

Letter From the Vicar

This month we are in the final weeks of Lent, going through Passiontide and culminating in the first week of Easter. The walk through Lent may have been feeling very long, tortuous and painful, as we follow Jesus and his small band of disciples through the plots against the Messiah, his betrayal, arrest on totally false charges, to his flogging and eventual crucifixion outside of the great and central city of Jerusalem.

Holy Week will again draw us through the pain and suffering of our Lord. We are still near enough to last Christmas to remember the joy of knowing that God had sent his only Son to live among us and to be our Saviour, but so much of a single life is packed into three months. If we were writing our own biography could we cram it into so short a period span and still have the massive worldwide effect as had the life and ministry of Jesus?

I myself still feel that element of surprise, horror and then deep gratitude, in all humility, as I am faced with the knowledge of why this man was here on earth. I sense the anticipation of the disciples as they feel the end is near when their people will be freed from the oppression of a foreign nation occupying their lands and subjugating their nation.

I acknowledge Jesus' pain as he tries to prepare himself to make the ultimate sacrifice for which he came among us, whilst at the same time having the compassion to try and prepare his disciples - who are mere human beings - for what is to come.

Yes, this month is a real rollercoaster of emotions as we complete our Lenten preparation for Easter, move swiftly through Passiontide and arrive at Easter Day. Although we know the story so well, we cannot help but solemnly walk the Way of Sorrows, sense the terrible tensions of Holy Week and embrace the deep shock of the crucifixion that will lead us to the joy of Easter.

Thankfully, at dawn on that joyful Sunday morning, something wonderful will happen. It will have been unheard of in Jesus' time and never experienced again. The resurrection of our Lord and Saviour cannot be described as no one saw the actual event. The distraught and grieving women from amongst his followers came to pay their last

respects to the earthly remains of their teacher and leader. They became overjoyed when assured that Jesus was no longer dead but was alive and waiting to walk with them once again.

Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Day and proved that no amount of evil can destroy the love of God for us, his children. Those who killed our Lord Jesus Christ only served to prove his everlasting power and show us the extent of what our God would sacrifice to save us from ourselves.

And this is the wonderful hope to which we cling - because as long as we live and have faith in the Lent to Easter experience, that hope will never die. It is the hope that we all find in Christ; his birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension. There is so much loneliness, sadness, anger, fear and hatred in the world today. Only the hope born of faith in Jesus, his death and resurrection, can give us the strength and will to overcome it all.

May the story of Easter bring you hope and joy in the risen Christ, now and always. Amen.

Have a comforting Holy Week and a joyful Easter.

Dorothy

MARCH PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 1st	10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion at Crossley House
	12 noon	Knit and Natter
	7.00 p.m.	Standing Committee meeting
	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 2nd	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub scouts
Thursday 3rd	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver scouts
	7.00 p.m.	Lent Course
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts
Friday 4th	2.00 p.m.	Women's World Day of Prayer Service at St. Peter's Church, Allerton Road

SUNDAY 6TH **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT/MOTHERING SUNDAY**

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Tuesday 8th 12 noon Knit and Natter
7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 9th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
11.30 a.m. Ings Way Lunch Day
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 10th 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer
6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.00 p.m. Lent Course
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 13TH **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Tuesday 15th 12 noon Knit and Natter
7.30 p.m. Adult Tap Dancing
7.30 p.m. PCC meeting in Vestry
Wednesday 16th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 17th 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer
6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 20TH **PALM SUNDAY**

10.00 a.m. Family and Parade Service
Monday 21st 7.00 p.m. Taizé Service
Tuesday 22nd 7.00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 23rd 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
6.15 p.m. Scout Group joint event at Blackhills
Thursday 24th 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer
7.00 p.m. Holy Communion with Stripping of the
Altar and Vigil
Friday 25th 10.30 a.m. Young People's service
11.15 a.m. Building Jesus' Tomb
11.30 a.m. Walk of Witness from Ladyhill Park
2.30 p.m. Proclamation of the Cross

