

## **Letter from the Vicar**

For many people, the annual holiday is a routine event that they may come to take for granted, especially if finance is not an issue. For others their annual holiday is a very important and precious time. This can be seen in the amount of preparation that takes place beforehand.

I have a relative who carries out months of research about the destination before committing to making the booking. Transport from home to the venue is very important to reduce stress. There is then the cost and service comparisons before choosing the best airline or other method of travel.

Next, he diligently researches the specific area for accommodation with good amenities, transport, sightseeing opportunities and general safety. Home security whilst away must not be neglected. The arrangement for good care of all the pets is also a major task. Finally, there is the packing which is done meticulously to ensure variety that is suitable for the weather, activities to be undertaken, and all within the weight limit.

Phew! I feel tired just thinking about it. But all of this he considers essential to ensuring a restful and enjoyable holiday, for however long.

The Church has entered the season of Lent, the period in which we prepare ourselves for the great celebration of Easter. Easter comes every year and is always preceded by the journey through Lent. We are advised that this is a foreseen journey which requires careful planning in advance. We need to identify a clear route using a good choice of resources, such as reading material and prayers. These will provide luggage that is helpful and not burdensome.

Our aim is to experience a pilgrimage journey that ensures the right celebration of Easter. Easter is not just the long weekend from Good Friday, through Easter Sunday to Bank Holiday Monday. For Christians, Easter is fifty days of celebrating the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made. During this time we thank God for the life of his Son Jesus in his dying to save all humanity, his rising from the grave and ascension back to his Father in heaven, and the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

For such unequalled events meticulous preparation is essential through

Lent. During Lent we reflect on how we are living our lives as Christian people. It is good to think we are not indulging in that long list of depravity and indecent behaviour that Saint Paul warns us against.

But, before we get too smug, we must look a little more closely at the less dramatic, but equally bad, activities we may be carrying out. Think of personal feelings such as bitterness, anger, backbiting, insults, pride, envy, prejudice, intolerance, greed, selfishness, meanness and apathy. These are all things that hurt others and blemish ourselves as children of God.

Yes, we do receive God's forgiveness when we say sorry, but that is not an excuse to go on repeating these wrongs. In our reflection and prayers we must be serious about changing our future behaviour and moving on. "Lent invites us to honestly and prayerfully reflect on who we are, consider who we should be and seek God's help in bridging the gap" (N Fawcett 2005).

Have a blessed Lent.

With much love and prayers.

*Dorothy*

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Everyone on our Electoral Roll is warmly invited to come along to the Annual Parochial Church meeting on Sunday 8th March at 11.30 a.m. in the church hall. At this meeting, we elect our churchwardens, members to the PCC, sidespeople and hear reports on the state of the buildings, our finances, what we have done in the past year and some plans for the future. It is also your chance to ask any questions about church matters. We are always happy to welcome new members onto the PCC, or those wanting to be sidespeople. Please sign the lists at the back of church if you are interested.

Never missing an opportunity for fellowship, we will have a bring and share lunch after the meeting to fortify us.

## **Women's World Day of Prayer**

**Friday 6th March 2.00 p.m. Bethel Baptist Church, Sandy Lane**

Women's World Day of Prayer is an international, interchurch, organisation which enables us to hear the voices of women, from a different part of the world each year, expressing their hopes and concerns and bringing them before the rest of the world in prayer.

On Friday 6th March an estimated 3 million people, in over 170 countries, will gather to observe the day of prayer, using an order of service written by Christian women from The Bahamas and translated into over 1000 different languages and dialects. The day will begin when the sun rises over the island of Samoa, and continue until it sets off the coast of American Samoa some 35 hours later.

The theme of the service is taken from St John's Gospel, chapter 13 verses 1- 17, '*Jesus said to them: "Do you know what I have done to you?"*' and it challenges us to demonstrate the same radical, unconditional love for others that Jesus showed when he washed the feet of his disciples.

