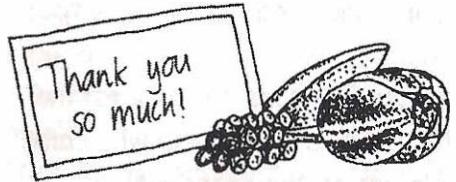
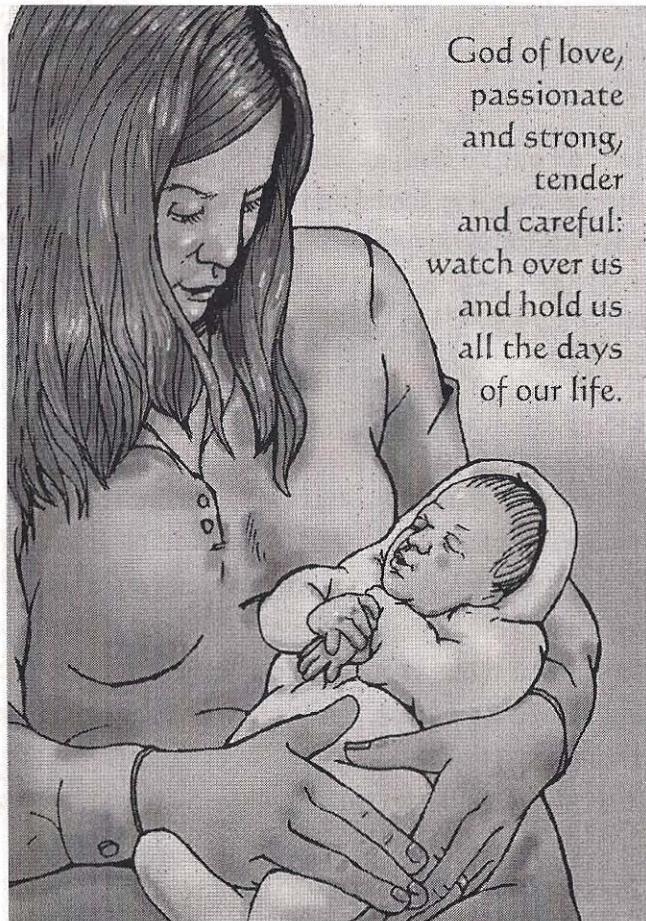


**The Parishes of Aldbrough,  
Mapleton & Goxhill with Great  
Hatfield & Withernwick**



**March  
2015**



*From the Vicar March 2015*

A recent Irish religious affairs programme 'The Meaning of Life' interviewed the comedian Stephen Fry during which he denounced God as "utterly evil, capricious and monstrous", that is if he were to exist.

Unfortunately it seems that Stephen Fry does not understand the God of love as revealed in Jesus Christ - the God who came as helpless and poor. The God helpless on the cross with a mocking crown of thorns. The point of Christianity is that God is not some distant observer but one suffers alongside all humanity.

So when we call out to God, as we do, in anger and frustration we are, like Fry, demanding that God explain the world to us. God's answer is of course Jesus - of course in some ways this is no answer at all because it does not take away all the suffering and injustice that we see in the world. But through Jesus we can see a way of living that confronts injustice, has compassion for the suffering and reveal the vitality of God.

It is this vitality of God that accompanies us throughout Lent as we read of the covenants with Noah, Abraham and all of God's people. Reading the Psalms during this period remind us that God is indeed good. Lent is of course traditionally a period of self-denial, but this could equally mean that we put aside much of the secular and turn our thoughts to the spiritual, particularly during Holy Week. So I hope that you will take the opportunities offered this month to re-charge those spiritual batteries and re-engage with the God who walks alongside us every step of the Way.

But just in case we get too serious these words from the Revd David Winter remind us that Lent does have good things about it!

## FIVE GOOD THINGS ABOUT LENT

1 It only lasts 40 days. Fasts, by their very nature, can't last forever, but Lent has a very manageable forty days. (If you're thinking at six weeks and a bit it's longer than that, see Item 2). New Year Resolutions simply stretch off into some impossibly distant horizon, but our Lenten attempts at discipline (chocolate, cigarettes, daily prayers, being kind to the cat) have an end date to them.

2. Sundays in Lent are 'as oases'. Sunday is never a day of fasting, but a weekly celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. So - and this is official! - Sundays don't count in Lent.

3. A bit of self-denial is better than a lot of self-indulgence. We live in a very self-indulgent society. Just for forty days it's no bad thing to deny ourselves something that is a minor luxury or a bit of self-pampering - especially if it saves some money which could go to people in the world who have no 'little luxuries'.

4. It's a journey towards Easter. Lent goes somewhere, and that somewhere is the empty tomb of Easter morning. It's daffodils in the churchyard and new life all around us.

