @ Armitage Bridge

9.15am: Holy Communion and Remembrance Service @ South Crosland

10.45 am: Remembrance Service @ Newsome

### **Wednesday 13 November**

10.00am: Holy Communion @ 14 Sherwood Drive, Netherton

11.30am: Holy Communion @ Garden Court

### **Sunday 17 November 2 before Advent**

10.00am: Team Service @ South Crosland

### **Wednesday 20 November**

10.00am: Holy Communion @ 43 Delph Lane, Netherton

### **Sunday 24 November Christ the King**

9.15am: Holy Communion @ Armitage Bridge

9.15am: Holy Communion @ South Crosland

11:00am: Morning Worship

### **Wednesday 27 November**

10.00am: Holy Communion @ 14 Sherwood Drive, Netherton

NOVEMBER 2019

## **Café Church**

November 16<sup>th</sup> Green Elephants (Jon Love)  
St John's Church Hall; December  
21<sup>st</sup> Christmas with the Gospel Choir Berry  
Brow MC&CC;



## **FOCUS , HARD COPY AND ON LINE**

Did you know that you can download Focus from our website at <https://theemmanuelteam.org.uk> or A Church Near You <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18055/>.

You can also receive your personal copy emailed directly to your inbox .Just email your address to [rsouten@gmail.com](mailto:rsouten@gmail.com).

Most of the photos and illustrations in Focus are in colour; unfortunately we cannot afford colour printing so the hard copies are not very colourful. However, if you read Focus on line you can see all of the photos in colour. The photos within David Kent's article in October are really glorious!

Back copies of Focus are also available on the Emmanuel benefice website.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Sun 17 Nov : Final day for copy for December Focus

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### **SOUTH CROSLAND WOMEN'S SOCIETY.**

The Annual Dinner at Meltham Golf Club was enjoyed by 23 members and friends.

Rev Ann Sykes thanked the waitresses for excellent service and thanked Mabel for arranging the dinner and transport.

29th October was a talk about New Zealand by Margaret.

November 19th. A talk by Kathy from Meltham Wild Life Rescue. Please donate items of food for the animals and cleaning materials, large black bags etc. Thank you.

*Joan Sierant*

### **Notices for South Huddersfield Churches Together**

On November 30th from 10.00 am there will be a Christmas Craft Fair. There will be a range of gifts, cakes and coffee and tea. If you are interested in booking a stall or for any information about LEP events please contact Carol 07740425093 or [cmwaters53@gmail.com](mailto:cmwaters53@gmail.com)



Messy Church Netherton.  
13 November 4.00-6.00pm

### **Coffee Mornings.**

Coffee mornings in November South Crosland will be held on Saturday 9 November at South Crosland Junior School at 10.00 – 11.30. Newsome will be held on Saturday 16 November at 10.15-11.45 @ Newsome Church Hall



### **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**

Are you searching for deeper silence and peace in your life?

A group meets every Thursday 5.30 - 6.15 pm at St Paul's, Armitage Bridge.

All are welcome.

For more information contact Rev Debby Plummer or Rev Sue Clarke on 07896464417

### **Operation Christmas Child**

The final date for filled boxes is Sunday 17 November. There are forms at the back of Church at South Crosland for the boxes; there are, however, new packing requirements.



For example; no toothpaste, no sweets,  
But you can include pencils, pencil case and colouring books

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox/>

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## **Net Church**

You are welcome to join us at The Net's All-Age Worship!  
We begin at 4:00 p.m. with a community activity such as indoor games, crafts, followed by a light tea together and end at 6:00 p.m. after exploring together one of the bible characters whose life was transformed. There will be distinct breaks between sessions so come for all or part, as you are able.

November 24

December 22

We meet at St. Paul's Church, Armitage Bridge and look forward to seeing you!

For further information, please contact Jan Medland 07718 495275

## **ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**

Come and join us at Newsome on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 6pm for an Advent carol service.

We will sing some well-known advent hymns and have some readings and time for prayer.

As we begin this penitential season come and worship God together and give thanks for his amazing love and grace.



It is hard to believe that we are already thinking about Christmas but it's not that far away now!

But before we get to the celebration we need to be prepared and so we are offering a bible study group to help us to think about what Christmas and the birth of Jesus is all about.

I believe that bible study is an essential part of our Christian journey as it helps us to see other points of view when it comes to well loved and well known passages in the bible. It brings us together as brothers and sisters and centres us on God.

We are only having one group this year and it will be on

**Tuesday afternoons**

**at Armitage Bridge**

**at 2pm**

**starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.**

We will be looking at Matthew, Luke and John as we try to unravel that well known story and see what else we can learn.

