



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

Sunday 9th January 2022

First Sunday of Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion, Great Houghton

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

COVID: Face Masks are compulsory in Places of Worship unless medically exempt.

A Journey...

What is significant about the First Sunday of Epiphany? Last week we were reminded of two journeys. The Wise Men's round trip to Bethlehem and the Holy Family's journey to safety in Egypt. This week we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus at the start of His journey that would ultimately lead to the Crucifixion and Resurrection.

Nearer home, in 2020, the First Sunday of Epiphany, 12th January, was the start of our most recent and ongoing journey as a Church Family. Rev David Hildred announced his move to become Team Rector in the Parish of Kidderminster East. Just two months later we were plunged into the first phase of Lockdown where much of what we took for granted in our work, family and Church life ground to a halt. We had to adapt to services and meeting online and with restrictions. Some of those restrictions are still with us almost two years later.

Meanwhile the Diocese of Sheffield, along with most other Dioceses, was attempting to devise a way of providing Ordained Clergy within all its parishes but with overall numbers reduced in line with the available finance. Parishes were to be grouped into Mission Areas with a fixed allocation of Clergy as Oversight Ministers within each area. This would also mean that much of the work within the Parishes would require more lay involvement. Teams or individuals within the Parish would need to take over some of what had been previously seen as the role of the incumbent Clergy. In many cases this would be a formalisation of arrangements already in place as we all share in our ministry to the Parish and beyond. The new arrangements within our Mission Area give us the potential to share resources and activities within the Area which has already produced Lent and Advent study courses and new initiatives such as the Well and the availability of online Worship.

In October 2021, after a meeting with Rt Rev Dr Pete Wilcox, Bishop of Sheffield, your PCC was asked to produce a document setting out what it felt that our Parish had lost and gained over the previous eighteen months and to identify its priorities for the next two or three years. You will find a copy of that document with this news sheet. This document effectively becomes our Mission Action Plan for the next period in the life of our Church and will be kept under review and implemented as opportunities and circumstances permit.

Forthcoming Services for January 2022	
9th January:	9:00 a.m. Great Houghton [HC]
9th January:	10:45 a.m. Darfield
16th January:	9:00 a.m. Thurnscoe [HC]
16th January:	10:45 a.m. Darfield [HC]
16th January:	4: p.m. The Well—Church Hall
23rd January:	9:00 a.m. Great Houghton [HC]
23rd January:	10:45 a.m. Darfield
30th January:	9:00 a.m. Thurnscoe [HC]
30th January:	10:45 a.m. Darfield [HC]



THE WELL

4:00 p.m.
Sunday 16th January
Darfield Church Hall

A family friendly service where all are safe and welcome, and can explore new ways of worshipping together.

A chance to discover and sing new songs, to ask questions and to encounter Christianity and the Bible anew.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for

Olive & Raymond Shaw
Pat Bentley
Steve & Val Myers
Stella and Raymond Firth
Joan Bramall
Linda and her family
Carol, Stuart and Philip Ogley

Our Bereaved Families

The families of
Amanda Jane Zdubek
Barry Bramall
Brian Ogley

Prayer Contact:

Carol Hunter: 07542 527331

First Sunday of Epiphany Collect

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan
you revealed Jesus as your
Son: may we recognize him as
our Lord and know ourselves
to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our
Saviour.

Readings

Isaiah 43: 1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8: 14-17
St Luke 3.15-17,21,22

Bible Readings for this week

January:

9th Psalm 119: 65-72
10th Psalm 119: 73-80
11th Psalm 119: 81-88
12th Psalm 119: 89-96
13th Psalm 119: 97-104
14th Psalm 119: 105-112
15th Psalm 119: 113-120

The Baptism of Jesus

The Gospel accounts tell us very little about the early life of Jesus. His birth and the visits of the Shepherds and Wise Men, His revelation to Simeon and to Anna, and being involved in discussions with the teachers in the Temple. The prophecies of the Old Testament came together as John the Baptist obeyed God's command to preach a Baptism of forgiveness and to prepare the way for Jesus to totally fulfil these prophecies. Following His Baptism, Jesus is recognised by God in a voice from Heaven.

"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

[St Matthew 3: 17]

More of our Journey... Psalm 29

It can be no mere coincidence that the words of the Psalm set for this Sunday give us encouragement as we step out onto the next stage of our Journey. We are reminded that...

The voice of the LORD is powerful;

The voice of the LORD is majestic.

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;

The LORD is enthroned as King forever.

The LORD gives strength to his people;

The LORD blesses his people with peace.

[Psalm 29: 4,10,11]

In our Gospel reading the people were waiting expectantly for the Messiah. [St Luke 3: 15-22] We are pointed to Jesus who is the Good News that we should be sharing as we attempt to obey His final earthly command...

