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SEPTEMBER 2021

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



Picture by Helen Pearson

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Church services!

Our church services for this month will be:-

5th September 8.30am at St John's Newsome BCP communion

5th September 11.15 – First service at Berry Brow Methodist Church

12th September 10am at South Crosland

19th September 10am at Armitage Bridge

26th September 8.30am at St John's Newsome BCP communion

26th September 11.15 at Berry Brow Methodist Church

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.

Masks will be required for moving around the church but can be removed when sitting!

Thanks

Julie

Clergy Letter from David (on holiday)

As I write this letter I'm sat in my caravan sited in woodland near Woodhall Spa in South Lincolnshire.

We started out the holiday last week when we travelled to Salhouse near Norwich where we stayed with some lifelong friends for 3 days.

We had a lovely time catching up on our lives (our ailments) and our families as well as exploring the Broads.

We followed that by a three day stay with our daughter Rachel and her husband at their new home in Leverington, north Cambridgeshire, where we enjoyed some nice dog walks exploring Fenland along with a trip to Sandringham (not to mention a scrumptious afternoon tea at a local farm shop).

As I sit relaxing in my caravan I reflect on the daily news coming out of Afghanistan, illustrated by the accompanying video footage, and on the scenes from our parliament as they debate our troop withdrawal.



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I'm trying to imagine what it's like to live in a country where there is a constant threat from terrorists but where we are protected by a large and powerful ally.

When suddenly the protection, which has been in place for twenty years, is arbitrarily removed.

Within two days the Islamic extremists have taken control of the whole country and we are left totally vulnerable to fellow countrymen with a history of unspeakable violence and repression, especially to the weakest members of society.

How terrified do you need to be to cling on to the outside of an enormous jet aircraft as it takes off? Only to fall to your death.

It brought back memories of people jumping out of the windows on the 80th floor of the World Trade Centre during the 9/11 attacks.

No doubt things will have changed by the time you read this but I'd like to share a few thoughts with you:-

1. By what right do I sit relaxing in my caravan while my fellow human beings endure such unspeakable horrors?
2. What kind of God does the Taliban serve when they believe that inflicting terror, murder, repression and destruction constitute doing God's will?
3. What will I do, in the name of Christ, to help the people in Afghanistan and those seeking asylum in this country?
4. What will we do as a church to help Afghans seeking to re-settle in this country?

5. How will we shine the light and love of Christ into this darkest of places, bringing hope to the hope-less?
6. What would Jesus do? What is he doing?

Praying for God's blessing and healing on Afghanistan

Praying for God's blessing upon you all.

David

Thursday 22 July 2021

To all churches and parishes in the Diocese of Leeds

As you know, the government lifted pandemic restrictions from 19 July. Whilst welcomed by many, this has also caused apprehension for many others. Emergence was always going to prove challenging as responsibility would shift from edict to local choice.

It is evident from communication I and my colleagues are getting that there is anxiety around about our current uncertainties and where responsibility lies for elements of responding to the relaxation of these pandemic restrictions. This focuses particularly where there is a dispute between those who wish to "go back to normal now" and those who are more cautious amid the ongoing risks and uncertainties ahead.

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Responsibility for decisions about local arrangements will fall on the incumbent and PCC. We urge you to move slowly, step by step, being careful to love your neighbour and seek to protect the vulnerable. In particular, we urge that you continue to receive Communion as we have done for the last eighteen months while we monitor change and public health risk. It is not clear that we are on an ever-rising trajectory to ‘freedom’; people on all sides of the political divides are worried about further restrictions or lockdowns in the autumn and winter, and that will be harder to manage than taking it slowly now.

In his letter to the church in Philippi Paul urges his readers to “look not only to your own interests, but to the interests of others” (2:4). This means possibly sacrificing our own ‘rights’ on the altar of other people’s needs.

Please consider also the particular pressures upon clergy and lay leaders at this time as they seek to do what is right and (pastorally) best for all. Uncertainty is always difficult to navigate; we need to hold together as we do it.

