

Priest in charge
Revd Anne White
01964 527230

Churchwardens:
St Bartholomew, Aldbrough
Mrs C. Longstaff (527190)
Mrs K. Moore (527552)
All Saints Mappleton & St Giles Goxhill:
Mr B Rhodes (533954)
Mrs R. Skinner (534580)
Mr J. Hepworth (Deputy, Mappleton 532754)
St Alban's Withernwick:
Capt. D. Smith (527419)
Mrs Doreen Fryer & Mrs Anne Wood (Deputies)

See your Parish church on the websites;
A Church near you: www.acny.org.uk
Also Diocesan website: www.dioceseofyork.org.uk

Why not try the Aldbrough & Withernwick
village websites ;
www.withernwickvillage.co.uk
www.aldbroughparishcouncil.co.uk

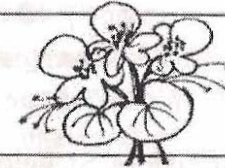
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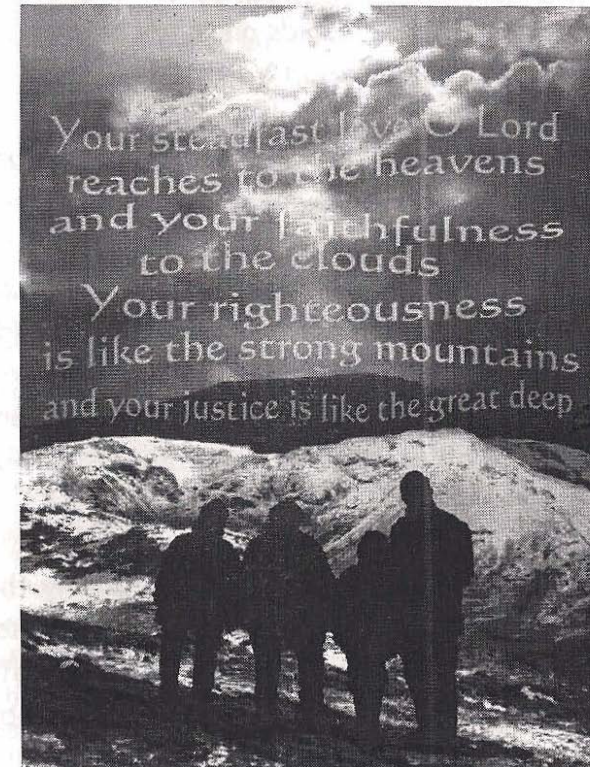
Items for next Parish News to Paul by 22nd February, please

The Parishes of Aldbrough, Mappleton & Goxhill with Great Hatfield & Withernwick

February



2015



Your steadfast love, O Lord
reaches to the heavens
and your faithfulness
to the clouds
Your righteousness
is like the strong mountains
and your justice is like the great deep

From the Vicar February 2015

There are 3 auspicious dates in February this year - the first right at the beginning of the month when in bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2 February - exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself. In the church this is known as Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

The second date is of course St Valentine. There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century - one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples. By Chaucer's time the link was assumed to be because on these saints' day -14 February - the birds are supposed to pair. Then again the custom might be due to the old Roman festival of Lupercalia when young men drew the name of a young unmarried woman from a name-box. The two would then be partners or 'sweethearts' during the time of the celebrations!



The third date is that of Ash Wednesday - traditionally the beginning of Lent and a season of acknowledging that we're not always the people God wants us to be.

In the very early Christian Church, the yearly 'class' of penitents had ashes sprinkled over them at the beginning of Lent. They were turning to God for the first time, and mourning their sins. But soon many other Christians wanted

to take part in the custom, and to do so at the very start of Lent. Today, throughout the Church of England, receiving the mark of ashes on one's forehead is optional, but to do so reminds us of our mortality: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return..." (Genesis 3:19).

February is of course the shortest month and we begin to look forward to the signs of new growth. If there is anything that Candlemas, Ash Wednesday and even Valentine's Day can teach us, it is the fact that God came to us as a human being to share in all our joys and our sorrows. He came to give us the greatest gift of all - love. So as we prepare for Lent I pray that we may all grow in faith, hope and love.

Revd Anne

From the Registers

Baptism: Lydia Elizabeth Ann Richards (Aldbrough)

Funeral: Richard Robert Leonard (Aldbrough)

Prayer for February

Dear Lord,
February can seem such a bleak, mid-winter month, often flavoured with 'flu and bad weather. But actually, the days are lengthening. There are snowdrops and other signs of new life, if we look expectantly. Spring is beckoning. Open our eyes, Lord, to see the wonders of your creation, even in February. May we appreciate the rhythms of the seasons you designed for us, and rejoice in the hope you have given us in Jesus, who came to wonderfully re-create, to make all things new, by his death and resurrection. Thank you Father for life-signs in February - and thank you especially for the new life-sign of Jesus.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

It's almost that time of year when our churches in the Benefice reflect on the past year in financial, spiritual and practical terms. This will be done at the Annual Parochial Church Meetings which take place at the beginning of March. Whilst this is still a month away I wanted to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to engage more fully with the 'workings' of the Church. So here are some FAQ's.

