



**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Sunday, February 28th 2021**

How long will it be?

..... before the appointment of a new vicar? This is a question I am often asked as we pass church members on our daily walk. My reply is "Ask me again in September!".

It does seem a long time because:

- 1) There are fewer experienced clergy to choose from (although many more clergy than ever are being trained and ordained)
- 2) The process of choosing a new incumbent now takes much longer. However that is to our advantage because parishes now have a much greater role in the selection procedure than before.

In the 1960s things were very different as in most parishes the Bishop was the patron. At that time Bishops made new appointments. They thought they knew what a parish needed and sent who they could. Parishes could refuse the Bishop's choice but then could find themselves in a long interregnum and put at the bottom of the Bishop's pile.

This system often caused resentment in the parish if the new priest didn't fit in. There were no parish profiles prepared to help the Bishop and prospective incumbent. And many parishes were angry when a much loved incumbent was "moved on" giving the new priest a wall of resentment to deal with on arrival.

I experienced this in my second incumbency in the Bradford Diocese - the resentment went on for years among some people.

So while we are waiting let us see the good aspects of this new process. The churchwardens and the PCC are working hard and the controversial decisions have been carried with massive majorities.

We are in good hands here. The Bishop, Archdeacon and Mirfield are all pulling together to find the right incumbent for us.

We know some people have fears for the future. This is inevitable but it is my prayer that we shall all trust the Holy Spirit to send us the right priest who we shall love, support and direct with all our energies to bind ourselves together as a loving, caring body.

Fr Bernard

Hymn 353

(please read the words slowly and carefully)

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

The New English Hymnal

Let Us Pray

God of patience,
Show us your wisdom in this time of uncertainty.
Teach us to be gentle and patient
with ourselves and our loved ones
Help us to see the long view
when we are caught in the frustration of waiting.
May we use this grace-filled time
to rekindle our love for and faith in you.

Amen.



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Collect

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading *Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

Second Reading *Mark 8: 31-end*

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Psalm 22 vs 23 - end
Sung by Christopher and Isobel Rathbone.
You can listen [here](#)

Stations of the Cross
Second Sunday of Lent



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4: Jesus is met by his mother

We meet saints on the Way of the Cross – hence the invitation to follow and the tremendous encouragement in following. We meet the highest pinnacle of sainthood here as we record the meeting of mother and son on the fateful journey. How fickle people can be! Did Mary ever wonder whether they were worth the death of her Son

She had been warned by Simeon *“This child is to be a sign that will be opposed – and a sword will pierce your own soul also”* Luke 2:35 She who had accepted God’s will with an impulsive *“Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it unto me according to thy word”* does not flinch. She is still the handmaid of the Lord.

PRAY We beseech thee O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts that as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his Cross and Passion we may be partakers of his Resurrection.

5: Jesus is helped by Simon of Cyrene

Here is another saintly person. Here is another one **compelled**. Even if Simon of Cyrene gave his first service to Christ involuntarily, he went on to become a faithful disciple. He is referred to as “the father of Alexander and Rufus” – clearly two brothers well known among the people for whom St Mark wrote his Gospel. They were the two brothers who helped Jesus in a desperate moment while Peter and John were cowering in the crowd. Sometimes people ask of us things that are an interference in what we are doing – why this? Why now? Why me?

PRAY Lord, give us willing hearts to spend and be spent in your service that we may be your instruments on earth.

6 : Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

And yet another saintly person. It is thrilling to think of one woman breaking away from fear and convention to offer Our Lord her thin veil to wipe his face. Where were the 'others', the hundreds whose bodies, souls and spirits Christ had healed? The story of Veronica records that the imprint of Our Lord's face remained for ever on the thin sheet.

PRAY Lord, send many out into the world so that people of all nations may receive the Good News. Imprint your Divine image upon my soul.