The Bahamas consists of over 700 islands, scattered over 100,000 square miles in the Atlantic Ocean, only a small proportion of which are inhabited. It refers to itself as a 'family of islands' and in the service the needs of the smallest islands are given as much prominence as those of the larger ones.

Everyone is welcome to attend the service at Bethel Baptist Church, men, women, people of all ages.

### **Mother's reward**

A man was decorating his new den and decided it was a good place to display all the awards he and his two sons had won at various athletic competitions. When he had filled two whole walls, he remarked to his wife that it was a shame she had no awards to contribute.

The following day, she produced, neatly framed, the birth certificates of their two sons, and added them to the display.

## MARCH PARISH DIARY

<u>SUNDAY 1ST</u>	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Tuesday 3rd	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Crossley House
	7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 4th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m. Cub scouts
	7.30 p.m. Lent Group
Thursday 5th	9.30 a.m. Morning prayer
	4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club
	6.00 p.m. Beaver scouts
	7.30 p.m. Scouts
Friday 6th	2.00 p.m. Women's World Day of Prayer Service at Bethel Baptist Church

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<u>SUNDAY 8TH</u>	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m. Annual Parochial Church Meeting
	12.30 p.m. Bring and Share Lunch
	2.00 p.m. Messy Church
Tuesday 10th	7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 11th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m. Ing's Way Lunch Day (super soup)
	6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
	7.30 p.m. Lent Group
Thursday 12th	9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer
	4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club
	6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m. Scouts
Saturday 14th	7.00 p.m. Jigsaw Challenge
<u>SUNDAY 15TH</u>	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT/MOTHERING SUNDAY
	10.00 a.m. Parade Service and Holy Communion
Tuesday 17th	7.30 p.m. Adult Tap Dancing
	7.30 p.m. PCC meeting in Vestry
Wednesday 18th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts

	7.30 p.m.	Lent Group
Thursday 19th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	4.30 p.m.	K:Ings Way Club
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

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SUNDAY 22ND FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 24th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 25th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Lent Course
Thursday 26th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	4.30 p.m.	K:Ings Way Club
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

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SUNDAY 29TH PALM SUNDAY

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion with procession of Palms
Monday 30th	7.00 p.m.	Taizé chants
Tuesday 31st	7.00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross

### **Christian Aid Super Soup Lunch**

At our Ing's Way Lunch Day on Wednesday 11th March, we will again be supporting Christian Aid's Super Soup Appeal. The lunch will, as always, be completely free of charge, but any donations people would like to make will be given to Christian Aid to help with their work in alleviating poverty around the world. All are most welcome to come and join us.

## **Families Worldwide**

You may remember that in August 2013 I had the enormous privilege of being admitted a member of Mothers' Union by Jean, in her role as Diocesan President. She tells me that after forty years of support for the Mothers' Union, and one year of full membership, I have become an enthusiast!

Part of that enthusiasm has come from using Families Worldwide, the prayer diary issued to cover the whole year, and in which the Mothers' Union in all parts of the world is brought before God for his/her blessing. In following the diary we are given a precis of the work being done by the Mothers' Union in all the parts of the world where it is present. Particularly striking was the information given about Mothers' Union in Cameroon, just before Christmas. This is what was said:

*"Cameroon faces economic and social instability due to poverty .... There is a lot of societal violence and discrimination against women and girls.*

*"Mothers' Union Cameroon has been working in these areas since 2010 creating forums to interact with the youth during the bi-annual camps. Time is spent encouraging women to create income-generating projects to make them financially stable and able to sustain themselves. Members work hand in hand with social groups that focus on alleviating social ills among women, children and the less privileged.*

*"A recent success has been the Marriage Course, which has seen acceptance by the participants as they realised that there was a need present in the community for this. While running the course, couples have felt free to express themselves, making communication flow easier, and this has led to a number of marriages being restored.*

*"Many in Cameroon are experiencing a positive change in the concept of African marriage. An African man, for example, cannot do any work in the house, and when he speaks the woman cannot speak. All of these concepts are changing for the better, resulting in better relationship and more harmony in the home."*

The most amazing piece of information was included at the bottom of

the page which told us that in Cameroon, where there is a population of just over 20½ million, the Mothers' Union membership is only 650! One thing I learned from attending the General Meetings at Bath and Belfast was how proud the African ladies are of their membership. They wear uniforms of Mary-blue with the MU logo, and wear them with pride.

