

THE PARISH OF BELTINGHAM WITH HENSHAW

Parish Newsletter February 2019

Ethelbert – King and Saint

How much do you know about King Ethelbert? He was the King of Kent from about 589 until his death in 616. He was married to Bertha, daughter of a Frankish King. She was a Christian, and it was a condition of the marriage that she would be free to practise her religion. Ethelbert evidently considered that an acceptable price for a close connection with the most powerful ruler in Western Europe. Bertha came with a bishop as her chaplain, and Ethelbert soon accepted the Christian religion – indeed he was the first English king to be converted to Christianity. In 597 a Roman monk called Augustine arrived in Kent as leader of a group of missionaries sent by Pope Gregory the Great.



When Augustine landed on the Isle of Thanet a meeting was arranged with Ethelbert who insisted on it being outdoors as he was concerned that Augustine might ‘work his magic’ on him inside a building. The meeting was successful and Augustine and his followers were allowed to preach and baptise in Canterbury. With Ethelbert’s authority Augustine placed his Archbishop’s

throne at Canterbury, not in London as ordered by Pope Gregory. The Archbishop of Canterbury has remained the head of the Church of England ever since. But for this history Canterbury would not have the importance that it has today. Ethelbert was later canonised as a saint for his role in establishing Christianity among the Anglo-Saxons. His feast day is 25 February.

Weather Lore

Candlemas marks the end of the Christmas season. It is celebrated on 2 February. There is a poem associated with it which may help us to determine how the weather will develop over the rest of the winter!
*If Candlemas Day be fair and bright, Winter will have another fight.
If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain, Winter won't come again.*

	SERVICES	
FEBRUARY	BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW	HAYDON BRIDGE
3 February 5th before Lent	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am Parish Eucharist
10 February 4th before Lent	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	11 am Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church
17 February 3rd before Lent	9.30 am Beltingham – Parish Eucharist	
	11 am Parish Eucharist – Haydon Bridge	
	3 pm God’s Tent - Newbrough	
Saturday 23 February	11 am – Messy Church at All Hallows Henshaw	
24 February 2nd before Lent	8.30 am BCP Communion – Haydon Bridge	
	10 am Joseph Celebration Service - Henshaw	
	3 pm Evening Prayer – Haydon Old Church	
3 March	9.30 am Henshaw – Parish Eucharist + Storybook Church	11 am Parish Eucharist

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

30 December – At St Cuthbert’s, Beltingham, baptism of Maddie Davison and Fenn Gilhespy.

Burials

1 December – Burial of Ashes, Irene Farrah Clark, 1928 – 2018.

3 December – Burial of Sandra Hebden at St Cuthbert’s, Beltingham following service at All Hallows’ Henshaw.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Christmas card tree in Henshaw Church. £65 was raised for the West End Refugee Service.

The Vicar's Letter

We are very fortunate in our parishes to have a wonderful team to lead and organise our worship and input for children and families. When I arrived here it was clear that this was an aspect of the church's life which we wanted to develop and it is wonderful to see it thriving in the way it is today. Our children and families team though do much more than provide the content for our services. They work with me and Gill to develop a monthly pattern of worship around a shared theme which we all benefit and learn from.

This shared theme then links together what our younger children discover in Storybook Church on the first two Sundays of the month. We also explore the same theme at the pitching of God's Tent, through the fun and worship of Messy Church and then bring it all together in our Celebration Service at the end of the month. Most months the theme is pretty simple to find. So in November we looked at remembering, in December Christmas, and in January Epiphany.

However, some months we have the opportunity to explore a theme from the Bible in a little more detail. During February we are looking at the story from Genesis of Joseph. Now I would wager that if I asked many of you about Joseph your mind would go straight to his 'technicoloured dreamcoat'. But this story has so much more to it than the songs of Andrew Lloyd-Webber's musical. What we have found is that using this shared theme we can explore all the different parts of these stories. So we will be thinking about Joseph the dreamer, Joseph the victim, Joseph the unjustly imprisoned, and Joseph's wisdom and forgiveness. Then on Sunday 24th February at 10am at All Hallows' Henshaw all of us will be able to learn and reflect and give thanks to God for this story in a form and style which is accessible and enjoyable for everyone.

What has been unexpectedly wonderful about following this monthly pattern has been how everyone, from the youngest to the oldest in our community, has found a means to explore the story of God's love in these new and varied ways.

Your Vicar, Benjamin

CHURCH NEWS

New leaflet about our Parish

You will find enclosed with this copy of the Parish Newsletter a new leaflet about our Parish. It is intended to display it in various locations around the Parish, particularly where visitors can see it. We hope it will encourage interest in our Churches and our Services. We would also like to send a leaflet to any newcomers who move into the Parish, together with a welcoming letter from the Vicar. If you are aware of someone moving in, we would be pleased if you could let one of the Churchwardens know so that we can deliver a leaflet.

Lent Course planning

The planning is now underway for the Lent course where it is likely that the focus for the sessions will follow a showing of the film “The Way”. The film is about a father seeking to retrieve his son’s body. The son died after an accident whilst walking the Camino de Santiago, a Catholic pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. The father decides to walk the spiritual trail in homage to his son, carrying the son’s ashes with him. In doing so, he meets others from around the world, all looking for greater meaning in their lives. Look out for further details about the date for the showing of the film, and the timings for the follow up course. All are welcome.

