



# The Parish of Darfield

*All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton*

## Saturday 14th October

4:00 p.m. **Café Church** for all ages: Great Houghton

## Sunday 15th October 2023

*Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity*

9:00 a.m. **Holy Communion:** Gt Houghton

10:45 a.m. **Service for Sunday:** Darfield

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

## Sunday 22nd October 2023

*Twentieth Sunday after Trinity*

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

### More Prophets Part 4: S-T

**Samuel** spent the whole of his early life in the House of the LORD at Shiloh, one of the main centres of worship and where God dwelled among His people in the Holy of Holies. Samuel received his call from the LORD and the LORD was with him as he grew up. All the Israelites recognised Samuel as being attested as a Prophet of the LORD [1 Samuel 3: 20]

**Shemaiah** was active during the reign of King Rehoboam [1 Kings 12: 22]. King Solomon had appointed Jeroboam as superintendent of many of the king's building projects. There was a high level of dissatisfaction among the people, particularly in the ten northern tribes about Solomon's extravagance. Prompted by the prophet **Ahijah**, Jeroboam conspired to become king over the ten northern territories. His plans were discovered, and he fled to Egypt until King Solomon died. Solomon's son, Rehoboam succeeded his father, and Jeroboam returned in an attempt to reduce the burdens on the people. Rehoboam wouldn't listen and intended to increase their burden. Jeroboam was made King over the northern kingdom of Israel which left just the tribes of Judah and Benjamin loyal to Rehoboam. Shemaiah advised Rehoboam not to lead his army against the Northern Kingdom as the split had been the LORD's doing. [1 Kings 12: 24]

Once the Southern Kingdom had been established, they '*abandoned the law of the Lord*' [2 Chronicles 12: 1] Because of this, Jerusalem was attacked by Shishak king of Egypt. The Lord told the king through Shemaiah that they were to be abandoned to Shishak [2 Chronicles 12: 6] The leaders humbled themselves before the LORD, the LORD relented and Shemaiah was told that the people would feel the difference between serving the LORD and serving other kings. Shemaiah's last mention is that he recorded the events of the reign of Rehoboam. [2 Chronicles 12: 15]

**Simeon Niger** was another of the gentile church leaders in Antioch who are described as teachers and prophets [Acts 13: 1]

**The Two witnesses:** In the book of Revelation, John describes being given the task to measure the Temple of God and the Altar, with its worshippers. [Revelation 11: 1-12]. Two unknown witnesses would be appointed by the Lord to wear sackcloth and to prophesy for 1,260 days. They would have power over anyone who wanted to harm them. At the end of their time they would be attacked and killed by the beast from the Abyss. Their bodies would lie in the public square of the city for three and a half days after which they would be raised to life and taken into Heaven on a cloud.

### Day of Remembering

**Saturday 28th October 2023**

**11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m**

**with a Service at 2:00 p.m,**

A space for reflection and prayer

or a cuppa and a chat

Watch for further details

### Angel bombing in December

There is still time to knit the last few angels...

*Watch for details of the deployment preparation sessions...*

## Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust You and to receive the gifts of Your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Readings

Isaiah 25: 1-9  
Psalm 23  
Philippians 4: 1-9  
Matthew 22: 1-14

### Bible Readings for this week October

15th Proverbs 7: 1-13  
16th Mark 3: 1-12  
17th Mark 3: 13-34  
18th Mark 4: 1-9  
19th Mark 4: 10-20  
20th Mark 4: 21-41  
21st Mark 5: 1-10  
22nd Mark 5: 11-20

## Prayer Square

### This week we are praying for our Parochial Church Council

Rev Fiona Kouble, Rev Christine  
Moorey, Peter Robinson,  
Jo Darlison, Olive Shaw, Justine  
Evans, Deborah Exley, Stella  
Firth, Carol Hunter, John  
McMillan, Sheila McMillan,  
Kay Valentine, Karen Walton,  
Sylvia Martin

### Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our  
Prayer Ministry team through

**Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331**

**Universalism** *The kingdom of Heaven is open to anyone...* [Matthew 22: 1-14]

In Biblical times, wedding customs were different from today. The parents of the betrothed would draw up the marriage contract with the couple then being considered as married. They would continue to live separately while the bridegroom went to prepare their future home. He would then return without notice for the wedding and wedding banquet to take place. The wedding feast or *Seudat nissuin* could last up to seven days and, for most, attendance would have been compulsory.

In this Parable, Jesus tells of a king who organised a wedding banquet for his son and invited many guests. When the time came for the banquet, his servants were sent out to tell them to come but they were ignored. A second group of servants was sent out and some even killed the servants. The enraged king sent his army to destroy the murderers and burn their city. The king next sent his servants out on the streets to bring in anyone they could find so that the room would be full of guests. One guest was ejected from the room because he was not wearing the required wedding clothes. As with many parables, Jesus starts by saying '*the kingdom of heaven is like...*' In this case the original invitees are the Jews who believed that being God's chosen people was all that they had to be to enter Heaven. The servants who suffered rejection and even death represent the prophets who attempted to warn the Jews. At some banquets, the host provided special garments. The guest who was ejected had thought that his own clothes were adequate and had not fully accepted the invitation to salvation.

This invitation is extended to all as we find foretold by Simeon on seeing the infant Jesus '**A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel.**' [Luke 2: 32 Nunc Dimittis BCP]

A final *Seudat nissuin* is revealed to John in his Revelation vision: '*Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!"*' [Revelation 19: 9] We must be mindful of the final words of the Parable of the Wedding Banquet

**'Many are invited, but few are chosen.'** [Matthew 22: 14]

### 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*

### Psalm 23: KJV

- 1 *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*
- 2 *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.*
- 3 *He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*
- 4 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.*
- 5 *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*
- 6 *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

## Resources and Contacts

**Churchwarden**  
**Parish Admin**  
**Clergy**

Peter Robinson  
Jo Darlison  
Rev Fiona Kouble

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**Safeguarding** contact Peter Robinson  
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### Our Web Site

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

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

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



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Search your current location or Postcode

All Saints



St Michael



### DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

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

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