Your bishops and their colleagues pray for you. Your archdeacons and area deans are ready to support you in your decision making. But, in all things be patient, kind and generous as we seek to be faithful to Christ and to one another in the months ahead.

In Christ who set our pattern.

The bishops of Leeds, Kirkstall, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Ripon and Bradford.

Ringing at St. Paul's, Armitage Bridge

Following the lifting of most of the covid regulations the bells at Armitage Bridge are once again ringing out on a regular basis. Like everyone else involved in hobbies and pastimes, numbers after such a long layoff are never guaranteed. Our "home team" of mainly ladies have rung the bells when needed for Sunday service. Clear now to resume our Wednesday night, practice numbers are swelled by friends from Huddersfield Parish, Almondbury and Meltham amongst other towers.

Continuing to teach our skill we have welcomed back two ladies from Holmfirth who we taught to handle a bell before covid. They are progressing very well, hopefully they will help strengthen the band at All Hallows, Almondbury. We have also been helped by Sally and Oliver Austin who have moved to our side of town, plus Sally's mum ,who along with her husband , has relocated from Suffolk to be near granddaughter, Martha.



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In late spring we were approached by “The Hull Handbell Project” to take on the task of training a registered blind guy from Elland to ring a tower bell. This has been an interesting project as it involved putting in place a risk assessment which Alistair Storey of Meltham kindly prepared for us. Neil Donovan and Rebecca Legowski (herself registered blind) travelled across from Beverley/Hull to school Alan in how to teach him. With the help of David Smith from Lindley tower good progress has been made. Already an accomplished change ringer on handbells it shouldn't be too much longer before Damien can ring a tower bell on his own.

The team spirit of ringing has brought us through the pandemic, if you would like to be part of our team and learn to ring please make contact or come along to St Pauls, Armitage Bridge on a Wednesday night at 7:30pm.

Alan



Platinum Anniversary Celebration

John and Phylis Heeley celebrated their Platinum Wedding Anniversary on 4th August 2021. They were married at St Paul's Church, Armitage Bridge on August 4th 1951.

In moving to live in Nethererton, they became active members of St Paul's Church but unfortunately more recently have found it difficult to leave their home to attend Church services.

They especially want to thank the Emmanuel Benefice of Newsome, Armitage Bridge and South Crosland for the 70th Anniversary card, signed with their good wishes and the most beautiful basket of flowers sent from all their church friends.



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Let's get Cooking

We are starting a vegetarian / vegan recipe spot in Focus.

Here is one Jeremy and I love - I cook it every couple of weeks and throw extras into it to vary the flavour!

It is based on Lentils (1) in Priya Wickramasinghe 's book "Spicy and Delicious", published in 1979. She later became a restaurateur in Leeds.

Lentil and chick pea curry - this much feeds 4-6 people for a main meal

1.5 cups of orange lentils

1 medium-sized onion, finely chopped

1 or 2 teaspoons of minced chilli (depends if you like hot food!)

A few curry leaves

2 tsp cumin powder

2 tsp coriander powder

Half tsp turmeric

Half tsp fenugreek seed

2 tbsp oil (I use olive-pomace mix)

2 tsp salt

1 tin of chick peas. drained.

1 tin of chopped tomatoes

Put lentils in pan with 3 cups of cold water and half the onion.

Optional addition is finely diced sweet potato

Bring to boil and simmer until lentils are cooked and quite mushy.

In another pan (I use a wok) heat the oil and sputter the mustard

seeds in it - I cover the seeds with a glass pan lid. Then add rest of onion and fry until golden brown. Add all the rest of the spices.

Add the lentils and onion when mushy.

Add a tin of drained chick peas

Add a tin of chopped tomato .

Optional extra - add a little creamed coconut at this stage.

Simmer all together for 15 minutes.

Serve with rice or nan bread. Enjoy!!

Leftovers freeze well.