Throughout Families Worldwide the same message can be found: small groups doing great things for God - and for women!

*Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

*R. W. Bailey*

### **A million sold and voted the UK's favourite Fairtrade Egg!**

Introduced in 2010, The Real Easter Egg was initially turned down by supermarkets as they were unsure that a 'faith egg' would sell. How wrong they were. Last year, in a national poll, the Real Easter Egg was voted the UK's favourite Fairtrade egg and now more than a million Real Easter Eggs have been sold! The Real Easter Egg is still the only Fairtrade egg with a copy of the Easter story in each box. There is also a charitable donation for every 150g egg sold. More than £140,000 has been donated from sales. It also supports farmers and producers in the developing world by using Fairtrade chocolate.

Jean Bailey is taking orders if you would like some of the eggs. You can choose between the standard egg at £3.99 with the Easter story book, a 3ft banner and pack of milk chocolate chunky buttons; the dark chocolate egg, with 3 dark chocolate mini squares and a guide to the Easter story at £5.50; and the Peace edition with an olive wood peace dove keyring, guide to the Easter story and orange milk chocolate bar at £9.99. We will also buy a pack of small eggs, with an Easter story leaflet, to give out to the children. Donations towards the cost of these would be most welcome.

# Jigsaw Challenge

## Saturday 14th March

7.00 p.m.

Tickets £3.00 to include Pie & Pea  
Supper

Buy a bag of jigsaw pieces for £1  
and see if you can complete your  
section to put with others for the  
whole picture!

### **Expensive boat**

A vicar was planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and was aghast when he found it would cost him £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. He protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. “That might be true,” replied the travel agent, “but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord himself walked.”

“Well, at £50 an hour for a boat, I am not surprised!”



## Holy Week and Easter

There is a full programme of services for the week leading up to Easter Day. Everyone is invited to come along to as many as they wish.

- Sunday 29th March:** 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion with procession of Palms and the Passion Gospel
- Monday 30th:** 7.00 p.m. Taizé Chants
- Tuesday 31st:** 7.00 p.m. The Stations of the Cross
- Wednesday 1st:** 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
- Thursday 2nd:** 11.00 a.m. Service of Oils at Wakefield Cathedral  
7.00 p.m. Holy Communion with Stripping of the Altar and Vigil
- Friday 3rd:** 10.00 a.m. Good Friday service for Children - building  
11.30 a.m. Service in Ladyhill Park, followed by Walk of Witness to Allerton Congregational Church for light lunch  
2.30 p.m. Proclamation of the Cross
- Sunday 5th:** 10.00 a.m. Easter Family Communion

## Lent Course

The Lent Course we announced in last month's edition continues in March, on Wednesday evenings at 7.00 to 8.30 p.m. (with refreshments.) The sessions will be:

- 4th March** - Loss of a loved one - the denial of Peter, Mark 14:26-31,66-72
- 11th March** - Being Alone - Jesus in Distress, Mark 14:32-52
- 18th March** - Justice denied - Jesus stands accused, Mark 14:53-65, 15:1-5
- 25th March** - Walking a Road of pain - Jesus is crucified, Mark 15:6-37

All are welcome to come along to all or any of the sessions.

