



St Cuthberts Ormesby

Building the Church Building the Kingdom



Sunday 25th April

4th Sunday of Easter -Shepherd's Sunday

Welcome to our church

A message from our Deacon, Janet Caldwell

Shepherd's Sunday occurs on the fourth Sunday of the Easter season. The name derives from the gospel reading for the day, which is taken from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. In this reading Christ is described as the "Good Shepherd" who lays down his life for his sheep.

There are lots of pictures and cards of the Good Shepherd. Sometimes you have Jesus in flowing robes on a smooth green meadow, holding a curling staff. He has a little white lamb in his arms or on his shoulders. It is a far cry from shepherds of today who more often can be seen attending to their flocks on quad bikes.

Today you can find, around the city of Rome and on its outskirts, little doors that lead to tunnels that take you down into the ground — into the catacombs, which are nothing more than dark, wet tunnels. And there you can see the graves and the altars of our Christian ancestors, our grandfathers and grandmothers who worshipped God in the dark. And there, in those tunnels, you will find the Good Shepherd.

Those early Christians, who were facing persecution, painted and carved on the walls of these catacombs the image of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

This was the way they thought of their Lord. It is a simple yet consoling image.

The early Christians knew something that we forget. Shepherds had a dangerous life and were hard often brave men.

Jesus is a shepherd who fights. His shepherd's crook, the curved staff that shepherds use even today, is not there as a sort of theatrical prop. The wooden staff is related to the wood of the cross. That staff is a weapon. It's used to fight off wolves. Our Lord is a shepherd who puts himself between the prey and the predator. He pays a price to defend his flock from the enemy. And that is the image of the Shepherd that moved the Christians shivering in the cellars of Rome. That is the image that still speaks to us today.

Janet Caldwell

Please turn to page 5 of this leaflet for today's prayers and readings.

Regular services during lockdown

Sundays: Holy Communion at 10 a.m.

Our regular Sunday service of Holy Communion is still permitted ***on condition that we comply with the Government's rules.***

We are sorry to have to be so restrictive, but we must try to keep everyone safe, so as our services take place indoors:

- **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**
- **there will be communion in one kind only with no common cup**

- **congregational singing is not allowed**
- **we may not offer refreshments after the service**

Café Church: This will be replaced by Holy Communion until further notice.

Future services

Sundays at 10.00 Holy Communion

Wednesdays at 10.00 Holy Communion

Canon Peter has kindly offered to carry on with the Wednesday service if there are sufficient communicants to make it viable (please listen for announcements in church and check the pewsheet or website for any variations).

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 resumed. No need to book, just come along to St Cuthbert's on Tuesday evenings between 6pm and 7pm.

You can also fill in an online application, find it under "Life Events" in the menu bar on the Church's website at

www.stcuthbertsormesby.org.uk,

Safeguarding

Useful Phone numbers:

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

**Diocese of York.
Keep up with the news at:**

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/thenews

also available on the Church Website

<https://stcuthbertsormesby.org.uk/newsletters/>

Giving: a message from our treasurer.

Hebrews 13.16:

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have”,
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 If you can donate online please do so. All details are on our website If you are donating more than £30 you might consider gift aiding it; if you can't go on line, contact Ian for a form to fill in.



If you have a smart phone and you point your camera at the QR code to the left, 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.

The Collect for the 4th Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Bible Readings for the 4th Sunday of Easter

The first New Testament Reading, Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The Epistle, 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Gospel, John 10:11-18

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Bible passages are reproduced from The New Revised Standard Version. (NRSV)

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

You won't catch Covid from picking up this or any other leaflet:

Public Health England states 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.”

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 sanitised hands.

Can you help to distribute our lockdown “pewsheets”?

Most of you will know by now that we have temporarily expanded our weekly leaflet to include a little more news and other items we hope will be of interest.

We would like to distribute it to members of the congregation who are staying at home at the present time, so we are asking those of you who are still able to attend church to 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 of the weekly sheet 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 people that we are taking every precaution to keep everyone safe.

To arrange for copies to be emailed, or hand-delivered if you are unable to access the internet, phone Carol on 01642489568

Or email Carol at carolmbruce@yahoo.co.uk

or leave a note for Larry on the table at the back of the church.

We would prefer to email the leaflet to you, but if you have no Internet access we will endeavour to deliver a printed copy to you.

This leaflet will also be on the church website at www.stcuthbertsormesby.org.uk

Finally: A little ditty from Elaine

Be happy

There's an art in being friendly
 There's an art in being kind,
 There's an art in leaving bigotry and prejudice behind ,
 There's an art in happy living
 And it's not so hard to find ,
 For the art is really trying
 In applying heart and mind
 So let your heart be happy and let your mind be free,
 Just look inside your inner self and be happy with what you see

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