

CLERGY

Vicar Fr Tim Stevens
6 Jacob's Hall Court
Darton
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Asst. Curate Reverend Emily Lawrence
The Vicarage
47 Greenside
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Hon. Asst. Priest Reverend Jean Daykin
29 Bamsley Road
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WHO'S WHO AT DARTON

Churchwardens	Richard King richardking465@gmail.com	07578583173
	Janet Rodgerson janet.rodgerson@yahoo.co.uk	07807341666
PCC Secretary	Annette Taylor	
PCC Treasurer	Linda Rayner allsaintsdarton_PCC@hotmail.com	
Organist & Choir	Judith Hollingsworth	01226 383082
	The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm New members are always welcome, please contact Judith for details	
Mothers' Union	Mollie Hall molliehall50@gmail.com	07771658546
Ladies Group	Celia Nixon	01226 386477
Parish Hall Bookings	Adam Price	07888012339
Magazine for both churches	Christine Miller christine_miller2@sky.com	07922634618

WHO'S WHO AT STAINCROSS

Churchwardens	Bob Hawes Sue Dunhill	01226 387881 01226 382501
PCC Secretary	Bob Hawes	01226 387881
PCC Treasurer	Amy Roe amyeroe@aol.com	01226 958767
Music	Bob Hawes	01226 387881
	The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7 pm to 7.45 pm New members are welcome, please contact Bob for details	
Church Hall bookings	Bob Hawes	01226 387881



THE PARISH CHURCHES OF ALL SAINTS', DARTON WITH ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, STAINCROSS

*Serving the communities of
Darton, Kexborough, Barugh, Woolley Colliery, Woolley Grange,
Mapplewell & Staincross*



*For unto us,
a Child is born....
Isaiah 9:6*

**BENEFICE MAGAZINE
DECEMBER 2023 £1**

BENEFACTICE INFORMATION

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Usual day off MONDAY (Usual day off THURSDAY)

Hon. Asst. Priest Rev'd Jean Daykin, 29 Barnsley Rd, Cawthorne,
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Tel: 01226 792804
revdaykin@gmail.com (Usual day off MONDAY)

Find us on the Web at www.dartonandstaincrosschurch.co.uk

Facebook: united benefice of Darton and Staincross

Twitter: @DandSChurch and YouTube: the church in Darton and Staincross

Arrangements for baptism and marriage may be made most Tuesday evenings between 7.30 pm and 8 pm at Darton. If you live in the parishes of Darton or Staincross, you are entitled to have your children baptised, or to be married in your parish church.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9.00 am THE PARISH EUCHARIST at St. John the Evangelist, Staincross

10.30 am THE PARISH MASS at All Saints', Darton
A celebration with Holy Communion, lasting an hour or so, with music, light and colour.
Afterwards there's a cuppa and a chance to make new friendships and renew old ones.

WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Morning Prayer is said daily at 9.00, at Darton on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, and at Staincross on Wednesday and Friday.

Tuesday 7 pm MASS AT DARTON
Wednesday 10.30 am EUCHARIST AT STAINCROSS
followed by coffee and cake
Thursday 9.30 am MASS AT DARTON
Friday 10.30 am INFORMAL CAFÉ-MASS in the church hall followed by tea and toast

The Mass on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday is a quiet celebration without music, lasting just half an hour, with plenty of space for silence and reflection

Fr Tim writes

I've been giving a lot of thought recently to the nature of the Church. This seems very relevant as we come into December, and into Advent; as we prepare ourselves to celebrate once again one of the most important moments in our history, the coming of the Son of God as one of us.



Jesus' birth is perhaps very symbolic of the nature of the Church. Maybe you think that's stating the obvious, or maybe you hadn't thought of it before. So what do I mean?

Jesus was born. There's nothing remarkable about that. He was born in a stable because there was no room in the inn. Well given the circumstances, perhaps that's nothing to write home about either. He was visited and given gifts. I'm sure most new-born babies have seen a similar generosity, although possibly not from complete strangers who have travelled half way across the ancient world to do this. So what is remarkable about the birth of a baby boy, two thousand years ago? Well first, he was born to a virgin. This trips off the tongue just a little too easily as we tell the story. But stop and say it again – it is pretty unusual, let's be honest. And Mary wasn't "just" a virgin. She was chosen by God, visited by an angel, helped by a fiancée who had himself seen God in a dream and been reassured. Now we're talking about something quite significant.

And yet, as we prepare to remember this amazing moment in our history, it somehow pales into insignificance by comparison with tinsel, trees, crackers, black Friday, and all that the season brings. After all, what's more important – a baby born two thousand years ago, or an amazing Christmas present from someone who has put so much thought into what you would like? Well, perhaps my answer to this is different from that of many people in our society, who are happy to overlook the baby as long as they can enjoy a turkey on Christmas Day.

But this brings me back to the nature of the Church. If society is willing to overlook the part that the baby Jesus has to play in Christmas, then what chance do they have of letting the resurrected Jesus into their lives for the rest of the year?

And yet, as I say so often on Fridays when a few of us gather on Zoom

to say Morning Prayer, the Resurrection is there every week, every day, and there is nothing which can give hope to life like the promise of eternal life from somebody who has overcome death to make this promise.

And yet, this seems not to matter.

Well, it is now December. It is now Advent, and it will soon be Christmas. Advent is often described as a time of waiting, but this is only half the story. The other half lies in what we do while we wait. Are we waiting for a celebration which comes round every year, and because it's come round so many times before, really doesn't mean very much any more? Or are we waiting for a celebration of an event which changes everything. God became man. One of us. He knows us, what it is to be us, how it feels to live our lives, and why we need his love so much. That's pretty big news!

But it isn't just big news for us. It's big news for all. For everyone. I believe in a God of miracles, not a God of magic. He isn't just there to us because we go to church, and not there for anyone who isn't ready to see. God is there for all, and the role of the Church is to introduce him to those who haven't come to know him.

