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AUGUST 2021

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

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds



Picture by Chris Jones

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Church services!

Our church services for this month will be:-

All at 10am unless stated otherwise

1st August at South Crosland

8th August at Armitage Bridge

15th August at Newsome

22nd August at South Crosland

29th August at Armitage Bridge

You no longer need to register for a ticket just come along and enjoy our services.

The new guidelines are in my Ramblings from the Rectory article in this magazine!

Thanks

Julie

Ramblings from the Rectory

I do hope you are all enjoying the lovely weather – well it is certainly lovely as I write this and I hope it continues so that we can all get some much needed fresh air and sunshine and maybe even a staycation!!

So here we are in August and we have been given our freedom once again to do all the things we have been missing these last 16 months

but we do have to be careful that we don't get too complacent lest we end up in a lockdown once again.

The Diocese, and Bishop Nick particularly, has had a mantra all the way through this time which is "Just because we can – doesn't mean we must!" They have also said many times "We are called to Love our neighbour" and "It is not a race, there is no competition - so go slowly and cautiously".

And I think these things are great things to remember. There are many things we can do but we have to stop and think about them before we do them and ask ourselves is it the right thing to do! Just because other people are doing things does not mean we have to. We need to think about what we feel we can do and take it one step at a time.

If we think about some of the stories in the bible; there were often times when great thought went into the plans before actions were taken.

Noah had all the time it took to build the ark to think about what he was doing and then he spent about a year on the ark thinking about what the future might look like when the flood receded!

Joseph spent many long days in captivity wondering if he would ever see his family again; and then when they came cap in hand for help with the famine he planned very carefully before he embraced them and showed them how much he loved them!

Ezra and Nehemiah spent decades in exile considering what the "new normal" would be if they could just go home! Then when they did, they carefully planned how to rebuild Jerusalem and the people worked with them and they achieved their dream!

We can find stories like these littered throughout the bible and we can use them to give us hope and spur us on to build our new normal – but when we are ready not when others think we should! I don't

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know yet what the new normal will look like but whatever it looks like it will be shaped by everything we have been through – the amazing work of the NHS, the wonderful way neighbour helped neighbour, heartbreak of losing those we loved and the loss of everything we held dear in the lockdowns.

Now that restrictions have gone I just pray that we will find a way to move forward that will give us the encouragement we need to keep going.

God bless you all and please remember “Just because we can – doesn’t mean we must!”

On that note we have had some guidance about what we should be doing in church as we emerge from this time and I have adapted that to fit with our church buildings.

Social distancing – there will be no more booking of seats for the services and you will be able to sit anywhere and with friends and family! However if anyone feels like they want to stay socially distanced because they feel safer then we will ensure that they can do that.

Face coverings - you will not need to wear a mask to come into church; but if anyone wants to wear one because they feel safer then they should.

Singing is more difficult! We are assuming that we will be able to sing from 25th July but how do we do so that everyone stays safe!!!

The advice says we need to keep an area of the church where those who want to wear masks and not sing feel safe but not left out. So those who want to sing unmasked are to sit near the front so that those who don’t can sit near the back and feel safe!!

The peace is another difficult one and the advice is to only pass the peace with those around you and not to move around the church. They also advise that anyone who does not want to pass the peace because they are not ready should simply sit down and everyone else will respect their right not to be touched!

Holy Communion will continue with bread only until we get clearer guidance about the chalice and a face mask will be required when you come forward to receive the bread.

Tea and coffee have resumed and we thank those who have volunteered to make it!

I hope that makes sense and I think I have covered everything but if you are at all worried then please just get in touch and I will do my best to answer any questions!!

Julie

Teams 4U Shoebox appeal.

We are raising funds to send Shoeboxes at Christmas; do you have any teddies or toiletries to donate for gift bags for a fundraiser; the Beaumont Park Yorkshire Day celebration on 1 August. Contact Rena Souten or Caroline Jones or bring them to church. Thank you.

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Welcome Foundation Big Give Christmas Challenge.

From 30th November until midday on 7th December 2021 we'll be raising funds for our [Festive 500 project](#).

We want to provide 500 clients with festive food packs for Christmas. The festive packs will include a 7-day food pack as well as all the ingredients to cook a Christmas meal or a frozen home-cooked Christmas meal for all the family.

The idea is that all funds donated in this period will be matched 100% by the corporate and other donors.

<https://www.thewelcomecentre.org/events/134-the-big-give-christmas-challenge>



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**Help needed in
September!!**



We are hoping to resume our monthly coffee morning in September at South Crosland Junior School and we are looking for volunteers to make and serve the refreshments.

The team who have been doing it pre-Covid have decided that it is time for them to hand over the reigns to a new team! They have all said they would be happy to help but feel it is time for someone else to do the organising. I am sure you will all join me in saying a huge thank you to them for all their hard work and smiling faces over the years!!

