

The November Letter

Looking Backwards

Remembrance Sunday is on the 9th of the month and has special significance this year because we have cast our minds back to the world shattering events which began on the 4th August 1914. Poppies were planted in our churchyard and a centenary memorial exhibition was set up in our church.

On this day we remember subsequent wars. My memory of the 2nd World War is in Burma. On the roll of honour of my school 11 members of my class were killed including my two best friends, Keith a fighter pilot and Geoff a tank commander. Memories. Memories.

Looking Forwards

On the 10th of this month the Revd. Dorothy Stewart will be inducted as our new Vicar. A new era begins. We are now looking forward to our new leader. As we welcome her to St. Saviour's we shall pledge our support for her as we help one another. We are not a congregation involved in power struggles and we shall continue to put our resources together to support each other.

Looking forward? Yes. It is exciting.

Revd. Dennis Shaw

NOVEMBER PARISH DIARY

SUNDAY 2ND ALL SAINTS' DAY

- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Revd. Chris Shedd*)
Tuesday 4th 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Crossley House
7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 5th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 6th 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

SUNDAY 9TH 3RD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT/REMEMBRANCE

- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Revd. Richard and Mrs. Jean Bailey*)
3.00 p.m. Service of Remembrance in Ladyhill Park
Monday 10th 7.30 p.m. Induction Service
Tuesday 11th 6.30 p.m. Scout Group Remembrance Service
Wednesday 12th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
11.30 a.m. Ing's Way Lunch Day
Thursday 13th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer
4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club
Saturday 15th 11.00 a.m. Christmas Fair

SUNDAY 16TH 2ND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Revd. Dorothy Stewart*)
Tuesday 18th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 19th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
7.30 p.m. PCC meeting
Thursday 20th 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

SUNDAY 23rd CHRIST THE KING

- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Revd. Dorothy Stewart*)

Tuesday 25th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 26th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 27th	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

SUNDAY 30TH ADVENT SUNDAY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Revd. Dorothy Stewart*)

Posada

Beginning on Advent Sunday, 30th November, Mary, Joseph and the donkey from our Nativity set will set off on a journey round the parish, staying one or two nights at people's homes. A book will go with them for you to record your thoughts on having them with you in your home. In the past it has proved a very popular and rewarding experience. The overriding reaction has been the peace and serenity the figures have brought with them. They will arrive back in church on Christmas Eve, ready to wait in our Crib for the arrival of baby Jesus. Please sign the sheet at the back of church if you would like to take part.

Children's Society Boxes

Would all holders of Children's Society Collecting Boxes please note that they should bring them to church and give them to the box coordinator, Mrs Val Muff, by the end of November so that the contents can be counted and returned to the society. Thank you.

Truly God is Loving unto Israel! (Psalm 73)

I always used to love coming to the 14th evening in the round of Psalms at evensong; it really did seem to be a Psalm to get your teeth into. I can still remember it in Coverdale's translation in the Prayer Book; it may not be accurate but it is evocative. It begins with the words quoted above, which seem to come from a lightness of spirit which rises up in the praise of God. But then we come to verse 2 where a note of puzzlement creeps in, *nevertheless, my feet had almost gone: my treadings had well-nigh slipped.*

The reason for this comes immediately in verse 3, *And why? I was grieved at the wicked : I do also see the ungodly in such prosperity.* This sets a question over verse 1; is the Psalmist really praising God, or is there a sense of sarcasm in his voice? A note of exasperation is heard here, and it grows through the next verses until anger breaks out in v.7; *their eyes swell with fatness: and they do even as they lust.* This feeling grows deeper until it becomes righteous anger; *They corrupt other, and speak wicked blasphemy: their talking is against the most High.....Tush, they say, how should God perceive it: is there knowledge in the most High?* There is a sense of fury, and anger against such people, and also of disappointment with God. The Psalmist is on the point of giving up his faith, *Yea and I had almost said ever as they.*

Suddenly there comes a flash of understanding and revelation, *Until I went unto the sanctuary of God: then I understood the end of these men.* From this point on there is a sense of growing confidence in the Psalmist's voice, which increases until we reach his final words, *It is good for me to hold fast to God, to put my trust in the Lord God....* At last he has relaxed from his anger and returned to his sense that God can be trusted and relied on.