That is our calling, our vocation, our faith. And Christmas is the time when we can do this best. So many people still remember that Christmas has something to do with the church, but now is the time to bring this to life. Who will you invite to church this Christmas? Who will you bring to start a journey at its beginning – meeting the newborn baby, so that they can travel with him to his Resurrection? This is our time, and we are the only people who can make a difference.

**Wishing you a very happy Christmas,
Fr Tim**



*The shepherds learn of
the birth of Jesus and
follow the star to the
stable where the babe
lay*

Love singing Christmas carols?



**Singers of any age and ability
are invited to join the community choir
and sing this year's Christmas Carol Service
in the Parish Church of All Saints', Darton**

Rehearsals in All Saints' Church, Darton:

Wednesday 29th Nov, 6th & 13th Dec @ 5.30 p.m.

Sunday 17th December @ 4.30 p.m.

Carol Service:

Sunday 17th December @ 5.30 p.m.



REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS IN THE UNITED BENEFICE

Monday:	Mothers' Union Meeting, everyone welcome, at 7 pm in All Saints (3rd Monday in the month)
Tuesday:	Morning Prayer at 9 am on Zoom BCP Communion in All Saints at 7 pm Office half-hour at 7.30 pm for enquiries regarding weddings and baptism for both churches at All Saints
Wednesday:	Morning Prayer at 9 am and NOT on Zoom in St John's Midweek Eucharist in St John's at 10.30 am and on Zoom Choir practice at All Saints' at 6.30 pm, new members welcome Choir practice at St John's at 7 pm, new members welcome
Thursday:	Morning Prayer at 9 am and NOT on Zoom in All Saints Mass at 9.30 am in All Saints NOT on Zoom
Friday	Morning Prayer at 9 am on Zoom Café Mass in Darton Parish Hall at 10.30 am (in church at the moment)
Saturday:	Morning Prayer at 9 am on Zoom Church open 10 am until 12 noon for coffee, prayer and visitors Mothers' Union Coffee Mornings at 10 am (1st Saturday in the month in the Parish Hall) Baptism Preparation Class at 11 am (2nd Saturday in the month) Ladies Group Coffee and Crafts at 10 am (3rd Saturday in the month in the Parish Hall) St John's Coffee Morning at 10 am (4th Saturday in the month in the Church Hall)
Sunday:	Parish Eucharist at 9 am in St John's Parish Mass in All Saints' at 10.30 am and on Zoom Choral Evensong in All Saints' at 5.30 pm (1st Sunday in the month) Reflective Service in St John's at 5.30 pm (Last Sunday in the month)

If you would like any further information or to link in to zoom, please visit the website
(www.dartonandstaincrosschurch.co.uk)

REFUGEES

By Bill Bilston

On the face of it, the following poem would appear to be extremely offensive, but please then read the poem in reverse,- i.e. from the bottom to the top. {` The world can be looked at another way` }

Tony Warden



They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut-throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who are born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way

(now read from bottom to top)

Christmas Wishes And Loss Of Loved Ones

Christmas is supposed to be a happy time, but when you lose someone, Christmas just doesn't feel the same. The grief you feel especially around Christmas can suck the joy right out of you. This poem is for people who may be feeling this way, and the author just wanted to send a little Christmas wish to all of you. May you find peace and joy again around Christmas time.

My Wish For This Christmas

Jamie A. Cirello

Christmas is a happy time for friends and family,
The children are excited as they unwrap presents around the tree.
Carols are sung and lights twinkle in the night.
Jack Frost glistens on the windows, and the snow sparkles from the winter moonlight.

Christmas is such a joyous time to appreciate the ones we love.
This Christmas I want to send wishes to those we lost up above.

To some, Christmas is not the same because a loved one passed away,
And the grief is overwhelming each and every day.

When the holidays approach, we miss them even more,
Traditions never feel the same, and memories are all we have left to adore.

We will always remember their name and never forget their faces,
And as long as we keep them in our hearts, they can never be erased.

So this Christmas, my wish is for everyone who is feeling a little blue
To find some peace, joy, and comfort with everything you do.

Christmas isn't just a season; it's a feeling, and the magic never ends.
One of its greatest gifts is to cherish family and friends.

Merry Christmas to all our special angels up above.
Merry Christmas to you all. I send you all my love.



LIVE THEATRE AT ST JOHN'S

SANTA MUST DIE!
on Friday 8th December at 7.30pm
(Age guidance 14+)

Archipelago Arts Collective presents Santa Must Die!
Written by Rosie MacPherson with music by Sean Ryan and Lyrics by Sean Ryan, Robin Ravi and Laurence Young. Original direction by Beth Knight and Laurence Young. Originally commissioned by Alphabetti Theatre and supported by Bradford Producing Hub and Arts Council England.

Please sir, can I have the night off?
Nadia and Abed might just be the next big thing. They've started the North's greatest band 'Santa Must Die!' and for one night only they're playing their local. But it's Christmas Eve... and Santa is a bad boss. Unending queues of demanding, entitled customers, minimum wage, no time off, unpaid overtime, zero-hour contracts. It's about time the elves staged a riot.

Santa Must Die! is a raucous new punk theatre show for the gig economy at the most difficult time of the year! A different kind of Christmas story about it being really s**t when Xmas is all work and no play, about finding joy in unexpected places and fighting against that which is meant to keep you down.

Made in conversation with people who have experience of working on zero-hours contracts at Christmas time.
Strong language and themes of an adult nature including references to sexual assault and racism.

Archipelago is a theatre collective led by Beth Knight, Kirsty Pennycook and Sean Ryan that makes live, daring, and generous work that brings people together. Made with communities, for communities.

TICKETS £5.00
Available from The Civic, Barnsley and from www.redladder.co





**Remembering Tom Daykin ...
words from Robert Daykin and Fr Tim at
Tom's funeral**

How are you? I am fine thanks, how are you?
- that was Tom's stock answer.

Tom was a proud family man, always interested in what all his family were all doing, and a gentleman, someone who always put others first, who always wanted to know how others were doing.

