

Copy for May Newsletter by 18 April please, to Daphne Rose, The Cottage,
Barton le Street, YO17 6PN, 01653 628868 or dafnolia@yahoo.co.uk



THE STREET PARISHES

NEWSLETTER

April 2020

Clergy: The Revd. Martin Allwood.

Tel: 01653 690913 e:mail meallwood110@googlemail.com

Safeguarding Officer: Martyn Boothroyd (01653 628399)

Churchwardens: Amotherby: Barbara Borrett, (01653 694009)

Appleton: Robin Lacy (01653 628275)

Slingsby: Ann Wilson, (01653 628853)

Barton & Coneysthorpe: Sue Sutermeister, (01653 628313)

Hovingham & Scackleton: Sir William Worsley, (01653 628771)

www.thestreetparishes.org.uk

Four parishes	Seven churches	One benefice
----------------------	-----------------------	---------------------

From the Rector:

Dear All,

We are living in interesting times. It is with sadness that I have to inform you that, with immediate effect, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice. This also means that all small gatherings of people, for meetings and fellowship are being strongly discouraged. Churches are to remain open where possible but no public worship will take place for the near future. I realise that this may be a difficult decision for many to come to terms with, and this decision has not been taken lightly. However, it has been taken to protect those in our congregations and communities. We will be looking to instigate the ringing of a Church bell at 10.15am every Sunday morning in each of our parishes where possible, not as a summons to worship, but as a call for people to pray at home for our communities. This will be taking place across our entire deanery at the same time. Resources will be made available on our website and hard copies will be placed in the churches for those with no internet access. We will also be setting up a Facebook page for anyone to access updates, information and resources.

Please bear with us as we look at practical ways which we can put in place to support our communities. However, in the meantime, a number of people have approached me offering support such as phone calls, collecting shopping or collecting prescriptions for others within their local communities. If you would like to be a contact person (bearing in mind the current government advice), please can you let me know. Also if you need support, please, we are here to help, maybe no longer to provide physical contact but we can hold you in prayer, provide regular phone or email

contact and link you with those who can assist with shopping etc. Please get in contact with me so we can set something in place.

***Yours in Christ,
Martin***

Please note that information given in this month's Newsletter was correct at the time of going to press, but inevitably things are liable to change at short notice, due to the rapidly developing situation. Please bear with us!

CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL

Following the announcement by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, all Church of England public worship has been put on hold for the time being. There will therefore be no public services or meetings (including PCC's and the Benefice Council) in April. Resources are available via our website and "virtual" services are available, in a variety of forms, on-line as we attempt to become a "different sort of church". Further information is also available on the Church of England website www.churchofengland.org.

Below is a list of the key liturgical dates in April.

05/04/20	Palm Sunday
09/04/20	Maundy Thursday
10/04/20	Good Friday
12/04/20	Easter Sunday

Methodist Services are also cancelled.

As of 18 March the Roman Catholic Church had not cancelled services, but please check the current situation and details with your local church.

FROM THE RECORDS

Baptism:

Pippa Durrant at All Saints', Slingsby, 15 March

Funeral:

Dorothy Collier at All Saints', Slingsby, 27 March

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

14 Apr, Tues, Fish and Chips round Slingsby courtesy of Malton Lions, delivered to your door £3.50. Contact Stephen Prest 628277 to book.

15 Apr, Weds, 12 noon Soupa Lunch at Home Soup and sandwiches and pudding will be delivered to you at home. If you would like to receive this in April, May and June, please contact either Rachel and Stephen Prest 628277 or Geoff Bishop 628055.

NOTICES

North Yorkshire Music Therapy is seeking part-time administrative help. (7 hours per week to start with.) If you are interested please contact Laura Festa (Director of Therapy) on admin@music-therapy.org.uk

All Saints', Slingsby Our PCC Treasurer is stepping down after 18 years in the post and we are looking for a replacement. The person must be resident within the village and preferably have a knowledge of book keeping and spreadsheets. For details contact the Church Warden, Ann Wilson, on 01653 628853.

Local Foodbank Amongst other things, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have urged us to continue to think of those in need and to help by supporting our local foodbanks. This is perhaps especially important at the moment with all the news of panic buying and hoarding. We are often encouraged during Lent to do something extra rather than, or in addition to, giving something up. Why not put an item of non-perishable food into a box for each day of Lent and donate it to the Norton and Malton Foodbank. Details of the kind of foodstuffs that are needed, together with collection boxes, are in most of the churches in our Benefice.

Slingsby Local History Group now has a new archive cabinet in All Saints' Church. It has been made by John Apps, using reclaimed oak left over from the recent pew alterations. We shall be meeting to install our new local history archive when current meeting restrictions allow. Please watch village noticeboards and Slingsby website posts for further details of a Saturday morning open day to do this when there will be an opportunity to come along and look at our collection.

Newsletter This is the last issue that will be delivered to your house for the time being. From the May issue until further notice copies, which may inevitably be rather short on copy but will be another way of keeping in touch and sharing information, will instead be available in all our churches and chapels, normally from the 20th of the month – ie 20 April for the May issue etc. Let us all hope that normal service can be resumed in due course!

REFLECTION

During the First World War an Army Chaplain was sitting in the ruins of a church near the Western Front, sharing some biscuits with an exhausted French peasant woman. She had lost everything; her home, her parents, her husband, her sons. Outside the ruins of the church the crucifix still stood upright but the figure of Christ had been smashed. All that was left was the empty cross, scarred by shrapnel, with only the nails marking where the hands and feet had been. And it was at that empty cross that the woman kept staring. "You see," she said, "it is telling us that the Lord is risen." Then, as she pointed to the devastation all around she went on to say "and if the Lord is not risen then what hope have we left?" Sitting penniless amidst the destruction of her world, she had, nevertheless, grasped the truth and the meaning of Easter.

The belief that Christ was dead and is alive again is central to our Christian Faith. But it is a concept difficult to understand in human terms. There are, however, some striking facts that we must remember. After the resurrection, no body was found. Had it been, all talk of the resurrection would have been silenced. Neither was the tomb venerated, a practice common during Jesus' earthly life. Were those who saw him suffering from hallucinations? This can be discounted, for they do not occur with varied groups, on multiple occasions, in different places and over a period of several weeks. Although the resurrection occurred near the end of Jesus's earthly ministry, it marked the start of a movement of unprecedented power. His followers, against all expectation, were unshakably convinced that the Jesus they knew was spiritually alive. The intensity of that experience was a truth they proclaimed for the rest of their lives, even in the face of persecution and martyrdom. Their testimony is not easily discounted, and is something by which we must be inspired to seek Christ Jesus in everything we do. He may not appear to us in a dramatic fashion, but we must always be alert to his presence and his inspiration.

Albert Schweitzer expressed this in words that I find unfailingly moving: *He comes to us as one unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lakeside; he came to those men who knew him not. He speaks to us the same word, "Follow me." And sets us to the tasks which he has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey him, whether they be wise or simple, he will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in his fellowship; and as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn through their own experience who he is.*

Philip Moore