WHAT IS THE PCC?

The Parochial Church Council is the governing body of a parish church. It is also a charity.

The PCC has legal status and Church Representation Rules apply.

WHAT DOES THE PCC DO?

The PCC is a team made up of clergy and lay members of the church who are responsible for the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of their church, the church members, and the church buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the church within the wider community.

The PCC has at its heart both Prayer and Worship. It also seeks to promote the mission of the church both within the congregation and the wider community.

The PCC and its members have a duty to support their clergy, prayerfully and personally.

They have a duty to support the members of the congregation and to extend a welcome to all who visit the church, to members of the church community and to those visiting the church at other times.

The church has a duty of pastoral care to all who live in our communities, whether members of the church or not, and PCC members are expected to take the lead in demonstrating that care.

WHO CAN BE A MEMBER OF THE PCC?

If you are 16 years old or over, have been on the electoral roll of your parish for at least 6 months and are an actual communicant, you can stand for election to your PCC.

Our PCC's in the Benefice would like thinkers, doers, questioners and listeners. We don't mind if we have Saints, theologians and experts as well though! Please speak to one of the Churchwardens if you would consider becoming a member of your PCC.

New Year Gathering Witherwick Ladies Group

Not the usual monthly meeting- just a last celebration of the festive season. On Twelfth Night we were welcomed to the home of Maureen and Anne Woollin. The decorations were still in place, the lights twinkled and the warmth and glow of the fire, together with mulled wine and delightful refreshments gave us the chance to talk, reflect on the past year and share the special highlights of Christmas pasts. This was a lovely evening and special thanks to Maureen and Anne for their hospitality. The February meeting will be our A.G.M and will take place on Tuesday 3rd at 2.30pm at Tanton Cottage (Chris Humphrey's) when the 2015 calendar of events will be drawn up, any changes made and forthcoming speakers planned for. We welcome all new members to share friendship, listen to interesting speakers and support a number of charitable causes - why not give us a try?

Women's World Day of Prayer service

Friday 6th March 2pm

St Bartholomew's Aldbrough

Theme this year 'The Bahamas'

Refreshments afterwards, Please join us

More details tel 529070

A group of 4 to 8 year-olds was once asked: 'What does love mean?' The answers they gave were surprising for their depth of insight....

~ "When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love." Rebecca - age 8

~ "Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

~ "If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate." Nikka - age 6 (We need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)

Aldbrough WI.

After welcoming everyone to the meeting and exchanging New Year wishes the minutes from the November meeting were read and signed. Items from the Federation newsletter were read, following the first committee meeting of the year the jobs allocated to various committee members were announced. The menu for the Cross Keys Cowden was passed round, those wishing to attend the meal on 16 January were asked to choose their main course and pay a small deposit, transport was also. The main part of the evening was taken up with a Pie and Peas supper, thanks to Mrs Longstaff for organising this, and the first round of the Federation quiz. Mrs Wright was the question master for the evening. A team of four will go forward to the second round to represent Aldbrough.

Our speaker in February will be Mrs Margaret Oliver, on Family History. This meeting will be on Monday 2 February in the school room of Aldbrough Methodist chapel at 7.30 pm. We will be having a trading stall so please bring any items suitable for this.

Services in the Benefice for February:

EVERY Wednesday

10.00am Holy Communion followed by Coffee: Aldbrough

Sunday February 1st: Candlemas

10.30 Family Communion and Baptism: Aldbrough

Sunday February 8th: 2 before Lent

10.30am Parish Communion: Mappleton

HEALING COMMUNION: Tuesday February ¹⁷~~10~~th

10.30 for 11.00 at 4 Mill Lane, Withernwick

Sunday February 15th: 1 before Lent

10.30am Parish Communion: Withernwick

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18th: ASH WEDNESDAY

10.00am Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes: Aldbrough

7.30pm Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes: Withernwick

Sunday February 22nd: Lent 1

8.30 Holy Communion: Mappleton

10.30am Parish Communion: Withernwick

10.30am Morning Praise: Aldbrough

Sunday March 1st: Lent 2/St David

10.30 Parish Communion: Aldbrough

Donations for this newsletter are due this month

- please would you give them to your distributor.

Thank you.



We shall be starting the Pilgrim course again on Monday 2nd February. This time the topic will be The Lord's Prayer and as before there will be sessions at 2.00pm and 7.30pm.