## **A 16th Century Bible Page From York.**

*Ian Mc Alpine.*

About 10 years ago I attended an antiquarian book fair in York in my never-ending quest for interesting old Bibles. I soon found a solitary page of Isaiah from what was supposed to be a 1599 edition of a Geneva Bible. It was printed in black letter type and was entitled "The Prophecy of Esaye". Evidently a fragment from the Book of Isaiah. The Geneva Bible was the translation most commonly used in England during the reign of Elizabeth I and was so called because the earliest editions were printed in Geneva. I published an article about Geneva Bibles in "Parish News" in 2011/2.

However, it was obvious to me that the page was printed from long before 1599 and that it certainly wasn't from a Geneva. The clue lay in the absence of verse numbers which were not used in Bibles printed in English until the first edition of the Geneva Bible appeared in 1560. Intrigued, I bought the page quite cheaply and decided to investigate.

The first complete Bible in English was Miles Coverdale's text printed in Europe in 1535. The so-called Matthew Bible had appeared in 1537 and a revised version of Coverdale's Bible, called the Great Bible and described in my recent article ran to several editions beginning in 1539. For various reasons it seemed most likely that the page was from a Great Bible but I was unsure about which edition.

Accordingly I arranged to visit Chetham's Library in Manchester where I had worked for several years in the early 1990s. Chetham's, believed to be the oldest free library in England was founded by my 12 x greats-grandfather's cousin Humphrey Chetham in 1654. It has an extensive collection of early English Bibles and is housed in one of the oldest buildings in Manchester, dating back to the early 15th century.

And so late in 2004 I found myself in the Reading Room at Chetham's comparing a photocopy of my fragment with two copies of the Great Bible from 1549 and 1553. Both dated from the reign of the Protestant King Edward VI, were in generally good condition after more than 450 years and were the oldest complete Bibles I'd ever worked on. They

were absolutely enormous, extremely heavy and printed in glorious 16th century black letter type. Very few Bibles from this period have survived.

Although my fragment had no verse numbers it was clear that it contained Isaiah 54:4 to 58:16. However, when I examined Isaiah 54 - 58 in both the 1550s Chetham's Bibles I found that they differed considerably from my fragment! Curiouser and curiouser!

The Librarian, Dr Michael Powell, was as surprised by this as I was and advised me to send a copy of the fragment to the John Rylands University Library, also in Manchester whose collection of Bibles was one of the finest in Britain. I contacted the Rylands which I knew well and did more research at home into the history of the Great Bible. Eventually I discovered, crucially, that Coverdale and his colleagues had revised the text of their 1539 Great Bible and produced a new version late in 1540. Could my fragment be from a very early edition? That would perhaps explain why it differed from the ones I'd seen at Chetham's.

A few days later my theory was confirmed. The Rylands, using an electronic resource called Early English Books On-line, (EEBO) unavailable to me in Bradford, had managed to identify the page as being from an unusual small-format version of the Great Bible printed in London in April 1540, during the reign of Henry VIII around the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries. It was only the seventh edition of the complete Bible ever printed in English. Somehow it had escaped Queen Mary's counter-Reformation of the later 1550s, survived in near-perfect condition for over 460 years and was now with me in Fairweather Green!. How I wished I could find the rest of it!

I illustrate one side of the page (*see inside front cover*) and include below Coverdale's translation of the well-known twelfth verse of Isaiah 55 alongside the translation from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible which we use at St Saviour's. This verse formed the basis of the beautiful modern hymn "You shall go out with joy", at the very end of our "Hymns old and new".

**Great Bible, (1540).**

And so shall ye go forthe with ioeye,  
and be led with peace.  
The mountaynes and hylles shall synge  
with you for ioeye, all the trees of the  
felde shall clappe theyr handes.

**NRSV (1995).**

For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills  
before you shall burst into song.  
and all the trees of the field shall  
clap their hands.

**Messy Church**

**Sunday 8th March  
2.00 to 4.00 p.m.**

**A Special Easter Messy Church**

**Fun for all the family!**

Please come along and enjoy a time of games,  
crafts, activities, songs and Bible stories for  
all—and enjoy a light meal.