A man who never judged anyone unless of course it said it in the "Yorkshire Post" which he loved and read almost from cover to cover, daily.

Tom will be remembered by his family as an enormous support. Jean in particular, has been heard to say on many occasions that her ministry would not have been what it was without the support, and the love of Tom, who was always happy, and encouraging, for Jean to be out of the house and working, as long as she did return eventually.

But Tom also had his own ministry, his own support of the churches of which he was a part. Whether as a stonemason, restoring the old altar in Penistone, or managing the Parish Rooms in Cawthorne, or driving the minibus to far flung parts of the country to support church holidays. And in his later days, Tom was an ever present part of the life of the church in Darton. A coffee morning wasn't complete unless he was there, surrounded by the usual suspect on the largest table, and always engaging, and always smiling as he greeted all who came, sharing his warmth and his sense of humour.



A South Yorkshire man through and through, Tom was born in Stocksbridge, and managed to move through his life a grand total of just under ten miles to the bungalow in Cawthorne, and so with the exception of his national service, spent his whole life being part of the communities in this area.

Many of you will remember Tom and Jean's sixtieth wedding anniversary last year, and this year they celebrated another one, at which Tom was still excited to enjoy a cream bun.

For all of those years, Jean was by Tom's side as he was by hers, as he was also a father to their children, and a good friend to all those who he lived alongside, worked alongside, played alongside and shared his life with.

In this benefice we have a huge amount to be grateful to Tom for, and we join with Jean in that gratitude, and in all that Tom has been.

How are you? I am fine thanks, how are you?

My memories of Tom always centred on fundraising, he was always there selling raffle tickets, on the door, wherever he was needed. He always had a smile on his face, a joke to tell, he never failed to ask about my better half and it was always a pleasure to have a few words with him. For those who knew him he will be greatly missed

Chris

THANKS A very heartfelt thanks and gratitude for ALL the messages, the support, the love, flowers, cards, and the conversations on the loss of Tom. They have meant so much and have been appreciated.

Thanks to those who came to his funeral, to Fr Tim for his care and help. To Debbie for her singing, to the choir and to Judith he would have been overwhelmed.

£357 has been given to ALL SAINTS, DARTON and ALL SAINTS, CAWTHORNE, £714 in total, many THANKS too for this.

With Love Rev'd Jean and Tom's family

**Introducing
Mr and Mrs Francis**

Last month our friend, Maureen Browell, married Steve at St John's, Upper Denby.

Many of you at All Saints will know Maureen, and her family as members of the congregation, who then went into the priesthood.

We wish them much happiness in their future together



**As a Church we are called to pray for those around us.
Below you will find details of the worldwide Anglican Cycle of Prayer,
the Diocese of Leeds Cycle of Prayer, and our own United Benefice Cycle of
Prayer. The idea is that every church and community in the world is prayed for
in turn.**

December 1: The Diocese of Bangor St Matthew both of Rastrick Those who live and work on High Close	The Parishes of St John the Divine and
Dec 2: The Diocese of Banks and Torres Those who live and work on High Street	The Parish of St Saviour, Ravensthorpe
Dec 3: The Church of Northern India Those who live and work on Higham View	Turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ
Dec 4: The Diocese of Barbados Those who live and work on Highfields Road	The Parish of St Peter, Rawdon
Dec 5: The Diocese of Bari Those who live and work on Highwood Close	The Parishes of St Michael and All Angels, Downholme, St Edmund, Marske and St Mary, Richmond
Dec 6: The Diocese of Baringo Those who live and work on Hill End Road	The Parishes of Christ Church, Barkisland, St Bartholomew, Ripponden, St John, Rishworth and St Bartholomew, West Scammonden
Dec 7: The Diocese of Barisal Those who live and work on Holme View Road	The Parishes of St John the Baptist, Bishop Monkton, St Leonard, Burton Leonard, Holy Innocents, Copt Hewick, St Michael and All Angels, Littlethorpe, St John the Baptist, Bondgate, St Peter and St Wilfrid, Ripon ad St John the Evangelist, Sharow
Dec 8: The Diocese of Barrackpore Those who live and work on Hope Street	The Parish of Holy Trinity, Ripon
Dec 9: The Diocese of Bath and Wells Those who live and work on Hornes Lane	The Parishes of Christ Church, Lofthouse, St Oswald, Methley, St John the Evangelist, Oulton and Holy Trinity, Rothwell
Dec 10: The Church of Pakistan Those who live and work on Howden Close	When Jesus Christ comes again as judge ad saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God
Dec 11: The Diocese of Bathurst Those who live and work on Huddersfield Road	The Parish of St Edmund, Roundhay
Dec 12: The Diocese of Bauchi Those who live and work on Ibberson Avenue	The Parishes of St Peter, Felkirk and St John the Baptist, Royston
Dec 13: The Diocese of Belize Those who live and work on Inglewood	The Parishes of St Mary, Cottonstones, St Luke, Norland ad St Peter, Sowerby
Dec 14: The Diocese of Bendigo Those who live and work on Jacobs Hall Court	The Parishes of St Helen, Sandal Magna and St Paul, Walton

