

The Parish of Beltingham with Henshaw

Parish Newsletter June/July 2023



View from the Vicarage

The feast day of Pentecost often comes in half term week, or Whitsun week, a time for a break and I know I'm looking forward to a spot of camping, a calm and relatively peaceful week with sea air and a bit of beach. For some it's a time when family come and visit or vice versa. If family is visiting then there is the joy and buzz of them around but it is unlikely to be peaceful, and the most spiritual you may get is an exclamation, 'oh God, what are they up to now?!' or some other 'arrow prayer' as some call them. The Spirit of Pentecost is sent to help us in our weakness, and to develop certain traits within us to enable us to face life with more of love and joy, not to mention patience and self-control. In a more serious sense, using 'arrow prayers', ones which really are prayers and not just exclamations, come about more when we live with a more conscious awareness of God. People achieve that in various ways, keeping themselves aware that God is around and with them throughout their day. Other people living in your house make their presence known chiefly by making noises (kettle, page turning their latest book, footsteps, whatever) but God doesn't seem to declare his presence so obviously, at least not frequently. If you are not particularly aware of him, how could you nurture that awareness? Are your arrow prayers more like exclamations to the room, or are they more like prayers to someone who is beside you?

After Pentecost comes Trinity Sunday and after that, in our bible readings in church on Sundays, we will steadily work our way through Genesis and Exodus, through Romans and Philippians, and through Matthew. I like the ordered progression through the various books and encourage you to be familiar with the bible books. We progress through three on a Sunday morning, but at home you'd need to pick what suits you – the books don't even need to be read in a particular order and you could read them by theme, or chronology, or even something random like alphabetical order. Perhaps you could set yourself a summer bible reading programme, and as you do it, find the spirit of God working in you, drawing you closer to God.

May the Lord of all creation be with you. Your Vicar, Steve

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 18 April

The Church held its Annual Meeting in the Church Room on 18 April. Reports were presented by the Vicar, reflecting on his first year with us, and by the Wardens, on the state of the fabric of our churches. The meeting heard about the numbers on our parish electoral roll, the work of our Mothers' Union, and the work of our Safeguarding Officer. Adrian Storrie was elected as Churchwarden. Anne Galbraith retired as Churchwarden, but was elected to continue to serve as a Deputy Warden. John Galbraith retired as Gift Aid Recorder, and was succeeded in that role by Anne Galbraith. Christopher Linton was elected as Treasurer, and Yvonne Hewitt as Secretary to the PCC. Alf Adams will continue to be our Independent Examiner.

Meeting of the PCC 23 May

At the recent meeting of the PCC, it was noted that the budget for the year is predicting a shortfall, so it was hoped that further fundraising events could take place. It was also suggested that a note be put into the newsletter, urging parishioners to review their regular giving. It was further noted that the windfall sums last year (help with heating costs, rebate in respect of council tax) would not be repeated this year.

In a review of recent services, the May visit to St Cuthbert's Beltingham had been much appreciated. There was a good turnout for the Ascension Day Eucharist, which was followed by a very successful fundraising supper in the Church room. This raised over £600 for church funds. The Vicar reminded the PCC that Bishop Mark would be at our service on June 9, and he was pleased that a date later in the year had been fixed for the new Bishop of Newcastle, Bishop Helen Ann, to come. It was also decided by the PCC that the streaming of morning prayer would end at the end of June.

It was agreed by the PCC that a first step in securing an improved heating system in church would be to upgrade our electricity supply to a three phase system. Steps will now be taken to secure quotations for this work. The new digital hymnal has arrived, and will make the provision of music on dates when there is no organist a much simpler task. The machine has been purchased with legacy funds.

Church Service times for June and July 2023

Date and time	Service	Leader	Church
4 June **10 am**	Holy Communion	Rev'd Jane Penn	St Cuthbert's Greenhead
11 June 11 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Steve Wright	All Hallows', Henshaw
18 June 11 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Keith Teasdale	All Hallows', Henshaw
25 June 11 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Steve Wright	All Hallows', Henshaw
2 July **10 am**	Holy Communion	Rev'd Keith Teasdale	Holy Cross Haltwhistle
9 July 11 am	Holy Communion	Bishop Mark and Rev'd Steve Wright	All Hallows', Henshaw
16 July 11 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Keith Teasdale	St Cuthbert's Beltingham
22 July 11 am	Morning Prayer With reflection	Anne Galbraith And Carol Adams	All Hallows', Henshaw
30 July 11 am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Steve Wright	All Hallows', Henshaw

Benefice services are at 10 am and also please check which church is holding the service.

Faith Giving

We know you recognise that our churches of St Cuthbert's, Beltingham and All Hallows', Henshaw continue to be an essential part of our community for worship, for baptisms, weddings and funerals and for the support of our schools. We are fortunate to have an enthusiastic Vicar who is seeking in so many ways to take the vision and mission of our churches out into our community. Our church family is committed and gives loyal support in a variety of ways, including regular giving to church funds. We thank you for your continuing support in maintaining a living Church presence in our parish and ensuring effective provision for the spiritual and pastoral needs of the community.