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [St Matthew 28: 19]

From the Parish Registers

Friday 31st December 2021

Amanda Jane Zdubek aged 48

St Michaels Great Houghton
and Barnsley Crematorium

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden Peter Robinson 01226 753572

Parish Admin Jo Darlison 07469 857315

Clergy Rev Fiona Kouble 01226 950643
07817 167386

Our Web Site

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



Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

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

Safeguarding contact Peter Robinson

pdrobinson@live.co.uk 07910 728 581

DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

pdrobinson@live.co.uk

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

Find us on A Church Near You

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Search your current location or Postcode

All Saints



St Michael



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

The Parish of Darfield
ALL Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton
Supplement to News Sheet 9th January 2022

The Parish went into vacancy in April 2020 and so we are feeling the loss of our incumbent and the stability that such leadership provided. In March 2020 the country then went into lockdown due to the spread of Covid 19 and the parish faced a new set of challenges. As part of the vacancy process, the PCC had to reconsider and eventually changed its stance on Alternative Episcopal Oversight relating to male headship within the Parish.

As part of the processes during the Vacancy the PCC asked for a meeting with Rt Rev Dr Pete Wilcox, Bishop of Sheffield. This meeting took place in October 2021 via ZOOM. Following that meeting the members of the PCC were asked to review our situation and produce a document describing our losses and gains as a Church. The following document was collated with the assistance of Rev Canon Julie Upton, Associate Archdeacon, Transition Enabler.

Vision: We aim to be a visible spiritual presence in our communities as we strive to make Jesus known to all.

In undertaking this review the PCC identified the following in relation to what they feel they have missed or lost during the past two years:

- The Rector and his wife and the stability and direction that provided
- The presence of Clergy resident in the Parish
- Potential loss of the Rectory, its grounds and additional parking spaces
- One Church Warden
- Members of the Church family – some have died, some have left
- Social events
- Bereavement Support group
- Community involvement
- The school connections
- £10k of planned giving
- Pastoral care support
- Embryo Youth Group
- Toddler Time

The PCC identified the following in relation to what they feel they have gained:

- Fiona's ministry
- Baptism Enquiry Evenings
- Improved Pastoral system within the church family especially during lockdown but with concerns as to future sustainability.
- Zoom knowledge
- On-line presence through Facebook and the website and A Church near You
- Networking with other churches in the Mission Area
- Resilience in the face of adversity
- New sense of loyalty, love and compassion
- Passion for outreach
- Higher regard for each other
- Knowledge about how to run the church

The PCC identifies the following priorities for the parish for the next 3 years

Life of prayer, learning and worship:

- To encourage a community and climate of fervent, believing prayer
- To build on their consistent bible-based ministry
- To continue to develop a mixed mode (on-line and in person) form of prayer and worship
- To become more organised in relation to the planning and delivering of worship
- To grow the team of lay people involved in leading worship

Pastoral/Mission/Occasional Offices:

- Build on the new way of delivering baptism preparation including what happens with godparents and their preparation and what happens between the preparation and the actual baptism
- Encourage more lay people to get involved with baptism preparation and the following up of the families
- Develop the new Sunday afternoon activity 'The Well' as a mission opportunity
- Develop the Church Yard Trail and the Heritage work as an opportunity for Mission
- Explore how to make use of the current opportunities at St Michael's and develop them for the purposes of mission.

Buildings and Plant:

- Make use of both church buildings and other premises for mission opportunities
- Continue to explore making All Saints fit for purpose
- Explore finding someone with building expertise to support us with the All Saints toilet project
- Make informed decisions on future uses and maintenance of the Church Hall and Rectory Cottage

Governance:

- Develop a sub-committee structure
- Explore co-opting people with particular gifts and skills onto the PCC
- Explore how to involve and include St Michael's more

Community and Schools:

- Re-engage with the Schools
- Re-form the team for delivering "Open the Book" in schools
- Continue to identify and develop the community links, for instance Bereavement Support, Toddlers Group and Youth Club

Empowering the Laity:

- Develop and encourage more lay people to get involved in the mission and ministry of the Parish
- Encourage, support and enthuse each other
- Give time to spotting gifts in people and inviting them to get more involved in specific ministries

Communication:

- Develop effective and timely communication systems

The future:

The PCC recognises that we do have gifted and committed people who want to move forward, actively engaged in God's mission. The challenges we face are in relation to limited human resources as a PCC and Staff Team. We want to build on what we have started and to be able to respond to future opportunities in the form of the occasional offices, schools, and community events such as Remembrance, Harvest and Christmas.

We have worked hard to ensure that our worship is Bible-based and consistent with our evangelical tradition. We would dearly love to develop this further.

Overall, we are looking for a model of leadership that will encourage, support and empower us as we work to find ways of implementing the priorities identified in this document and so together build God's Kingdom in Darfield and Great Houghton. We look forward to working to achieve this with Fiona, Kathryn and other Oversight Ministers in the Mission Area.

The Parochial Church Council of All Saints Darfield: 6th January 2022