

FOCUS



JULY 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



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Church services!

Our church services for this month will be:-

All at 10am unless stated otherwise

4th July at Newsome

11th July at South Crosland

18th July at Armitage Bridge for our Environment service

25th July at Newsome

If you would like to come to one of the service please use our booking in system at www.ticketsource.co.uk/church-of-england-parish or email me and I will book a seat for you!

Thank you all for your continued support and patience as we navigate the safest way forward!

Julie

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 2 fundraisers; the Meltham Scarecrow festival on 3 July and the Beaumont Park Yorkshire Day celebration on 1 August.

Contact Rena Souten or Caroline Jones or bring them to church or we'll collect from you in a socially distanced way. Thank you.

Dear Friends

**Whether the weather be wet, whether the weather be hot,
We'll weather the weather, whatever the weather, whether we like it
..... or not?**

By the time you read this, we will have passed Midsummer's Day - how time flies! A year like no other (apart from 2020). I am glad to have seen some real rain fall on my garden and allotment in the last 24 hours, the first in weeks. We are fortunate in Britain to have plenty of rain, although it is uneven - there are droughts and floods. One of our prayer booklets this week said that the Sahara desert is gradually growing; Ethiopia and Kenya are particularly affected and the Fulani herdsmen of Nigeria are finding it hard to pasture their cattle, whose milk is drying up. On the other hand, many low-lying island nations in the Pacific are threatened by rising sea levels, caused by polar ice melting. Where will their peoples go? Will we see climate refugees as well as those fleeing injustice and violence?

Climate change is a reality and if we look ahead, it will affect all of us. We could become anxious or distressed about this but there still is hope, because there is plenty which we can do - as individuals, helping one another, as nations, as a world in union. But little spare time! The UK Government is committed to bringing down our national greenhouse gas emissions to "net zero" by 2050. And Kirklees is one of the many UK councils who accept that climate change is an emergency. 57 of those councils are bringing the date of "net zero" nearer - to 2045.

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What about the Church?

Last year, the Church of England General Synod made a big leap forward. It decided that the Church and all that it is responsible for should be at net zero carbon by 2030. That means that our lifestyles as Christians, our impact on our local communities, our church buildings, our churchyards & land and our church services and Sunday schools all need to be looked at and for changes to be met. After all, our 5th Mark of Mission is “To sustain and renew the life of the earth”.

We are already making a good start here in the Emmanuel churches! As a local church community, we are open to taking long term action to reduce our own greenhouse gas emissions. We have joined EcoChurch, a project run by the charity A Rocha. St Paul’s Armitage Bridge has reached Bronze award standard and is on way to Silver award. Holy Trinity South Crosland has just started. Will they catch us up? Wait and see!! Their Environment rep Paul Roebuck-Rouse is onto it!

What does it cost? Certainly time - and there is software to learn about, so computer skills are needed - but only by a handful of people. Some money - for example gas boilers make a lot of greenhouse gases, whereas electrical heating, with electricity from green suppliers, makes no greenhouse gases. But there are grants available.



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Climate Sunday

On July 18th, we are holding a special Climate Sunday service at 10am at Armitage Bridge and of course an online service too. It will be a climate-focused service to explore the theology and science of creation care, action on climate, and we will pray and (I hope) commit to action.

On September 5th, National Climate Sunday, all the commitments from churches like ours will be sent to our government so that they see how the churches are backing MP's in making good plans for a zero carbon future long before 2050.

If you have a computer, do look at the Climate Sunday website. And if you are interested in finding out what your own "carbon footprint" is, how about going to the World Wildlife Fund website and downloading their "My Footprint" app! It is good fun and will give you ideas about your lifestyle!!

That's all for now, folks!!

Debby



Climate Sunday

climatesunday.org

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A Prayer for Climate Change

You spoke into the silence
Light suffusing darkness.
You spoke into the silence
Blowing clean life giving air into the space
You spoke into the silence
Warmth and cold infusing the air
You spoke into the silence
Solid ground formed out of gushing water.
You spoke voice carrying over the sound
People, plants and animals came to life.
You spoke each creation balanced against the next so life would be
abundant and sustainable.
You saw everything you had made and declared it to be very good.
You spoke choosing to give us humans stewardship over all that You
had made.
We speak and act
Darkness of pollution limits light levels and damages the air we
breathe.
We speak and act
Ground poisoned, burnt, stripped bare.
We speak and act
Spoiling, limiting, destroying quality of life and life itself.
We speak and act
Without hearing Your call over the noise of the world to be good
stewards.
You speak. You create. You want us to be stewards of Your creation.
We come to You to re-learn how to care for the earth and people you
have made.