Please do consider joining this group as it is good to talk together about our faith, about the world and about what our part is in bringing the Kingdom to earth.

Jesus said "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28: 19-20)

We can only do it with his help and we can better understand what we are to do if we share together.

Come and join us and find fellowship and fun as we journey together towards Christmas.



**Aspire Creating Communities** is delighted to have been granted funding from Kirklees Council to launch a brand new Aspire community group in partnership with St. John's Church, Newsome starting in January 2020!

Aspire currently runs four community groups across Kirklees, in Birkby, Crosland Moor and Fartown, and will be launching two new groups in Almondbury and Newsome.

The keys to Aspire's vision are creativity, connection and community – we love to bring people together, and reaching out to the wider community by partnering with other local organisations who want to tackle isolation in our town.

Loneliness: in figures		
<p><b>3.6 million</b> ... older people in the UK live alone, of whom over 2 million are aged 75+.</p>	<p><b>1.9 million</b> ... older people often feel ignored or invisible.</p>	<p><b>15 cigarettes</b> Loneliness can be as harmful for our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.</p>

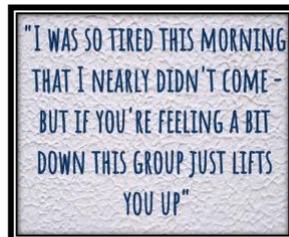
Aspire began in Birkby in October 2015 in a church that wanted to do something a bit different in their community. More than a coffee morning, Aspire runs a varied and exciting programme bringing in guest speakers, community artists, storytellers and gentle exercise, as well as pottery, creative writing and running intergenerational projects with local schools. The project has thrived and grown, now with 4 funded sessional workers and over 30 volunteers making it run smoothly.

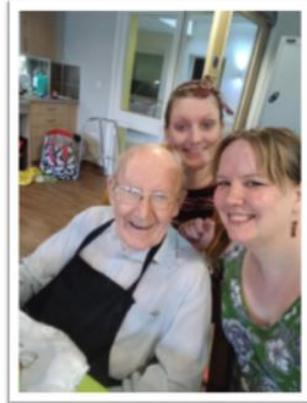
Having a laugh, making something to take home, and a friendly, warm and welcoming environment in an exciting new venture that improves mental-wellbeing, reduces isolation and promotes friendship.

Keep an eye out in the December newsletter for our start date and a brand new programme of activities!

We would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved! To find out more, or to discuss volunteering with us, please call Susanna Shotter, Project Manager and Occupational Therapist on 07542771518, or email [susanna@aspirecreatingcommunities.org.uk](mailto:susanna@aspirecreatingcommunities.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/aspirestjohns](http://www.facebook.com/aspirestjohns)





**"A sense of emotional well-being"**  
Liz, Volunteer

**"Filling a big gap in community care"**  
RV5 Befriender

**"Relief from loneliness"**  
Lucy, Gentle exercise practitioner

**"Encourages all to try something new"**  
Karina, Volunteer

**"Someone cares about you enough to know your likes and dislikes"**  
Ann, Volunteer

**"I liked meeting new people"**  
9 y/o child coming to Intergenerational session

**"The staff and volunteers offer consistency and support that goes far beyond what would typically be expected"**  
Luke, Community Artist



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### Protecting Our Planet

Here are some suggestions on how we, as individuals, can try to help curb Climate Change.

Look at the “Purge the Plastic” sheet at your church for starters.

What follows comes from a local Franciscan group, and the hope is that you are encouraged by how much you are already doing, as well as challenged here and there:

#### IN THE HOME:

Be aware of water use: e.g. length of showers, only heat as much water as you need for a cup of tea!

Low wattage light bulbs

Use soap bars

Loft insulation

Recycle jam jars, cartons, egg boxes, glass bottles

Use eco-cleaning products

Only use a full washing machine

“Line dry” clothes whenever possible

Compost heaps

Grow fruit/veg

Don't kill insects

Use loose tea, not tea bags

Recycle/Refill/Reuse

Iron only when essential (Hooray!)

Reusable cups

‘Buzzy wrap’, not cling film

Litter pick

Solar panels on church

Use a milkman

Fit smart meter

Use fountain pen or a pencil

Print out as little as possible

## SHOPPING

Use Charity Shops  
Shop locally  
Reuse shopping bags/use cloth bags  
No aerosols  
Eat less meat, especially red meat  
Buy fresh local unwrapped veg/fruit  
Don't buy out of season food  
Avoid plastic  
Invest ethically  
Church pop-up shop/food banks for surplus food  
Support the Huddersfield Welcome Centre &  
the Together Shop at Newsome

## TRAVEL

Share car transport  
Walk/cycle  
Cut down air travel  
Use public transport  
Electric/Hybrid cars

## PRAYER

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

[Pope Francis]

*Jeremy Plummer*

## FOCUS

### Clergy Pages

As winter draws in and the days become shorter it is easy for us to “hibernate” away and stay indoors. It’s cold and wet and the days don’t lend themselves to fun in the park or days out with a picnic. Winter is coming!

