

FOCUS



JULY 2022

FREE: Please take me home.

**The monthly magazine of the Emmanuel
Benefice of Newsome and Armitage
Bridge and South Crosland, Huddersfield**

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**
Diocese of Leeds



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July Church Services

Sunday Services.

- 3rd July 9.15am Holy Communion at South Crosland
 10.00am Morning Worship at Netherton Methodist
 Church
 10.30am Morning Worship at Berry Brow Methodist
 Church
- 10th July 9.15am Morning Worship at Armitage Bridge
 10.00am Morning Worship at Netherton Methodist
 Church
 10.30am Holy Communion at Berry Brow Methodist
 Church
- 17th July 9.15am Holy Communion at South Crosland
 10am at Morning Worship Netherton Methodist
 Church.
 10.30am No service at Berry Brow Methodist Church
- 24th July 9.15am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge
 10.00am No service at Netherton Methodist Church
 10.30am Morning Worship at Berry Brow Methodist
 Church
- 31st July 10.00am United Service of Holy Communion at Berry
 Brow

Mid Week Morning Worship

- 6th July Netherleigh, Butternab Road, Beaumont Park.
13th July 11 Sherwood Drive.Netherton
20th July 14 Sherwood Drive.Netherton
27th July 43 Delph Lane.Netherton

Ramblings from the Rectory

In June we celebrated the Queen's Jubilee and Pentecost but there was another celebration which, whilst minor in comparison, is still important and that is St Barnabas' Day.

But why on earth would we want to celebrate that Julie, I hear you say! Well yes he is one of our lesser celebrated Saints, but he should be remembered because in today's society when so many people are in need of help we all need to be more like Barnabas.

Barnabas was (according to the book of Acts in the Bible) a man from Cyprus called Joseph, but when the apostles met him, they renamed him Barnabas, which means 'Son of encouragement'. Why did they do this? Because he sold a field and gave the money to the apostles to use for their cause of sharing and helping those less advantaged than themselves. As the Bible puts it – the widows and orphans.

In those days women and children were dependent on the eldest man of the house providing the whole family with food and shelter. If the man of the house died then were often reduced to begging. So the apostles did their best for them with what little they had but they relied on the generosity of others to help. They felt Joseph had encouraged them on their mission so much they called him Barnabas.

In our world today we hear about refugees who need to find places of safety – these are often women and children. We have a government who want to send them off to Rwanda to live. Without getting into a political debate, I wonder what Barnabas and the apostles would have to say about this? We hear the criticism regarding the opinions of the Archbishops as we are told they should not be involved in politics. But surely it is not about politics it is about people and as priests and bishops we have been asked by God to care for all his

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people – whatever their race or religion – it is about generosity and love, not about politics.

Almost every piece of news could be challenged by asking ‘where is the generosity in that’? But when we challenge other’s generosity then we have to question our own. And it is not always about our possessions, there is also the question of our generosity of spirit. How willing are we to give of ourselves, our time and our love?

Today I hear that a book has been written to help us divorce ourselves from our phones, so that we give more of ourselves outwardly instead of to a screen. (I think that might only get read though if it is produced as an app on screen!) We run the risk of becoming more and more insular and in short, selfish. So – as we move towards those lazy, hazy days of summer, how about we each reflect on how we just might take a lesson from Joseph (aka Barnabas) and give more of ourselves to others, by leaving our phones alone, spending more time and energy and love on each other and engaging with charitable causes that can truly help those in need or distress.

Let’s be like Barnabas and encourage and be generous in all things!

Julie



The UK hosts the Freedom of Religion or Belief Ministerial Conference in the first part of July, where leaders from around the world will gather to discuss freedom of religion or belief. They will hear from those who have endured religious persecution, receive briefings from agencies like CSW, and discuss how they can work together towards a world where everyone is free to believe. Please focus your own prayers on this.

Sunday:

Please pray for the next generation, so pray that young activists would be inspired to stand with everyone facing injustice for what they believe.

Monday:

Several survivors of persecution have been invited to the Ministerial to share their stories. Please pray that their stories will capture people's hearts so that leaders feel compelled to act.

Tuesday:

As leaders hold discussions on key themes like blasphemy laws and mass atrocity prevention, pray for a coming together of minds, inspired thinking, and viable solutions.

Wednesday:

Pray that leaders will be ambitious and bold in their thinking and will leave the conference with a robust plan.

Thursday:

Pray for CSW advocates, that they will engage with foreign secretaries and other advocacy targets who have travelled to London. Pray for opportunities and open hearts.

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Friday:

'If any of you lacks wisdom, ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to you' James 1.5. Pray for wisdom for all those who took part this week as they return home to continue their work.