SUNDAY 27TH **EASTER DAY**

10.00 a.m. Family Communion
Wednesday 30th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
Thursday 31st 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer

Progress report on HLF work

Work started on 11th January with scaffolding being erected, a large cabin being lifted into the car park and various supplies being delivered. Promises of the heaters being in place and working within days were somewhat optimistic though – what with concerns over matching the brickwork for the new flues and whether or not to utilise the current wiring we were later to find the heating system wasn't fully operational until well into February. The concerns over the bricks were allayed when a pile of them was found at the side of the hall buried under vegetation, with a few more on the windowsill in the bell tower!

Our main contractors had originally quoted for new wiring to each of the new heaters as had been recommended to us but tried (in vain) to utilise the old wiring where they could. Ultimately it was found necessary to replace it all. At the same time we asked for an extension to the electrical wiring and a spur on the gas pipe to be fitted so that we could have the option of installing an additional heater to the right of the choir stalls as you look at them. This will be the subject of another separate grant application but if unsuccessful we could pay for it out of our reserves.

One outcome of the lack of heating early in the work schedule was the use of the hall for a Parade Service. This went very well and was enjoyed by all (it was nice to be warm for a change!)

While all this was going on we started with problems with the sound system. Coincidence or not, we felt it probably had something to do with the work going on. When checked by our audio specialists it was found that the speaker or the wiring to the speaker in the hall was shorting so was disconnected solving the problem. Only then was it remembered that the wire to that speaker goes over the roof outside and so had probably been more than a little disturbed with the roofing material being stripped!

All rainwater goods, guttering and fall pipes, have been removed for stripping and repainting. New hopper linings for the downpipes (in stainless steel rather than lead) are being sought from local manufacturers. New roof lights will be fitted once the roof has been

recovered and the old ones may be sold to make a little money for the church.

You may have noticed that we have a display in the Narthex attempting to keep you up to date with developments – please take the time to have a look and feel free to ask us any questions you may have.

All in all the work has proceeded well despite the rather wet weather we have encountered and at the last site meeting they actually reported being about 2 days ahead of schedule – the finish date had been set for 20th March so should be in advance of this. We look forward to that time when we can all get back to normal!

Lent, Holy Week and Easter

As we reported in last month's magazine there is a Lent Course running in Church on Thursdays 3rd and 10th March at 7.00 p.m. with the themes of "Love Unconditionally" and "Look Beyond". Please feel free to come to either or both of these - even if you haven't been to the earlier sessions. All are welcome.

There is also a full programme of Services for Holy Week and Easter as follows:

Sunday 20th March	10.00am	Palm Sunday with procession of
Monday 21st	7.00 pm	Taizé Service
Tuesday 22nd	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 23rd	9.30am	Said Eucharist
Thursday 24th	11.00am	Service of Oils at Ripon Cathedral
	7.00pm	Holy Communion and Stripping of
Friday 25th	10.30am	Good Friday Young People's Service
	11.15am	Building Jesus' Tomb
	11.30 am	Walk of Witness from Ladyhill Park
	2.30pm	Proclamation of the Cross
Sunday 27th	10.00am	Easter Day Family Communion

Please come and join us at any or all of the above.

Electoral Roll and APCM

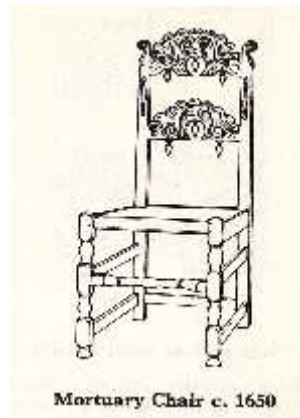
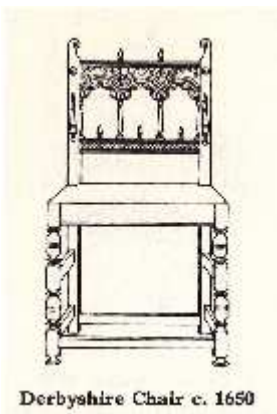
During March, we will be revising the Electoral Roll in time for the Annual Parochial Church meeting on Sunday 24th April. Being on the Roll identifies you as a member of St. Saviour's and enables you to attend the APCM, vote for the various officers for the year, hear about what has been happening and put forward any ideas, concerns or questions. Please have a word with Keith West, our Electoral Roll Officer, or any member of the PCC if you are not yet on the roll, but would like to be.