So we are looking for 3 or 4 volunteers who have a spare Saturday morning and who would like to come and serve tea and coffee and have a chat to folk as they meet!

If you think you can do that then please speak to Stella or Helen or indeed myself and we can give you all the information you need.

If no-one comes forward then the likelihood is we will not be able to reopen so please do give it some thought!!

Thanks

Julie

A Message from Debby

On July 18th, the 3 churches of the Emmanuel Benefice met for a Climate Sunday Service at St Paul's Church Armitage Bridge. Our Bronze Award EcoChurch Award has arrived and all who contributed to the questionnaire came forward for a photo. We are already not far from Silver Award and will spend the next months working on one area, Lifestyle.



In the photo, left to right:

Caroline Jones, Holy Trinity South Crosland Environment group

Paul Roebuck-Rouse, PEO Holy Trinity South Crosland

Lorraine Trebble, St Paul's AB Environment Group, churchyard gardener and bell-ringer

Julie Anderson, Rector, and Yasmin (her granddaughter)

Debby and Jeremy, St Paul's Env't Group

Sarah Pope, St Paul's Env't Group and Sunday school leader

August begins with an ancient Christian Festival, Lammas (loaf-mass). There were originally 4 country festivals each year - Plough Sunday, when machinery was blessed, Rogation Sunday, when farm animals and growing crops, water sources & people were blessed, and the boundaries of parishes were walked, Lammas, when the first fruits of the new grown wheat were baked into a special loaf used at Communion and Harvest Thanksgiving, a festival to celebrate the “ingathering” of all crops.

I will be leading a Lammas communion service on August 1st at Holy Trinity, South Crosland. I do hope you will enjoy this ancient service with a modern spin and the bread specially baked!! And we will think about the significance of bread in the service.

Debby

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GRAVEYARD GANGS

Holy Trinity, South Crosland and St Paul's Armitage Bridge both have dedicated teams of volunteers who strive to keep the graveyards tidy.

The St Paul's team convenes every Wednesday morning and any casual observer will see that they do a fantastic job at keeping the graveyard and environs looking well loved. As I chatted to Helen she added to the contents of her trusty bucket. Another unwanted gift left by a dog on a grave; indeed the bucket contained 12 donations from around the graveyard.



The team that battles the nettles and grass at Holy Trinity convenes as often as possible; in recent times this has been Saturday mornings. Two strong folk man the trimmers; so invariably it's two men. They combine strength and the legs of mountain goats to strim the lower graveyard.

The other volunteers rake the strimmed grass and tidy around the 700 odd graves .

The only qualification for membership of either of these graveyard gangs is a willingness to join in; you can bring your own gardening implements . Both teams enjoy the fellowship of the hard work and particularly the refreshments. Why not come and join us?



Golden Wedding Celebrations

Joyce and Keith Garside celebrated their Golden Wedding on 3rd July. They married at Ossett Congregational Church in 1971 before moving to Ingleton Road in Newsome.

They soon became active members of the congregation at Newsome Church, both enjoying singing as part of the church choir. Joyce has been the Treasurer at Newsome Church for over twenty years.

Congratulations Joyce and Keith.



August Readings and prayers



David Beale Unsplash

**Sunday 1st August – 9th Sunday after Trinity – Ephesians 4: 1-16
and John 6: 24-35**

Prayer for the Day

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 2nd Psalm 44, Ezekiel 37.1-14, Mark 1.1-13 Lord, we praise you, the Lord of all wonder and life. We rejoice that with you nothing is impossible and that even before we knew it you were touching our lives and preparing them to be filled with your love.

Tuesday 3rd Psalm 48, Ezekiel 37. 15-end, Mark 1.14-20

We praise you for the light and the peace with which you flood our lives and for the truth that makes each day worthwhile.

Wednesday 4th Psalm 119.57-80, Ezekiel 39. 21-end, Mark 1.21-28

We praise you for your Holy Spirit, who opens our eyes to see the world, not only as it really is but also as you meant it to be.

Thursday 5th Psalm 57, Ezekiel 43. 1-12, Mark 1. 29-end

We praise you for the Christ who came and the Christ who still comes.
We praise you for the Christ who will come again.

Friday 6th Transfiguration of Our Lord Psalm 27, 1 Kings 19.1-16, 1 John 3.1-3

We praise you for coming to us in the hustle and bustle of life every day. No matter who we are or what we are doing or facing your almighty presence and power lifts us and changes us.

Saturday 7th Psalm 68, Ezekiel 47. 1-12, Mark 2.13-22 We praise you that your presence and power still transform the world, and the lives of your people, that your being with us still gives new meaning to all that we do.

