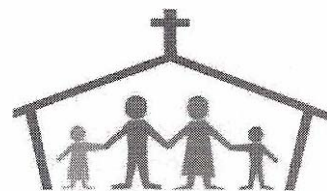


December

United Benefice of Aldbrough,
Mappleton & Goxhill with Great
Hatfield & Witherwick



PARISH NEWS

Church Services in December

Everyone is welcome!

Friday 4 December

2pm Service of consecration, by the Bishop of Hull,
Aldbrough Burial Ground
followed by refreshments in St Bartholomew's Church

Sunday 6 December

Year of the Child Sunday: purple
10.30am Holy Communion, Aldbrough
Celebrant: Revds Sylvia & Richard Rice-Oxley

Tuesday 7 December

Healing Prayer Service, 4 Mill Lane, Witherwick
With Sylvia & Richard Rice-Oxley

Thurs 10 December

6.30pm Aldbrough School Carols in Church
With Sylvia & Richard Rice-Oxley

Friday 11 December

7.30pm Christmas Carol Service, Goxhill
With Sylvia & Richard Rice-Oxley

Sunday 13 December

Advent 3: purple
10.30am Holy Communion, Mappleton
Celebrant: Revd Richard Rice-Oxley

10.30am Toy Service, Aldbrough
Leader: Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley

Tuesday 15 December

2pm Carol Service Wentworth Community Room
with Richard and Aldbrough School Children
7.30pm Carol Service Willow Garth, Hornsea
with Sylvia, Richard & friends

Sunday 20 December

Advent 4: purple
10.30am Holy Communion, Witherwick
Celebrant: Revd Richard Rice-Oxley

10.30am Toy Service & sketch, Mappleton
Minister: Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley

6pm Carol Service Aldbrough Church
with Sylvia & Richard Rice-Oxley

Monday 21 December

7pm Carol Service Witherwick Church
with Richard & Sylvia Rice-Oxley

Wednesday 23 December

7pm Carol Service Mappleton Church
with Sylvia & Richard Rice-Oxley

Thursday 24 December Christmas Eve: white

2pm Crib Service, Aldbrough Church
with Sylvia Rice-Oxley

4pm Crib Service, Witherwick Church
with Sylvia Rice-Oxley

11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion, Aldbrough
Celebrant: Revd Sylvia & Richard Rice-Oxley

Friday 25 December Christmas Day : white

10am Holy Communion, Witherwick Church
Celebrant: Revd Richard Rice-Oxley

Sunday 27 December

Christmas 1: white

3pm Nativity Tableau Mill Bungalow stable,
Carlton Lane, Aldbrough
with Sylvia and Richard Rice-Oxley

Thursday 31 December: New Year's Eve

6pm Service and Celebration Goxhill Church
with Sylvia Rice-Oxley, Rupert Russell and friends

NB

No Advent Carol Service at Witherwick Church

No Christmas Eve midnight service at Witherwick

No Church Services in the Benefice on Sunday 27th December



My dear Friends,

A very Happy and Blessed Christmas to you from Richard and myself. We have had a wonderful year worshipping and working with you during 2009. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones during this coming New Year.

Thank you for your concern over my recent illness. I am now better and back to work and hope to see many of you over the Christmas celebrations. There is something for everyone - and we hope, whatever you attend, you will be warmed by the love of God for all people as we celebrate the birth of the babe Jesus in Bethlehem, 2000 years ago.

This Parish News is packed with news of Carol Services and Carol singing in our churches and inns of the Benefice, including a living Nativity Tableau arranged by Eleanor Welton and friends at Mill Bungalow Stable, Aldbrough. We shall remember the Christmas message in a traditional way: with Aldbrough School Children in Church on 10th December; Christmas Eve crib services at Aldbrough and Withernwick Churches; sherry and mince pies at 'Sagaro' on December 15th and much more.

Details in these pages!

In the midst of all the busy-ness we have made Christmastime to be, let us take time to sit together for a moment, with Mary, Joseph and the babe, surrounded by triumphant angels, mesmerised shepherds and content wise men, in wonder and delight that God has provided a way back to harmony with our maker.

With love at Christmastime to you and your loved ones,

Sylvia

Aldbrough Women's Institute

A meeting was held on the 2nd November in the Methodist Church School Room at 7.30pm.

17 Members attended and one guest. Our President Mrs. K Moore welcomed everyone.

In the absence of our Secretary Mrs. Lynn Wright read the Minutes of the last meeting which was approved and signed as a true record. Matters arising included a report on the Autumn Council meeting by the delegate Mrs. K Moore. Mrs I Kennedy attended as a guest. The Annual Quiz was discussed and we have 4 willing volunteers so Aldbrough WI will be represented in the 2010 competition. The Newsletter was read and discussed.

