



St Cuthberts Ormesby

Building the Church Building the Kingdom

Sunday June 20th

The third Sunday

after Trinity

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

A message from our Deacon, The Revd. Janet Caldwell

By the time you read this, the current spell of hot weather may have been broken by rain and thunderstorms. Like the windstorm on the lake in today's gospel, storms blow up as if from nowhere.

As in the weather, so it is in life, storms and rough patches come along to unsettle or test us. We may feel overwhelmed and poorly equipped to deal with them. Like the disciples in the boat, that is when Jesus has the opportunity to say Peace, Be Still, and Why are you afraid – which can lead us out of our fear and into calmness.

A Scottish philosopher called John Macmurray suggests that the maxim of real religion should be
“Fear not, the things you are afraid of are quite likely to happen to you – but they are nothing to be afraid of .



Something for us to ponder over.

As this is the final issue of the pewsheets in its current format, I would like to thank Carol Bruce for her hard work and creativity in compiling and editing it each week. From next week the pewsheets return to its usual style.

With every blessing

Deacon Janet

Please turn to page 4 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**

Government guidance includes a request that we record the names of attendees and visitors.

Please enter your details on the attendance sheet or scan the QR code on your smartphone. These records are kept for 21 days, to assist track-and-trace if required. All information is dealt

with as required by GDPR and the records will be securely disposed of after 21 days.

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

Wednesdays at 10.00: Holy Communion

(Please listen for announcements in church or 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

A message from our treasurer.

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.



Smartphone owners, point your camera at the QR code to the left to open the web browser on your phone at a page allowing you to choose the amount you would like to donate.

**Prayers and Bible Readings for the third Sunday
after Trinity**

The Collect

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Old Testament reading. 1 Samuel 17: (19-23), 32-49

(v. 19 Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry. Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.)

v.32 David said to Saul, "Let no one's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth." But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and whenever a lion or a bear came, and took a lamb from the flock, I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth; and if it turned against me, I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down, and kill it. Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God." David said, "The LORD, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine." So Saul said to David, "Go, and may the LORD be with you!" Saul clothed David with his armour; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. David strapped Saul's sword over the armour, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these; for I am not used to them." So David removed them. Then he took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the wadi, and put them in his shepherd's bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field." But David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This very day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head; and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the LORD does not save by sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's and he will give you into our hand."

When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. David put his hand in his bag, took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

As we work together with Christ, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right

hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see-- we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return-- I speak as to children-- open wide your hearts also.

The Gospel. Mark 4: 35-41

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

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

Post Communion Prayer

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp it,
and shield us from knowing more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.



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.

A Prayer of thanksgiving for the Vaccine

God of Hope, Sustainer of all life,
We give You thanks for the coronavirus vaccines,
for the skill and wisdom of scientists, NHS staff and

key workers.

By the power of Your Spirit, may we overflow with hope
and joy as we see our friends, families and neighbours protected.
God of Justice, Protector of the vulnerable,
may we be your well-washed hands and willing feet. Move us to give
and act, to challenge the injustices that anger You.
May we seek to protect all Your children,
particularly those for whom the vaccine is out of reach.
With hope and trust we pray,
Amen.

(from the Christian Aid website)

Teesside by the Seaside

When I talk to friends of my sister who lives in Bedfordshire and tell them I live in Middlesbrough they seem to think that Middlesbrough is "Northern backward heavy industry and a bit grim". This is a bit annoying as I am sure parts of Bedfordshire are unattractive, I am proud to live in Middlesbrough. There is nothing better in the beautiful

weather we have been enjoying recently than to hop on the 63 bus or drive 10 minutes to Redcar and walk along the stray to Marske. The view of the wide beach and seashore stretching to Saltburn is truly stunning. I try to walk there at least once a week. As you walk looking out to sea you can see the ships sometime a dozen or more lining up to get into Teesport. I know the cargo there is industrial mainly steel pipes and potash from Boulby but there are other cargoes as well.

We in Britain are an island race and as such need to export and import goods by sea. The men who do the work to enable these much-needed goods to get to us are not well paid as the Mission to Seafarers officer told us, and we as a church support them with shoe boxes each year. Today think about the hardships these poor men face working at sea. They face storms and bad weather as part of their job, we all should be thankful to them.

Elizabeth Furnell

The Summer Solstice, Midsummer Day, St John's Eve and all that.