17th Century Yorkshire Chairs.

Ian Mc Alpine.

During the 1600s there was a surprising variety of chair designs produced in England. Before about 1640 most people had to make do with simple stools held together with wooden pegs ("joint stools") and the few chairs that were made were very large and imposing and owned by the well-to-do.

However, smaller chairs usually made from oak and held together with pegs, became much more common from the middle of the century. Two special types were produced mainly in Yorkshire and Derbyshire. They are called, not surprisingly, Yorkshire or Derbyshire chairs, the terms being almost interchangeable. Here they are:-



Obviously original Yorkshire chairs from the 1600s are now very rare

and expensive. However, the design on the right was often copied in the 1950s and 1960s and is quite easy to find today. The originals rarely had cushions and are very heavy and uncomfortable to sit on, while the carved backs tend to dig into the spine. Not to be outdone, the Red Rose County had its own distinctive chair patterns, one in the 17th century and one around 1800. Although very different in their appearance from the Yorkshire ones, the earlier Lancashire models are considerably rarer but no less uncomfortable to sit on! Good examples of 17th century Yorkshire and Lancashire chairs can be seen today at Bolling Hall, one of our City's greatest architectural treasures which contains a wonderful collection of ancient furniture dating back to the reign of Elizabeth I.

The Song of the Spirit

O when Your Spirit softly sings
Within our hearts of stone
Lord, speak to us of Godly things
And make our hearts your home.

Sometimes our doubts like briars grow;
Sometimes our faith is weak,
O Spirit, sing, that doubt may go,
Lord, help us hear you speak.

Transform us through your Spirit's voice
And set our hearts alight,
So truly may our hearts rejoice
And shine with Godly light.

For those who hear the Spirit's song,
Are filled then with His power!
Their light shall shine the whole day long
And praise fills ev'ry hour!

Miscellaneous observations on daily life

~ A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it.

~ A healthy adult consumes each year one-and-one-half times his own weight in other people's patience.

~ A pun is the lowest form of humour - unless you thought of it yourself.

~ Based on my calculations, I can retire five years after I die.

~ Birthday cake is the only food you can blow on and spit on and still everybody rushes to get a piece.

~ Coffee: starter fluid for the morning impaired.

~ How come, no matter what colour bubble bath you use, the bubbles are always white?

~ I recently decided to sell my vacuum cleaner - all it was doing was gathering dust.

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Grand Easter Raffle

We are holding a raffle in aid of church funds to be drawn on Easter Day. Tickets at £1 each (or a book of 5 for £5) are now available.

Prizes include:

Afternoon tea for two; Giant Easter egg; Chocolate hamper; Bottle of whisky; Spring planter; Giant Easter bunny; and other prizes.

Please support it if you can.

Christingle Service

The collection "candles" handed out at our Christingle service in January brought in the splendid sum of £94.75 - a large portion of which was thanks to the generosity of members of the Scout Group. The money will be sent to the Children's Society to help them in their valuable work. Many thanks for your support.

46th Bradford North Scout Group

DISTRICT CUB SCOUT GAMES TOURNAMENT

On Saturday 6th February fifty youngsters gathered at Ebenezer Church hall, Dudley Hill for the annual competition. The children played connect-four, darts, dominoes, draughts and skittles against others of the same age. Thirteen of our Cubs attended and between them won nine trophies.

EASTER EGG HUNT

On Sunday 20th March the Blackhills annual Easter Egg Hunt and giant Egg & Spoon Obstacle Race will be held. Over 200 Beavers and Cubs are expected to attend the event.