Messy Church

Messy Church takes place monthly at 11 am in the Church Room at All Hallows Henshaw. Each month there is a theme which is also carried through God’s Tent and Storybook Church, culminating in a celebration service. This month Messy Church is exploring the story of Joseph with his Dreamcoat and troublesome brothers, interpretation of dreams and faithful father. These free sessions are suitable for children up to age 7 who are accompanied by a parent or grandparent. There are lots of fun activities and the morning ends with lunch for everyone.

Take Care – Scammers About!!

The Citizens Advice Bureau gives excellent advice about the dangers of being scammed, where someone is trying to get your personal details, usually to get money. We are aware that some people in our parish have had quite frightening approaches, e.g. threatening calls asking for money to be paid over the phone from the High Court Enforcement Agency – no such organisation exists. The advice from the CAB is not to give any personal information such as bank details or computer passwords or PIN numbers; not to reply to suspicious emails; not to click on links in such emails; not to download any attachments from such emails; and not to send money or buy anything. You can report scams on the CAB website, www.citizensadvice.org.uk where there is lots of other helpful advice. Their phone number is 03444 111 444.

Mothers' Union

On **Wednesday 27 February** – Life Span, who we are and what we do.
On **Friday 1 March** ‘Women’s World Day of Prayer’, Haydon Bridge.
There will be a **Benefice Lunch** at the **General Havelock on 5th March** from **12 for 12.30 pm**. Menus, with choices for a two-course meal, will be circulated later. Contact me on 344557 if you would like to come to this event. Everyone welcome. Anne Brunton

CHURCH CONTACTS

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DATE FOR THE DIARY

On 30th March there will be a ‘**Make a Mother's Day**’ coffee morning in Haydon Bridge Community Centre from 9.30-11.30 am. Mabel Rennie, who died 3 years ago, always hosted the coffee morning on the fifth Saturday of the month. The Mothers' Union will hold these coffee mornings in Mabel's memory. We will have various stalls, books, home produce and an all new stall with craft items. Any contributions will be gratefully received.

ROTAS				
February	Church	Warden	Sidesmen	Flowers
3 February	Henshaw	A Storrie	Y Hewitt/ J Galbraith	P Storey/ N Harding/ J Walters
10 February	Beltingham	W Green	L Slater/ L Scott	L Scott/ M Wilkinson
17 February	Beltingham	A Galbraith	D McKenna /S Walker	“
24 February	Henshaw	C Adams	H Rowlands /D Storrie	F Wancke/ L Slater
3 March	Henshaw	A Storrie	P Collingwood/ J Galbraith	“

VILLAGE NEWS

Monthly Lunch at the Bowes Hotel

The monthly lunch is on the first Friday of each month, starting again on **1 February at 12 for 12.30 pm**, no booking needed. Come along and enjoy the company.

Haltwhistle Gardening Club at 7.30 pm the Comrades Club

On Monday 11 February the speaker will be Gary McDermott from Harperley Hall Farm Nurseries ‘You Can’t Grow That There’’. Membership subs of £15 due at this meeting and, if you are going to the Harrogate Spring Show, a deposit of £5 is also payable. All welcome – visitors £3 at the door.

Bardon Mill Parish Council Meeting

On **Tuesday 12 February** at **7 pm** in Henshaw Church Room.

South Tyne Wildlife Group at 7.30 pm the Comrades Club

On **Tuesday 12 February** the speaker will be Heinz Traut from NWG and Red Squirrels North-East on 'Red Squirrels'. We need more volunteers to help keep red numbers up, so please come along to find out how you can contribute. There is free entry to this meeting but donations to RSNE very welcome.

Women's Institute at 7 pm in the Village Hall

On **Wednesday 13 February** the speaker will be Graham, 'Rescue Greyhounds'; Hostesses: Jean Walters,

Cath Thompson; Competition: 'best name for a greyhound'; Stall: pet food/blanket donations. This is an Open Evening with Shared Supper.

South Tyne Cinema Circuit at the General Havelock

Film & Food Night from **7 pm** on **Tuesday 26 February**, 'Sanctuary' (£10 for film and meal). Call Joanna on 684376 for more information about the film.

Cafe Scientifique - Tuesday 5 March - 7-9 pm BM Village Hall

Our second event of the year is entitled 'The Solar System' with Emma Guerrero – an interactive tour through the solar system. Emma is a space enthusiast and regularly gives talks. **Tickets are £5 as usual including tea/coffee and cake.** Tickets can be purchased now by copying and pasting this link www.ticketsource.co.uk. Search for Bardon Mill Events. To join the group please email maureen.matters@gmail.com. As previously, a few tickets will be available at the village shop for those who don't have internet access.

PARISH MAGAZINE BY POST

Those who receive the magazine by post please now send a cheque for £6 to cover the year's postage. This should be made payable to 'Beltingham with Henshaw PCC' and sent to Keith Brunton, Whitegates, Henshaw NE47 7EP.

Thanks to all our local sponsors

We are very grateful to the following firms and organisations who have agreed to be sponsors of our revised Church newsletter. This will allow us to distribute a larger newsletter more widely.

Michael Smith, Bardon Mill Village Stores, 07756 790108

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(Calls in Bardon Mill on Tuesday mornings)

John Lester, Roofer and Builder, 344504

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The Parishes by the Wall website – covering Haydon Bridge and Beltingham with Henshaw <https://parishesbythewall.org.uk>