Dec 15: The Diocese of Beni Those who live and work on Jebb Lane	The Parishes of St Richard and St James, both of Seacroft and St Paul, Whinmoor
Dec 16: The Diocese of Benin Those who live and work on Kelby Croft	The Parish of St Luke, Sharlston
Dec 17: The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea Those who live and work on Keswick Road	Give us courage to speak the truth to hunger for justice and to suffer for the cause of right
Dec 18: The Diocese of Bentiu Those who live and work on Kexborough Drive	The Parishes of St Aiden, Buttershaw, and St Michael and All Angels, Shelf
Dec 19: The Diocese of Bermuda Those who live and work on Kibroyd Drive	The Parish of St Paul, Shipley
Dec 20: The Diocese of Bethlehem Those who live and work on Kingsway, Darton	The Parish of St Peter, Shipley
Dec 21; The Diocese of Bhopal Those who live and work on Kingsway, Mapplewell	The Parish of St James, Silsden
Dec 22: The Diocese of Bida Those who live and work on Knoll Mews	The Parish of St Aidan, Skelmanthorpe
Dec 23: The Diocese of Biharamulo Those who live and work on Lambe Flatt	The Parishes of St Mary the Virgin, Carleton and Christ Church, Skipton
Dec 24: The Episcopal Church in the Philippines Those who live and work on Lansdowne Crescent	We wait for his coming in glory and see with Mary our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord
Dec 25: The Diocese of Birmingham Those who live and work on Lane Head Close	The Parishes of St Augustine Draughton and Holy Trinity, Skipton
Dec 26: The Diocese of Blackburn Those who live and work on Lane Head Rise	The Parishes of St Margaret, North Elmsall, St Mary the Virgin, South Elmsall and St Peter and St Paul, Moorthorpe
Dec 27: The Diocese of Bo Those who live and work on Langcliffe Close	The Parish of Christ Church, South Ossett
Dec 28: The Diocese of Boga Those who live and work on Langdale Road	The Parish of St Anne in the Grove, Southowram
Dec 29: The Diocese of Bolivia Those who live and work on Lawndale Fold	The Parish of Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge
Dec 30: The Diocese of Bondo Those who live and work on Lidgett Road	The Parishes of St Joseph and St James, Foliot, All Saints, Kirk Deighton, St Halen, Little Ribston and All Saints, Spofforth
Dec 31: Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda Those who live and work on Limes Avenue	Retired Clergy and those with permission to officiate

Christmas Eve 1620 By Lizzie Jones



On Christmas eve 1620 the Mayflower, the ship of the Pilgrim Fathers, landed in Plymouth Harbour New England, America. The next day, Christmas day, they erected the frame of their first house. We have this picture of a group of pilgrims leaving Plymouth England to begin a new life, men, women and children, a religious group, under the leadership of Miles Standish from Wigan, who had made the long journey so that they could worship as they wished, Puritans who had been persecuted for their beliefs in

England. Treading the sand as they carried their belongings ashore full of hope and joy that they had reached their destination. But this is not quite true, They had come from Holland not England. They were not all pilgrims, the term pilgrim fathers was coined by the Victorians. Half were there for commercial reasons and a lot of them certainly not religious. The captain was Christopher Jones, the leader of the pilgrims was William Bradford. Miles Standish, a little fierce man, was a mercenary in charge of the military side of the expedition. Plymouth new England was not their first choice of destination. They had been blown off course, suffered gales & storms, changed direction, tried to land in other places. A voyage that had been planned for summer in good weather and in time for planting ended up in midwinter, bleak to say the least. The landing on Christmas eve was in an unknown wilderness, deep snow plus heavy rain, wind tossing bare trees, sea rough around them but apart from that absolute silence, no sign of anyone but perhaps Indians were hiding, waiting for them. The Mayflower sat at anchor, most of the people had never left it since the beginning of the voyage in the spring, It was a hospital ship, colds, coughs, fevers, scurvy. Many had already died, several in that Christmas week. A baby had been born but it was stillborn. They were eager to get ashore but there were no dwellings, their rations had all been used up and it was midwinter.

How did it start? English church policy under King James I persecuted all those who didn't adhere to the Anglican church, especially Catholics and those who were called Puritans wanting a simple form of worship. The leader and instigator of the voyage was William Bradford born in a family of prosperous farmers in a farming village on the Yorkshire/Nottingham border. Calling himself a Puritan he looked for people of like mind, meeting in small groups in houses though some members had been imprisoned. Their leader was the postmaster of Scrooby, William Brewster (who later wrote the first account of the voyage.) They decided to go to Holland where there was religious freedom and settled in Leiden with their wives and children, a group of farmers and artisans. William Bradford was only 17 but later he married. The little group were happy at first but didn't fit in with the Dutch way of life, they were frightened of becoming Dutch, especially their children. So they decided to go to the new world.



William Bradford

England, on the example of Spain, realised future prosperity lay in new lands across

the sea and Walter Raleigh had attempted to set up colonies of English people on the eastern seaboard of America which was the only part that had been discovered. The Virginia company of noblemen willing to underwrite groups willing to settle there was formed in 1606.. One in Maine failed and Jamestown was not a success. Patents were issued to those interested in starting a plantation with a right to found a colony and a permanent right to land after 7 years. Bradford sold his house to finance the voyage and the group got a patent for a colony at the mouth of the Hudson river in the north of Virginia (a place named after Elizabeth I.) But to hire a ship needed commercial interests to help finance it so they joined with a London merchant called Thomas Weston who had "Adventurers" from London interested in a financial opportunity. Not all the Leiden congregation went and Bradford and his wife left behind their 3 year old son. The Pilgrims decided to buy their own ship which was to meet Weston's ship at Southampton. But the 'Speedwell' needed repairs, it was "leaky as a sieve" and when it was repaired they were stuck by adverse winds in Dartmouth. Then on the way to Plymouth the "Speedwell" started leaking again. They had intended to leave in spring but it was now September. There was no option but to join Weston's ship the 'Mayflower'. It was overcrowded – 102 people (2 dogs) and their possessions in a space of 75 ft x 5 ft which they divided into 'rooms' for privacy. It was terribly claustrophobic.

Because of the delay they had already used most of their provisions and gales had now started. Captain Jones wanted to land as quickly as possible so he took a short route, not the right one, and after 5 days they saw land at Cape Cod and people were "not a little joyful, much comforted," But they were well north of the Hudson river mouth where their patent was so Captain Jones decided to sail further south to the Hudson, reckoning it would take just a few days but it was UNCHARTERED WATERS. For a few hours it was fine, but then they entered "one of the worst stretches of shoal water on the American coast", shallow water with sand banks, a churning maelstrom with heaving breakers. Captain Jones decided to return to Cape Cod.

