



St Cuthberts Ormesby

Building the Church Building the Kingdom

**Sunday 14th February
Sunday next before Lent**

Welcome to our church

About our new look Lockdown “Pew sheet”

As so many of our parishioners are either shielding or avoiding leaving home, we are concerned that we may have lost touch with some members of our congregation, especially if they are unable to access the Church’s website or Facebook page. We don’t intend to resume our “Lockdown” on- line Bulletins but we are going to produce an expanded version of the weekly “pewsheet”. This will include more news as well as the usual prayers, readings and information about forthcoming services. We also want to reassure people that coming to a service at St. Cuthbert’s Church is both legal and safe, provided that the current Covid regulations are followed.

We hope that those of you who are able to come to church might help in one or more of the following ways:

- If you have a friend who used to come to church, you could put a copy through their letterbox each week
- Ask any friends that you may be in touch with if they would like a copy of this leaflet emailed to them each week
- Tell your friends that it is still permitted to attend services and that we are taking every precaution to keep everyone safe.

To arrange for email or printed copies:

Phone Carol on 01642489568, email carolmbruce@yahoo.co.uk or leave a note for Larry on the table at the back of the church.

Email is preferred but if you have no Internet access we will endeavour to deliver a printed copy to you.

The prayers and readings for this morning can be found beginning on page 7 of this leaflet

St. Valentine.



Today is the day when many people celebrate St Valentine who was martyred in Rome around AD 269 under the rule of the Emperor Claudius. Claudius had forbidden members of the Roman army to marry because married men were reluctant to leave their wives to fight in the wars that were being waged throughout the Roman Empire at the time. Legend has it that Valentine, a priest and a doctor, illegally married many young couples, and for this he paid the ultimate penalty.

Sadly, there is nothing to connect his martyrdom with the choosing of a 'Valentine' of the opposite sex. However, as we know, the fathers of the early Church were clever at adopting pagan festivals and rebranding them as Christian celebrations. This day in mid-February happened to coincide with the Roman Spring festival of Lupercalia so they took advantage of another ideal opportunity to show Romans that you could be a Christian and still have some fun.

There are actually at least 3, and possibly even as many as 14 holy men named Valentine who were venerated by the church as saints, and it is very difficult to sort out who's who.

If you are interested in these legends you could try this website:

<https://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day/history-of-valentines-day-2>

The Church of England, while not officially having a designated day for St. Valentine, does actually have a sample of a service churches can use for this day, stating that the aim is

“ To reflect on the sacrificial love of God in Christ as an example for the human love between men and women.”

Nowhere does the C of E say that you should buy your sweetheart an expensive box of chocolates, a rather rude card or get an M & S ready meal for a candlelit dinner!

Surely though you could buy your significant other a bunch of flowers to cheer her (or him) up during these grim days

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Regular services

Sundays

Our regular Sunday service of Holy Communion at 10 a.m. is still permitted on condition that we comply with the Government's rules as set out below:

- **You must wear a face covering while you are in the building**
- **You must come on your own or with members of your household or bubble.**
- **You must not “mingle” with anyone else while you are in the building.**

To keep you safe: there will be communion in one kind only with no common cup. We regret there can be no singing or refreshments after the service. The monthly Café Church will be replaced by Holy Communion until further notice.

Wednesdays

The usual Wednesday celebration of Holy Communion has had to be suspended until further notice. The church will reopen again for private prayer at the beginning of Lent. There will however be a service on Ash Wednesday.

Future services:

February 17th: Ash Wednesday: Holy Communion at 10am.

Canon Peter Bristow will be celebrating There may be no formal imposition of ashes this year because of Covid regs but the observance of the beginning of Lent as a time of reflection and repentance will still be observed.