**IT'S FREE**

## **Dates for Your Diary**

A recent meeting of the Social Committee set out a basic programme for the year. We have tried to put together a varied set of events which give a chance for fellowship, fun and (hopefully) will raise some money for church funds and for charities.

The dates that have been set are:

Saturday 14th March 7.00 p.m. Jigsaw Challenge

Thursday 25th June 7.00 p.m. Crown Green Bowling at West  
Bradford Bowling Club

Saturday 5th September Table Top Sale.

In addition to this, we will have a Summer and a Christmas Fair, possibly a visit from Halifax Brass Band, a quiz of some sort and Dorothy has exciting plans for a garden party at the Vicarage with a Steel Band. **Watch this space!!!!**

## **The Way I See It: Five Good Things About Lent**

*Canon David Winter - Former Head of Religious Broadcasting, BBC*

In case you're thinking that Lent is (as one writer recently described it) 'all purple and prohibitions', here are five good things about it.

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.)

Given those five splendidly positive things about Lent, which covers the whole of March this year, I trust readers will approach its rigours with joyful hearts.

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### **Notes from the PCC**

There was mixed good and bad news at the PCC meeting on Tuesday 17th February.

The Church's architect, Mr. Tony Keeble, from Overton's of Ilkley, came to explain to us that as we reach the end of the first phase of the work necessary to secure the full Heritage Lottery Fund grant, sadly, the report we needed on the state of the concrete in the church did not materialise, despite numerous reminders and pleas to the firm doing the work. Fortunately, English Heritage is happy for us to continue with the other aspects of the work and we have put them out for tender. We await the responses from the various firms and English Heritage will then decide if we can proceed and whom they would like to do the work. It should be possible to make another claim to HLF in due course to cover the concrete .

On a happier note, an application to the Mercer's Company in London for funding for our Children's Worker, Karen Wheelhouse, proved successful and we have been granted £1,500 to enable this valuable work to continue. We are most grateful to them for their support—and to the Bradford Mission Grants Committee who gave us the initial grant to enable us to start the K:Ing's Way Club. Karen continues to do sterling work for us—both with the K:Ing's Way Club and Messy Church.

As we are now part of a new Diocese, attempts are being made to devise a system for allocating Share payments which is acceptable to all 3 former Dioceses. We have been asked to fill in a questionnaire giving our preferences in many areas. No easy task!

We also looked ahead to the APCM and approved the report from the PCC and from the Treasurer.

The Bradford community payback scheme, through which offenders are asked to do work in the community, has agreed to continue the fence painting started by the Scout Group, clear the shrubbery, paint the hall, the kitchen ceiling and the lobby area outside the toilets. This will make a huge difference to the look of the building and we are most grateful for their help.

*Hilary Davis, PCC Secretary*

## March Roll of Remembrance

1st	Eric Cooper	(1995)
2nd	George Ridgway	(1988)
3rd	Jim Hannay	(1981)
4th	Ellen Milton	(1982)
5th	John Smith	(2001)
6th	Thomas Swales	(1983)
9th	William Henry Willis	(1972)
	Edith Gaygen	(1983)
	Alison Jane Parkin	(2004)
10th	Amy Wilkinson	(1945)
16th	Maurice Cheetham	(1997)
17th	Amy Dennet	(1981)
	Sadie Marlow	(2006)
19th	Elsie Saville	(1982)
21st	Martha Marlow	(1948)
24th	Gordon Spence	(1988)
25th	Bernard Hugh Preston	(1959)
	Albert Edward Jacques	(1981)
	Edith Sutcliffe	(1980)
	Thomas Flood	(1997)
26th	Ethel Eales	(1980)
28th	Cynthia Smith	(1975)
29th	Robert Errington	(1976)
31st	Chris Gibson	(2008)



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