On November 11th they put into Princetown harbour in the curve of Cape Cod but it was a wilderness of sand dunes. Sixteen well-armed men went ashore in a small boat to explore. They brought back trees to make a welcome fire but saw no-one. They didn't know then that a plague had wiped out most of the Indian villages but Massasoit, the most powerful of the Indian chiefs was only 60 miles away. Next day was Sunday so they stayed on board but the next day Monday they were allowed off and found ducks and sea food to eat. Monday was a wash day after so long on board, beginning the tradition of Monday as washday. An expedition party went to explore for a settlement further up, 16 armed men with muskets and swords led by Miles Standish and William Bradford. They didn't see any Indians though they caught a glimpse of 6 people walking along the beach who ran away when they saw them. At night they lit a bonfire to tell people on the ship that they were safe. Next day they found a native burial ground and signs of farming and agriculture and they took some corn. The day after they returned to the ship where the others were still stuck on board. Their shallop was now repaired so a bigger exploring party of 24 passengers and 10 sailors led by Miles Standish went out. The little craft was blown off course and they had to spend a night in the open where their wet shoes & stockings froze. "Some of the people who are dead took the origin of their death here," Bradford later wrote. There was six inches of snow on the ground and they named the inlet Cold Harbour. They tramped through snow all day and realised it was no place for a settlement. Some returned to the ship leaving Standish with only

18 men. They went looking for Indians and though they found some well-made houses, baskets, bowls etc., it was obviously a summer settlement. They returned to the ship where a baby had been born but someone died the next day. Only half the people who had made the journey survived. They moved on further North in the shallop, this time only 12 men, illness now taking its toll. Salt spray froze on their coats "as if they had been glazed."

It was now December 6th. They were still looking for a place to build a settlement and built a barricade and a fire to spend the night. They were woken by a great hideous cry and when it came light they were attacked with a stream of Indian arrows. The pilgrims had problems with their muskets in the bad weather but managed to fight them off. This was called the First Encounter. But they realised there was no place for a settlement here. Miles Standish decided to take the shallop further down south. The weather deteriorated with freezing sleet. The mast broke in the rough seas and they mended it. They went ashore, afraid of freezing to death, and built a fire. But they found themselves in a sheltered bay with agriculture and water, running brooks. There were signs of native habitation but nothing near. They were at what was to become Plymouth. They returned to the ship which was a mile out, and told them they had found a settlement and they could disembark at last. But it was the heart of winter, many were sick, many of them dead. William Bradford found his wife Susanna dead, it was suspected she might have committed suicide, the strain of the long voyage and then being locked up in the ship for so long afterwards. They had travelled 3,000 miles to find their promised land as they sailed into what they named Plymouth Harbour, from where they had set sail half a year before, on Christmas eve 1620. Only half of those who had set out had survived. It was the first permanent settlement of English people in America and it is estimated there are 35 million descendants of the Mayflower, about 1/10 of the US population.



FRIENDSHIP GROUP



BRING YOUR CRAFTS

Darton Parish Hall
Every Wednesday
From 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm
Only £1 donation for refreshments

Barnsley



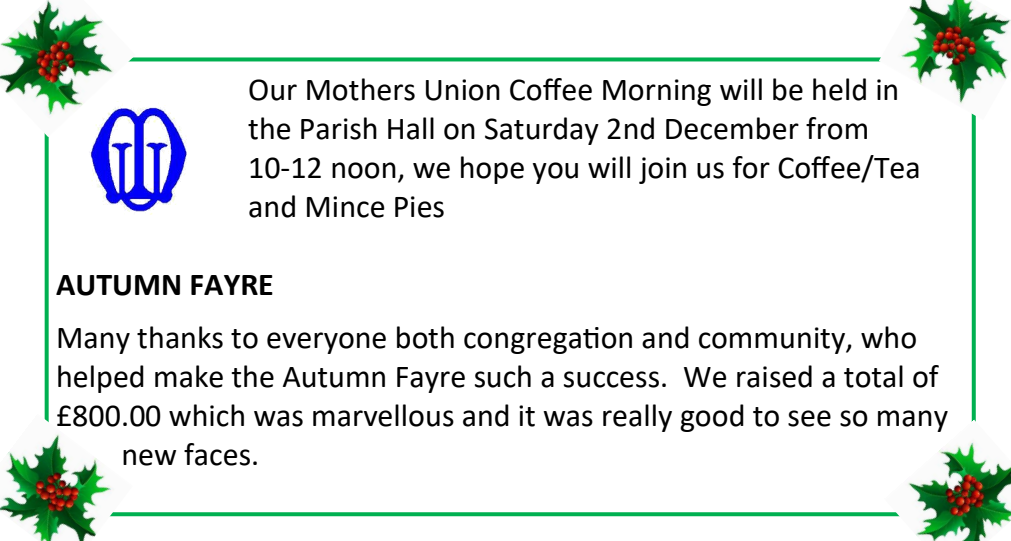
Ladies Choir


ALL SAINT'S CHURCH,
DARTON

Christmas concert
on
December 15th
at 7pm

Tickets are £8 (includes refreshments), payable on the door







Our Mothers Union Coffee Morning will be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 2nd December from 10-12 noon, we hope you will join us for Coffee/Tea and Mince Pies

AUTUMN FAYRE

Many thanks to everyone both congregation and community, who helped make the Autumn Fayre such a success. We raised a total of £800.00 which was marvellous and it was really good to see so many new faces.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, DARTON

Advent Carol
Service

with
The St John's Singers

**Sunday 3rd December
at 4 pm**



As the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity approaches, Nick Shields looks at some local connections

After Christmas, we very rapidly seem to come to the Festival of the Epiphany when we remember the three wisemen or Magi, coming from the east, to find the infant Jesus, the hope of the world, starting with people around the place of Jesus birth, but then a lot further. No sooner have we celebrated this festival than we find ourselves in the Week of prayer for Christian unity—an occasion that should not be missed. It is celebrated internationally, and kept annually between 18 January and 25 January in the Northern Hemisphere when it falls between two major feasts of St Peter, and St Paul- two founders of the church. It is kept as an octave- that is a special feast lasting eight days This Week of Prayer is coordinated by the World Council of Churches, locally including Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, with participation by member Churches, which include the Assyrian Church of the East, the Oriental Orthodox Churches, the Eastern Orthodox Churches, the Old Catholic Church, the Moravian Church, the Lutheran Churches, the Anglican Communion, as well as the Baptist Churches and the Pentecostal Churches. The Roman Catholic Church, also celebrates this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