Check the church website or Facebook page for up- to- date news of any other activities at www.stcuthbertsormesby.org.uk,

or contact one of the people listed below –

Deacon: Revd. Janet Caldwell 01642 454790
Reader-in-training: Elizabeth Furnell 01642 293108
Church Warden: Janet Danks 01642 321347
Church Warden: Elaine Boyle 07794621752

Wedding and Baptism enquiries

The Tuesday evening office hours at the church have been suspended until the spring.

You may make enquiries after the Sunday morning service, which you are welcome to attend, between 11 and 12. You can also contact us by email or phone 07715298711.

Safeguarding

Scammers are already at work linked with the COVID-19 vaccine. The NHS/doctor will contact you when they have the vaccine ready for you. They will not ask for money, your bank details/password/pin number. There is a scam circulating asking you to complete an application form for an appointment for the vaccine asking for personal details. The NHS would not ask you for these details. The vaccine is free, the appointment is free. Please do not let the scammers fool you.

Useful Phone numbers:

Childline: 0800111 **NSPCC:** 08088005000
Womens Aid: 08088029999 **Samaritans:** 116123
Mind: 0300123339

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A few words from our Deacon, The Revd. Janet Caldwell

You may wonder why today's gospel contains Mark's account of the Transfiguration of Jesus which will have its own day of recognition later in the year on 6 August.

It appears in the lectionary for today to give us a glimpse of the resurrection of Christ on Easter Day and how these experiences can change both him and us.

But it also reminds us that the way to Easter is through the cross. In Luke's account of the transfiguration (Luke 9 verse 51) Luke writes that Jesus "set his face to go to Jerusalem," where all that has been spoken of will take place for him. This Wednesday Lent begins, which signifies

that turning point in the church's year when Christians begin their journey to the Cross, with all its sadness and suffering which is followed by the great celebration and joy of Easter Day.

For those interested in mountains Which one was it? There are two contenders:-

Mount Tabor isn't a very big mountain at 1,886 feet. However, it stands alone in the area and was considered very strategic "high ground" throughout the centuries. The mountain is located at the eastern end of the Jezreel Valley, eleven miles west of the Sea of Galilee. During the time of Jesus, Mount Tabor was the landmark for an important junction on the Roman Highway known as the "Way of the Sea" – it marked the connector road up to Damascus.

The other main possibility for the Mountain of Transfiguration location is Mount Hermon. At 9,232 feet, this mountain is the highest in the region. It is also near Caesarea Philippi, where the previous events recorded in the Gospels took place. Some scholars believe that Mount Hermon better conforms to the record than the traditional site on Mount Tabor, but we just don't know.

Janet Caldwell

11 February 2021

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Giving: a message from our treasurer.

Hebrews 13.16: Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

We give to our church in a variety of ways, but with the past closure of all our buildings we have not been able to receive all the gifts that we usually would, so we really need your help now.

It is said that, at its best, giving is an act of worship so I would like to thank all those members of our congregation who have embraced contactless methods as well as those who are giving through the planned giving envelopes to continue to support St Cuthberts. Please continue to put away your weekly envelope contributions and pass them to church as soon as you are able.

We are pleased to offer you another way of continuing to donate even if you are sheltering and unable to attend church during the coronavirus restrictions or beyond. Here is a QR code for donating to our church.

If you have a smart phone and you point your camera at the QR code, to the right, it will prompt you to open the web browser on your phone at a page allowing you to choose one of the set amounts or choose to set the donation amount yourself. Default is a single donation but there is an option to set it to give the same amount each month.

Any donation of £30 or less will contribute to our claim from the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme or GASDS as it is more commonly known. Boosting your contribution by 25p in every £1.



Get the new online resource from the Diocese of York- The New Prayer Diary

The latest Diocesan Prayer Diary is ready for you to download in a choice of two page layouts from the web page at

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/prayerdiary

#Live Lent

Lent begins on 17th February so don't just give up chocolate!

