



SAINTS ALIVE

JULY 2024



St Mary, Bagby



St Oswald, Sowerby



All Saints, Thirkleby



St Cuthbert, Sessay



St Mary, Kilburn

Welcome to the July edition of Saints Alive

For those who missed Rev Pauline's retirement service, or those who wish to revisit it, she has kindly shared her sermon below:

'In a world full of adversity, we must dare to dream'...

This is a quote from Rob Burrow CBE, a great Rugby League player who died on 2nd June of Motor Neurone Disease. He was often told he couldn't play rugby as he was too small but he used his gifts of speed, intellect and small size to make his presence felt. His words are an inspiration to everyone and to all of us who dream of a new heaven and new earth...

Before I go any further, I must say a huge thankyou to you all - for your welcome , your love, your patience and your prayers during my time here. I do hope that I have shown the love of Christ to you all despite my very imperfect human nature and my butterfly brain! (all hymns at this service are printed so at least I can't get hymn numbers wrong today!) Whilst here in good times and bad, including the pandemic and lockdowns, I have tried to do as Jesus did - to comfort the challenged and to challenge the comfortable and today is no different....

Years ago I studied the trees in our garden. One had branches that appeared to be very neatly combed upwards reaching towards the sky - to light and life. Another's branches looked as if they had been stuck onto the trunk by an impatient 2 year old - all higgledy-piggledy but still getting light. Another was like a bad hair day (me in first waking or after a run on a windy day)... all twisting and turning, doubling back on each other to fill every gap possible. Each tree had its own character and that is true of any individual or community.

The worldwide Christian community also accommodates all styles from the seemingly disordered to the very ordered but all of us have one thing in common - Jesus Christ - and we are all responsible for showing the gospel (which means good news) to everyone we meet. Jesus told us how...love God and love our neighbour. In the Gospel for today (John 15:12-17) we hear Jesus say, 'my command is this: love each another as I have loved you...'

We need to love and recognise, encourage and use each others' skills - not just those of a few - ALL are important for Gods mission. We are one in Christ, Christians (Acts 11:19-end), so why do we argue over money, buildings and 'stuff'?

WE are the living stones of Christ's church and it is people, all people, who are important. Church, in whatever form, and like any family, has its own ways and can be a scary place to be in when we have not been brought up in that environment. That is why we need to speak and show the good news of God's love to everyone in our everyday lives. We need to reach out to all of any nationality, gender, sexuality, skin colour, age, language, wealth, ability, education.... the list goes on... and to speak in their language. Barnabas was a great example. He was a bridge between Jews and non Jews. Jesus, too, dined with all, healed and spoke with all - even women, gentiles, Samaritans, tax-collectors, sinners and members of the occupying forces. Jesus even forgave those who betrayed, denied and crucified him. His disciples then travelled around the world to reach out to non-Jews, to people of other communities and nationalities.

I believe that we are 'all made for goodness' as Archbishop Desmond Tutu said. Sadly that belief offends some people who like there to be human made boundaries and rules to exclude those who don't live up to their own expectations. However, I am so thankful that God has such very low standards and calls us all (there is hope for me yet!). Jesus came to save sinners and I do not feel that any human is worthy or righteous enough to judge either others or themselves, and yet we all do...

We are called to follow Jesus on our journey through life and we can only really do that in community (even solitaries are part of a community who watch over them). Community ensures that the church will produce good fruits. We cannot be fruitful Christians outside the Christian family who sustain, help and correct us. When any part of God's church forgets its mission to show its attachment to Jesus by uncompromisingly proclaiming the gospel in today's society, then it becomes a dead branch that no longer produces fruit.

I pray that you, in these parishes, will support each other and other Christian communities just as we heard in our reading from Acts. That you be united in the breaking of bread to follow Jesus' command and to remember what he has done for you.

In my life all the different types of worship have been important in different times but Eucharist, Communion, Lords Supper, Mass, whatever you call sharing the bread and wine with Jesus as host, is central to my worship and it is with great joy that I share this with you all today.