It all began in 1908 as the "Octave of Christian Unity" The dates were proposed by Father Paul Wattson, a Franciscan Friar. He proposed this week beginning with the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter on January 18th, and concluding with the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul on January 25. Abbé Paul Couturier of Lyon, France, who has been called "the father of spiritual ecumenism", had a different approach from that of Father Wattson, He advocated prayer "for the unity of the Church as Christ wills it, and in accordance with the means he wills", thereby enabling other Christians with differing views of ministry to join in the prayer. In 1935, he proposed naming the observance the "Universal Week of Prayer for Christian Unity", a proposal accepted by the Roman Catholic Church as recently as 1966.



Abbe Couturier a French Priest and pioneer of the movement for modern Christian Unity

Father Couturier's message also influenced a Sardinian nun, Sister

Maria Gabriella of Unity, whose deep, prayerful, sacrificial devotion to the cause of unity is held up by the Roman church as an example to be followed. Sister Maria Gabriella (1914-1939) devoted herself to meditating on chapter 17 of John's gospel, where Jesus has both words and a mandate on Christian unity. In 1933, a young French woman, Henriette Ferrary, visited Sister Maria Gabriella's Trappist Community and told Mother Pia there of her commitment to conversion and prayer for Christian Unity, following the work begun in Lyon by Abbé Paul Couturier. Mother Pia took this up and shared it with the Sisters. There then began an exchange of letters between Abbe Couturier and the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield, and in 1937 this Community made a commitment to prayer for unity,



Sister Gabriella a Sardinian Trappist Nun who dedicated herself to Christian Unity and had connections with the College at Mirfield

especially during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. An elderly sister, Maria dell'Immacolata, offered her life in prayer for unity, and Abbe Couturier would later remember her in his "list of martyrs for unity" Sister Maria Gabriella, in Unity week 1938, asked to offer her life too as a prayer for unity, and the Lord accepted it.

In 1948, with the founding of the World Council of Churches, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity became increasingly recognised by different churches throughout the world. In 1958, the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches (a body which includes, among others, most of the world's Orthodox churches as well as many Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Reformed, United and Independent churches) begin co-operative preparation of materials for the Week of Prayer. Collaboration and cooperation has increased steadily since.

This year the theme for week of Prayer has come from an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso*, facilitated by the local Chemin Neuf Community* (CCN). They have reflected on the familiar story of the Good Samaritan, where we are all are encouraged, as the Gospel says to "Go and do likewise. It is a story about crossing boundaries that calls our attention to the bonds that unite the whole human family. Brothers and sisters from the Catholic Archdiocese of Ouagadougou, Protestant Churches, ecumenical bodies and the CCN in Burkina Faso collaborated generously in drafting the prayers and reflections.

Each January individuals pray, and churches and ecumenical organisations celebrate the Week of Prayer in a variety of ways. Here, these can include events large and small, a simple prayer meeting, an ecumenical breakfast, a prayer walk, speaker events, online prayer relays, preaching swaps in villages and towns, using social media to share online reflections and prayers from church leaders, as well as joint services bringing together Christians from across the traditions in prayer and worship. United Services take place in local parishes and benefices across this area during the week of prayer. It is a time for Christians to celebrate the things that bind them together rather than the divergences that keep them apart. This is the Lord's will.

*Burkina Faso, formerly Upper Volta, is one of the least developed countries of the world. 26.3 percent of the population practice Christianity. The country's official language of government and business is French. *The Chemin Neuf Community is a Roman Catholic community with an ecumenical (Unity) vocation. Formed from a charismatic prayer group in 1973, it has 2,000 permanent members in 30 countries, and 12,000 people serving in the community missions. Its main founder is a Jesuit priest, Laurent Fabre .



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THE 100 CLUB

NOVEMBER DRAW

1st - No 72 Janet Rodgerson
2nd - No 115 Lyn Sowray
3rd - No. 34 Brenda Hepworth

Spare numbers can also be bought on the day of the draw

CHURCH OPENING ROTA
10 am—12 noon

Saturday 2nd December Tony Warden and Bridget Mellor
Saturday 9th December Brenda Hepworth and Mollie Hall
Saturday 16th December Ursula Senior and Janet Rodgerson
Saturday 23rd December Alistair and Ann Burns
Saturday 30th December Alistair and Ann Burns

Many thanks to those who keep the Rota going each week.

December rota for St John's

Date	Sunday 03 December	Sunday 10 December	Sunday 17 December	Sunday 24 December	Sunday 24 December	Monday 25 December	Sunday 31 December
Day	Advent 1	Advent 2	Advent 3	Advent 4	Midnight Mass (Carols from 23:00)	Christmas Day	Christmas 1 Benefice Service
Time	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	23:30	09:00	10:00
	Year B				VOLUNTEERS	REQUIRED	
Welcome & Offertory	Doreen Piper	Pam Seaman	Margaret Foster	Sue Green			Amy Roe
Reader	Sue Green	Amy Roe	Louise Smith	Angela Gomersall			Diane Cooper-Ramsden
Reading	1 Corinthians 1: 3-9	2 Peter 3: 8-15a	1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24	Romans 16: 25-27	Hebrews 1: 1-4, [5-12]	Titus 3: 4-7	Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel	Mark 13:24-37	Mark 1: 1-8	John 1: 6-8, 19-28	Luke 1: 26-38	John 1: 1-14	Luke 2: 1-20	Luke 2: 15-21
Intercessor	Rev'd Jean Sykes	Amy Roe	Nick Shields	Louise Smith			Rev'd Jean Sykes
Chalice	Pam Seaman	Margaret Foster	Louise Smith	Pam Seaman			Margaret Foster
Coffee	Doreen Piper Louise Smith	Sue Dunhill Bob Hawes	Amy Roe Pam Seaman	Doreen Piper Louise Smith	-o0o-	-o0o-	Sue Dunhill Bob Hawes
Servers	Diane Cooper-Ramsden	Diane Cooper-Ramsden	Diane Cooper-Ramsden	Diane Cooper-Ramsden	Nigel Holmes		Diane Cooper-Ramsden
Altar Guild			Sue Dunhill				