Debby

A Week of Prayer from CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLD-WIDE

This was published in their July prayer list, but clearly has general application. I commend it to our own prayer lives:

Seeking justice is at the very core of our work. It's the mission Christ gave to his Church when he taught his disciples to pray for God's kingdom to come on earth, and it's the reason why we advocate for freedom of religion or belief for all. This week let's pray with renewed hope for a just world – one where everyone is free to choose and practise their faith freely and in safety – on earth as it is in heaven.

Sunday

'Speak the truth to each other and render true and sound judgment in your courts.' (Zechariah 8:16) Pray that all those who are unfairly facing trial because of their beliefs would be met with just judges who seek the truth above all else.

Monday

'At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.' (Acts 16:26b) Today, ask God to free all those currently imprisoned or detained on account of their beliefs.

Tuesday

'Defend the rights of the poor and needy.' (Proverbs 31:9b)
Remember all those impoverished – those prevented from having access to water, electricity and other essential services, or barred from applying for certain jobs – because they belong to a minority faith group.

Wednesday

'So God created mankind in his own image.' (Genesis 1:27a) Pray today for all children around the world who are denied fair access to

education on account of their faith; that their communities and governments would recognise that they are of equal value and grant them the rights they deserve.

Thursday

'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned...' (2 Corinthians 4:8-9) Pray for strength and renewed hope for all those who are waiting for justice; those forced to flee their homes or who have had their property destroyed; those who suffer daily harassment because of their faith.

Friday

'Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' (Matthew 5:10) Today pray for the human rights defenders, activists, journalists and NGO workers who devote their lives to seeking justice, often risking their own safety to defend the rights of others.

Saturday

Loving heavenly Father, we lift up to you all those facing injustice because of their faith around the world. May they be comforted, strengthened, filled with hope, and trust that in time justice will 'roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!' (Amos 5:24) Amen.

Jeremy

September Readings and prayers

Sunday 29th August – 13th after Trinity James 1: 17-end & Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15 & 21-23

Prayer for the Day – Almighty God you search us and know us; may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 30th Psalm 126, Proverbs 25.1-4, Mark 8.11-21

Lord, we praise you for each new day, whatever it brings- sun, wind or rain- it is gift-wrapped from you.

Tuesday 31st Psalm 132, Proverbs 25.15-end, Mark 8.22-26

Lord, from our first day, when our infant cry announced our arrival, to our last, when our sigh will be a silent farewell, each day we receive we will never deserve.

Wednesday 1st September Psalm 119.153-end, Proverbs 26.12-end, Mark 8.27-9.1

Lord, days are grace-filled tokens from our Father in heaven and each comes with the promise of your presence and power.

Thursday 2nd Psalm 143, Proverbs 27.1-22, Mark 9.2-13

Lord, we praise you this day whatever it brings, because this gift, is your present to us, given to share with each other.

Friday 3rd Psalm 144, Proverbs 30.1-9 & 24-31

Lord, today may have more than its share of pain or of pleasure, of delight or despair, but we can still praise you, for you are the Lord of each day, which you will hold in your care.

Saturday 4th Psalm 147, Proverbs 31.10-end

Lord, hold us now and hold us forever; hold us today, and hold us when earth's days are no more, then hold us still for all eternity.

Sunday 5th September – 14th Sunday after Trinity James 2.1-17 & Mark 7.24-end

Prayer for the Day – Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 6th Psalm 1, Wisdom 1, Mark 9.38-end

We place our hands in yours Lord, we place our hands in yours.

Tuesday 7th Psalm 5, Wisdom 2, Mark 10.1-16

We place our will in yours Lord, we place our will in yours.

Wednesday 8th Psalm 119.1-32, Wisdom 3.1-9, Mark 10.17-31

We place our days in yours Lord, we place our days with you.

Thursday 9th Psalm 15, Wisdom 4.7-end, Mark 10.32-34

We place our thoughts in yours Lord, we place our thoughts in yours.

Friday 10th Psalm 19, Wisdom 5.1-16, Mark 10.35-45

We place our hearts in yours Lord, we place our hearts in yours.