5. The days get longer. The English word for this season is the only one that has no religious significance at all. 'Lent' is simply an abbreviation of the Old English word 'lencten', which means 'lengthen'. On these islands, where weather is always a major topic of conversation, it's not surprising that what people noted about the days of Lent was that they got longer - no more of those ghastly dark tea-times. But the 'lengthening' is all part of Item 4, really - moving towards new life. (Sadly, Items 4 and 5 don't apply in Australia and New Zealand. Doubtless they have compensations.)

So - have a Happy Lent!!

Revd Anne

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## FROM THE REGISTERS:

Funeral: Kenneth Ashbridge (Aldbrough) 10th February  
Elsie Binley (Aldbrough) 17th February

Baptism: Albert Gullan (Aldbrough) 1st February  
3

### What is Diocesan Synod

The Diocese of York is led by the Archbishop of York acting with the advice and consent of the Diocesan Synod.<sup>1</sup> 'SYNOD' is a Greek word meaning 'coming together and finding a way'.

The York Diocesan Synod is the representative governing body of the Diocese of York and the members of Synod also form the Diocesan Board of Finance. Through Diocesan Synod, members of the Church of England in York work together to take forward the mission and ministry of the Church. In it, Bishops, priests and lay people meet together to discuss the issues facing the Church and to make decisions about our common future.

The clergy and laity of Diocesan Synod have been elected there from each Deanery by the members of that Deanery's Deanery Synod. Other members of Diocesan Synod include the Dean of York Minster, the suffragan bishops, the archdeacons, and the clergy and laity elected by the Diocese to the General Synod.

The Synod has a role in representing the views of the York Diocese to the General Synod and wider national Church, particularly when asked to do so by the General Synod or Archbishops' Council.

Representatives from Diocesan Synod are able to stand for election to General Synod, the governing body of the Church of England.

The York diocesan synod meet twice yearly in May and October on a Saturday at the Manor Church of England School, York.

#### Brief notes from the last Diocesan Synod 18th October.

The house of clergy elected their new chair, the Revd Tim Robinson, vicar of Helmsley and Upper Rydale and Rural Dean of Northern Rydale.

Archbishop Sentamu gave the Presidential address on the good news that is heralded by Isaiah. The good news that God forgives and forgets sin and never gives up on us. All his purposes to us are purposes of love. The Archbishop spoke about Bishop Alfred Tucker, who shared the good news by leading a mission to Uganda in 1882 evangelising and building up the indigenous Church. Under Tucker, one in five in every congregation in Uganda was a catechist and one in four was an evangelist.

As we resource our Churches to be growing and nurturing disciples, the Archbishop asked can we grow the number of catechists and evangelists in our Churches?

Archbishop Sentamu welcomed the new chair of the House of Clergy; the new Diocesan Registrar Caroline Mockford; and the Archdeacon of the East Riding the Ven Andy Bloom.

Maureen Loffill, chair of the board of Finance, spoke about the progress of the free will offers in 2014.

Peter Warry spoke about the 'Leading your Church into Growth' course at Scarborough for 2015 and a larger event for 2016.

Voltaire Alferez Klima, a Christian Aid Partner from the Philippines spoke to Synod about the effects of climate change. In the Philippines there is no discussion on whether climate change is real, people are suffering the effects of 20 to 25 typhoons a year brought about by the warming of the South Pacific. Temperatures in the summer reach 42 degs centigrade! He asked that we raise our voices as Churches to put pressure on World Leaders to make changes. Christians should hunger for justice to ensure a better world for our brothers and sisters, to ensure a sustainable future for all.

The Bishop of Selby gave a report on his work as Ambassador for Rural Mission. Catherine Evans updated Synod on free will offerings and a report on stipends and salaries, training and vocations.

The Bishop of Whitby gave a presentation on Church Schools.

Brian Rhodes.

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LITTLE FISHES have moved their venue to the Chapel Hall, Aldbrough - they will be meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

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It's hard to remember that Jesus did not come to make us safe, but rather to make us disciples, citizens of God's new age, a kingdom of surprise. *S Hauerwas*

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#### Aldbrough WI

Aldbrough WI met on the 2 February at the Methodist Chapel, Aldbrough following a brief business meeting, which included items from the Federation newsletter and a reminder of the classes for the forthcoming rally, at which we are the hosts the speaker was introduced. Margaret Oliver, an Aldbrough resident gave a very interesting talk on how to get started in tracing your family tree. Following questions from members this branched out into local social history and Mrs Oliver will again speak at our May meeting, members are interested to find out more details particularly concerning the workhouse. Susan Ulph gave the vote of thanks, members then enjoyed tea and cake.