Once again those canny early Christians have taken a pagan festival and turned it into a Christian celebration. Tomorrow, **21st June** is the **summer solstice**, the longest day of the year in the northern hemisphere, sometimes regarded as the first day of summer. Which might seem a bit odd, as from this date the days will start getting shorter, and by this reckoning Midsummer Day should occur somewhere in September. Not so, the official day to celebrate **Midsummer Day** is **23rd June**. That's also the eve of the festival of **St. John the Baptist**, incidentally one of the few saints whose festival falls on their birthday rather than their death day.

The summer solstice was of significance to many cultures and was and is still celebrated, but we know that it was especially important to the agricultural Neolithic people because they have left us a lasting reminder in Stonehenge. This great edifice is believed to have been built as a solar calendar and provided useful guidance as to when to plant and harvest crops.

Midsummer day/St. John's Eve is a day of partying in Scandinavia, understandable in these countries where there is little or no sun for the winter months. Many other Christian countries still celebrate St. John's Eve but the celebrations definitely have pagan roots and perhaps we would not like to encourage the superstition still current in some Slavic and Scandinavian countries that on Saint John's Day witches and demons are allowed to roam the earth. As at Halloween, children go the rounds and demand "treats" (let's hope that the retail trade doesn't hear about that!), straw figures are thrown into the flames, and much noise is made to drive the demons away. In Germany there is an ancient superstition that herbs picked on this day have unusual powers of healing and people bring them to church for a special blessing.

The Early Church settled on **24th June** as the feast of **St. John the Baptist**, that date being about six months after the Annunciation when the Angel Gabriel told Mary that her cousin Elizabeth was also to have a baby. Was this an attempt to limit the pagan celebrations and provide a Christian substitute? Even as late as the 7th century AD a certain Saint Eligius was encouraging new converts to avoid midsummer activities and celebrate John the Baptist's birth instead.. The actual feast day of John the Baptist does not seem to have any particular customs or festivities attached to it. Perhaps that is appropriate for modest man who felt that he was unworthy even to carry Jesus's sandals.

Today Christians are urged to care for the environment and are increasingly involved in working for more sustainable ways of living. With its agricultural connections wouldn't Midsummer Eve be a good time to think about this and to celebrate the wonders of God's creation?

Perhaps using this prayer from the Jesuits' website.

Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it.
Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your
creatures.

Help us to become instruments of a new creation,
Founded on the covenant of your love. Amen

Carol Bruce

A message from Chris Nicholls

Chris has asked me to put in a reminder about her father's commemoration. She says :

“ Dad's celebration on Saturday 17th July at the Treebridge Hotel can still go ahead and numbers are not limited. The buffet will be served on individual tables; the bar will be open and there will be a welcome drink on arrival. Event begins at 6pm.

I need numbers for everyone who wants to come by the end of June.”

Please let Chris know if you intend to be there.

Our “*lockdown pewsheet*”

Although the lifting of restrictions has been delayed until July, as many people have now resumed attending church it seems the right time to revert to the pre-lockdown form of pewsheet. From next week also, we will no longer be delivering or emailing the leaflet to members of the congregation unless specifically requested.

If you still want to have the weekly sheet emailed, (or hand-delivered if you are unable to access the internet) phone Carol on 01642489568 or email carolmbruce@yahoo.co.uk and we will arrange it.

Returning to Church – Sunday or Wednesday?

We hope that more of the congregation will be coming back to Sunday services even though the proposed lifting of restrictions has been postponed. It will still be safe to come to church as long as we carry on with the precautions required by the government, especially as so many of our congregation have had both jobs.

However, if you are unhappy about coming on a Sunday, why not try coming on a Wednesday morning instead when fewer people are present? Canon Peter would love to welcome you then and has asked us to tell everyone you that you will be kept safe as we are still observing government guidelines with masks and hand sanitising.

And finally.....a last poem from Elaine's mum's book

I am the storm !

The devil whispered words of warning right into my ear ,
Said there is a storm a coming....and that I should fear,
He told me I'm not strong enough....that I could not withstand ,
Here is what I said to him...with all my faith in hand ,

“Lucifer I cast you out...depart you evil one ,
I have ears to only hear...God's beloved son,
Tempt me or deceive me not with lies of any form ,
You should listen wicked one because ...

I AM THE STORM!”



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