FLAMINGOLAND

The Cubs are looking forward to the District 100th Birthday Party which will be held at Flamingoland on Saturday 26th March. Eighty of us will hopefully enjoy a day out at the North Yorkshire theme park.

WEST YORKSHIRE COUNTY GANG SHOW

From Thursday 10th to Saturday 12th March the County Scouts Show will be performed at the Victoria Theatre in Halifax. Six of our members are taking part and we look forward to enjoying the matinee performance on the Saturday.

Bev Howard, Group Scout Leader

He Shall be Like a Tree Planted at the Waterside

Some years ago, the Royal Horticultural Society at Harlow Carr fixed hearing devices to a group of trees at the lower end of the gardens near Betty's Hut. Visitors were invited to listen in to what was going on inside the trees. And what an amazing experience it was! It was mind-blowing to hear the sap moving through the veins of the trees. Without the experience of hearing this phenomenon, it is difficult to imagine what it is like. To hear it and to realise that the trees were living entities raised our appreciation of the life of trees to another dimension.

Some of you may be familiar with J. R. R. Tolkien's marvellous invention of the "Ents" in *The Lord of the Rings*. They are tree-like creatures, who live in woodland areas looking after the trees and acting as "tree-shepherds". To hear the sap moving through the trees at Harlow Carr was to gain a deeper insight into Tolkein's imaginative creation, the Ents.

These reflections came to mind recently while reading Psalm 1, where verse 3 reads: *And he shall be like a tree planted by the water-side that will bring forth his fruit in due season.* (BCP translation). The righteous man is likened to a well-watered tree that resists the vicissitudes of the rather arid conditions of Israel. The "sap" that runs through the righteous man's veins is the "Law of the Lord". (v.2 *But whose delight is in the Law of the Lord.* NIV translation.)

The Psalm presents the Law of the Lord as something to be delighted in, savoured, and meditated on. (There are places in Paul's writings which seem to present the Law as a burden and irksome with it.) For the Psalmist, meditating on the Law was not merely a source of delight, but a path through the difficulties and temptations that come from our interaction with other people. Ps14:1, for instance, in a modern translation: *The walking corpse says in his heart "There is no God". They destroy and spoil the holy. There is no-one who labours for good.* The righteous man cannot avoid people like these and needs some help in his dealings with them.

If we are to follow the example of the ancient Psalmist, then it may seem that meditating on the Law might seem difficult, and it can seem formidable. But we have an excellent summary of the Law in Micah 6:8 *"he has shown you, o mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."*

That is a superb summary, simple to remember, but deep enough to occupy our thoughts for many years to come.

Blessed is the man...whose delight is in the Law of the Lord, and who meditates on his Law day and night. (Ps.1:1 & 2)

R. W. Bailey

Ing's Way Lunch Day

At our lunch day on 13th April we will be supporting Christian Aid's Super Soup appeal. The lunch will, as always, be completely free, but any donations you care to make will be given to Christian Aid.

Wise Thoughts

Patience achieves more than force. - Edmund Burke

Prayer is asking for rain. Faith is carrying an umbrella. - Anon

Blessed are those who can give without remembering, and take without forgetting. - Anon

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New household chores for children

According to a survey carried out by Barclays, many children are earning their pocket-money with a new kind of household chore: helping baffled parents with digital challenges such as downloading apps, or posting photographs on social media.

It seems that 47% of parents with children aged 10 to 18 have paid their offspring for digital help. And they pay well: children can earn 20% more for jobs such as setting up an email address, than for the more usual but boring 'tidy your bedroom' sort.

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Women's World Day of Prayer
Receive children. Receive me.

Women's World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical, prayer movement that invites women, from a different part of the world each year, to prepare a worship service through which their hopes and fears for their country may be brought before the whole world in prayer.

On **Friday 4th 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 in Cuba and translated into over 60 languages and 1000 dialects. In the British Isles alone over 6,000 services will be held. The day begins as the sun rises over the island of Samoa and continues until it sets off the coast of American Samoa, some 35 hours later.