## #Washday

#washday is a new Church of England project for Lent 2015. Partly inspired by last summer's highly popular "ice bucket challenge" where people nominated each other to have a bucket of icy water poured over them for charity, #washday is all about taking part in practical social action during Lent and Holy Week

#washday is a new take on Maundy Thursday. Traditionally, church people have washed people's feet - or more recently offered free shoe - shining on the streets - on Maundy Thursday, as a way of telling the story of the Last Supper.

So with #washday, go and help your community by washing anything and everything - it could be washing windows for people who would find that difficult, cleaning cars, washing clothes for homeless people, or washing up mugs in an office.

You can do your washing on Maundy Thursday itself, during Holy Week, or at some other point during Lent if that is easier. It's a chance to use your imagination and think how you can make a real difference in the community. You may like to connect the campaign with fundraising for a water-based charity such as WaterAid.

You can share photos or videos of what you are doing on [www.washday.org](http://www.washday.org), and also Tweet using the hashtag #washday. #washday is a great opportunity to tell the Easter story in a fun and creative way, showing that Christians are willing to get their hands dirty in the service of others.

It's a simple idea and works for all ages. There are suggestions of how to get involved on [www.washday.org](http://www.washday.org).

## FERENS ART GALLERY OPEN EXHIBITION

Congratulations to members of the Wentworth Social Art Aldbrough, who had their work selected for inclusion at the Ferens Art Gallery, Hull.

The exhibition runs from 14 February to 26 April 2015 & entry is free.

If you visit you will see a wonderful display of art, 485 entries were chosen out of 2000 pieces offered. Local artists Ann Teal, Muriel Berzins & Steve Iceton have works showing amongst the diverse selections on view.

Wentworth Social Art is an informal friendly group who meet every Thursday 2-4pm at the Wentworth Hotel, Aldbrough. Everybody welcome!

## *Services in the Benefice for March:*

### EVERY Wednesday

10.00am Holy Communion followed by Coffee: Aldbrough  
Sunday March 1st: Lent 2/St David

10.30 Parish Communion: Aldbrough

2.00pm Baptism: Mapleton

Sunday March 8th: Lent 3

10.30 Parish Communion: Mapleton  
followed by Annual Meeting

HEALING COMMUNION: Tuesday March 10th

10.30 for 11.00 at 4 Mill Lane, Withernwick

Sunday March 15th: Mothering Sunday

10.30am Family Communion: Withernwick  
followed by Annual Meeting

Sunday March 22nd: Lent 5

8.30am Holy Communion: Withernwick  
10.30am Parish Communion: Aldbrough  
followed by Annual Meeting

10.30am Morning Praise: Mapleton

## **SERVICES DURING HOLY WEEK**

Sunday March 29th: Palm Sunday

10.30am Meet in Mapleton Car Park

- procession to Church for Parish Communion

Monday 7.30pm Evening Prayer/Meditation: ALDBROUGH

Tuesday 7.30pm Evening Prayer/Meditation: GOXHILL

Wednesday 10.00 Holy Communion: Aldbrough

7.30pm Evening Prayer/Meditation: WITHERNWICK

MAUNDY THURSDAY 7.30pm Holy Communion: ALDBROUGH

GOOD FRIDAY 2.00pm An hour before the cross

- a service of hymns and readings: WITHERNWICK

EASTER DAY April 5th 10.30am Family Communion: Aldbrough

6.00pm Evensong: Mapleton

North Holderness Deanery Lent Course 2015

"Mark for Life"

with Ven. Andy Broom, Archdeacon of the East Riding

5 Sessions to:-

- Deepen our understanding of the Gospel of Mark
- Draw closer to Jesus Christ - whom Mark is so keen for his readers to discover

**7.30pm on Wednesday evenings 25th Feb - 25th March**

Hornsea Parish Rooms. Entry is £1. Tea & coffee provided.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

EVENT	DATE	WHERE
Coffee Morning	14th March	Byways, Nottingham Road
Easter Egg Hunt	6th April	St Bartholomew's
Withernwick Village Fair	13th June	Playing Field
Teddy Bear's Picnic/ Summer Fete	27th June	Aldbrough
Quiet Day	7th August	Wassand Hall
Salvation Army Band	13th September	Goxhill
Peter Naylor and supper	10th October	Aldbrough Youth Club

**Priest in charge**

**Revd Anne White**

**01964 527230**

**Churchwardens:**

**St Bartholomew, Aldbrough**

**Mrs C. Longstaff (527190)**

**Mrs K. Moore (527552)**

**All Saints Mapleton & St Giles Goxhill:**

**Mr B Rhodes (533954)**

**Mrs R. Skinner (534580)**

**Mr J. Hepworth (Deputy, Mapleton 532754)**

**St Alban's Withernwick:**

**Capt. D. Smith (527419)**

**Mrs Doreen Fryer & Mrs Anne Wood (Deputies)**

**Editor P. Soltys [saltydog@madasafish.com](mailto:saltydog@madasafish.com)**

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