This reflection was triggered off by Patrick's words in the last magazine, and by my recent reading of Walter Bruggemann's short book *Praying the Psalms*. Bruggemann intends us to understand that the Psalms are the emotional responses of people who lived uncertain lives, often on the edge of destitution or oppression. They have found their lives dislocated and are looking to God to provide a relocation of their lives, fortunes and spirits. Bruggemann's understanding is that the Psalms are rarely the voice of God, but more often the voice of our common humanity, and that often it is a complaining voice. He puts it very starkly: *most of the complaint psalms*

are the voice of those who say, 'we are as mad as hell, and we are not going to take any more!'(p.10). (The most extreme example of this is Ps.88.) For Bruggemann, the Psalms are neither pious nor religious, and are not expressed in a deferential, polite or courteous manner.

This reflection means, for me, that it is not enough simply to read the Psalms, but that it is necessary to work at the feelings that lay behind their writing. The authors were expressing deeply personal feelings and openly expressing them in front of God. This means that I try to read the Psalms with expression (yes, it is possible to do that even when you are reading silently!).

The message we may take away from all this, as Bruggemann puts it, is that when we read the Psalms we must bring our own experiences and emotions into the Psalms and search out the experiences and emotions of the Psalmists. When we do this the Psalms will move our imagination towards the Holy God.

Richard Bailey

God bless

Thora Hird told this story on a BBC1 programme 'Praise Be' about a little girl saying her prayers: "God bless Mummy, God bless Daddy, God bless my brother Tommy, God bless Granny – and God look after yourself, 'cos if anything happens to you, we've had it!"

Wedding

Said the parson at the wedding:
Don't be nervous, for you see
Everything that's said or done
You say or do it after me.
Wilt thou take and wed this woman
And endeavour to be true?
But the bridegroom, much embarrassed
Only stammered, 'After you!'

Remembrance: of those who die – and those who survive

‘Madam. I regret to have to inform you that a report has been received that Sapper A Jenkins Royal Engineers has been admitted to 2nd General (Australian) Hospital, Boulogne on the 23rd day of April, 1918. The nature of the wound is Gas Poisoning (mild). I am to express to you the sympathy and regret of the Army Council. Yours faithfully....’

Thanks to those Australian doctors and nurses, my grandfather made a complete recovery. After the war, he returned to his wife Emily Rose, brought up four girls and two boys, including my father, and died just short of his 85th birthday. He had served in France, Italy and Germany. Sadly, many others, serving all over the world down the years, have not been as fortunate.

I remember my grandfather. I know he vowed never to go abroad again. Through research and his medals and paperwork (quoted above), I know some of what he went through. I never heard him speak about it.

Through Remembrance, we not only remember those who die in war but also those who return and what they live with. We remember what they gave. We remember those who supported them. We remember those they left behind. We remember the respect we owe so many ordinary people who gave so much and we remember what war is truly like.

In August 1914, the war in Europe began, and went on to resonate around the world. At 11.00 am on 11th November, 1918, the Armistice was signed, giving peace another chance.

Memories fade and peace becomes taken for granted. It was only 20 years after my grandfather returned from the army that the world descended into the hell of war once more. My father was young enough to ‘miss out’. His older brother served throughout as a pilot.

Again, others were less fortunate. Again, others were left behind. Is there any sacrifice greater than giving your life for your fellow human beings? Every time we share in Holy Communion, we remember Jesus’ willing sacrifice for all of us. He laid down his life so that we might live.

On Remembrance Sunday, at memorials and cenotaphs and in our churches, we remember the sacrifice that so many have made in war. We remember the horror of war that so many have been through. But we also reflect on the peace that can hopefully follow. Remembrance teaches us that we should never take peace for granted. Lest we forget.

Steve Jenkins, formerly of Church House Communications, Westminster
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Remembrance

The annual service of Remembrance in Ladyhill Park, organised by Churches Together in Allerton and Fairweather Green, will again take place at 3.00 p.m. on Sunday 9th November, by the cenotaph. Over the years, this service has grown in popularity and now attracts quite a congregation. Revd. Richard Bailey will be leading it this year.

During the 10.00 a.m. service that morning, there will also be a part of the service dedicated to remembrance and we hope as many of you as can will come along to either service - or both, if you wish.

The Scout Group are also organising a service in church on November 11th. See the advert on p. 10

Do good

*Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.*

By John Wesley

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Christmas Fair

Saturday 15th November 2014

11.0 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

Toys Santa

Cakes

Gifts

Cards Games

Lunches

Raffle

Tombola

Entrance Free

Remembering the fall of the Berlin Wall - 25 years ago

The Berlin Wall, which had symbolised Communist oppression in Europe since its erection in 1981, was torn down 25 years ago this month, following pressure from inside and outside East Germany.

The border with West Germany was opened on 9th November 1989, allowing people to pass freely through the checkpoints. Workers began demolishing the 28-year-old wall the next day. The former long-time leader of East Germany, Erich Honecker, had predicted a few months earlier that the wall could stand for 50 or 100 more years.

