



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

Sunday 23rd July 2023

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion: Darfield

Sunday 30th July 2023

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10:45 a.m. Brunch Service: Great Houghton

10:45 a.m. Brunch Service: Darfield



The planned sessions have been postponed—watch for more details in September

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry Team will not be available in our Church Services during August.

Any prayer requests to Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Darfield Summer Gala Wednesday 2nd August 2023:

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

We need volunteers for 'pick-a-stick' and to talk to the visitors

The Parable of the Weeds

'wheat and tares together sown, are to joy or sorrow grown' [Come ye thankful people, come...] Henry Alford (1810–1871).

The purpose of a parable is to tell a story which has a hidden meaning and was a method widely used by Jesus in his teaching to the crowds and then to his disciples,

The psalmist wrote *'My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old'* [Psalm 78: 1,2]

This week's Gospel reading brings us to the Parable of the Weeds. [Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43].

In the parable, a man planted good seed in his land, but an enemy came and scattered weed seeds across the land. In the Authorised Version of the Bible, the weeds are described as tares. It is difficult to distinguish between tares and wheat as they are growing and any attempt to clear the tares in the early stages of growth would result in the loss of some of the wheat crop. The man's servants saw that the weeds were present but were told to leave them until harvest. Then they could collect and burn the weeds before harvesting the main crop. Separating the two types of seed was important as the flowers and seeds of the tares are poisonous.

As with other parables the explanation was only given to the disciples when the crowds had dispersed.

The enemy is named as the Devil and the field owner is the Son of Man, a title that Jesus used when referring to Himself and used in the vision of Daniel [Daniel 7: 13]. The good seed represents the people of God's Kingdom. The weed seeds and their plants represent everything that causes sin and all who do evil and who will be thrown into the fiery furnace. At harvest time, the products of the good seeds would be gathered into the barns as the righteous will be gathered into the eternal presence of God.

A further parable shares the theme of judgment. In the Parable of the Net [13: 47-50] the fishing net is deployed and catches a large number of fish. When brought to shore, the fishermen sort the fish and put the good fish into baskets but throw the bad fish away in a representation of the Judgement to come.

What's on at St Michaels' Great Houghton

A peaceful place for all...

Mindful Mondays: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thoughtful Thursdays: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00

The church will be open for times of peace, stillness, quiet reflection and prayer:

Tea and Cake Tuesday 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon

A chance to meet and catch up!

Starts Tuesday 25th July

Beware

Angel bombing in December

Join us in our great angel campaign:

Are you willing to start knitting angels NOW???

Patterns from Carol or Sheila

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Isaiah 44: 6-8;

Psalms 86: 11-17;

Romans 8: 12-25;

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Bible Readings for this week

July

23rd	Jonah 1: 1-17
24th	Matthew 18: 1-9
25th	Matthew 18: 10-20
26th	Matthew 18: 21-35
27th	Matthew 19: 1-15
28th	Matthew 19: 16-30
29th	Matthew 20: 1-16
30th	Matthew 20: 17-28

Prayer Square

This week we are praying for Darfield and the residents of...

Lombard Crescent

Capri Close

Bari Close

Alba Close

Rimini Rise

Marina Rise

Parma Rise

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

All Saints Toilet project: four years on

Recently, a small group met with Josh Hunter, the Diocesan Church Buildings Officer to review progress on this important project:

We need **YOUR** assistance to help seek out potential grant sources and ideas to raise funds so that this project can progress...

Talk to Peter, Kay or Jo.

The Prophet Jonah: Chapter 1: Go to Nineveh!

Nineveh was the capital of the Assyrian Republic and around 700 BC was one of the largest cities in the world with a population of over 100,000. It was built on the eastern bank of the River Tigris in what is now northern Iraq.

In 701 BC The Assyrians had invaded and conquered the northern Kingdom of Israel and taken the people into exile [2 Kings 18: 10,11]. Seven years later the Assyrian king Sennacherib, had laid siege to Jerusalem and the southern Kingdom of Judah. [2 Kings 18: 17,48].

It was with this background that we meet Jonah. Jonah is commanded by the LORD to go to Nineveh to preach against its wickedness [Jonah 1: 1]. Jonah was reluctant and set off in the opposite direction the port of Joppa on the Mediterranean coast to take a ship to Tarshish. What followed is perhaps the best-known part of Jonah's prophecy. Jonah is asleep on the boat when a violent storm blew up which threatened the ship. The crew cast lots to find out who was responsible, and Jonah was selected. Jonah admitted that he was a Hebrew and was running away from the LORD. Jonah realised that this the reason for the storm and told the sailors to throw him overboard. They eventually did so, and the storm ceased. They offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to Him.

Jonah was provided for by being swallowed by a huge fish inside which he remained for three days.

Psalm 65: 1, 2, 8

- 11** *Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.*
- 12** *I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.*
- 13** *For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.*

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



Find us on A Church Near You

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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).