*Stations of the Cross, Fr Godfrey
Photograph by Catherine Gibson*

In our Prayers

Years' Mind

Tuesday	Frank Dyson
Wednesday	Marian Palmer
Thursday	John Buckingham
Friday	Annie Frost, Laura Greenwood, Irton Smith (Pr), John Pennington, Mary Harrison
Saturday	Roy File (Pr), Michael Parker, Edith Rooks, Patsy Glover

Please pray for the sick: Trevor Allen, Christine Atkinson, Ann Bruun, Joan Gelder, Lauren Green, Ramone (Ray) Guha, May Hughes, Fr Garth Kellett, Charlotte Lockhart, Peter Kuchartschuk, Peter Waterhouse.

Please contact the churchwardens or Vickie if you would like to add someone to our prayer list.

PCC meetings

Read the minutes of the Section 11 PCC meeting held on February 23rd [here](#).
The minutes of the PCC meeting of the same date can be read [here](#)

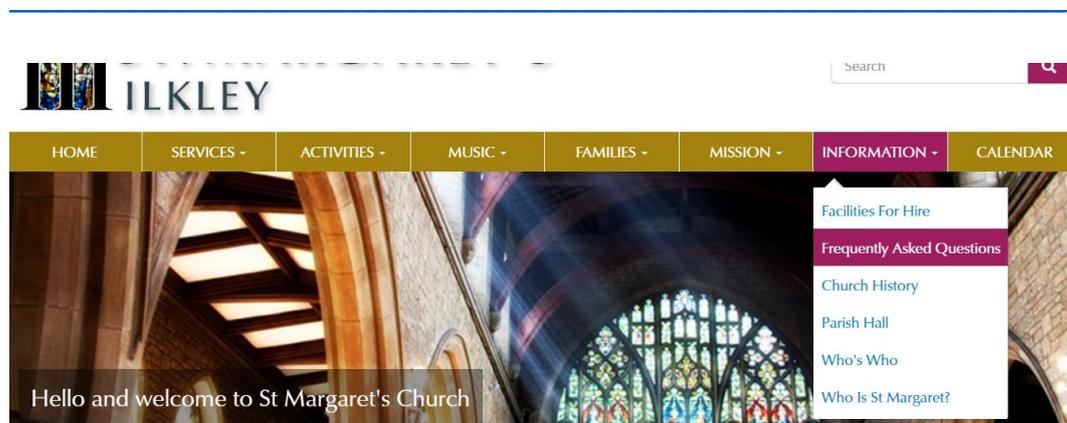
Sunday "Coffee Time"

Please join us on Sunday, February 28th for our virtual "coffee time" at 11.30am.

Join Zoom Meeting at St Margaret's

<https://zoom.us/j/7586081733?pwd=bFVnZ1dpbzFPN3h5aVpVbmJmank4QT09>

You are also welcome to join **Coffee Time at St Matthew's, Northampton** following their live-streamed service each Sunday. Coffee Time begins just after 11.15am. Please use your name and "Ilkley" when signing in eg Vickie, Ilkley. Click on the link below, no password needed, or if using the zoom app enter meeting id: 890 759 8916 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8907598916>



Get to Know St Margaret's New and Improved Website

St. Margaret's website has been updated to offer people a much improved experience when they visit our site. You should find it easier to locate the information you need with our drop down menus on the home page. And our lovely looking calendar will keep you up to date with worship and special events in church. We have had a significant tidy up to get rid of outdated information. And we hope to update the images used on the website when church reopens and we have the opportunity to take new photographs.

Coffee morning will start a little earlier on Sunday, February 28th at 11.20am. This will be followed (at the same Zoom meeting) by a demonstration of the new website by Steve Betts at 11.45am. Please ensure you are in the meeting before 11.45am, as we won't be able to admit anyone once the demonstration has started. Steve won't be able to answer questions during the demo but you can use the contact form on the website to send a question to him. Please write "New Website" in the subject box. You can link through to the contact form [here](#).

Thank you to Steve Betts and Bev Plaxton for all their hard work to deliver a much improved website for St Margaret's.