Our Guest Speaker for the evening was Mrs. Sandra Stennet. She gave a demonstration on Card Making and then every member was given the opportunity to make a Christmas Card. Some interesting designs were produced.

The vote of thanks was given by Mrs. S Dunn
The Competition for a jar of Chutney was won by Mary Jackman.

The Flower of the Month was won by Sheila Ward.

The Next Meeting will be our AGM on the 7th December.
New Members very welcome.



Skirlaugh Young Farmers

Last month we had a very successful fashion show which raised over £800 for club funds. A huge thank you to William for organising it and to Cherry's Country Hardware, Cry Chic, Beverley and Miss Lisa Marie's Dance Academy for all their help. We also had meetings such as the Inter Club Quiz which unfortunately we lost to South Axholme. We also went to Beverley Fire Station among other meetings which we all enjoyed. Next month we have the second round of the inter club quiz and have a line dancing meeting as well as carol singing and a Christmas Treats making night. We meet every Tuesday Evening at 7.30 at Long Riston Village Hall, for more details ring 01964 562653.

Aldbrough Church Fellowship

Sixteen ladies were present at the meeting on November 11th. Mrs Binley was unable to come and Kath was not able to entertain us as she has lost her mother. However we had a fun afternoon playing a few games of bingo with lots of prizes. Many thanks to Linda for organising it. We are all invited to the Chapel Christmas party, also the Bridlington Choir performance, so lots of things to look forward to. We had our usual short devotional time and I must say that the ladies sound great singing a hymn. We are trying to organise some transport for a Christmas meal but no success yet. *Muriel Burzins.*



Christmas Message from the Archbishop of York

Christmas is a time of sharing the wonder of God who pitched his "fleshly-tent" among us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, born of a woman - very flesh of our flesh, very God of very God. So Christmas should be a time for thanksgiving, generous hospitality and togetherness. A time for unmerited favour. When we think of the Christmas story, we should not only reflect on the wonderful birth of the Saviour of the World, but also the other actors in the story:

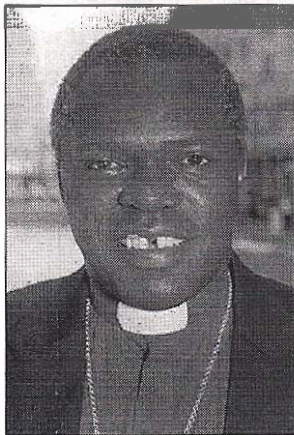
the hospitality of the innkeeper who provided a place for Mary and Joseph, despite having no room to offer; the understanding of Joseph to devote himself to a fiancée carrying a Son of the Holy Spirit; the loyalty of Mary, a young virgin, to trust God and the plans he had for her and her family; the shepherds and magi who, despite very different backgrounds, each travelled to pay homage to the newborn King; and the Angels - God's messengers - who brought to the shepherds, the good news of great joy for all the people, and sang of God's Glory and peace on earth.

All these actors were brought together by God for a purpose, to be part of the birth of the Saviour of the World and the Prince of Peace. The start of a new historic chapter in God's World. Jesus' Coming, Dying and Rising is the proof of God's love. All springs from the love of God. He did not come to change God's attitude towards us. He came to show us what it is and always was. He came to reveal, unanswerably, that God is love.

Let us all take time to remember those in our community who may be feeling very lonely at this time. Whether it is those who have lost loved ones; or whose families have grown up and moved away; or those that are serving in the armed forces (or at home waiting for the safe return of their son, daughter or loved one); or those who find themselves homeless or in prison. We are called to show a generosity of spirit and commitment to everyone, regardless of their religion, colour, gender or ethnicity. For Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us, was born to save us all, and is Lord of all.

I hope that you will have a peaceful and blessed Christmas and will find time to enjoy the company of those God has placed around you. May the Angels' song at the Birth of our Master and Saviour be your song and bring joy to you and your community. God is with us.

+ Sentamu Ebor



News from John Witty:

I have just come back from RSPB Old Moor in the Dearne Valley near Barnsley. It is fabulous to go and have a look around the area which extends for 101 hectares of mainly water pools and reed beds for waders. The shallow ones have at this time of year flocks of golden plover. I saw thousands of them. Also lapwings, fieldfares and redwings who call in to feed berries and also sometimes peregrines are looking for a meal - easy picking for them with so many types of birds about. On the feeding stations I saw bullfinches, gold finches and wren. Now, may I tell you all a bit about the visitor Centre. It is in a courtyard: lovely old stone farm house and out buildings, so the RSPB just did some work on them to make a very modern shop and café, upstairs. On a nice day you can sit outside if you like and they serve hot meals which are very good, as I know it is very good! And for some of the staff there are some flats for them as I was told by Nadia which she said are very nice and safe as gates are locked at dusk but they have a swipe card to come and go as they please. I had a great day and will be going back next Spring.