Saturday:

Heavenly Father, thank you that you are always at work to bring your kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We pray today for leaders who will persevere to see through this work, from words to action. Amen.

Jeremy

Coffee Morning

Holy Trinity Church holds a coffee morning on the second Saturday of each month at South Crosland Junior School, Moor Lane, Netherton. The coffee morning in June raised £156.10. Thank you every one.

Café Church

The Next Cafe church will be in October. If anyone has any ideas about topics, please let Pam or Carol know.

Diary Dates

Friday 15 July :Hall Bower Sunday School are holding a Beetle Drive at 7 pm - including pie and pea supper (vegi option available). If anyone is interested, tickets are £5.00 - please order from Christine Charlesworth before 10 July. Tel 07984424708.

24 July: Final date for copy for August Focus. **12 noon.**

Eider chick by Caroline Jones

Eider ducks are known as Cuddy ducks in Northumberland because St Cuthbert reputedly looked after them. They are sea ducks that only breed in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Northumberland. Cute and curious they come and say hello even if you have no food for them!



Platinum Jubilee Celebration

A couple of months ago I was wondering how we, as a church family, would be celebrating our Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

After a few discussions over the phone and over coffee with Carol Waters and then with an increasing number of interested individuals, the plans started to come together.

As a few of the organising group volunteer at the Churches Together shop we collected items which we thought could be put to good use on the big day - lacy curtains and pillowslips, in appropriate colours (to use as table covers), Union Jack flags and outdoor games. Melody kindly sorted through Armitage Bridge Church's Tardis cupboard, to supply shiny things for children to stick on cardboard crowns.

Our friend and neighbour, Jean Farmer, had taken on board my vision of a sort of "cardboard carriage", for children and adults to have their photographs taken in. Jean has a simply amazing talent to create things out of very little. She certainly came up trumps with a stunning carriage - complete with footmen. A sheet (from the charity shop), a clothes rail, an old cardboard box, some paint and a very large helping of talent came together to create our very own portable carriage.

The Crafty Chatterers also put their talents to great use. A piece of red velvet (from the charity shop) was made into beautiful, elegant capes fit for a queen, one child's size and one for adults. Following the bells and buns at Armitage Bridge on the Thursday morning, a working party set off to make ready at Berry Brow; many hands made the work light.



Well, we'd done all the preparations we could do, and so to the day itself.....

The early morning didn't look too promising, so WhatsApp messages were flying, but the dampness and cloud gave way to sunshine and warmth before we even started the final set-up.

Tables and chairs were swiftly arranged by a band of helpers, tablecloths and colourful runners applied and vases of flags (weighed down with blue play sand which just happened to be in Carol's car boot) were positioned on the tables. Then we realised how windy it was! Slippy lace curtaining, wafty flags and light table runners are a veritable pain in the neck on a windy day. Even adding water to the sand didn't hold everything in place. However, after Jean and her husband, Roy, had erected the carriage, then re-erected it next to the fence to which it could be secured, Roy came to the rescue with his roll of gaffer tape.



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By now people were filling up the seats. Pamela, in her tiara and with her enviable balloon, was among the first to arrive with her group of friends, who were quick to visit Angela's tea trolley. With her team of helpers, welcome drinks of tea, coffee and squash were provided throughout.



Seats were filling up quickly with members of our congregations, local residents, friends, ministers and vicars. Picnics were shared, photos were taken, royal waves were offered, children shared the games with the adults (Julie delivered the rat in the 'bash the rat'), toasts were made; a lovely sound of people having fun. What more could we want?



As a culmination to our event, the Community Choir arrived to serenade and entertain us. The special song for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee was beautifully sung, followed by a very moving song 'Love through me'. I'm hoping that this may be a suitable song to sing in church. During the final performance 'I'm gonna sing', 'Swing low' and 'When the saints' (all together), we were invited to join in with the singing and dance. Our grandson, Gabe, loves to do both of these, so I had no inhibitions and readily joined in with him - a great and fitting finale to a fantastic day.

A marvellous group of helpers quickly returned the car park to its usual state as the crowd of 80 or so people dispersed.

Phew! A wonderful way to share in this celebration of 70 years of the reign of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

Grateful thanks go to all who contributed to, and shared in, this event.

Helen Hales

Annual Family Picnic
On Sunday 17 July at Beaumont Park
12.30pm onwards



Why not come and join us at Beaumont Park?

The youngsters like to run about, play football, tennis or go in the adventure playgrounds but if that's not your scene you can just sit back, relax, enjoy an ice cream and watch the "world go by"!

All you need is a picnic, a chair or a rug!

You can bring along bats and balls or any outdoor apparatus for the young ones

We're hoping for good weather so don't forget your sun hats and sun cream!