Katrina Rowland, April 2017.



Julie STILL needs some help!!!

Are you creative?

Do you know your way around a computer?

Do you enjoy solving puzzles?

Do you have some spare time?

If you can answer yes to all these then maybe you can offer me some help!!

I am looking for someone willing to learn how to edit the services once we record them and then upload them to the YouTube channel for everyone to watch!!

If you think you can help then please drop me an email and we can have a chat about it! If there are 2 or 3 volunteers then it would mean we can all take turns!!

Look forward to hearing from you!!

Julie

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A Baptism

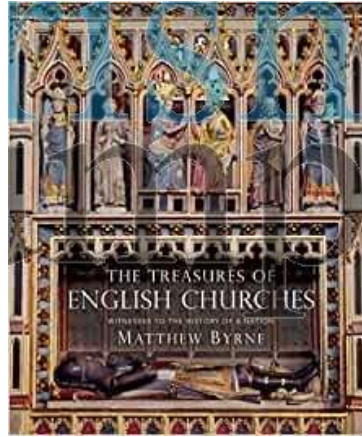
Sunday 20 June 2021.

During a very special service Paul Roebuck Rouse was baptised by the Rev Julie at Holy Trinity, South Crosland.



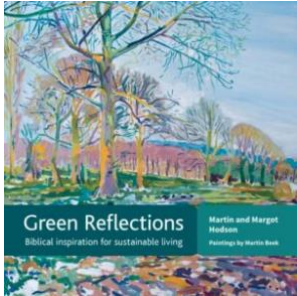
Book Review

The Treasures of English Churches – witnesses to the history of a nation
By Matthew Byrne, Shire Publications, supported by National Churches Trust, £17.00



This book will be a sheer delight for anyone who enjoys the magnificent artefacts to be found in our metropolitan cathedrals and remote parish churches. The wide range of stunning photographs include 16th century carvings on the choir seats of a village church to iridescent stained glass windows commemorating the Second World War, to ultra-modern art in Liverpool cathedral. It is a rich selection of the best of our national church sculptures, stained-glass windows, church furniture and architecture. Together these artistic treasures trace the changing attitudes towards theology, politics and social life of Britain. If you can't get out and about this summer as much as you would like, this book will provide you with a 'virtual' tour of many beautiful buildings.

Book Review



**Green Reflections: biblical inspiration
for sustainable living
By Martin Hodson and Margot
Hodson BRF £8.99**

How should we look after the world we inhabit?

This book combines scientific and theological wisdom to offer 62 reflections inspired by passages from the Bible in a thoughtful exploration that encourages both reflection and response. Themes include The Wisdom of Trees, Landscapes of Promise and Sharing Resources.



Photo by Caroline Jones

Readings for July 2021

Sunday 4th July – 5th Sunday after Trinity – Romans 1: 14-17 and John 4: 35-38

Prayer for the Day

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 5th Psalm 98, Ezekiel 1.1-14, 2 Corinthians 1.1-14

Praise to you, O faithful God, you never fail those who trust in you, but you allow us to share in your glory.

Tuesday 6th Psalm 106, Ezekiel 1.15-2.2, 2 Corinthians 1.15-2.4

Lord, you fight for us against everything that could attack or do us harm.

Wednesday 7th Psalm 110, Ezekiel 2.3-3.11, 2 Corinthians 2.5-end

Lord, you are our Shepherd and you free us from the snare of danger.

Thursday 8th Psalm 113, Ezekiel 3.12-end, 2 Corinthians 3

Lord, you protect all who honour you and praise your holy name, and great is the sweetness that you give us in return.

Friday 9th Psalm 139, Ezekiel 8, 2 Corinthians 4

Lord, you are love, wisdom, humility. You are our rest, our peace, joy and gladness.