The Darby and Joan Club in Witherwick is still struggling on with the few members who remain enjoying their fortnightly meeting, having a chat and enjoying their game of whist or dominoes. The afternoon teas this last month were supplied by Mabel and Joan and David, and Mrs Wright had a birthday.

David and Valarie Smith wish to thank Sylvia and Richard for the lovely service to celebrate the renewal of their wedding vows and to all the friends and relations who attended



The Witherwick Ladies Group met on the 4th when there were 14 members present.

Our secretary Mrs Christine Humphrey read the minutes presenting them in a very amusing way. Arrangements were made for a trip to Burton Agnes Hall to see their Christmas decorations. Then our speaker was introduced Katrina. She is a disabled painter. She paints with her feet, as she has no hands, having been born with very very short arms and just the odd finger at the end of them. This was due to the thalidomide drug which her mother took in early pregnancy. However in spite of this disablement, she was not in the least miserable or resentful and had obviously decided to make the best of it. She had tried wearing false arms, but they were more of an encumbrance being both heavy and clumsy. In spite of all her disabilities, she has borne and reared two children, has become an archaeologist and is also an occupational therapist. She kept us amused and made us laugh at some of the things that had happened to her and the way she did things. She is a lady very much to be admired.

A prayer Diary for December from Richard:

1. Thank God for Sylvia's return to work and pray for her good health during the busy Christmas season.
2. Pray for all the services and events this month, that in all the busyness we may remember Christ, the reason for the season!
3. Remember families and friends meeting during the holidays. Pray for safety of travel for all.
4. Pray for those for whom Christmas is perhaps a difficult time, the bereaved, the lonely and those sleeping rough.
5. Pray for those spending Christmas abroad, especially our troops in Afghanistan.
6. Pray for those suffering as a result of war or natural disasters, especially those in Asia and in Cumbria.





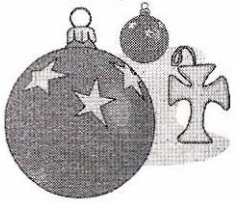
St Bartholomew's Church, Aldbrough

Christmas tree festival

Saturdays 5th & 12th December
Refreshments from 10am onwards

View the Christmas decorations,
and add a special memorial bauble to our tree
which may be collected in January
(donations gratefully received)

If you would like to display a tree yourself,
please contact the Churchwardens.



In aid of Goxhill Church

Sherry & Mince Pies

'Sagaro', Westwood Avenue, Hornsea

Tuesday December 15th 10-12noon

Carols with Richard and Sylvia Rice-Oxley;
Raffle, tea and coffee available

RSVP by 11 December: (01964 533444)

Carol Singing with Sylvia & Richard

- please join us

5pm Saturday 5 December: The Falcon,
Withernwick, as part of the Withernwick Village
Christmas Fayre from 3-6pm

6pm Sunday 13 December: The Wrygarth, Hatfield

8pm Wednesday 16 December: Cowden Caravan Club

8pm Thursday 17 December: The Elm Tree, Aldbrough

3pm Sunday 27 December: Mill Bungalow Stable,
Carlton Lane, Aldbrough

Dates For Your Diary

December

Wed 2 PCC Withernwick 7.30pm at 4 Mill Lane

Friday 4 Dec. Consecration of Ald. Burial Ground 2pm

Sat 5&12 Christmas tree festival & Christmas fayre, Aldbrough

Sat 5 Withernwick Village Fayre 3-6pm

incl. Carol Singing, The Falcon

Sun 6 Course Party Ben House 7pm bring & share

Tues 8 Healing Prayer Service 10.30am W'wick

Wed 9 Aldbrough School Assembly - Richard

Thurs 10 Aldbrough School Carols in Church 6.30pm

Fri 11 Carol Service, Goxhill 7.30pm

Sun 13 Carols at the Wrygarth 6pm

Tues 15 Christmas sherry & mince pies at 'Sagaro'

