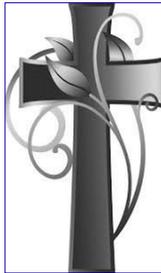




The October Broadsheet 2020



**for the parishes of
Humshaugh
with Simonburn & Wark, and
Chollerton with Birtley
Gunnerton & Thockrington**

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Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

I write this in the beautiful warm weather in the middle of September, on a day with wonderful blue skies with the autumn colours beginning to unfold, and the combine harvesters working away in the fields. It is also the day on which we in Northumberland and the surrounding area have been told that we must have much more strict rules to keep each other safe in the pandemic. Those with whom we have been accustomed to meet up for the last couple of months are now, once again, to be distant for a while. We will need to be vigilant and keep an eye on those who are alone, as the restrictions are tightened. We will need to be active in being good neighbours and in continuing to love our neighbour in practical ways. I know that many of us find the wearing of masks inconvenient, uncomfortable and at times claustrophobic, as well as a fogging hazard, especially if you wear glasses! However, there is another side to wearing masks. I am constantly reminded as I see the infinite variety of imaginative designs and colours, that they are a very visible badge of our love and care for each other. Jesus said, 'Love your neighbour as yourself' and the wearing of a mask is doing just that. It is not primarily for our own protection but for those with whom we live and move and have our being. It is so important that we each do this small thing for one another in order that the COVID virus is brought under control.

Some folk cannot wear a mask, and part of loving our neighbour is also to be understanding and not judgemental of those unable to play their part in this way. Wear your masks if you are able to as a mark of your love and care for others, as we continue to hope and pray for a vaccine and a treatment for the illness.

Sarah Lunn

HUMSHAUGH

It has been wonderful to have services in church again. Even the rules and the wearing of masks did not stop everyone from enjoying the times together.

The Mothers' Union, which should have had its closing service on March the 25(!), will now have that service on Wednesday, October the 14th at St. Peter's at 2.30.

The school children are having their Harvest Festival in school (in bubbles) on October the 2nd and on October the 4th, they will celebrate Harvest Festival in St. Peter's.

For those who have recently attended the Village Hall, will have seen the improvements which have taken place during the last few months. A kitchenette will complete improvements to the supper room. The Hall, which is a COVID 19 secure venue, remains open for activities that are still permitted under the latest Government regulations and the local "lock down" rules. For further information, please email humvillhall@gmail.com

HAP are organising an exhibition of **all** the photographs submitted to the 2021 Humshaugh Calendar Competition. It will be held in the Village Hall in the

afternoons of Saturday the 17th and Sunday the 18th of October between 2 and 5pm. Entry will be free but we ask that you follow social distancing rules and wear a face mask. Please come and enjoy!

Take care and keep safe.

Liesbeth

Birtley Notes

We have had two Ruby Wedding anniversaries in the village lately, Ernest and Liz Coulson, Woodbine Cottage late August and William and Linda Grieve, Church View a fortnight later. Our Congratulations to both couples.

The local children are now back to school after a long break, they were all ready to be with their friends again, also good luck to the new starters who are beginning their school life.

Tony Brotherton has done a good job keeping the Park and Playing field grass cut this summer, also to Anne Lowes and Joyce Bell for tending the flower plots.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Christine Archer, Jersey, formerly of Carry House. Sadly cancer had returned. Our thoughts were with her husband Francis and children, also her brother Martyn, Lesley and family.

Church warden Judith Weir had a journey to Cramlington and then the Freeman mid September.

WARK PARISH NEWS

We were almost returning to normal service and then..... all I can ask is you look out for notices and the local gossip about anything coming up in the village. A HUGE thankyou to all who helped, contributed and, importantly, came along to the (I hesitate to say Fete) event on 5th September. Thanks to you, St. Michael's can keep going a bit longer.

Wark Town Hall has said, with restrictions, it is also open for business. Please do contact Judith or Vicky about this and the regulations. It is vital we all attempt to support and continue to live a life as close to previously possible.

All will have noticed the autumnal feel to the air, so, St. Michael's, again with a difference, are holding a Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October at 6.00pm. All the usual must be observed...face covering, social distance etc etc – all know it by now. Not that far away is Christmas so thought I'd let you know Christmas Wreaths will be available by prior order. Please contact Anne on 01434 270245 or John on 07989387716 with your order then collection will be arranged.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Marlene Robson. At this difficult time a family service was held in St. Michael's.

Until we chat again, Love

John

Simonburn

Autumn is almost here but in this very strange year, we won't be having a Harvest Service in Church. We normally decorate St. Mungo's with flowers and donated produce, that is given to The People's Kitchen. Donations for this great cause, of canned food etc (no baked beans or pasta please) can be left in the box in our front garden (1 Red Lion Terrace) ASAP and we will pass on.

In September, a group of us joined Bishop Christine on the St. Cuthbert's Three Church Trail, organised by Rev. Susan Ramsaran. It was a lovely day, meeting and chatting and appreciating our beautiful countryside. We send our good wishes to Susan on her retirement.

Stay safe everyone.

Love Sharon

Services during the Pandemic

The Clergy have put together a pattern of simple services for the month subject to restrictions and personnel being available. Everyone is welcome. Any updates will be advised on the websites.

Thursday October 1st 10.00am Holy Communion -Humshaugh

Sun October 4th 10.00am Zoom Harvest Service
6.00pm Holy Communion- Birtley
7.45pm for 8.00pm Zoom Late@8

Thursday October 8th 10.00am Holy Communion -Chollerton

Sunday October 11th 8.30am Holy Communion -Thockrington
10.00am Zoom Morning Service
4.00pm Holy Communion - Wall
6.00pm Holy Communion – Wark

Thursday October 15th 10.00am Holy Communion – Gunnerton

Sunday October 18th 10.00am Zoom Morning Service
2.00pm Holy Communion-Bingfield

Thursday October 22nd 10.00am Holy Communion- Wall

Sunday October 25th 8.30am Holy Communion- Chollerton
10.00am Zoom Morning Service
6.00pm Holy Communion- Humshaugh

Thursday October 29th 10.00am Holy Communion Birtley

Readings

- 4th October Harvest Festival
Deuteronomy 8:7-18; 2 Corinthians 9:6-end; Luke 12; 16-30
- 11th October 18th Sunday after Trinity
Isaiah 25: 1-9; Philippians 2: 1-9; Matthew 22; 1-14
- 18th October St Luke the Evangelist
Isaiah 35: 3-6; 2 Timothy 4: 5-17; Luke 10: 1-9
- 25th October Last Sunday after Trinity
Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18; I Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Matthew 22: 34-end