



All Saints Church Christmas Card

If you want to give a greeting card to all members of our congregation, it can be attached to the board at the back of Church. Any donations from the money you would have spent on individual cards can be placed in the stocking and will be sent to support the work of the Salvation Army Food Bank in Goldthorpe.

The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

Saturday 16th December 2023

6:00 p.m. Carol Service *Great Houghton*

Sunday 17th December 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

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

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

6:00 p.m. Carols by Candlelight *Darfield*

Saturday 23rd December 2023

4:00 p.m. Nativity Service *Great Houghton*

Sunday 24th December 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Christmas Eve

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

4:00 p.m. Crib Service *Darfield*

11:30 p.m. Midnight Communion *Gt Houghton*

Monday 25th December 2023

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Christmas Family Communion *Darfield*

Sunday 31st December 2023

First Sunday of Christmas

10:45 a.m. Pick a Carol! *Darfield*



Promise and Fulfilment

In the introduction to his Gospel, St Luke sets out his reasons for collecting eye-witness memories and making an orderly account of the life and ministry of Jesus. [Luke 1: 1-4]. In the first two chapters which narrate the births of John the Baptist and of Jesus, Luke includes four songs of thanksgiving which became standard hymns for the early church and three of which are incorporated into the Book of Common Prayer.

Magnificat: the Song of Mary: *My soul doth magnify the Lord*, [Luke 1: 46-55], was Mary's response to the Angel Gabriel's visitation to announce that she had found favour with God and was to bear a son who would be called the Son of God [1: 35]

Benedictus: the Song of Zechariah: *Blessed be the Lord God of Israel* [Luke 1: 67-79]. Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth had been childless until Zechariah was told by an Angel of the Lord that they were to have a son to be called John who would go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him. [1: 76] Zechariah's response to John's naming ceremony includes thanksgiving for the impending fulfilment of the long-promised Messiah.

Gloria in excelsis Deo: the Song of the Angels: *Glory to God in the Highest*. [Luke 2: 14] The response of the great company of the heavenly host to the *Good News of Great Joy* given to the shepherds by the Angel of the Lord. The shepherds' response was to go to Bethlehem to see the newborn Jesus and to spread the word as they returned to their flocks. [Luke 2: 20]

Nunc dimittis: the Song of Simeon *Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace*: Luke [2: 29-32] Simeon was righteous and devout, and full of the Holy Spirit. He was 'waiting for the consolation of Israel' [Luke 2: 25] having received a promise from God that he would see the Lord's Messiah before he died. He encountered Mary, Joseph and Jesus in the Temple as they marked the ceremony of Purification. His words contain the fulfilment of the promised Messiah.

In the last chapter of Luke's Gospel, [24: 44] we find among the final direct teachings of Jesus to His disciples...

"Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

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

The Church Hall will be open between **9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** to provide light refreshments and a warm space for their customers. **Next dates are 21st December 2023 and 11th January 2024**

See Jo to get your name on the rota

Third Sunday in Advent

God for whom we watch and wait, You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of Your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

Canticle: Magnificat

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Bible Readings for this week

December

17th Mark 13: 14-31

18th Proverbs 19: 14-29

19th Proverbs 20: 1-15

20th Proverbs 20: 16-30

21st Proverbs 21: 1-15

22nd Proverbs 21: 16-31

23rd Proverbs 22: 1-16

24th Proverbs 22: 17-29

Prayer Square

This week we are praying for the communities in our Parish as they prepare to celebrate in their own way...

Darfield
Great Houghton
Little Houghton
Middlecliffe
Billingley

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Angel Bombing

Thanks to the intrepid crews who braved the dark but thankfully dry evenings to distribute the angels

Follow on Facebook **#darfieldchristmasangels**



Follow the Star—The Great Invitation...

This app for your phone or tablet features daily reflections for **Advent** (1-23 December) and the **Twelve Days of Christmas** (24 December - 6 January). Each reflection takes you on a journey that will help you take fresh encouragement and hope into the year ahead. Download from Apple App Store or Google Play Store

The Advent Collect:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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

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 !

Magnificat [Luke 1:46-55, BCP]

- 1 My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
- 2 For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.
- 3 For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath magnified me and holy is his Name.
- 5 And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
- 6 He hath shewed strength with his arm he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with good things and the rich he hath sent empty away.
- 9 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden
Parish Admin
Clergy

Peter Robinson
Jo Darlison
Rev Fiona Kouble

01226 753 572
07469 857 315
01226 950 643
07817 167 386

Safeguarding contact Peter Robinson
pdrobinson@live.co.uk 07910 728 581

Our Web Site

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

Email 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

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

All Saints



St Michael



All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).