Tues 15 Carols at Wentworth Community Room 2pm

Tues 15 Willow Garth Christmas Carol Service 7.30pm

Wed 16 Carols at Cowden Caravan Club 8pm

Thurs 17 Carols at the Elm Tree 8pm

Sun 20 Mappleton Toy Service & sketch

Sun 20 Aldbrough Carol Service

Mon 21 Withernwick Carol Service 7pm

Wed 23 Mappleton Carol Service 7pm

Thurs 24 Christmas Eve services: 2pm Crib at Aldbrough
4pm Crib at Withernwick

11.30pm Holy Communion at Aldbrough only

Friday 25th Christmas Day Holy C.10am Withernwick Church

Sun 27 No church services

Sun 27 Nativity Tableau at Mill Bungalow Stable 3pm

Thurs 31 Goxhill New Year's celebration 6pm

Sun 27 No church services

January 2010

Sun 3 HC Aldbrough Church

Wed 6 School Assembly Aldbrough - Sylvia

Mon 11 Churches Tog in Ald 9.30am Benefice Hse

Tues 12 Willow Garth Service 7.30pm

Wed 13 PCC Ald

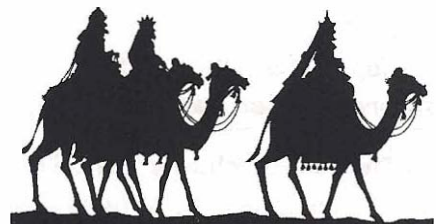
Sun 17 United Service St B's Ald 6pm

Tues 19 Healing Prayer Group, W'wick

Wed 20 PCC Wiwick

Wed 27 SofP Wentworth Community Room 2pm

Wed 27 PCC M&G



From the registers *We pray for the family and friends of Rose Beech* whose funeral took place at St Bartholomew's Church, Aldbrough, on 22 October, 2009, service conducted by The Revd Steve Foster; **John Henry Saltmar** whose funeral took place at St Alban's Church, Witherwick on 6 November, 2009, service conducted by Revd Canon Chris Simmons; **Elizabeth Ann Greenshields** whose funeral took place at St Bartholomew's Church, Aldbrough, on 10 November, 2009, service conducted by Mr Malcolm Head.

Congratulations to **Captain David and Valarie Smith** on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary, service of thanksgiving held in St Alban's Church, Witherwick, conducted by Revd Richard Rice-Oxley on 31 October, 2009.

THANK YOU for supporting events held in November, especially the Hot Gospel Choir which raised the roof in song and £400 for St Bartholomew's, Aldbrough; the Craft Fayre which raised nearly £200 for Mappleton Church; and the Service for the Bereaved at Mappleton church which brought comfort to all who attended. And a big thank you to all concerned for beginning the great beginning for improvements to Witherwick church. Work has started to build us a refreshment area including a toilet and kitchen. It has been a long time coming. Over Christmas we hope to raise funds towards the floor covering. Any donations welcome! Sylvia



The Grove Craft Ladies
invite you to a **Craft Afternoon**

Wentworth Grove Community Room,
Aldbrough every Monday from 1pm

All Welcome to try crafts we have or bring
your own knitting, embroidery

or any other craft you would like
to show us.

See your parish church on the websites;

A Church near you: www.acny.org.uk

Contact for Aldbrough: Vacant

Mappleton & Goxhill: Paul Soltys

Withernwick: James Buckton

Also Diocesan website: www.dioceseofyork.org.uk

Gift aid: If you pay tax, we can claim back money

From the Government, at no extra cost to you.

Please put your donation/collection in an envelope,

Sign it & add your name & postcode. Thank you

Churchwardens:

St Bartholomew, Aldbrough

Mrs C. Longstaff (527190)

Mrs K. Moore (527552)

All Saints Mappleton & St Giles Goxhill:

Mr J. Hepworth (532754)

Mrs J. Vickers (Deputy, Goxhill)

Mrs S Kendall (Deputy, Mappleton)

St Alban's Witherwick:

Capt. D. Smith (527419)

Mrs Doreen Fryer (Deputy) 527332

Why not try the Aldbrough & Witherwick
village websites

www.aldbrough.org

www.withernwickvillage.co.uk

Regular Church Services in the Benefice

All Welcome!

St Bartholomew's Church, Aldbrough

1st Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday: 10.30am All Age Worship

4th Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

All Saints Church, Mappleton

2nd Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday: 10.30am All Age Worship

St Giles Goxhill

5th Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

St Alban's Church, Witherwick

3rd Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion

4th Sunday: 10.30am All Age Worship

Editor & Deacon-in-charge: The Reverend Sylvia Rice-Oxley BA hons (assistant editor P. Soltys)
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Items for next Parish News to Sylvia. Emails to Paul parishnews@mail.com by 15 December, please