

PEW NEWS
BEDALE BURRILL LEEMING THORNTON WATLASS

7 January – Epiphany

Please join us for coffee in Chantry Hall after the morning service

Bedale 6.30 pm Compline

Our prayers are asked for Sid Blanchard, Lesley Hall, John Hall, Tom Horner, Anthony Ellis, Margaret Gant, Dora Johnson, Ruby Peacock, Malcolm Peacock, Barbara Pearce.

Floodlighting this week is in memory of Bert- Alma Jennifer Smith,
Joan Margaret Wright [formally Winn]

Services this week

Bedale Monday 8.30 am Holy Communion – Rev A Gatrill

Thursday 10.00 am Holy Communion – Rev S Hanscombe

Services next Sunday 14 January – Second Sunday of Epiphany

Bedale 10.00 am Worship at Ten

6.30 pm Evening Prayer – M Lowe

Thornton Watlass 10.30 am Parish Communion – Rev R Brown

Visitors If you are visiting and if you are a tax payer, may we invite you to place your donation in a yellow Gift Aid envelope which you will find in each pew or at the back of church.

Parish Office

Open Tuesday & Thursday 9.00 am – 12.00 noon Tel: 01677 425985

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Welcome start

We extend a very special and warm welcome to Michelle this week. Michelle joined us on 4th January in her capacity as our newly appointed family worker. She will be working with us on a part-time basis with a remit of extending the engagement between the church and families in the communities of Bedale. We have an oversight management group supporting Michelle in all her work.

We encourage everyone to get to know Michelle and encourage her in her work.

Michelle was also licensed as a reader in the Church of England last summer and is licensed to the Cathedral in Ripon where she is a regular worshipper.

Pilgrim

The next Pilgrim group starts at 1:00 on Thursday 25th January looking at the first course in the series, "I turn to Christ". This is a great starting point for all of us to begin to discover more about our walk of faith and our relationship with God as we explore topics together. Keep your eyes open for details of two more pilgrim groups getting going in February as well, we'll be starting to explore the creeds and the Bible – so plenty to get our teeth into.

Confirmation class

Confirmation preparation groups begin at the Rectory on the last Sunday in January and last for about 6 weeks. We are hoping to join the confirmation service at Ainderby Steeple in March with our new Bishop.

St John's, Leeming

We are desperately seeking funds to undertake the necessary roof repairs at St John's, Leeming. A reasonable amount has already been secured through a variety of grant applications and local generous donations but if we are to complete this year we will still need some more support. If you are able to help in any way please make yourself known to Alf or Elizabeth.

Book Club

Our next study book will be "God Soaked Life: Discovering a Kingdom Spirituality" published in 2017 and written by Chris Webb.

God's presence permeates our lives and activities. His song of delight reverberates throughout all he has created. As we open our ears to that song, we hear the truth of the gospel spoken to our hearts: the kingdom of God has come to us.

Chris Webb, an Anglican priest and retreat house director, wants us all to enter into that kingdom and to experience its freedom. Written with verve, depth, and uncontainable joy, *God-Soaked Life* invites us to live in the reality of God's presence in our everyday lives. It's an invitation into the community of God's people, into fearless honesty about our own weaknesses and failures, into the daily experience of God through silence, Scripture, and prayer, and into a new life of love and service in the broken world around us. God's kingdom is not far away, a remote and future promise. It is here, now.

Communications

Let us know how you think communications could be improved – it's your chance to have your say once more as we look to change both Pew News and Parish Magazine. But remember that they are seen by very few people outside the existing congregations so are they now the most effective tools for spreading the word about our work and life?

Tour of Yorkshire

Not long now until 5th May when the Tour of Yorkshire passes through Bedale. We want to make this a very special day and one where the church is at the heart of activities in and around town, offering support and hospitality to everyone.

We are hoping to make a fleet of plywood bicycles to mount on the roof for the day, visible both from the park and the air. If you can help with this please speak to Ian or John Pickard. We already have a template and several large sheets of marine plywood.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

The next meeting of St Gregory's Mothers' Union will be the Wave of Prayer. This will be held at 11.30 in the Lady Chapel on **Tuesday 9th January 2018**. The service will be followed by the MU Christmas lunch at Panetti's, 12 noon for 12.30.

Prayer and Praise Wednesday 10 January 2018 in the Chantry Hall at 7.30 pm.

Dave and Linda Collingwood

St. Mary's Church, Thornton Watlass 100 Club. The 100 club begins again in January with two prizes each month. £12 for the year gets you in the draw each month. To start or renew your membership please get in touch with Heather Storm, Margaret Hartley or Chris Carruthers on 01677 423519. You've got to be in it to win it!

St. Mary's Church, Thornton Watlass Family Domino Night with pie and peas supper. Friday 19th January in Thornton Watlass village hall at 7 pm. Everyone welcome to join in this fun evening. To help with catering please let Chris Carruthers know if you are coming, 01677 423519.

COFFEE AND CHAT - Our next coffee and chat session will be taking place on Saturday 20th January at 10:00 in Costa Coffee. Do come and join in as this is a great opportunity to get to know one another better and also to explore some of those difficult questions of faith and spirituality that you've been longing to ask but never quite had the opportunity. We're not promising to have all the answers but together we can ask the questions.

Foundation Governor We are still looking for someone to join the governing body of Aiskew and Leeming Bar school as a foundation governor to help oversee the development of the school and to ensure the distinctive nature of the school is enhanced for the spiritual welfare of all involved.

Dave and Linda Collingwood