



## The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

# Sunday 8th May 2022: Fourth Sunday of Easter

**9:00 a.m. Holy Communion:** Thurnscoe

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

## Sheep and Shepherds

**For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for My sheep and look after them [Ezekiel 34:11]**

The earliest Biblical reference to sheep can be found in Genesis where Abel is described as a *keeper of sheep* [Genesis 4: 2 KJV]. In biblical times being a shepherd was not an easy job since sheep have a great tendency to wander and the shepherd had to wander with them to keep them safe. The patriarchs built up large flocks as sheep were a vital commodity. They were used for food and in the various ordained sacrifices. Their skins produced primitive clothing and, as spinning and weaving skills developed, their fleeces were turned into cloth.



Over many centuries the biblical references to the Israelites described them as sheep, more often as *sheep without a shepherd* for their frequent and wayward responses to the LORD. [Numbers 27: 17]. Lambs were chosen for sacrifice when the Lord inflicted the last Plague on the Egyptians which finally allowed the Israelites to leave their slavery and set off for the Promised Land. The blood of the lamb was spread on the door posts and lintel of the houses of the Israelites as a mark for the Lord to pass over and not to kill the first born. The Israelites were commanded to remember the Passover every year [Leviticus 23: 1, 5].

Ezekiel was moved to prophesy against the leaders of his day "The word of the LORD came to me: 'Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel;'" [Ezekiel 34: 1-2]. Later in the same chapter comes the promise that, after judgement, the LORD's flock would be saved. [Ezekiel 34: 22] A new Shepherd would bring them back to the LORD. This person whom the Israelites call the Messiah but we know as Jesus.

One of the most significant celebrations of the Passover was in that upper room in Jerusalem. Jesus met with His disciples in the Passover meal and instituted a new meal which did not include a sacrifice. We know it as our Holy Communion Service where we celebrate the sacrifice, which was made, once and for all, on the Cross.

## Forthcoming Services

<b>8th May:</b>	<b>10:45 a.m. Darfield [HC]</b>
<b>15th May:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Great Houghton [HC]</b>
<b>15th May:</b>	<b>10:45 a.m. Darfield</b>
<b>15th May:</b>	<b>4:00 p.m. The Well Darfield CH</b>
<b>22nd May:</b>	<b>10:45 a.m. Darfield [HC]</b>
<b>26th May:</b>	<b>Ascension Day</b>
<b>29th May:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Great Houghton [HC]</b>
<b>29th May:</b>	<b>10:45 a.m. Darfield</b>

## A Prayer for Ukraine:

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen

## 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**

### Fourth Sunday of Easter Collect

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of  
Your Father's sheep: teach us to  
hear Your voice and to follow  
Your command, that all your  
people may be gathered into one  
flock, to the glory of God the  
Father.

### Readings

Acts 9:36-43  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7: 9-17  
St John 10: 22-30

### Bible Readings for this week

#### May

8th	Genesis 7: 13-24
9th	Genesis 8
10th	Genesis 9: 1-17
11th	Genesis 9: 18-28
12th	Genesis 10: 1-20
13th	Genesis 10: 21-32
14th	Genesis 11: 1-9

Psalm answers 1; 23; 46; 84; 121; 150; 67; 95;

## A Date for your Diary—NEXT SATURDAY

### Table-Top Sale in the Church Hall

**9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday 14th May**

Phone Linda on 07434 798 517 to book a table

**All Saints have reserved a table** and our intention is to run a Tombola. Will you help?

- by giving ☺ items of any sort, big & small, food, toiletries, sweets, household goods, etc.
- offering your time ⌚ to help on the stall
- serve tea & coffee ☕

Please see Sue Lee or Pamela Emson      thankyou 😊

## The Book of Psalms:

Are you following John's daily Bible reading suggestions? If so you will be around one sixth of the way through the 150 in the Book of Psalms in our Old Testament. Do you have a favourite psalm that you can go to when you need guidance, inspiration, encouragement or assistance with prayer? Why not share it with others in this sheet?

Can you identify the Psalms from which these first lines are taken?

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

How lovely is your dwelling place, LORD Almighty!

I lift up my eyes to the mountains where does my help come from?

Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary praise Him in His mighty heavens.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

## 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 re-paint the **Churchyard gates and railings**

**Other different opportunities to help are available!**

## Resources and Contacts

<b>Churchwarden</b>	Peter Robinson	01226 753572
<b>Parish Admin</b>	Jo Darlison	07469 857315
<b>Clergy</b>	Rev Fiona Kouble	01226 950643 07817 167386

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

### Our Web Site

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

**Email** [Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:pdrobinson@live.co.uk)

**Tuesday 5:00 p.m.**

All Saints



St Michael



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