Please make any changes necessary on the sheet in the vestry and on the sheet at the back of church

December rota for All Saints'

DATE	DECEMBER 3	DECEMBER 10	DECEMBER 17	DECEMBER 24 (AM)	DECEMBER 24 (PM)	DECEMBER 25
MINISTERS OF WELCOME	Elaine Brown Lynda Charlesworth	Susan Elliott Anthea Herbert	Jean Parker Linda Rayner	Hilary Riggs Christine Miller	Elaine Brown Lynda Charlesworth	Susan Elliott Anthea Herbert
READER	Ursula Senior	Christine Miller	Hilary Riggs	Linda Rayner	Rev'd Jean Daykin	William Stevens
INTERCESSIONS	Hilary Riggs	Rev'd Jean Daykin	Judith Hollingsworth	Hilary Riggs	Clergy	Judith Hollingsworth
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	Rev'd Jean Daykin	Ursula Senior	Janet Rodgerson	Stuart Holling	Marjorie Crossland	Rev'd Jean Daykin

Readings as St John's
If you have any amendments to the rota please make alternative cover

Welcome to Eco Church

Round/about.

More hours of darkness make a walk on a bright, sunny day a real treat. The world around us is completely transformed. Against a blue sky, the shape of individual tree species is clearly revealed and we can see how each has its own pattern and shape, all so different and not obvious when covered in leaves. The clear winter light also shows the unique patterns of the bark - not obvious under the leaf canopy- chestnut with its distinctive deep furrows, oaks with many nodules - both ideal for hibernating insects.

Yet look carefully and you'll see the Hazel catkins are there, tightly furled- ready to burst into the cheerful yellow lambs' tails which herald the start of Spring!

Frost can also weave its magic, outlining cobwebs and flower heads, revealing their beautiful shapes. However beautiful, frost can also be a killer, so please ensure there is always a source of food and water available in your garden for the birds and

Wildlife you won't see in winter...

Some creatures are now absent from our countryside: reptiles spend the winter hibernating so we're unlikely to see them until they come out to bask in spring - unless you happen to disturb one while turning your compost heap.

Hedgehogs, dormice and bats are also tucked away in hibernation. Our grey squirrels, however, will still venture out to forage - or to feast in the case of the All Saints' resident squirrels, who love Janet's bird feeders!

In winter, most insects are absent from sight - but they are still all around us, just hidden away in various life-stages.

Feeding our garden friends in autumn and winter ...

Lots of us put out bird food - but try to put out both food and water on a regular basis. If we have severe weather, we may find we need to feed twice daily. Birds need high-energy, high-fat foods during cold weather. We should try to adjust the quantity to the demand, and not allow uneaten foods to build up - they won't benefit from mouldy food! They also love a clean bird bath: try to check that there is water on really cold mornings, not just ice. We may all be enjoying the sight of robins in our gardens and parks - but have you ever wondered why they are associated with Christmas? Have a look online!



Focus on Sprouts... what else for Christmas?

Ingredients: 1kg sprouts
6 rashers smoked streaky bacon
200 g chestnuts - vacuum packed or tinned, drained
50g butter

Parboil the sprouts for 5 minutes in salted water; drain then run under the cold tap to stop the cooking process.

Chop the bacon into small pieces and fry until fairly crisp then remove from the pan.

Next, fry the chestnuts in the bacon fat until slightly browned then remove them from the pan.

Put the sprouts in with a little water, cover and cook for a further few minutes - but don't let them get too soft.

Drain, add the butter and sauté for two minutes.

Finally, combine with the chestnuts and bacon and season to taste.



Reuse/recycle/remake

A quick plea regarding wrapping paper: attractive as it can look, a great deal of Christmas wrapping paper can't be recycled - apparently the metallic ones or those featuring metallic patterns are the worst for that. Try to buy recyclable wrapping paper, or use brown wrapping paper with bright (and reusable) Christmas ribbon. Coloured tissue paper also makes a lovely alternative. Gift bags? Made to re-use, aren't they?



Janet's squirrels



FROM THE REGISTERS



Harry Musgrave was baptised by Rev'd Jean on November 5th at All Saints



Harlen Thomas Dimmock was baptised by Rev'd Emily at All Saints on November 26th

It was lovely to share their special day with family and friends as we welcomed them both into the church family

FUNERALS

Please remember in your prayers those who have experienced moments of sadness or grief in the last few weeks especially the families of

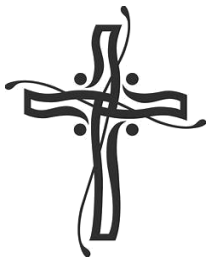
Tom Daykin
Susan Taylor
Joseph Rayner

and also the families of

Joan Caves
Philip Lees,
Hilda Nash
John Taylor

whose ashes were interred in November
We remember also all whose anniversaries
are at this time

REST ETERNAL GRANT TO THEM O LORD



RAISE THE ROOF APPEAL

QUIZ NIGHT

A quiz night was held at St John's for the Raise the Roof campaign. Sue Dunhill asked me to be quizmaster and prepare the questions whilst she took charge of organising the refreshments.



I was a bit daunted as I'm more used to participating in quizzes rather than preparing them, but I had a few ideas for different rounds and quite enjoyed the process. I tried to cover a variety of topics, with a range of difficulty, and I think I succeeded in that as, I believe, there was something for everyone and no-one went away without answering at least one question.

The local history round was perhaps the hardest. I compiled this with Pat Scurr in mind and, as I said on the night, I am sure she would have done very well on that round!