Many Christians – and others – felt that a prayer meeting held exactly one month earlier made the fall of the Wall inevitable, when many thousands of people, ignoring death threats and huge banks of armed police, gathered at St Nicholas Church in the East German city of Leipzig to pray and march for peace. It was the culmination of seven years of weekly Prayers for Peace meetings organised by Christian Führer, the pastor of St Nicholas, despite strong opposition from the authorities.

Protest demonstrations were breaking out all over East Germany, and on 9th November Günter Schabowski, the party boss in East Berlin, had the task of announcing the opening of borders the following day. However, he had been badly briefed and when questioned by journalists said this would take effect immediately. The border guards had not been informed, but refused to fire on those who took Schabowski at his word.

In July 1988, singer Bruce Springsteen and the E-Street Band played a live concert inside East Berlin, which was attended by 300,000 and broadcast on television. Springsteen spoke to the crowd in German, saying: "I'm not here for or against any government. I've come to play rock 'n' roll for you in the hope that one day all the barriers will be torn down."

**The 46th Bradford North
Explorers, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers
invite you to join them at their**

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

**On Tuesday 11th November 2014
in church**

Refreshments served afterwards.

Operation Christmas Child

The saga of this year's box collection is drawing to a close as far as we are concerned. We had a very productive morning on Thursday 23rd October, when a group of us met to sort through the plethora of items that had been collected at St. Saviour's and other places. We had a lovely time filling up boxes, trying to decide what would be suitable for a boy or girl of a particular age, and imagining their pleasure on opening it!

There is still time to bring in your items, filled boxes, or monetary donations. The final date is Sunday 16th November, when all the boxes will be blessed by our new vicar, Dorothy, during the morning service. They will then be collected to be taken to a large warehouse somewhere to be checked by OCC staff to make sure all the items are suitable for the proposed recipient and that nothing harmful, controversial, or out-of-date (sweets) has been included. Each box is then given an official sticker to show that it meets the required criteria, before being shipped out. Once again, it has been most enjoyable and rewarding experience for all.

Celebration as the new Bishops for Huddersfield and Bradford are Consecrated

At a ceremony in York Minster on Friday 17th October, the final 2 area bishops of the new Diocese were ordained and consecrated. The Archbishop of York, Dr. John Sentamu conducted the service to instal Dr. Toby Howarth as Bishop of Bradford and Dr. Jonathan Gibbs as Bishop of Huddersfield. They join the other 2 area bishops (Rt. Revd. James Bell of Ripon and Rt. Revd. Tony Robinson of Wakefield) in the episcopal team led by The Rt. Revd. Nick Baines who is the Bishop of Leeds and Diocesan Bishop.

A large congregation made up of family, friends, colleagues and supporters, including members of St. Saviour's and other parishes in the Diocese, listened to the address given by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the most Revd. Dr. Justin Welby, who told them, "A bishop is not a senior manager in a convenient administrative unit for putting together an administration, payroll, and deployment of staff to suitable outlets. A bishop is above all a shepherd, carrying their cross and, like middle-eastern shepherds, leading the sheep."

Both new bishops will also be officially welcomed at services in their new Episcopal Areas this month. Bishop Toby will be welcomed to Bradford on Saturday November 8th at Bradford Cathedral, while Bishop Jonathan will be welcomed at a service on Saturday 29th November at Dewsbury Minster, both at 11.00 am.

O.K. to Pray

A poster in a school in South Pasadena, California proclaimed "In the event of atomic attack, the rule prohibiting prayer in school will be temporarily suspended."

The Origins of Crossley Hall

Ian McAlpine

(Continued from last month)

Since the Hospitallers and their post-Reformation successors were Lords of the Manor of Crossley they were entitled to hold courts to consider local disputes over land and other matters. Early manor court records were usually written in Latin and were often kept on long rolls of vellum (animal skin). The Hospitallers held several other manors in the area - Bingley, for example. I was therefore delighted to discover at Bradford Record Office court rolls from Crossley and the Hospitallers' other local manors from 1600 to 1605. The Crossley ones were presumably written in the building which was replaced in the 1650s. Although they were in Latin it was thrilling to read about disputes over land and livestock 400 years ago in the area around Fairweather Green.

This however was not all. I was amazed to see two much earlier manorial court rolls relating to the Hospitallers dated 1347 and 1351 during the reign of King Edward III ! Some of the courts were held at Crossley, no doubt on or very near the site of my house. They were in terrible condition - parts were completely missing and the ink had badly faded - but had been restored as far as possible by West Yorkshire Archives Service. It seemed likely that the courts were suspended between 1347 and 1351 because of the Black Death which raged though England during 1348 - 9. Written in contracted mediaeval Latin the court rolls gave me a tantalising glimpse of life around Fairweather Green more than 650 years ago.