The website address remains stmargaretsilkley.org

Suspension of services on Sundays

Amongst the issues discussed at this week's PCC meeting was whether to continue the suspension of Sunday services in Church. We know how important it is for members of the congregation to attend Church in person but we also need to weigh up the risks that are faced by those attending, our visiting Clergy and the volunteers who help to run the services. It was clear that the opinion of a large majority of PCC members was that we should not have services in Church until the government guidelines ease on household mixing indoors in mid-April. Therefore, the PCC has decided to continue with the suspension until 18th April. This decision will be reviewed at the PCC meeting on 23rd March, and we will reopen as soon as we believe it is safe to do so.

In the meantime, the Church will continue to be open for private prayer every weekday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am.

In addition, opening on Good Friday will be extended to 9.30am to 3.30pm and the Church will be open on Easter Day between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

We will continue to provide links to live-streamed services from St Matthew's Northampton and parishes within our Diocese. **The Wardens**



Links to live-streamed worship

St Matthews, Northampton

St Matthews is an Anglican Parish Church, in the catholic tradition. You are welcome to join Fr Nicholas Setterfield and the congregation of St Matthews for their live-streamed Parish Mass at 10.15am [here](#). You can also "like" St Matthew's facebook page to receive live notifications of streamed services. <https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchnorthampton/> Don't forget you are welcome to join coffee time at St Matthews after the service. <https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchnorthampton/>

Links to live-streamed services in churches within Leeds Diocese

Click on <https://www.leeds.anglican.org/covid-19/live-streaming#churches> to reach live worship in churches across the Diocese.

Private Prayer at St. Margaret's

Monday to Friday

9.30am - 11.30am

St Margaret's is open each weekday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am. Please use hand sanitizer when you enter and leave church and take responsibility for your own social distancing. Please also pick up one of the "Please clean me" notices on entering church. We kindly ask you to leave this notice on your seat when you leave church. We wish to keep the church as a place of quiet. Any social conversations should take place away from the Church and its grounds. There will be no hymn books or prayer books or other cards available, so if you would like any prayer resources please bring those with you and take them away similarly.



Further Parking Restrictions on Queen's Road

Readers will be aware of the parking restrictions introduced outside the Church in 2019. During the last few weeks, the double-yellow lines have been extended further up Queen's Road on both sides of the road by about 20 yards reducing still further the available parking. The lines are there apparently to improve the access from Princess Road for local buses. Our Treasurer John McGhee has taken this up with a local Councillor, Kyle Green and Bradford Council advise him that the normal advertising of these restrictions (including notices on lamp posts etc.) was undertaken and that they received no objections.

No one on the PCC were aware of any advertising or objections would have been raised. Kyle Green has written to the Council asking that the restrictions outside the church are reviewed and has suggested that it would help him if people wrote to him objecting and asking that as a minimum the extra lines be removed, particularly as there is more than adequate room for the small buses to turn there and with many of our congregation being in need to park close to church, this is a big inconvenience.

If you feel you can support this, please write to Kyle Green by email to ask that a review takes place and the lines be removed to kyle.green@bradford.gov.uk.

Hymn-anthem on the tune Guiseley
St. Margaret's Virtual Choir

[Listen here](#)

Today's piece from the virtual choir was only written this month, but uses as it's starting point the hymn-tune, 'Guiseley', which i wrote almost exactly nine years ago to replace the tune we usually use for Newman's famous 'Credo' hymn, 'Firmly I believe and truly'. Vaughan Williams adapted a lovely folk-song for the text, which is a fine tune, but I have always thought rather light-weight for such a grand declaration of faith (incredibly grand in Elgar's setting in 'The Dream of Gerontius'). 'Guiseley' never became established at St Margaret's (or anywhere else), so it occurred to me to revive it in the context of a 'Hymn Anthem', such as I recently wrote on the lovely hymn 'Jerusalem my happy home' which never got into the New English hymnbook (you can hear my version of that on the 'God is gone up' CD that the choir recorded in 2019). Listen for the Tenors and Basses in verse two, Sopranos and Altos in verse three, Sops with lower parts humming in verse 4 and a grand descant plus Amen at the end. I hope you enjoy hearing the St Margaret's organ! Geoff Cloke has once more done a lovely job mixing everything together in a fine balance. Here is Newman's text:

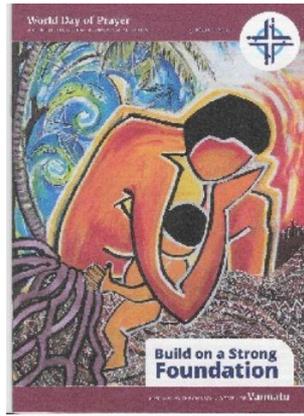
Firmly I believe and truly God is Three and God is One;
And I next acknowledge duly Manhood taken by the Son.

And I trust and hope most fully In that Manhood crucified;
And each thought and deed unruly Do to death, as He has died.

Simply to his grace and wholly Light and life and strength belong,
And I love supremely, solely, Him the holy, him the strong.

And I hold in veneration, For the love of him alone,
Holy Church as his creation, And her teachings as his own.

Adoration ay be given, With and through the angelic host,
To the God of earth and heaven, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.



World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer is an annual global women-led movement. This year it is prepared by the women of Vanuatu — a group of islands in the South Pacific. We invite you to our service which will be held on Zoom Friday, March 5th at 7.00pm. The title of the service is 'Build on a Strong Foundation' and the theme is the wise and foolish man building on stone and sand. Please contact Mrs Janet Thompson janto@talktalk.net for the link.

You can make your donation [here](#) or TEXT 2021WDP 5 to 70085 to donate £5. *Any amount can be donated up to £40 just add the sum after 2021WDP and your text will cost the amount plus one standard rate message. Your donation will allow the World Day of Prayer movement to support Christian charities and act in response to global emergencies.*



Bradford Cathedral takes Fairtrade Breakfast Online!

Join us on **Sunday, March 7th from 9.00 - 10.00am** for a big online breakfast!

We're calling on you to make your own breakfast at home using Fairtrade products and locally-sourced items or ingredients on that morning and join us on Zoom for a big breakfast!

When you've gathered together your items, take part in our #BreakfastSelfie challenge and share you, your family, and your food, on social media. More details [here](#).

Tea Break Dramas showcase a short plays performed by members of the Ilkley Playhouse including our very own **Ms Catherine Gibson** who performs in *no 12: A Chance Meeting*.

Many of the scripts were contributed by playwrights from all over the country as part of a playwriting festival called 8x8x8. Some of the excellent material from the 64 entries was perfect for use as audio drama.

So here you have one, two and three handed pieces on a variety of themes; from comedy to tragedy, but all perfectly formed in about eight minutes. Put on the kettle, open the biscuits and enjoy! You will find all the plays [here](#).

Practical Support and Help

Ilkley and District Good Neighbours provides a range of support and practical help during coronavirus to include shopping, a regular phone call, collecting prescriptions and other help needed. For more information go to <http://info@goodneighboursilkley.org.uk>

Ilkley Corona Response Group (ICRG) can be contacted via the Bradford Hub on 01274 431000, or use the online form at <https://bit.ly/ilkleycorona>

Ilkley Library To reserve books from the online catalogue and for the Home Library Service – ilkley.library@bradford.gov.uk 01943 436225

Ilkley Chat provides the latest news affecting Ilkley as a result of COVID-19 <https://www.ilkleychat.co.uk/coronavirus>

During this difficult time it is important to keep in touch with friends. Please do feel you can call a member of our church family who will be pleased to hear from you.

Helen Buswell	01943 608146
Alison Stretton	01943 430024
Fr Bernard	01943 816253
Fr Godfrey	01943 603861
Jane Sheldon	01943 431288
Linda Whittaker	01943 601144

**Daily Hope, is a 24 hour free phone line for Christian worship and prayer.
Call 0800 804 8044**