



## The Parish of Darfield

*All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton*

**Sunday 22nd June 2025**

*First Sunday after Trinity*

**10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield**

*Followed by Extraordinary Meeting of Parishioners*

**Sunday 29th June 2025**

**10:45 a.m. Brunch Service, Darfield**

### **Speak through the earthquake, wind and Fire, O still small voice of calm**

These words from a poem *The Brewing of Soma* by American poet John Greenleaf Whittier [1807-1882] were, in 1924, set to music composed in 1888 for the oratorio *Judith* by Hubert Parry [1848-1918]. Parry is also remembered for his musical setting of the poem *Jerusalem* [1915] and *I was Glad*, parts of Psalm 122 sung in Westminster Abbey at every Coronation since 1902. The final lines of *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* [MP 111] lead us to the subject of this Sunday's Old Testament reading, Elijah, one of the greatest Old Testament Prophets.

Elijah the Tishbite appears suddenly during the reign of King Ahab of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Ahab was married to Jezebel, daughter of a Phoenician King. Together they were among the worst rulers and promoted the worship of Baal and the persecution of the prophets of God.

Elijah tells Ahab that there *"will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at his word"* [1 Kings 17: 1]. The Lord then told Elijah to hide in the Kerith Ravine to the east of the Jordan where he would drink from the brook and be brought food by the ravens. [1 Kings 17: 2, 3]. Some time later, the brook dried up and Elijah was commanded to go to Zarephath where he met a widow who was using the last of her flour and oil to prepare a final meal for her son. Elijah asked for some of her meagre rations and gave her a promise from the Lord that the supplies would not run out until the day that the Lord would send rain on the land. A promise that was fulfilled.

The drought continued and, three years later, Elijah returned to Ahab setting a challenge to the prophets of Baal. They were to find two bulls and set up altars to sacrifice the bulls. The prophets would have one bull and Elijah the other. They would then each call on the name of their God to bring down fire on the sacrificed bull [1 Kings 18: 22]

The contest was set up on Mount Carmel. Throughout the day the Prophets of Baal attempted unsuccessfully to call down fire. Elijah then used twelve large stones, one for each of the twelve tribes descended from Jacob, to rebuild the altar. A trench was dug around the altar and the wood and the bull were soaked with twelve large jars of water which saturated the offering and filled the trench. Elijah then called on the name of the LORD to demonstrate that He was still the LORD in Israel. The LORD sent fire down on to the altar which consumed the wood, the offering the water and even the stones. The people fell prostrate and cried, *"The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!"* [1 Kings 18: ]

The people were commanded by Elijah to seize all the prophets of Baal and take them to the Kishon Valley where they were slaughtered. Elijah climbed to the top of Mount Carmel and commanded his servant to look out over the sea. After looking seven times, a small cloud appeared which gradually expanded to cover the whole sky and heavy rain started.

Once Jezebel heard what Elijah had done, she vowed to kill him. Even after the result on Mount Carmel, Elijah was afraid and ran for his life to Beersheba where he encountered an angel of the Lord who twice encouraged him to eat and drink. In the strength of this food, Elijah set off again and after forty days, arrived at Mount Horeb where he sheltered in a cave. The word of the LORD came to Elijah asking why he was here. Elijah was told to stand outside the cave for the LORD to pass by. A mighty wind struck the mountain, then an earthquake, then a fire but the LORD was not in any of them. Then came a gentle whisper *"what are you doing here Elijah?"*

Elijah responded that he was the only one left who had not rejected the Lord's Covenant.

Elijah was given a positive command, to anoint Hazael king over Aram, Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed him as prophet. He was also told that there were seven thousand faithful people who had not bowed the knee to Baal

This incident should remind us that God's work is not always accompanied by dramatic revelations. The Prophet Zechariah is told *"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord Almighty.* [Zechariah 4: 6] We should equally be listening for the still small voice of calm.

*We aim to be a visible spiritual presence in our communities  
as we strive to make Jesus known to all.*

### First Sunday after Trinity

God of truth, help us to keep  
your law of love and to walk  
in ways of wisdom, that we  
may find true life in Jesus  
Christ your Son.

#### Readings

1 Kings 19: 1-15a  
Psalms 42, 43  
Galatians 3: 23-29  
Luke 8: 26-39

#### Readings for this week

##### June

**22nd** Romans 13: 1-7  
**23rd** Romans 13: 8-14  
**24th** Romans 14: 1-9  
**25th** Romans 14: 10-23  
**26th** Romans 15: 1-13  
**27th** Romans 15: 14-33  
**28th** Psalm 136: 13-26  
**29th** Psalm 137

### Prayer Square

**This week we are praying  
for the residents of  
Darfield**

Doveside Drive  
Alder Grove  
Aspen Grove  
Fern Close  
Celandine Grove  
Maytree Close

#### Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our  
Prayer Ministry team through

**Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331**

### Community Shop on the Go and Warm Welcome Space

*Darfield Church Hall*

**Thursday 26th June** from 9:00 a.m.

**Community Shop - Next Dates:** 10th and 24th July

*Warm Welcome Space is open  
every Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.*

### Extraordinary Meeting of Parishioners

**Sunday 22nd June**

**After the 10:45 a.m. Morning Service**

**Purpose:** to elect one Churchwarden for the Parish

All Saints Academy is in the process of transferring to the Sheffield  
Diocesan Academies Trust.

Part of the process requires the agreement of the Rector and  
Churchwardens of Darfield as Trustees of the land on which the  
school stands. We need a second Churchwarden to be able to help  
this process along.

Nomination forms will be available and must be returned before the  
start of the meeting.



A Date for your Diary...

**Saturday 12th July 2025: 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

### Teddy Bear Parachute Jump

*All Saints, Darfield*

Includes Bear Hunt and refreshments

### Prayer Square

Please pray for **Pat Bentley**, who together with her late  
husband Granville have been much loved and very active  
members of our church family for over four decades.

Pat is very poorly and is now receiving palliative care in the  
nursing home where she has been cared for during the last  
few years.

## Resources and Contacts

**Churchwarden**  
**PCC Secretary**

Peter Robinson  
Andrea Harrison

0122 6 753 572

**Safeguarding**

contact Peter Robinson  
07910 728 581

#### Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>

Email [Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com](mailto:Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com)

Facebook [@darfieldallsaints](https://www.facebook.com/@darfieldallsaints)



**Find us on A Church Near You**

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Search your current location or Postcode

#### DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

[pdrobinson@live.co.uk](mailto:pdrobinson@live.co.uk)

**Tuesday 5:00 p.m.**

All Saints



St Michael



The PCC of Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).