As I reflected on what it feels like to be snuggled up on the sofa not wanting to go out, I was reminded of the life cycle of the tortoise and how it manages the different seasons. The tortoise wakes from a deep sleep in springtime, it eats the new vegetation growing around it and it warms up as the sun shines on its back. Then when the energy levels have been replenished, it charges around like a mad thing (mostly looking for, and maybe finding, a mate). Then after expending all that energy, our tortoise slows up, relaxes in the sun, continues eating and sunbathes whilst digesting all the various vitamins and minerals required to build and maintain that incredible external skeleton, its shell. Thoroughly enjoying itself (I think!). Slowly as the world around it cools and the sun is lower in the sky, dampness sets in and frosts tell of the winter approaching, our tortoise stops eating, empties itself and slows to such a rate, it becomes almost comatose as it denies itself any life or exertion during those cold months.

Now I am not suggesting that we are in any way like tortoises, but there is a similarity in life pattern, we look forward to springtime because we know our energies will be renewed - we can get out into the garden or give the house a good old clean. We can restart the hobbies that take us out and about – golf, cycling, walking without the need for winter woollies. It is a time to think about what we can do that is new this year! Then as summer arrives we relax and enjoy

days out in the park or holidays at the seaside with family and friends. It is a time to recharge the batteries and enjoy the weather! The Autumn arrives and life begins to slow down a bit. The rain keeps us inside; the wind stops us from being as active and the short days mean we often don't get home until it is dark. And so we begin to prepare for Winter which is just around the corner and a time for snuggling down. During this period we stay at home more, maybe watch more television or enjoy more of a particular indoor hobby, but we also have a lot more thinking time it seems to me. We reminisce and look back over the year, what is it that we have achieved and what brought us joy but also what was it we didn't manage to get done and we promise ourselves we will do when the weather gets warmer!! We look forward too and think about the Christmas festivities to come, we make plans and lists of what we will do in the New Year and how we will spend more time with those we love.



The Church is like the tortoise; it has seasons too! Springtime in the church is Easter with its new life and new beginnings. The death and resurrection of Jesus gives us hope and we celebrate and give thanks for what he has done for us. Summer in the church is called ordinary time because it is a time when we can arrange events and services that celebrate family. This year we celebrated by coming together

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every Sunday to share together and get to know one another better. It was fun and most people loved it. The Autumn of the church, the time for planning and thinking about our relationship with God, comes in two parts – Lent and Advent and these are really valuable times for us to plan what we are going to do with our lives and ask where God fits in all of it. Finally there is winter and the time when we snuggle up and just enjoy being in the presence of God and of course that happens at Christmas.

However there is one month in the church that doesn't quite fit and that is November. You see we haven't quite got to Advent yet but in November we look back and we look forward too. We remember those who have been important to us and who are no longer with us – on All Souls it people we knew and loved; on All Saints it's those who died because of their faith in God and who inspire us to follow Jesus and on Remembrance Sunday it is those who died so we could be free. So we look back and think of them and give thanks for them. But we look forward too, because we are beginning to think about Christmas and all the preparations we need to make and what it will mean to us to celebrate the birth of Jesus. November is a month that doesn't quite fit the seasonal pattern but it is an important month as it marks a time for remembrance and gratitude and so as the dark nights draw in enjoy some time thinking about what might have been but planning for what will come next and give thanks that God created the seasons so that we can have a pattern to our lives to give us time to do it all.

Thanks

**Julie**



## **Bible Readings in November**

### **3 November All Saints**

Psalm 32

Luke 19 :1-10

### **10 November Remembrance**

Micah 4:1-5

Romans 8:31-end

### **17 November 2 before Advent**

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Luke 21: 5-19

### **24 November Christ the King**

Colossians 1:1-20

Luke 23:33-43

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## CONTACTS

Webpage: [www.theemanuelteam.org.uk](http://www.theemanuelteam.org.uk)

*This magazine may be read in full colour on our webpage!*

### Ministers and Readers

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Assistant Clergy:	Revd David Kent	324049
	Canon Debby Plummer	07762236986
	Revd Ann Sykes	603894
Lay Reader	Jeremy Plummer	667661

### Churchwardens

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Rena Souten [renasouten@theemanuelteam.org.uk](mailto:renasouten@theemanuelteam.org.uk)

**THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD**

*"Offering love and service to our communities in Christ's name."*