



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

Sunday 26th February 2023

First Sunday of Lent

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion: Darfield

Sunday 5th March 2023

Second Sunday of Lent

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

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

**DUST +
GLORY**

A Lent journey of faith, failure and forgiveness

Daily reflections for Lent are now available on your phone or tablet

The app is now available for download from the usual places by searching for **Dust and Glory**

Prayer for this week from Dust and Glory

Lord Jesus, you spent forty days in the wilderness: walk with us in the wilderness of Lent and life. Hold our failures in the light of Your compassion and guide us each day in Your way: Amen:

Lent and Temptation

We are now in the season of Lent which gives us a period of six and a half weeks or forty days, not counting Sundays, to prepare for the reminders we will receive in Holy Week of the last few days of our Lord's earthly ministry, His death and Resurrection on what we call the first Easter Sunday.

Forty is a significant number throughout the writings which form our modern Bible. A period of 40 days is mentioned twice in the account of Noah and the Flood [Genesis 7: 17, 8: 6]. Moses spent two separate periods of forty days with the LORD on Mount Sinai [Exodus 24: 18], 34: 28]. The Israelites spent forty years wandering in the wilderness. [Joshua 5: 6]. The team of twelve Israelites spent forty days exploring the land of Canaan. [Numbers 13: 25]. Goliath defied the army of King Saul for forty days [1 Samuel 17: 16]. Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb took forty days and forty nights. [1 Kings 19: 8]. Jonah issued the Lord's warning of forty days before impending destruction to Nineveh [Jonah 3; 4]. Jesus spent forty days on earth after the Resurrection before returning to Heaven.

Following His Baptism by John, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness and spent forty days and forty nights there in preparation for his forthcoming earthly ministry. At the end of that time, He was tempted by the Devil to change the way in which His ministry would develop.

The first temptation, to turn stones into bread was intended to provoke Jesus into using His miraculous powers for His own selfish needs rather than for others. The tempter was rebuked by words from Deuteronomy '**man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**' [Deuteronomy 8: 3]

The second temptation to throw himself from the high point of the Temple to be saved by the angels [Psalm 91: 11,12]. Again, the rebuke comes from Scripture, '**Do not put the Lord your God to the test.**' [Deuteronomy 6: 16]

The third temptation showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world when He was promised their domination by worshipping the devil. To some in Israel the promised Messiah would have been a political leader, but this was not the way that was intended. The final rebuff was '**Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.**' [Deuteronomy 6:13].

We find details of the first temptation as early as Genesis chapter 3 where Eve was unable to resist the wiles of the serpent [3: 1-7] which had inevitable consequences.

The writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews tells us that we have help when we are faced with temptation. Jesus is equipped and able to help us as he was tempted in every way [Hebrews 3:18, 4:15]

Strangely enough you will not find any reference to Lent within our Bible. It seems that the early disciples would have celebrated the anniversary of the Resurrection at Passover time and prepared themselves with a period of fasting. The First Council of Nicaea in 325 AD fixed the date of Easter and established the period of preparation to mark the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness.

Have we Trials and Temptations? ... Take it to the Lord in prayer. Joseph Scriven, 1819-1886

First Sunday of Lent

Collect

Heavenly Father, Your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to You in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to Your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5: 12-19
St Matthew 4: 1-11

Bible Readings for this week February

26th Exodus 30: 1-10
27th Exodus 30: 11-21
28th Exodus 30: 22-38

March

1st Exodus 31
2nd Psalm 130
3rd Psalm 131
4th Psalm 132
5th Psalm 133

Prayer Square

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

Edderthorpe Lane
High View Close
Saltersbrook Road
Highfield Range
Crook House Lane
Crook House Court
Low Farm Court

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our
Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Snowdrop Trail 18th February 2023

Thank you to all who helped at the Snowdrop Trail event. We counted at least fifteen church helpers, four bellringers and two members of the Dearne Camera Club. Most were around for a couple of hours or so but some stayed for the whole day.

The atmosphere throughout the day was busy and happy and we had over a hundred visitors, including around forty children. For many it was their first visit to our church even though it is on their doorstep and all were amazed at its beauty. We had a churchyard trail for the adults, the 'Squirrel Trail' for kids around the churchyard and inside church. They were planting snowdrops in pots, finding clues to the elusive Dropsnow and then drawing him. (brilliant drawings - all now displayed on our website - see link below). They were finding out about bell ringing, learning more of the work of the Friends of Darfield Churchyard [FODCY], seeing the Dearne Camera Club's photos of little known parts of our church, and having a cuppa and a chat.

We could not have done it without all the workers who turned up on the day. **Thank you.**

Kay



KNIT and NATTER:

St Michael's, Great Houghton

Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.



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 99: 2,3,9

- 1 Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
- 2 Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.
- 11 Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

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).