



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

Sunday 19th November 2023

2nd Sunday before Advent

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Gt Houghton

10:45 a.m. Service for Sunday Darfield

4:00 p.m. Café Church for all Darfield Church Hall

Sunday 26th November 2023

Sunday next before Advent; Christ the King

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield

A message from our PCC Treasurer...

The end of 2023 approaches and so does the end of our church financial year. It is time for us to take stock of how we are faring financially as a church. For Darfield, we have an annual budget which is set in January, and we try to keep to it throughout the year. Of course, there are always one or two unexpected things to upset our plans. This year we had an expensive start when a tree fell in the churchyard and had to be made safe, and we are also having an expensive end, with the final demise of the photocopier requiring us to buy a new one at £2,300 - not to mention the saga of the macerator toilet repair in the Church Hall (thankfully covered by a grant).

I have prepared a leaflet which gives something of an overview of the finances for the year and shows where our money comes from (which is basically YOU) and where it goes. Once again, I am asking that we all prayerfully consider our giving. As the old saying goes - "**Give to God what is right, not what is left**". I know that now is not a good time to be putting this to you as Christmas approaches and the cold winter months increase our home energy bills, but the same is true for the church here as our costs always increase over the winter. **Please do make sure that you pick up a leaflet** and give it some thought and prayer over the next couple of months as we head into 2024.

Thank you and God Bless. Kay.

Community Shop

On the **GO**

coming to:

Darfield

Darfield All Saints church Car Park, S73 9JX

Community Shop on the Go is a mobile food pantry which brings high quality food to areas where people may be struggling to access good food for either financial or geographical reasons.

Customers can buy 6 items of food for £3 or 12 items for £5, so it's a great way to access great food on a budget.

Community Shop on the Go will be at Darfield on **alternate Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon** starting on **7th December**.

We intend to open the Church Hall during some of the times that the pantry is open to provide light refreshments and a warm space for their customers.

In order to support our community we need YOUR help. This will only happen if YOU volunteer to help.

Waiting: [Matthew 25: 14-30]

Waiting can be defined as '*allowing time to pass without doing very much until the expected event happens*'. In our Gospel reading for this Sunday we find a description of the activities of three servants who were waiting for the return of their master from a journey. Before leaving, their master had entrusted them with his wealth. [Matthew 25: 14] Each of the three was given a number of bags of gold. In other translations these are described as Talents. Each golden talent would have had a weight of 75lb or 35kg in our modern system of weights and would set you back around 1.8 million pounds at today's prices.

When their master returned, they had to give an account of the resources that they had been stewarding. The first servant had been given five bags of gold and his efforts had increased them to ten bags. The second servant had been given two bags and had increased it to four bags. Both were praised and '*put in charge of many things*'. [Matthew 25: 21,23]

The third servant who had been given one bag of gold had, despite knowing the reputation of his master, hidden it for the duration and only returned the single bag to his master. This servant is described as wicked and lazy and was chastised for not even putting the gold on deposit with the bankers to earn some interest. The gold was taken away from him and he was thrown outside into the darkness.

In our modern days the word talent has a different meaning, that of a form of natural ability or inner quality. We are in a waiting situation where our Master, Jesus, has left us in the world where our 'talents' include the saving nature of the Resurrection. Jesus will return at a time known only to God the Father and on His timescale where '*A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by*' [Psalm 90: 4]. We will have to give an account of how we have used our 'talents' While we are waiting let us take the opportunities given to us to share our talents. Elsewhere in this news sheet you can find at least one way .

Second Sunday Before Advent

Heavenly Lord, You long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18
Psalm 90.1-8 [9-11], 12
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
Matthew 25: 14-30

Bible Readings for this week November

19th Mark 9: 38-50
20th Proverbs 13: 1-13
21st Proverbs 13: 14-25
22nd Proverbs 14: 1-9
23rd Proverbs 14: 10 -19
24th Proverbs 14: 20-35
25th Proverbs 15: 1-9
26th Proverbs 15: 10-21

Prayer Square

*This week we are praying
for the groups we
support...*

*The Bible Society
Scripture Union
Release International
CPAS
Goldthorpe Salvation
Army Food Bank*

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

A Prayer for Growth:

Lord Jesus, as a Church Family in All Saints' and St Michael's, it is our mission to know You and proclaim You.

We want to connect with our community and see Your Kingdom grow. Send Your Holy Spirit to renew, invigorate and inspire us in our work for You.

Give us grace, wisdom and joy as we seek to hold out Your Word. Make us strong, powerful and courageous witnesses and grant that we grow in faith and in numbers, to the honour of Your Name, Amen

Christmas Coffee Morning: Saturday 9th December 2023:

Bring your ideas for stalls or games, your expertise and enthusiasm to a preparatory meeting after the morning service

SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER in the Tower Room

People of Faith: Noah [Genesis chapters 6 to 9]

The account of Noah's life will be familiar to us with the building of the ark, the animals going in two by two and the flood. Noah was born into a world which was '*corrupt in God's sight*' [Genesis 6: 11]. The LORD regretted that he had made humans and intended to wipe out all of them and all the land animals. Noah is described as a righteous man, blameless and who walked faithfully with God [Genesis 6: 9]. Following the flood, God made a covenant with Noah remembered by the appearance of a rainbow in the sky.

Companions in Daily Prayer

Join members of the team on weekdays

8:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer 9:00 p.m. for Night Prayer

Go to Facebook.com and search for *Companions in Daily Prayer*

The prayers will no longer be on the individual Church Facebook pages

Coat appeal. The Salvation Army at Goldthorpe (which helps people our area too) are hoping to be able to ensure that everyone has a warm coat this winter.

If you have one which you no longer require, please bring it to church and pop it in the Tower Room and it will be collected ready to be given to someone in need.

A chance to make a big difference !

Psalm 90: 1, 2, 4, 17

- 1 *Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.*
- 2 *Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.*
- 4 *A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.*
- 17 *May the favour of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us - yes, establish the work of our hands.*

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden Peter Robinson 01226 753 572
Parish Admin Jo Darlison 07469 857 315
Clergy Rev Fiona Kouble 01226 950 643
07817 167 386

Safeguarding contact Peter Robinson
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Our Web Site

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Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

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All Saints



St Michael



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