

#### The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

# Sunday 22nd May 2022: Sixth Sunday of Easter

**9:00 a.m. Holy Communion:** Thurnscoe **10:45 a.m. Holy Communion:** Darfield

# **Thursday 26th May 2022: Ascension Day**

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion [BCP]: Darfield 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion: Ardsley

# The right place? Paul and Silas in Philippi

Paul and Silas had left Antioch and had travelled through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. [Acts 15: 40-41]. They continued to Derbe, Lystra and through Phrygia and Galatia. Their route was determined by their response to the prompting of the Spirit of Jesus preventing them from visiting the province of Asia and Mysia and brought them to Troas. [Acts 16: 6-7]

At this time Troas was an important port with a population approaching 100,000 and was the main point of embarkation for travel to Europe from this area. Soon after arriving, Paul had a vision of a Man from Macedonia in Northern Greece, begging him to come over to Macedonia to help them. Taking this as an invitation to preach the Gospel to them, Paul and his team immediately prepared for their sea journey [Acts 16: 9-10]

They reached the Roman Province of Macedonia at Neapolis on the Aegean coast travelling via the island of Samothrace [Acts 16: 11]. Their journey took them on to Philippi, a Roman Colony covering around 700 square miles.

Philippi only had a small Jewish community and no synagogue. Paul found the worshippers on the Sabbath at a place outside the city on the River Krenides. Lydia who is described as *a worshipper of God*, [Acts 16: 14] was with the group. She came from Thyratira, in Asia Minor on the road between Pergamos and Laodicea. Lydia responded to Paul's message and became the first documented convert to Christianity in Europe. She is described as a *seller of purple* for which Thyratira was a major centre. At the time, purple dyes for cloth were difficult to produce and were highly regarded. It is likely that Lydia was a wealthy woman since she invited Paul and his companions to lodge in her own home while they were in Philippi. [Acts 16: 15].

Paul's visit to Philippi was cut short after he and Silas were thrown in prison for *throwing the city into uproar* [Acts 16: 19-21]. During the night a violent earthquake opened the gates of the prison and loosened the chains of all the prisoners. None of them escaped and the gaoler was eventually converted. Once freed, Paul and his companions left and headed for Thessalonica.

Paul was certainly guided to the right place as far as Lydia, the Gaoler, and their households were concerned. Are we in the right place when it comes to sharing our faith?

# **Forthcoming Services**

22nd May: 10:45 a.m. Darfield [HC]

26th May: Thu. Ascension Day 10:30 a.m. Darfield [HC] 26th May: Thu. Ascension Day 7:30 p.m. Ardsley [HC]

29th May: 9:00 a.m. Great Houghton [HC]

29th May: 10:45 a.m. Darfield 5th June: 10:45 a.m. Darfield [HC]

12th June: 9:00 a.m. Great Houghton [HC]

12th June: 10:45 a.m. Darfield

#### A Lasting Gift:

We acknowledge a legacy of £2,500 received this week from the estate of the late Mary Dent.

Her son Paul writes:

Whilst she wasn't able to attend church in recent times due to Covid and then mobility issues, I know she valued the spiritual support and companionship provided by the clergy and congregation over many years. Please pass my thanks and gratitude on to Fiona and all at All Saints

## **Prayer Requests**

#### Please pray for

Olive & Raymond Shaw Pat Bentley Steve & Val Myers Stella Firth Joan Bramall Linda and her family Walt Law Hilda Jobling

**Prayer Contact:** 

Carol Hunter: 07542 527331

# Sixth Sunday of Easter Collect

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father.

# Readings

Acts 16: 9-15 Psalm 67 Revelation 21:10,22 - 22:5 St John 14: 23-29 or St John 5; 1-9

#### Bible Readings for this week

#### May

22nd Genesis 11: 10-26 23rd Genesis 11: 27-32 24th Genesis 12: 1-9 25th Genesis 12: 10-20 26th Genesis 13 27th Genesis 14: 1-12 28th Genesis 14: 13-24

# Help Needed! See Peter or Kay

Can you wield a wire brush or a paint brush? If not then now is an ideal time to improve your skills!
We are in need of a working group to scrape and repaint the **Churchyard gates and railings**Other different opportunities to help are available!

From the Parish Registers:

Saturday 14th May: Raymond Firth Interment of Ashes

All Saints Churchyard

Sunday 15th May: Evie-Raye Clarke Baptism

Sarah Appleby Baptism

All Saints, Darfield

Wednesday 18th May: Diana Audrey Law Interment of Ashes

All Saints Churchyard

# **Table Top Sale:**

The event held on Saturday 14th May raised £275.40 for Church Funds

Thankyou to Linda for the original idea and organisation, and to all who helped on our stall and in the kitchen.

### Psalm 67: a Missionary Psalm

GOD be merciful unto us, and bless us: and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us:

That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. [BCP]

Psalm 67 diverts from the norm by having its benediction or words of blessing at the beginning rather than at the end. In many ways it foretells the culmination of the LORD's promise to Abram and His covenant with Israel.

Our blessing from this psalm is that we know the Resurrection of Jesus and will share in it.

God shall bless us, and all the ends of the world shall fear him

#### **Resources and Contacts**

 Churchwarden
 Peter Robinson
 01226 753572

 Parish Admin
 Jo Darlison
 07469 857315

 Clergy
 Rev Fiona Kouble
 01226 950643

 07817 167386

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

#### **DEADLINE for Content**

Items, preferably via e-mail, to <a href="mailto:pdrobinson@live.co.uk">pdrobinson@live.co.uk</a>

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

Our Web Site

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

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