So just how far back did the story go? The rolls indicated that the preceptory already existed by 1347. John James' 1841 history of Bradford gave a possible answer. James gave a translation of a summary dated 1617 then preserved in York of some undated mediaeval deeds which had granted land to the Hospitallers.

Jordan, son of Henry de Denby, twenty acres of land in Crosleia [to the Hospitallers]

Jordan was quite a common Christian name in the 13th century. Denby was part of Allerton. Before the 14th century deeds were very rarely

dated, thereby perplexing and confusing modern historians! However, the names of the people in the 1617 summary indicate that the deeds were originally written late in the 13th century. During the reign of Edward I (1272 - 1307) the 1279 Statute of Mortmain severely restricted the giving of lands by wealthy private individuals to religious foundations so Denby's grant was probably before that date.

And so it seems likely that Jordan de Denby granted 20 acres of land to the Hospitallers as far back as the late 1200s. The land may have included that on which St Saviour's was built in 1966. So the preceptory was built by the Knights on their newly acquired land perhaps around the 1260s or 1270s.

Does anything remain of the mediaeval buildings? I suspect that some foundations still exist and plan to investigate further. The north wall of my house is three feet thick - could it contain masonry from the Hospitallers' time? And my quest continues for written evidence of the ancient preceptory. Perhaps Jordan de Denby's 13th century Latin charter - Crossley Hall's "birth certificate" - will turn up one day.

During the late 13th century King Edward I built a number of castles in North Wales as part of his campaign to subdue the Welsh. - Beaumaris, Caernarfon, Conwy, and Harlech are among the best known. Amazing to think that parts of my house may be even older than they are!

Milky sermon

A Somerset parish magazine told how ministers from the Welsh valleys were distressing the older members of the Chapel by the length of their sermons. On one occasion an elderly man greeted the minister: "And what is the subject of your sermon this morning?"

"The milk of human kindness," replied the minister.

"Ah," the old man mused a moment. "Condensed, I hope?"

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Notes from the PCC

We were delighted to find out at the PCC meeting on Tuesday 7th October that we are, at last, to have a new vicar. The Revd. Dorothy Stewart will be inducted as our new half-time incumbent on Monday 10th November, at 7.30 p.m. After the years of waiting and uncertainty, it has all happened very fast and no sooner did we learn that Dorothy had been appointed, than we had a start date. We warmly welcome her to St. Saviour's and look forward to a long and happy association.

The agenda had been set before we knew this happy news and so much of what was there we decided to carry over to the next meeting when Dorothy will be with us. It seemed inappropriate to make lots of plans until she is able to join in the discussions.

The Messy Church session on 5th October was very successful, with quite a good attendance. Sadly, Karen Wheelhouse has been out of action for a few weeks and so was unable to lead it, but we were most grateful to Canon Betty Pedley for stepping in and doing a wonderful job. The next session will be on Sunday 7th December - with a Christmas theme. Please come along and bring family and friends if you can. It is a really enjoyable afternoon.

Inspections of the building for the preliminary stage of securing the grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund continue as we gradually work our way towards starting the actual work. So far, all is going well.

As last year, our finances are quite stretched, largely owing to the unexpected expenditure on the new boiler, and the requirement we must contribute towards the cost of the HLF repairs in due course. Please keep this in your prayers.

Details of Christmas Services will be in the next issue of the magazine.

Hilary Davis - PCC Secretary.

November Roll of Remembrance

1st	Frank Whitham	(1997)
2nd	Alice Stead	(1975)
3rd	Joseph Hill	(1958)
	Thomas Henry Ulley	(1983)
4th	Norman Rhodes	(1950)
5th	Marie Whiteley	(1985)
8th	Mabel Brooksbank	(1977)
	Doris Errington	(1978)
	Ethel Dixon	(1987)
10th	Phyllis Mooney	(2011)
11th	Edgar Wilkinson	(1974)
12th	Ada Lunnon	(1983)
15th	Violet Pearson	(1981)
17th	Florence Munby	(1980)
20th	Thomas Watson	(1972)
24th	Frank Ferguson	(1981)
26th	Martha Brocklehurst	(1985)
27th	Willie Stead	(1978)
	Blanch Grange	(1987)
30th	Roland Munby	(1980)

**ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH
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Vicar: Revd. Dorothy Stewart (from 10th November)

Reader: Mrs. Jean Bailey 483344
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