Saturday 10th Psalm 120, Ezekiel 9, 2 Corinthians 5

Lord, you are our protector, you are our courage, our faith. You are our eternal life and our Great and Wonderful Lord,

Sunday 11th July – 6th Sunday after Trinity – Ephesians 3: 14-21 and Mark 10: 46-52

Prayer for the Day

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Prayers for the Week

Monday 12th Psalm 123, Ezekiel 10.1-19, 2 Corinthians 6.1-7.1

Lord, you are the faithful one, and it is next to you and your gracious, generous love that we must measure all that we count faithful and true.

Tuesday 13th Psalm 132, Ezekiel 11.14-end, 2 Corinthians 7.2-end

Lord, you are the faithful one, and we know that we can trust you in all things now and forever.

Wednesday 14th Psalm 119.153-end, Ezekiel 12.1-16, 2 Corinthians 8.1-15

Lord, you are the faithful one, and we have discovered that your love reaches out and reaches down to meet us where we are and lift us to the heights of your grace.

Thursday 15th Psalm 143, Ezekiel 12.17-end, 2 Corinthians 8.16-9.5

Lord, you are the faithful one, your holiness cannot turn a blind eye to our sin and disobedience; but we know too that your love and forgiveness will always be the final word.

Friday 16th Psalm 147, Ezekiel 14.1-11, 2 Corinthians 10

Lord, you are the faithful one, every time we look at the cross, it's like looking into the face of God himself.

Saturday 17th Psalm 142, Ezekiel 13.1-16, 2 Corinthians 9.6-end

Father, we praise you for Jesus your beloved son, for his faithfulness to you and your will; that in and through him we can receive the offer of your grace and the evidence of your faithfulness.

Sunday 18th July – 7th Sunday after Trinity – Ephesians 2: 11-end and Mark 6: 30-34 & 54-end

Prayer for the Day

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 19th Psalm 1, Ezekiel 14.12-end, 2 Corinthians 11.1-15

We thank you, Gracious God, for your love for us, gentle as a shower, healing our pain and binding our wounds.

Tuesday 20th Psalm 5, Ezekiel 18.1-20, 2 Corinthians 11.16-end

We thank you, Gracious God, for your love for us, sure as the dawn, transforming our darkness and revealing your truth.

Wednesday 21st Psalm 119.1-32, Ezekiel 18.21-32, 2 Corinthians 12

We thank you, Gracious God, for your love for us, mercifully steadfast, calling us to you and raising us up.

Thursday 22nd 'Mary Magdalene' Psalm 30, 1 Samuel 16.14-23, Luke 8.1-3

We thank you, Gracious God, for your love for us, encouraging questions, open to doubts and making us vulnerable.

Friday 23rd Psalm 17, Ezekiel 20.21-38, James 1.1-11

Gracious God, urge us on to find wholeness through serving you by serving others, in the power of your Spirit.

Saturday 24th Psalm 20, Ezekiel 24.15-end, James 1.12-end

Gracious God, Lord of light, shining on the world. We join our voices to Praise You.

Sunday 25th July – 8th Sunday after Trinity – 2 Corinthians 4: 7-15 and Matthew 20: 20-28

Prayer for the Day

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 26th 'James the Apostle' Psalm 7, 2 Kings 1.9-15, Luke 9.46-56

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Lord, we pray for those who are anxious about the past; for those who are troubled today, by memories of their yesterdays that won't go away.

Tuesday 27th Psalm 27, Ezekiel 28.1-19, James 2.1-13

Lord, we pray for those who are anxious about tomorrow; for those whose lives are crippled by fear of what the future might hold.

Wednesday 28th Psalm 32, Ezekiel 33.1-20, James 2.14-end

Lord, we pray for those who are anxious about today; for those who know what today will bring; for those who are sinking under the weight of responsibilities heaped upon them and who see way to lighten their load.

Thursday 29th Psalm 34, Ezekiel 33.21-end, James 3

Lord, we pray for those who are simply anxious and can give no reason for their anxiety within; for those whose anxiety robs them of sleep and daily leaves them seeking in pain for an experience of rest and renewal.

Friday 30th Psalm 37, Ezekiel 34.1-16, James 4.1-12

Lord, we pray for those who are anxious for others and for those whose concern for family, friends and neighbours outstrips their capacity to respond.

Saturday 31st Psalm 41, Ezekiel 36.16-36, James 5.7-end

Lord, we pray for those with no sense of anxiety and no feelings of concern in their lives; for those who are content to drift through life and never consider the needs and fears of their neighbours.



Photo by Caroline Jones

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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.”