Today I thank God for all of you with your own unique gifts who, like Barnabas, seek a deeper relationship with our God who loves all God's children no matter who. As a Franciscan Tertiary I vow to break down barriers based on privilege and wealth - after all, it is not for me to judge but only welcome, sow seeds of love and try not get in the way

or build barriers so God can do God's work. I do hope that I have, in some small way, managed to sow the seeds of the Gospel of love in these places.

I pray today that we all may do as Jesus did and continue our lives in open acceptance, welcome and love of all and if we get confused by what others say or write then my advice is always go back to the life of Jesus who only condemned those who excluded or did things for their own gain - usually priests and scribes!! (once again I preach to myself!).

Please do go the extra mile for each other, share the gifts you have been given and share in each others' joys and hardships because all that we have, even life itself, is a gift on loan from God.

Some will remember a quotation from Teresa of Avila...

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

May you be an example of joyous living to all whom you meet always remembering that you are the hands and feet of Christ in this world - *so what do those hands and feet look like to those who don't know Christ??*

And in the upcoming election please do as Bishop Stephen said (now Archbishop Stephen), to '*vote for what is best for your neighbour*'.

As you and I move into another exciting chapter of our lives where God still calls, '**In a world full of adversity, we must dare to dream...**' ... and then act ... together...for each other... to be prayer in the world.

A prayer written by the late Revd Canon Francis Hewitt during a Franciscan mission when he was Vicar of Pickering...

Lord Jesus Christ, you call us to follow you on our journey through life. Guard us and guide us on the road that lies ahead, be with us every step of the way and lead us safely home... Amen...

And finally a message of thanks:

Many thanks for your help, support and prayers over the past few years. I also send a huge thank you for the beautiful mouseman box - I can say goodbye to the one on the mantelpiece in the Vicarage a lot easier now as I have a travel companion to remind me!

The previous owners of our new home liked paving, gravel and a wee bit of grass so the generous voucher will enable us to make the garden much more welcome for animals and humans!

Thank you also for enabling my final service at Thirkleby to go smoothly. It was a great joy for me to be able to share with you all.

May you continue to be blessed with peace, compassion, love and all goodness,

Pauline

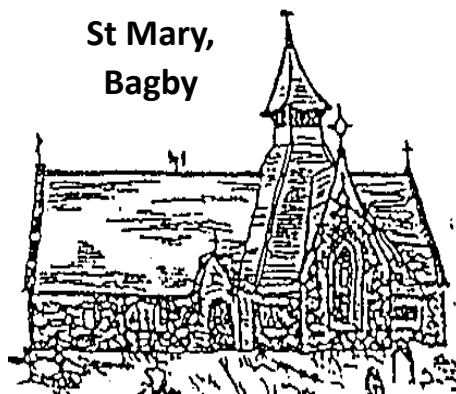
Bagby

Churchyard Grass Cutting and The Queen's Canopy Oak Tree

Many thanks to Carol Musgrove for cutting the churchyard grass. This is greatly appreciated.

The oak tree that was planted in the churchyard as part of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, is thriving. Take a walk through our lovely churchyard and see how it is flourishing.

**St Mary,
Bagby**



Rev Pauline Percy

The Communion service on 2nd June at Bagby gave the congregation the opportunity to say thank you to Pauline for all that she has done for the Parish. The refreshments following the service were excellent (all low calorie, especially the cream cake!). Lots of social interaction as well.

Thirkleby

Website: www.allsaintsthirkleby.org.uk

Baptisms, weddings, funerals

None to report

THIRKLEBY 200 CLUB

The winners for the May 2024 draw are shown below:

- 1st 92 C Potter
- 2nd 144 D Hebdon
- 3rd 96 H Finnegan

THIRKLEBY CHURCH FLOWERS

Thanks go to Hilde Caterer for the lovely display of flowers on the altar during June. Our thanks go to Kath Palliser who will be arranging the flowers in July in memory of Sarah Sowerby.