The theme '*Receive children. Receive me*' reflects St Mark's Gospel, chapter 10 verses 13-16, which is the focus of the service and a reminder that everyone is a child of God and equally worthy of our love and respect.

The Republic of Cuba is the largest Caribbean island, located at the entrance of the Gulf of Mexico and called 'the Key to the Gulf'. Politically at odds with the USA, Cuba suffered greatly due to the economic embargo imposed upon it in 1960 but has found strength within itself to move on and overcome many of its problems.

This is not a day of prayer just for women - everyone is welcome. Our local service will be held at **St. Peter's Church, Allerton Road, at 2.00 p.m. on Friday 4th March**. Do, please, go along if you can.

The Way I See It: Anybody Not Disturbed?

Canon David Winter, Former Head of Religious Broadcasting, BBC.

We are all used to it. The TV newsreader pauses from her task to warn us that a filmed report we are about to see ‘contains scenes which some viewers may find disturbing’. We then go, by way of the cameras, to Syria or Kenya or the streets of Paris. Before our eyes are scenes of appalling horror. There are dead bodies, some of children. There is blood. There are people who have lost limbs. We are viewing carnage.

Let’s go back to that helpful warning. ‘Some viewers may find this disturbing.’ Some viewers? For the moment, let’s forget the vast majority, who are simply sitting in front of their television sets appalled at what they are seeing. ‘Some’ implies that there are other people who are watching all this and not finding it ‘disturbing’. Is it really possible that years of watching violence - actual or dramatised – has so inured ‘some people’ to actual human suffering that it no longer ‘disturbs’ them?

There are two possibilities here. Either we are creating a sub-class of viewers who are not ‘disturbed’ by real, actual, right-now-at-this-moment human suffering, or those who bring us news of it are fully aware that we are, all of us, appalled by it but prefer to suggest that it is only the super-sensitive who are ‘disturbed’ by it.

Well, I’m appalled, shocked, horrified at what human beings will do to each other, even, in some cases, in the Name of God. I am also gratified and reassured that in the midst of that carnage there are ordinary men and women showing compassion and care for those who suffer. That’s why the weasel word ‘some’ won’t do. The least any of us should be is ‘disturbed’.

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Notes from the PCC

As you will have read elsewhere in the magazine, at our meeting on 16th February, we received further updates on the work funded by the HLF grant. It is a huge relief to have this now well underway, with the promise of an early finish. It will be good to get back to “normal”

again!

We have been making strenuous efforts to ensure all our polices regarding safeguarding and associated practices are in line with current legislation. The Diocese will undergo an audit under the auspices of the National Safeguarding Office in October and has urged all parishes to set their houses in order. The Training Session at the end of February was a key part of this and we are updating our register of all DBS certificates as is required of us.

Looking ahead to September, we are looking forward to celebrating 50 years of this present building (though St. Saviour's has been in existence since 1883). We have some activities planned, but more work is needed. Dorothy would like to get together a small group to take charge of this. Please have a word with her if you are able to help. We will be holding another Festival of Crosses sometime in September, so please look out for unusual or special (though not valuable, please) crosses we can display.

We are moving ever closer to the APCM and James's retirement from the post of Treasurer. The Diocese has managed to negotiate a most favourable deal for the financial management package mentioned in last month's magazine, so we are to go ahead with its purchase as a matter of urgency, and request some training sessions for those who will be using it. This will make things a little easier, but if anyone knows of anyone who would like to take on the role, please be in touch!

We love having baptisms in church and the last one on 24th January was a most happy occasion. We have now got some booklets to hand out to parents of babies who have just been baptised to suggest ways of continuing the child's Christian journey. We also thought it would be helpful to have a specific Sunday set aside for baptisms, should it be needed, and so future services will be on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Hilary Davis, PCC Secretary.

Holy Baptism

Marzell Obileye

24th January 2016

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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