Saturday 11th Psalm 23, Wisdom 5.17-6.11, Mark 10.46-end

We place our lives in you Lord, we place our lives in yours.

Sunday 12th September – 15th Sunday after Trinity Isaiah 50: 4-9a & Mark 8: 27-end

Prayer for the Day – Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 13th Psalm 30, Wisdom 6.12-23, Mark 11.1-11

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

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were touching our lives and preparing them to be filled with your love.

Tuesday 14th Holy Cross Day Psalm 2, Genesis 3.1-15, John 12.27-36a

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

Wednesday 15th Psalm 34, Wisdom 7.15-8.4, Mark 11.27-end

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.

Thursday 16th Psalm 37, Wisdom 8.5-18, Mark 12.1-12

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

Friday 17th Psalm 31, Wisdom 8.21-end of 9, Mark 12.13-17

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.

Saturday 18th Psalm 42, Wisdom 10.15-11.10, Mark 12.18-27

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.

Sunday 19th September – Harvest Festival 1 Timothy 6: 6-10 & Matthew 6: 25-33

Prayer for the Day – Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for the harvest may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord

Prayers for the Week

Monday 20th Psalm 44, Wisdom 11.21-12.2, Mark 12.28-34

Lord, bless our time together, and bless us as we go, that here and at home we may know your ceaseless presence.

Tuesday 21st Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist Psalm 49, 1 Kings 19.15-21, 2 Timothy 3.14-17

God is love, and where true love is God himself is there.

Wednesday 22nd Psalm 119.57-80, Wisdom 13.1-9, Mark 13.1-13

Loving Father, be with us now, renewing us with your creative love.

Thursday 23rd Psalm 57, Wisdom 15.16-17.1, Mark 13.14-23

Loving Son, be with us now, bringing forgiveness through your saving love.

Friday 24th Psalm 51, Wisdom 18.6-19, Mark 13.24-31

Loving Spirit, be with us now, strengthening us with your sustaining love.

Saturday 25th Psalm 68, Wisdom 19, Mark 13.32-end

Loving God, Father, Son, Spirit, as we worship, may we be built up in love.

Sunday 26th September – 17th Sunday after Trinity Psalm 19: 7-end & Mark 9: 38-end

Prayer for the Day – Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 27th Psalm 71, 2 Chronicles 9.1-12, Mark 14.1-11

Father, forgive us that we fill our minds with many things that cause us hurt or confusion instead of focusing our attention on Jesus.

Tuesday 28th Psalm 73, 2 Chronicles 10.1-11.4

Father, we confess that we make space in our lives for the things we want to do, and then we pretend we are too busy to serve you.

Wednesday 29th *Michael and All Angels* Psalm 34, Daniel 12.1-4, Acts 12.1-11

Father, we confess that we are quick to criticise others and to judge them for the very same things of which we ourselves are guilty.

Thursday 30th Psalm 78.1-39, 2 Chronicles 13.1-14.1, Mark 14.43-52

Father, forgive us our lack of sympathy, our failure to show mercy and our neglect of passion.

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Friday 1st October Psalm 55, 2 Chronicles 14.2-end, Mark 14.53-65

Father, forgive us for being pleased when other people make mistakes and their failures are known by everyone.

Saturday 2nd Psalm 76, 2 Chronicles 15.1-15, Mark 14.66-end

Father, forgive us where we are unforgiving, and make us clean again.




David Beale Unsplash

Holmfirth Repair Café

Do you have something that's broken but could be repaired? Then maybe you should head over to Holmfirth Repair Café. The first Saturday of every month at the Tech, 140 Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth, HD9 3AR the Repair Café is open. It is run by volunteers , between the hours of 10 and 1.00pm. It's not just electrical and domestic/garden items they can help you fix. They can help with clothing repairs and alterations to help keep items from landfill and incineration 🧵

<https://www.facebook.com/Holmfirth-Repair-Cafe-110583910560990>



Holmfirth Repair Cafe

Not a business

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THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD

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