THIRKLEBY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The subject of John Lee's talk was 'The English Countryside in the time of Richard III.'

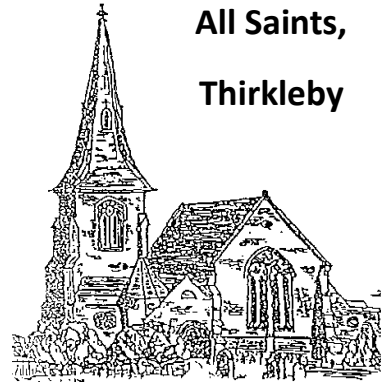
Richard was born in 1452 at Fotheringhay Castle, Northamptonshire. His childhood coincided with what is generally called 'The War of the Roses'.

Richard spent much of his early years at Middleham Castle in Wensleydale. The latter years of the 15th century were a time of great turmoil and after the children of Edward IV were declared illegitimate, Richard was deemed to be the rightful heir to the throne and, in 1483, was crowned in Westminster Abbey. His reign ended on 22 August, 1485 when he was killed at the Battle of Bosworth.

This was a time when English wool and cloth were a huge rural source of employment and wealth. Raising sheep, spinning and dyeing the cloth became very important. Large amounts of cloth were exported. Land for sheep grazing was in great demand and it led to some mediaeval villages having their residents evicted and the houses demolished. One of these 'lost villages' locally is that of Wharram Percy.

Ron Brown

Places are available for the visit to Treasurer's House on 25th June and Richmond Georgian Theatre on 25th July. Please contact Ann Stoney 01845 501365 for further information.



**All Saints,
Thirkleby**

Our next meeting will be on 26th September when the topic will be the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the AGM will follow. A reminder that subs of £10 are due at this meeting.

PLANT STALL IN MAY

Ann Stoney would like to give a heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the plant stall at Beckholme on 19th May. The total raised for All Saints Together was an astonishing £410. Thanks are due to those who donated plants, placed advance orders and came on the day!!!

THIRKLEBY DOMINO DRIVE

The next Domino Drive will be held in Thirkleby Parish Hall on Saturday 20th July at 7pm. Donations of raffle prizes always welcome. Anyone who is able to help on the evening please contact Doreen Hebdon on 01845 501335.

St Cuthbert, Sessay

Sessay



St Cuthbert's Church

Sunday 14 July 10.30 Morning Prayer with David Brooke and coffee afterwards.

Sunday 28 July 10.30 Holy Communion with Rev Sheilagh and coffee afterwards.

Sessay WI

Wednesday 3 July at 2pm in the Village Hall. Mr Jerry Holland will speak to us about 'How to avoid Cyber Crime'. The competition is an obsolete object, the hostesses are Margaret Watkinson and Anne Wady. Brenda Till will provide the raffle prize.

Sessay Tuesday Club

Tuesday 9 July at 2pm in the Village Hall. A Summer Event with afternoon tea.

Sessay Community Café

Saturday 27 July 10 - 11.30 in the Village Hall for coffee, cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

Kilburn



St Mary,
Kilburn

At the end of June St Mary's says 'Goodbye' to the Revd Pauline and Howard after their six years of living in Kilburn Vicarage, wishing them well and a happy retirement in their new life in Brompton. We shall wait with abated breath to see who comes next

Kilburn Feast weekend is fast approaching on the 6th/7th July with the Church service to be held in the Square on Sunday at 3pm led by the Revd Richard Grant when we hope that visitors from near and afar will join us.



