



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

Sunday 23rd April 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield

Sunday 30th April 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:45 a.m. Brunch Service Gt Houghton

10:45 a.m. Brunch Service Darfield

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Prophet Zechariah

Zechariah's first prophecy is fixed in time in relation to the reign of King Darius of Persia. The eighth month of the second year of the reign [Zech 1: 1] puts it around 520 BC. The Israelites had been exiled to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon. Babylon had been over-run by the Persian Empire under King Cyrus. After the death of Cyrus, King Darius had allowed a limited number to return to Jerusalem and begin rebuilding the Temple and city.

With his grandfather Iddo and father Berekiah, Zechariah had been amongst the first group to return. His prophecies were aimed at those who had returned from exile and their descendants. The people had continued to follow their ancestors in moving away from the Lord. They were challenged to turn from their evil ways and evil practices [Zech 1: 4] and the people repented [Zech 1: 6]

The second prophecy, delivered just three months later, includes a series of eight visions [Zech 1: 7 – 6: 15] which symbolise the history of the Israelites intended to raise their spirits and remind them of the LORD's Covenants with them. The scenes include four horses, a man with a measuring stick and four horse drawn chariots representing the four spirits of Heaven going throughout all the earth. The final vision is of the creation of a golden crown to be set on the head of the High Priest, Joshua, son of Jozadak, who would build up the Temple [Zech 6: 11,12].

Two years later, Zechariah received further revelations regarding the perpetuation of fasting and an assurance to the people of God's blessing and presence with them. [Zech 7: 8:]

The remaining chapters remind the people of God's provision for them and point them to the final conflicts and the triumph of God's Kingdom. [Zech 9: - 16:]

One of the more familiar Messianic predictions comes with "**See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey**" which is referred to on Palm Sunday [Zech 9: 9]

We know little about the lives of the Old Testament Prophets but we find a reference to the "*blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah*" in the passage, described as the *Seven Woes*, where Jesus berates the Teachers of the Law and Pharisees as hypocrites. [St Matthew 23: 35]

This book contains, for its size, the most references to the coming Messiah as judge and Saviour and ends on the promise that **The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name.** [Zech 14: 9]



Beware Angel bombing in December

There is still time for all of you who are knitters to contribute to this Parish-wide forecast

Join us in our great angel campaign:

Are you willing to start knitting angels NOW???

Patterns from Carol or Sheila



St Michael's Video

Just out on YouTube

Local film-maker Joshua Daniels recently visited Great Houghton and has produced a short video as part of his *Churches in Barnsley* series

The link is on our Church website or at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jHCFHgaznnl>

Third Sunday of Easter Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Readings

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

Psalms 116: 1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1: 17-23

St. Luke 24: 13-35

Bible Readings for this week April

23rd Leviticus 4: 22-35

24th Leviticus 5: 1-13

25th Leviticus 5: 14-19

26th Leviticus 6: 1-13

27th Leviticus 6: 14-23

28th Leviticus 6v 24-30

29th Matthew 4: 18-25

30th Matthew 5: 1-12

Prayer Square

This week we are praying
for Great Houghton and
the residents of...

Church Street
Rodes Avenue
Old Hall Walk
Pinfield Close
Manor Fields
Hallcroft Gardens

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our
Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Funeral: Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

Sue Cousins Darfield All Saints and Barnsley Crematorium

How well do you know the Old Testament:

There are 39 books in our Old Testament which were written by different people over several centuries.

The first five books, often called the Pentateuch are attributed to Moses and give us an account of Creation, the promises of God to Abraham and the growth and history of the Israelite nation up to the death of Moses.

The second group of twelve books are described as the History Books which follow on with Joshua leading the Israelites into the Promised Land: the creation of the kingdom of Israel, its subsequent split and exile at the hands of the Assyrians, Babylonians and Persian and ending with their return.

The third group of six books are described as the Wisdom books which bring together teachings and instructions from God's word and human experience.

The fourth and final group contains the seventeen Prophetic Books: five written by the Major Prophets and twelve by the Minor Prophets grouped by the lengths of the writings.

How many of these first lines can you associate with the relevant book from the first 22 books of the Old Testament...

Adam, Seth, Enosh, Kenan...

After the death of Joshua...

After the death of Saul...

In the Beginning God created...

In the days when the Judges ruled...

Now King David was old...

The Lord called Moses...

The Song of Songs...

The words of XXXXXXXX the son of Hachaliah

There was a certain man...

These are the names of the Sons of Israel...

After the death of Ahab...

After the Death of Moses...

Blessed is the man...

In the days of Ahasuerus...

In the first year of Cyrus King of Persia...

Solomon the son of David...

The Lord spoke to Moses...

The words of the preacher...

The PXXXXXX of Solomon...

There was a man in the land of Uz...

These are the words that Moses spoke...

As usual this is an Open Book exercise with only the one Book allowed. Still no prizes and answers next week

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 116: 1,2,13,14

1 I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.
2 Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.
13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
14 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden
Parish Admin
Clergy

Peter Robinson
Jo Darlison
Rev Fiona Kouble

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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).