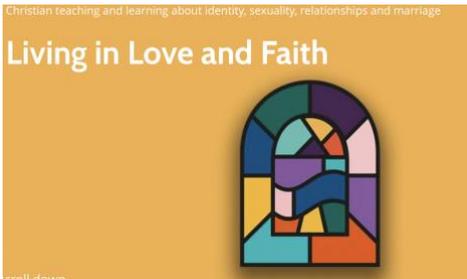
We meet by the swings (off ~~Butternut~~ Butternut Road)



Telephone Melody on 01484666205 for more details

Come and Join us!

Living in Love and Faith, June 2022



Over the last month a group of us have attended a course led by Julie and assisted by Jeremy.

The aim was to help us to think more deeply about what it means to be followers

of Jesus.

All around us we see the changing understanding of human identity, patterns of relationships and family groups, sexual orientation and attitudes. What does it mean to be human in these challenging times?

Each of the 5 sessions explored a particular topic starting with prayer and reflection, followed by some really interesting videos of Christians who spoke openly about different, difficult and at times, painful experiences before finding a safe place in the Church where they could be who they are, a diverse body of fellow Christians (as we all are), where they can live in Love and Faith.

A different bible passage was presented each week, usually familiar, but which gave us a different slant, of the written word and its relevance today.

One short sentence which really made me think was ‘God created darkness and light, night and day, but also dawn and dusk.’ We are all individuals, all different, but all loved by God.

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Our discussions were lively and interesting allowing us all to make a contribution, respect each other's opinions and sensitivity.

I found the whole course informative, challenging as I reflected on my own attitude, understanding and perhaps some pre-conceived prejudices.

The Church of England Synod will need much prayer, Godly guidance, insight and discussion before making very difficult and controversial decisions about the way forward on this complex issue, so we can all live together in Love, Faith and Holiness.

Catherine Day

Armitage Bridge Ringers

Church Bell Ringing (part 1)

English church bells are usually hung in 'peals' and tuned in a diatonic octave, sometimes less than a full octave, sometimes more than. The 'tunefulness' of the bells relies on them having been tuned to the diatonic scale and they are rung with variations of order with the attempt to keep some sort of musical harmony.

The sound most 'non ringers' will be familiar with is the ringing out of the bells from the highest note to the lowest, so in the tonic scale it would sound as: doh, te, lah, so, fah, me, ray and doh again (highest

note first and lowest note last), however ringers number their bells from lightest to heaviest, so a diatonic eight bells would, instead of being doh, te, lah etc would be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

The sound of bells pealing out in this descending order is melodic and easy to listen to, however after a short while of it repeating itself a listener (and ringer(s)) may become less enthusiastic for it to continue.

So, in order that the sound does not become monotonous ringers have come up with ways of changing the order of the bells to enhance the experience.

In the first instance those ringing learn to change their position by having numbers/sequences 'called out' by their team captain, and on the command those ringing change the position which their particular bell (each ringer only controls one bell) is rung in the order specified, so for instance if they started, as they would, as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. They may well be 'called' to change position and ring 2, 1, 4, 3, 6, 5, 8, 7, thereby making the change and sound a little bit more interesting. Of course before anyone can join in they need to learn the basic 'physical' skill of bell handling. Simply put this is the ability to control a bell so that it can be rung safely. It is a skill that can be learned relatively quickly and with ease as long as the individual is enthusiastic and patient.

The only restriction normally imposed is a minimum age, most groups set that at around 12 or 13 years but there is no hard and fast rule, and there is no maximum age, some people learn to ring aged 70 plus!

Submitted by Alan Trebble.

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Two of the banners from St John’s that now reside in Holy Trinity.

July Readings and Prayers.

**Sunday 3rd July – 3rd Sunday after Trinity – Galatians 6: 7-16
and Luke 10: 1-11 & 16-20**

Prayer for the Day

God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Monday 4th Thomas the Apostle - Psalm 92, 2 Samuel 15.17-21, John 11.1-16

Timeless God, Creator of the Universe, you alone sustain the space our world inhabits; you alone are worthy of the gladness and praise of our lives.

Tuesday 5th Psalm 73, Judges 9.1-21, Luke 15.11-end

Father, we believe that you made the world to be good that you have filled it with enough for everyone – just so long as we share.

Wednesday 6th Psalm 77, Judges 9.22-end, Luke 16.1-18

Father, we believe that you gave us minds to think, choices to make, opportunities to respond to, others to care for, and gifts to give.

Thursday 7th Psalm 78.1-39, Judges 11.1-11, Luke 16.19-end

Father, we believe that you made us for each other, to reflect your glory, to demonstrate your gracious loving concern and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Friday 8th Psalm 55, Judges 11.29-end, Luke 17.1-10

Father, we believe that you are a great and a wonderful God that your compassion reaches from one end of eternity to the other, that

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you have made us responsible for each other and that one day you will ask why we did not care enough.