Sunday, 7th July from
11.30am

Village Fair in the
Square

FREE Children's Games
Local Produce Stalls
Lord Mayor's Parade

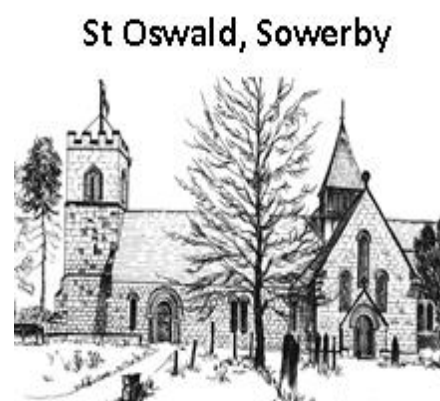
Sowerby

Church Flowers

Thank you for flowers given recently in memory of Derek Hall,
Keith Carley, Andrew and Claire Cook
Kathleen and Lockhart Elder
Many thanks to Pat Pitts, Carol Ann Short and Louise Smith for arranging them so beautifully.

Save the date – upcoming concert!

Saint Oswald's Mothers Union are hosting a concert by the Marske Fisherman's Choir on September 6th in Saint Oswald's Church at 7pm. More details next month.



St Oswald, Sowerby

Thank you, David!

In June, David Tucker completed his duties as church warden for St Oswald's after serving the church in this role for 13 years. Pictured at the St Oswald's APCM, Sowerby presented David with some gifts as a thank you for all his efforts – always delivered with a sense of humour and a cheerful smile! Thank you David for all you have done, from all at St Oswald's.



100 Club

Sowerby Parochial Hall 100 Club June: the income from the 100 Club helps with the costs of running the Hall as an asset for church users and groups and for the parish. Subscribers for 2024 have bought 180 numbers in the Draw. This means that the monthly prize fund is £90.

- 1st prize £45 Lucy and Jonathan Brookes
- 2nd prize £27 Pat Garthwaite
- 3rd prize £18 Ted and Jenny Naisbitt

Thank you for the tremendous support given to the 100 Club. The profit for Parochial Hall funds in 2024 exceeds £1,200. The next draw of 2024 will be on 14 July.

Jigsaw

Please see the prayer points from Tim Lee's June Newsletter from Jigsaw below. The whole newsletter is displayed on the notice board in church.

Prayer points:

- That Jigsaw will be able to faithfully continue its mission to share God's love in practical and strategic ways with children in the Philippines and that children's and families' lives will be built up in faith, hope, love and well-being.
- For Jigsaw Kids Ministries' new life discipleship groups. These 12 groups are sharing Jesus on the streets and slum areas with more than 400 young people. The groups are safe and secure places for teenagers to meet, pray, open the Bible, worship Jesus together and grow in their walk with Jesus. Please also pray that as they meet that each young person will know Jesus more, will give their lives to Jesus and flourish despite their circumstances.

Contacts

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Sessay	Vacant		
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Readings for July		
7 th July	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13
14 th July	Ephesians 1:3-14	Mark 6:14-29
21 st July	Ephesians 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
28 th July	Ephesians 3:14-21	John 6:1-21

Parish Registers		
Funerals		
6 th June	Sowerby	Dorothy Sleights
10 th June	Sowerby	Joan Sylvia Gauld
Weddings		
1 st June	Sessay	Francesca Grace Blackburn and Christopher James Blackburn
15 th June	Sowerby	Phoebe Louise Sedgwick and Wayne Barry Sedgwick

Our Church Services

Date	St Oswald's Sowerby	St Cuthbert's Sessay	St Mary's Bagby	All Saints Thirkleby	St Mary's Kilburn
7 th July	8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Morning Worship*		10:30am Holy Communion		3:00pm Kilburn Feast
14 th July	8:30am Early Worship 10:30am Holy Communion	10:30am Morning Praise		10:30am Holy Communion	
21 st July	8:30am Holy Communion 9:45am Refreshments 10:30am Worship for All*				10:30am Holy Communion
28 th July	8:30am Early Worship 10:30am Family Holy Communion*	10:30am Holy Communion		10:30am TKB joint service – Morning Praise	
4 th August	8:30am Holy Communion		10:30am Holy Communion		

Every Wednesday – 9.30am Holy Communion in St. Oswald's

*St. Oswald's Zoom link is now always: <https://zoom.us/j/2607227907>

Follow us on the 5-Parish Facebook: www.facebook.com/fiveparishes