Set out below are some figures from last financial year, which will give you a picture of where our money comes from and how it gets spent. During Covid and in its immediate aftermath, we have not been able to undertake as many fundraising activities as we did previously, and we are therefore asking if you can increase your regular contribution

to church funds. We understand that this is not possible for everyone, but a small increase each week from a sizeable proportion of our congregation would help us to maintain our churches and plan ahead effectively.

Some facts about our church finances in 2022:

Parish Share paid to the Diocese to support our share of the cost of our Vicar: £29,774

Church running expenses, including insurance, heating, grass cutting, water, repairs, and regulatory checks: £14,652

Activities to generate funds, including Wine and Cheese party, Ascension night supper: £1,621

Gift Aid recovered from regular giving and from weekly plate collections: £7,560

Fees in respect of weddings, baptisms and funerals: £2,706

CHURCH CONTACTS - Vicar: Rev'd Canon Steve Wright, 01434 320215, canonstevewright@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Mr Adrian Storrie, Telephone 344494 Email adetree@btinternet.com

Deputy Wardens: Mrs Carol Adams, Telephone 344398, Email adamscarol@btinternet.com Mrs Anne Galbraith, Telephone 684302 Email galbraithanne55@gmail.com

News from our school

We have had a wonderful term at Henshaw Primary School as we continue on our learning journeys. It was fantastic to see so many members of our community at our Coronation Picnic to celebrate the crowning of King Charles III. As well as this, our Year 6 children have 'graduated' from Newcastle University after their seminars and dissertation they have worked on during the Brilliant Club university link. We continue to offer many after-school clubs such as football, drama, dance, forest schools and cookery and thank you to our staff and community that give up their time to run this wonderful provision.

Our school is also growing in numbers, not just with the additional pupils who have joined us this year, but we will be welcoming two chickens to our grounds after half term (we have lots of excited volunteers wanting to take care of our new, feathered friends!) We will also be looking out for lots of wildlife in our new pond which is currently being constructed.

We will be utilising this to develop our understanding and appreciation of our local area and outdoor environments; two of our drivers for our curriculum. We are very much looking forward to our Upper Key Stage 2 residential to Lockerbie next half term and our Sports Day at the Wentworth athletics track.



Best wishes and God bless, from Henshaw Primary School

Notes from the office of the Bishop of Newcastle 22nd May 2023 to 4th June 2023

Sunday Gospel thoughts - Sunday May 28th (Pentecost, John 7.37-39)

This Gospel reading is probably best looked at in its wider context of chapter 7. Here, Jesus is in the Galilee and is there because there are threats to his life (so he stays away from Judaea). But Jesus ends up going to Judaea, to the Temple (no less) to teach. With John's Gospel, issues around Jesus' identity are never far

from the surface of the narrative, and Jesus' compelling words give rise to speculations about where his glory comes from? It is a busy narrative, with lots of action, and if you try to imagine yourself in it for a moment, you get a sense of the clamour and noise but the absolute clarity Jesus brings in his assertion that he was 'sent'. Perhaps sensing the need for spiritual refreshment amongst the crowds, here in today's Gospel Jesus powerfully articulates the dynamic of the Holy Spirit being poured out. The NRSV translation is a bit polite here; Nick King's translation is more raw (as with the Greek): 'Streams shall flow from his belly'. It's not clear where this comes from, and as Nick King points out, 'the metaphor of God quenching the thirst of human beings is often found in the Bible'.

From where do you draw spiritual refreshment and strength? Can you think of some opportunities you might have locally to enable others to draw refreshment and energy?

Sunday June 4th (Trinity Sunday, Matthew 28.16-end)

There is a habit (perhaps) on this particular Sunday for the preacher to attempt to unpack the doctrine of the Trinity and inevitably head into tricky territory. I prefer to be clear that the Trinity is what 'it says on the tin': our belief that God is three-in-one. Thus a passage like today gives us a great opportunity to delve into that belief and live it from the inside out. We stand with the disciples on a mountain (always significant in Matthew, a sign of revelation); we worship with them (as the magi worshipped the infant right at the start of the Gospel); and we are honest enough to share in their doubt (for we all ask questions about our faith from time to time). Our task as disciples is made clear, and the assertion of the Triune God is woven into the very fabric of our whole lives offered to God in service and in prayer. And just as at the start of the Gospel we heard the good news of 'Emmanuel' (God with us) so at the end Jesus reminds us that he is 'I am with you'. Now it's up to us to get on with sharing the good news, and growing God's Church!

If you had to describe to a friend what it is to be a disciple of Jesus, what would you say?

Florence Trevelyan

If you have visited Wallington Hall and gardens, you may know a little about the Trevelyan family, but you may not have heard of Florence. She was born on 7 February 1852 in Newcastle upon Tyne and was baptised (as "Florence Trevelyan Trevelyan", so that if she got married, she would retain the Trevelyan name). She lived with her parents in Hallington Hall, which is only about five or six miles from her relatives at Wallington. She was an only child. Sadly, her father committed suicide when she was only two.