Saturday 9th Psalms 76, Judges 12.1-7, Luke 17.11-19

Father, we believe that our words of thanks and praise, our hymns of adoration and our songs of joy, have a hollow sound without a life of daring selflessness and a deep, genuine concern for those sent away empty-handed from our rich tables.

Sunday 10th July 4th Sunday after Trinity – Colossians 1: 1-14 and Luke 10: 25-37

Prayer for the Day

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 11th Psalm 80, Judges 13.1-24, Luke 17.20-end

Lord, you are the God of surprises! We know that you inhabit eternity – but have promised to hold us in the palm of your hand.

Tuesday 12th Psalm 87, Judges 14, Luke 18.1-14

Lord, we know that you are infinite in wisdom, truth and love – but you have made yourself known in the life, death and resurrection of Christ.

Wednesday 13th Psalm 119.105-128, Judges 15.1-16.3, Luke 18.15-30

Lord, we know that you are Lord of all things – but you are still seeking to be Lord of our lives.

Thursday 14th Psalm 90, Judges 16.4-end, Luke 18.31-end

Lord, you are the God of surprises! You come to us when we least expect it, and you come in ways that leave us totally amazed.

Friday 15th Psalm 88, Judges 17, Luke 19.1-10

Lord, when goodness faints and evil flows we will keep our hearts open to you.

Saturday 16th Psalm 96, Judges 18.1-20, 27-end, Luke 19.11-27

Lord, when we go wrong and hurt you, those around us and ourselves – you speak the word of grace that says it's time to begin again. Lord you are the God of surprises.

Sunday 17th – 5th Sunday after Trinity – Colossians 1: 15-28 and Luke 10: 38-end

Prayer for the Day

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 18th Psalm 98, 1 Samuel 1.1-20, Luke 19.28-40

We praise you, Loving God, for friends and the people who love us with a love that is overflowing, unending, given without seeking anything in return.

Tuesday 19th Psalm 106, 1 Samuel 1.21-2.11, Luke 19.41-end

We praise you, Loving God, for Jesus, for the way he loves us with a love that is more wonderful than any human love, given freely so that we might know you as our friend.

Wednesday 20th Psalm 111, 1 Samuel 2.12-26, Luke 20.1-8

We praise you, Loving God, for our love, for the way we have been shown how to love by our parents, our neighbours, and by our Christian brothers and sisters.

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Thursday 21st Psalm 115, 1 Samuel 2.27-end, Luke 20.9-19

We praise you, Loving God, for the way we have been taught how to love by Jesus, the friend of all.

Friday 22nd Mary Magdalene - Psalm 30, 1 Samuel 16.14-end, Luke 8.1-3

We praise you, Loving God, for the impulse to love planted in us by your Spirit.

Saturday 23rd Psalm 120, 1 Samuel 4.1b-end, Luke 20.27-40

We praise you, Loving God, for the friendship that makes us the people we are,

Sunday 24th 6th Sunday after Trinity – Colossians 2: 6-19 and Luke 11: 1-13

Prayer for the Day.

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 25th *James the Apostle* - Psalm 29, 2 Kings 1.9-15, Luke 9.46-56

Timeless God, Creator of the Universe, you alone sustain the space our world inhabits; you alone are worthy of the gladness and praise of our lives.

Tuesday 26th Psalm 132, 1 Samuel 6.1-16, Luke 21.5-19

Lord, you exist in ways we cannot imagine and dwell in the splendour we feebly name as your glory. The light of your presence accompanies us and the goodness of your ways surrounds us.

Wednesday 27th Psalm 119.153-end, 1 Samuel 7, Luke 21.20-28

Lord, Jesus, for the Christ, our Brother, our Companion, you are the unmasking of God, flesh of flesh and bone of our bone.

Thursday 28th Psalm 143, 1 Samuel 8, Luke 21.29-end

Lord, you laid aside your glory and became a servant, ready and willing to respond to God's call for a new world. You shared our life and in the end succumbed to the powerful in the name of love. To you belongs all the gladness our hearts can muster.

Friday 29th Psalm 142, 1 Samuel 9.1-14, Luke 22.1-13

Lord, to you belongs all the welcome and delight of our hearts, for you are the pleasure of Christ among us.

Saturday 30th Psalm 147, 1 Samuel 9.15-10.1, Luke 22.14-23

Lord, we open ourselves in gladness and commitment to the way of the cross and the life of your Kingdom.

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This magazine may be read in full colour on our webpage!

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THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD

“Offering love and service to our communities in Christ’s name.”