Everyone seemed to have a good time and the refreshments were delicious. We had an excellent turn out and I am sure we will be planning another quiz soon. I am already working on some ideas!

Amy Roe



Cynthia Sturgess receiving her raffle prize from Bob Hawes and Fr Tim

What's on this Christmas...

...in St John's, Staincross

Sunday 26th November 5.30 p.m. Advent Reflection An opportunity to welcome the season of Advent and to look forward to the coming of Christmas.

Saturday 16th December 6.00 p.m. Christingle and Carol Service Join with the Old Blowers' Brass Band to sing all the old favourite Christmas Carols and share in the Christmas story told through the Christingle, complete with the orange, the ribbon, the sweets and the candle.

Sunday 24th December 11.30 p.m. Midnight Mass Celebrate the coming of Christmas as we share the first Mass of the day.

Monday 25th December 9.00 a.m. Christmas Morning Eucharist All are welcome to our Christmas Morning celebration.

...in All Saints, Dorton

Sunday 3rd December 4.00 p.m. Advent Carol Service Celebrate the season of Advent with readings and music from the St John's Singers.

Sunday 10th December 5.30 p.m. Blue Christmas A celebration of Christmas for those who are feeling lonely or bereaved, or find Christmas to be a difficult time of year.

Sunday 17th December 5.30 p.m. Christmas Carol Service Join the traditional Carol Service with readings and music sung by volunteers drawn from the local community.

Sunday 24th December 3.30 p.m. Christingle Service Share in the Christmas story told through the Christingle, complete with the orange, the ribbon, the sweets and the candle.

Sunday 24th December 11.30 p.m. Midnight Mass Celebrate the coming of Christmas as we share the first Mass of the day.

Monday 25th December 10.30 a.m. Christmas Morning Mass All are welcome to our Christmas Morning celebration.

COFFEE MORNING



Cup of TEA or COFFEE and 2 cakes - £2.50

SATURDAY,
23rd DECEMBER 2023
10:00 to 11:30

ST JOHN'S PARISH HALL
GREENSIDE, STAINCROSS, BARNSELY, S75 6GU

PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We need all the help we can get!!

We welcome and need volunteers, men and women, from the congregation to help clean the church ready for Christmas – have you some time to spare?

The church will be open from 10-12.30 on SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER. Cleaning Materials, tea and coffee will be provided!

If you can join in at any point during that time it would be wonderful, whether it be for 30 mins or a couple of hours - come when you like and go when you like, and find a job that suits you and your abilities.



If you would like to do a particular area – you can choose. There will be sitting down jobs ie cleaning brasses, silver etc, as well as helping clean the woodwork – pews and screens, sweeping/mopping/cleaning floors etc whatever you can manage.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK – YOUR SUPPORT IS VALUED

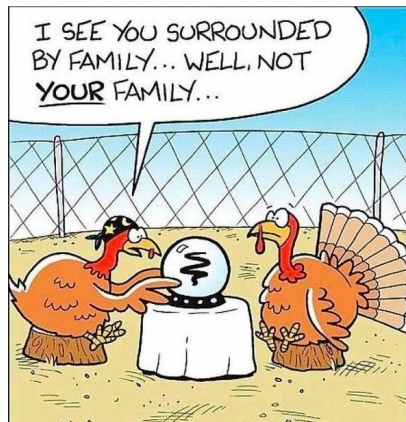
Blue Christmas

at All Saints at 5.30 pm on December 10th



A celebration of Christmas for those who are feeling lonely or bereaved, or find Christmas to be a difficult time of the year

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Thurs	11.30-1.30	4.30-7.30
Fri	11.30-1.30	3.30-7.30
Sat	11.30-1.30	3.30-7.30
Sun	11.30-2.00	CLOSED

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THROUGHOUT THE YEAR ON SATURDAY
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The Parish Church, and its surrounding churchyard is an oasis of calm in the midst of a busy world. It is always open at service times (see inside front cover) and on Saturday mornings 10 am to 12 noon, when refreshments are served. You are very welcome to pop in and enjoy its peace, its history, or to find space to reflect and pray. The Lady Chapel is reserved as a place of prayer, and you may light candles or leave us a request for prayer.

This is your church - and you are always welcome.

DARTON PARISH HALL

Located in Church Street, next to the Post Office, this is a substantial facility comprising a large hall, smaller meeting rooms and a fully-equipped kitchen. It is available for hire by groups for educational and leisure activities. If you are interested in hiring the Parish Hall, call ADAM PRICE on 07888012339 to discuss our competitive rates.

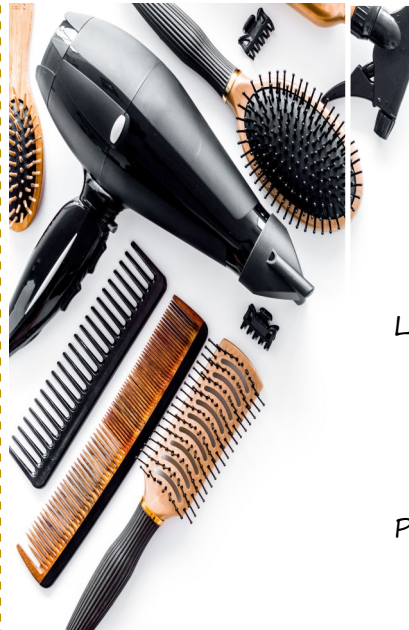
STAINCROSS CHURCH HALL

The church hall can be found behind the church on Greenside, Staincross and is available for hire either on a regular basis or for one off events. The hall is a good size, has heating, seating, a large well equipped kitchen and a stage. For more details please contact our Church Warden, MR ROBERT HAWES on 01226 387881 or email bob.hawes@lineone.net

Thank you to all who have bought magazines this past year, I hope you are enjoying reading them and please feel free to send me any items you would like including, it's always good to have contributions from different people.

On that note could I just say that subscriptions for the magazine will be due in January, please let the person who delivers it have your payment.

A happy and holy Christmas to one and all



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DARTON LADIES GROUP



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