Florence and her mother created a pleasure garden at Hallington. When her mother dies, when Florence was 25, she seemed to have spent time with Queen Victoria at Balmoral, where rumour has it that she had an affair with Prince Edward, the future King Edward VII. Allegedly, she was expelled by the Queen, and then set off with her cousin on a grand tour of Europe. This included time spent in Taormina, Sicily, which she later made her home.

There she married a doctor, Salvatore Cacciola, who was also the Mayor of Taormina. He spoke excellent English, having studied in Malta. Florence and her husband were childless, and her energy was principally spent in making gardens, both on the Isola Bella, an island just off Taormina (where the garden is now a nature reserve), and in Taormina itself, where she named the garden Sicilian Hallington. This garden has views to the sea and towards Mount Etna, and is dotted with unusual follies. After Florence's death, her garden became part of the public gardens there. Nowadays, it is a very popular tourist destination. Florence was only 55 when she died. She is buried on the island, and if you visit the public gardens, you can see there a bust of her.

Parish Records

We have a wealth of Parish Newsletters from the 1990's, kindly donated by Dorothy Forster. In June 1998, Rev'd Vincent Ashwin was writing: "Here in West Tynedale we are surrounded by history. Hadrian's Wall and Vindolanda look down on us. Beltingham has its Saxon Cross, its yew tree, and the medieval church. Bardon Mill has the remains of its coal mines. Nicholas Ridley from Willimoteswick became Bishop of London in 1550. He was a great reformer, preaching on the social injustices of his age. For his efforts to reform the Church, he was burned at the stake in Oxford. So we breathe the air of history here, and it reminds us of the wider scene that we are part of."

Royal Quiz 2023 Answers

1. In what year did the fire occur in Windsor Castle. 1992
2. What is the real date of the King's birthday? 14 November
3. What ceremony takes place on the King's Official Birthday? Trooping of the Colour
4. How many different Prime Ministers have served the late Queen Elizabeth? 15
5. When was Britannia decommissioned as the Royal Yacht? 1997
6. What was the maiden name of the late Queen's mother? Bowes Lyon
7. What is the name of the Games started by Prince Harry for injured service people? Invictus Games
8. Who was the late Queen's co star at the Olympics opening ceremony? Daniel Craig
9. Who is the mother of Tom Parker Bowles? The Queen, Camilla
10. Name the first six in line of succession to the King. Prince William, Prince George, Princess Charlotte, Prince Louis, Prince Harry, Prince Archie
11. Why was the coronation of Edward VII postponed in 1902? The King had appendicitis
12. Which of his wives did Henry VIII behead? Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard
13. What are the first names of the children of the Prince and Princess of Wales? George Alexander Louis, Charlotte Elizabeth Diana, Louis Arthur Charles
14. Who is the present Master of the Queen's music? Judith Weir
15. Who is the present Poet Laureate? Simon Armitage
16. Where is the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony held in London? The Cenotaph
17. What was the name of the Royal Family before it became Windsor? Saxe Coburg Gothe
18. To whom is the Princess Royal married? Rear Admiral Timothy Lawrence
19. Which Duke died in a wartime flying accident in 1942? Duke of Kent
20. At which University did the Prince and Princess of Wales meet? St Andrews
21. Where are Queen Victoria and Prince Albert buried? Frogmore
22. What is the name of Queen Victoria's residence on the Isle of Wight? Osborne
23. How many monarchs have there been since William the Conqueror? 41 or 42, (Lady Jane Grey?)
24. On which occasions can you expect to receive a telegram from the King? On 100th and 105th birthday and every birthday after that. 60th, 65th and 70th wedding anniversary.
25. Where was Charles 1 beheaded? Outside the Banqueting House, Whitehall
26. How many children did Queen Victoria have? Nine
27. Who is Miss Sienna Mapelli Mozzi? Daughter of Princess Beatrice of York
28. Which British Royals have competed at the Olympic Games? Princess Anne and her daughter Zara
29. Where does the Coronation take place? Westminster Abbey
30. What role does the King hold in the Church of England? Supreme Governor of the Church of England

"We look forward to the time when the power of love will replace the love of power. Then will our world know the blessing of peace". William Gladstone

William Wilberforce, Anti Slavery Campaigner

William Wilberforce, who died on 29 July 1833, was an English politician known as the leader of the movement to stop the slave trade. He became an independent MP at the age of just 21. He was born into a wealthy Hull family who had made their fortune in the maritime trade with the Baltics. Wilberforce became a born-again Christian, which resulted in a lifelong concern for social reform and progress. In 1787, a group of anti-slave-trade activists persuaded Wilberforce to take on the cause of abolition. He headed the parliamentary campaign against the British slave trade for twenty years until the passage of the Slave Trade Act of 1807.

Wilberforce was convinced of the importance of religion, morality and education. He championed causes and campaigns such as British missionary work in India, the foundation of the Church Mission Society and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. In later years, Wilberforce supported the campaign for the complete abolition of slavery, and continued his involvement after 1826, when he resigned from Parliament because of his failing health. That campaign led to the Act in 1833, which abolished slavery in most of the British Empire. Wilberforce died just three days after hearing that the passage of the Act through Parliament was assured. He is buried in Westminster Abbey, close to his friend William Pitt the Younger.