Why not pick up a copy of this year's #Live Lent booklet from the church, there are still a few left, or go on line for daily emails of this great resource. Website below.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/livelent-2021-church-resources-gods-story-our-story>

The Collect for the Sunday next before Lent

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Bible Readings for today

Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from

you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel : Mark 9:2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**All readings are taken from The New Revised Standard Version.
(NRSV)**

Post Communion Prayer

Holy God,
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table
reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord

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Collation of the Revd. Tina Burgess

Most of us will remember Tina who was one of the ordinands in training that we were fortunate to have for a while at St. Cuthbert's. After her ordination she became the curate at St Peter's in Redcar and has now been appointed to a parish of her own, St Martin of Tours at Whinney Banks. Tina's collation is on 15th February at 7 pm. This will of necessity be a virtual event on Zoom, but we are cordially invited to attend, also virtually. You can contact Tina via email so she can send joining codes. Even if you have not used Zoom before it is quite simple to participate so do give it a try if you have internet access.

Tina's email address is:

revtinaburgess@gmail.com

**St Cuthbert's sends Tina our love, prayers and best wishes
as she starts her ministry at St. Martin's.**

R.I.P. Ron Nicholls

You may know that Ron died on 26th January.
He had been in hospital for some time with non-Covid health
problems but had been hoping to come home when he sadly
succumbed to the virus.

Ron's funeral will be on Feb. 16th at 10.30 at St. Cuthbert's, but because of the Covid regulations it will not be open to all. Chris has now given Janet the family list for her father's dad's funeral and has said that are 10 places left. If anyone wants to come to the church, please contact Deacon Janet. The family will be holding a celebration of Ron's life later in the year when everyone can socialize again, and everyone will be invited to that.

Please remember Chris and her family in your prayers

A prayer for those who mourn

Gracious God,
as we remember before you the thousands who have died,
surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion.
Be gentle with us in our grief, protect us from despair, and give us
grace to persevere
and face the future with hope
in Jesus Christ our risen Lord
Amen

O Lord support us all the day long of this troublous life,
until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy
world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.
Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest,
and peace at the last.
Amen.

A prayer written by John Henry Newman

The Archbishops' message

In response to reaching the terrible milestone of 100,000 deaths from COVID-19, the Archbishops of York and Canterbury invited us all to call on God in Prayer. Starting on 1 February they invited us to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day.

They wrote:

“More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love.”

Request a Hymn

Janet can't play the organ at the moment as she has her diaconal duties to perform, but thanks to Ian Hart and his mastery of the church's temperamental sound system, we can still have some music.

Ian has a file of hymns and sacred music provided by the C of E that may be played without having to pay license fees. If you would like to have a favourite hymn played, get in touch with Ian (or any of the contacts in this leaflet). If Ian has the hymn on his list, he will try to play it. (i.e. from a computer file, organ playing not unfortunately being one of his many accomplishments!)

Fund Raising

Lesley's treasure hunt: Update

As it had proved difficult to sell tickets due to the lockdown, Lesley had previously joined forces with the Masons, who have bought nearly half of the tickets in exchange for a share in the profits (to go to local charities). Lesley says that St. C's share will now be £200. The prize stands at £100. There may be a very few tickets left. Tickets £5. Lesley also says that you can still buy tickets for her online tombola.

Contact Lesley on 0796409411

Transmission of the virus via paper surfaces

Public Health England state that:

“the virus does not survive well for long periods outside the body and so it is highly unlikely that COVID-19 can be spread through post or packages.”

Aside from the manufacturing conditions of paper, plus the printing and distribution processes significantly decreasing the amount of viable particles required to infect someone, the material itself is not a good

location for the virus to exist. The researchers found that the coronavirus lasts longest on smooth, non-porous surfaces such as plastic. Since paper and cardboard are porous, they carry the lowest potency for the shortest period of time.

To further reassure you, when this leaflet is printed it is done so by a person wearing a mask and with gloved or sanitised hands. If you are still worried about passing the virus on with this leaflet, isolate it for a couple of days and then handle it in a similar way.

Please leave the order of service on the pew but take this leaflet away with you.