Sunday 8th August – 10th Sunday after Trinity – Ephesians 4: 25 – 5: 2 and John 6: 35, 41-51

Prayer for the Day

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 9th Psalm 71, Proverbs 1.1-19, Mark 2.23-3.6 Lord, we pray for all families suffering from breakdown in family relations. For all who suffer terminal illness. We pray for all who suffer dementia or schizophrenia; for their cares and all who tend to their needs, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Tuesday 10th Psalm 73, Proverbs 1.20-end, Mark 3.7-19a

Lord, we remember before you all areas of ethnic violence and racial hatred. We pray for the United Nations and for all who work for peace

and unity through out the world today, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Wednesday 11th Psalm 77, Proverbs 2, Mark 3.19b-end

Lord, we pray that you will strengthen the fellowship of your people, and we remember all who are striving to realize the unity that you give to your church, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thursday 12th Psalm 78.1-39, Proverbs 3.1-26, Mark 4.1-20

Heavenly Father, we rejoice that we abide in you and in your everlasting love; you accept us when we find it hard to accept ourselves and each other. We pray that you will sustain us when we are weak and fall away from the teachings of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ our Lord.

Friday 13th Psalm 55, Proverbs 3.27-4.19, Mark 4.21-34

Holy Lord, when our way is full of darkness and doubt, increase our faith, that we may ever praise and glorify the Father, in all that we say, do or think, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Saturday 14th Psalm 76, Proverbs 6.1-19, Mark 4.35-end

Lord Jesus, Son of the Father, give us wisdom and faith to trust in you when we cannot see your presence in our daily lives: help us to know that you will never leave us or forsake us.

**Sunday 15th August – 11th after Trinity – Mary, Mother of Jesus
Galatians 4: 4-7 and Luke 1: 46-55**

Prayer for the Day - Almighty God who looked upon the lowliness of Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son; grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 16th Psalm 80, Proverbs 8.1-21, Mark 5.1-20

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Lord, we thank you for the priceless gift we call life, for the time to live it, space to explore it, for dreams that lift us and for the hopes that encourage us.

Tuesday 17th Psalm 87, Proverbs 8.22-end, Mark 5.21-34

Lord, thank you for those who journey with us and offer to hold our hand and share the mystery, the wonder and the pain of each step.

Wednesday 18th Psalm 119.105-128, Proverbs 9, Mark 5.35-end

Lord, we thank you for the moments of great activity, and the times of stillness, for the times of success as well as those that appear to be failure.

Thursday 19th Psalm 90, Proverbs 10.1-12, Mark 6.1-13

Lord, for the opportunities to serve and to be served, for the things we are able to do and for the times you call us to be content just to be.

Friday 20th Psalm 88, Proverbs 11.1-12, Mark 6.14-29

Lord, we thank you for Jesus and his total understanding of what it means not only to be human but what it means to be us.

Saturday 21st Psalm 96, Proverbs 12.10-end, Mark 6.30-44

Lord, thank you that each day contains another opportunity to discover new ways in which you transform what we are into what you always meant us to be.

Sunday 22nd August – 12th Sunday after Trinity – Ephesians 6: 10-20 and John 6: 56-69

Prayer for the Day

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness,

increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 23rd Psalm 98, Proverbs 14.31-15.17, Mark 6.45-end

Lord, what a gift you have given; what a treasure we hold. What a fragile inheritance you have entrusted to our care, for freedom is your gift and must be handled with care.

Tuesday 24th *Bartholomew the Apostle* Psalm 86, Genesis 28.10-17, John 1.43-51

Lord, we praise you for the freedom we have to think and to choose; for the freedom to learn and to share what we have; for the freedom to discover just why we are here and to allow you to use us in ways we never dreamt possible.

Wednesday 25th Psalm 110, Proverbs 18.10-end, Mark 7.14-23

Lord, the freedom you give is what makes us what we are, and the freedom you give makes us responsible for the choices we make.

Thursday 26th Psalm 113, Proverbs 20.1-22, Mark 7.24-30

We praise you for the freedom to worship and to confess you as Lord; for the freedom to serve and, in all we do, to be able to demonstrate the love of our God, to speak of our Saviour and Lord, that others might know the freedom that's ours.

Friday 27th Psalm 139, Proverbs 22.1-16, Mark 7.31-end

Lord, we praise you for our freedom in Christ; for his death on the cross where our freedom was paid for and for his glorious resurrection that brought your gift to our door.

Saturday 28th Psalm 120, Proverbs 24.23-end, Mark 8.1-10

Lord, for the renewal of our freedom that the Holy Spirit brings daily and for the freedom of heaven that is already ours. Thank you that we have the freedom to confess that Jesus is Lord.

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

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THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD

“Offering love and service to our communities in Christ’s name.”