

# *BEDALE AND BEYOND*

*Linking Church and Community*

*in Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass*



*February & March 2021*

*Preparation for Lent*

This is an extract from the Lenten resource available from Church.

Ash Wednesday

Beautiful

Feet

READING Romans 10.13-16

*“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”*

Not many of us think about our feet as our loveliest feature. Leaders of local churches that include footwashing in their Maundy Thursday services know how difficult it can be to find volunteers. Those who do agree

# #LIVE LENT



God's Story  
Our Story

to have their feet washed have probably already given their feet a pretty good wash before they came out!

Yet Paul, quoting Isaiah, says that feet can be beautiful because of the news they bring. If you have ever waited for someone to come and tell you that the baby has been born safely, or the test result has come back clear, or that you got the job you longed for, you probably have a sense of what he means.

Today we begin a journey of discovery, a journey which takes us deep into good news for ourselves and those around us. Our prayer is that by the end of the journey we too might have “beautiful feet”!

PRAYER

Thank you, God, for the people who have brought good news to me, especially those who helped me to understand the good news of your love. Please bless them today.

Amen.

## *The Rector Writes*



As we reflect on the Corona Virus, we cannot but see the impact it has had on society, individuals and church. This pandemic we are still experiencing has been a challenge to many people; we are challenged mentally physically and spiritually. Perhaps we have been damaged in ways we do not understand as yet, perhaps not massively but in small incremental measures. Yet this change may not always be for the worst. A lot of people have taken on regular exercise over the lockdown periods. Others have changed their eating habits as cafés, restaurants and pubs have been closed and we may be eating more sensibly. Still others have begun to experience the spiritual as they watch services recorded or transmitted live.

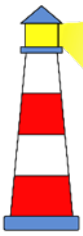
It is perhaps hard to believe that we began lockdown number one in the middle of last Lent. That season is now upon us again and the pandemic is still with us. Coincidentally Lent is about the mental physical and the spiritual. Some people will fast from food or alcohol; others will try to be more energetic in their physical lives and others still will begin the observance of trying and expand their spiritual experiences

Early in Lent we often will hear Jesus say that “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.” Matthew 4:4

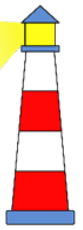
Perhaps that’s what we are called to do in Lent, recognise that our needs are more than just the physical. Indeed when we take care of our spiritual being, our physical and mental well-being is enhanced

You may remember my call last Lent of doing something in the spiritual that nourishes you and your relationship with God. Just a little time each day and realise the difference that will make to your ‘Shalom’, your wholeness and your peace.

*Simon*



# Re = LIGHT



Life In God Hope in Tomorrow

With these challenging times, we are looking for new ways to reach out to our community and especially our young people.

Plans are ongoing for an interactive monthly Make n Bake zoom session which would have a simple craft demonstration, short worship and an easy to prepare food item similar to the LIGHT sessions that we ran in Chantry Hall.

**The first is planned for the end of February.**

We are hoping to be able to produce goody bags which could be delivered prior to the event although these would be subject to availability and assuming Covid restrictions would allow.

If Covid does not allow, we would produce a mise- en -place list so ingredients/craft items could be sourced/bought before the session.

Further details, times and dates will be available on the website or via the weekly Bulletin nearer the time so keep watching out for this.

We ask for your prayers for this project.

Michelle

# FILM MATINEE

## WEDNESDAY WELLBEING



The film matinee will hopefully resume in March but is subject to government guidance. It will be on Wednesday afternoons and will take place in Chantry Hall starting at 2pm. (dates below)

A risk assessment has been conducted in line with current Government guidelines and Church of England directive. We are running this as a wellbeing event, strict measures are in place including sanitising, sign in and all the seats are arranged in a manner which allows adequate 2m social distancing. It is anticipated that we will be wearing masks, again we are awaiting updates from Government.

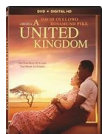
We will be limiting numbers to a maximum of 20/25 people which puts it in line with other activities that take place and after the session, all chairs are quarantined. If you do have any concerns or questions about the event or the films scheduled, please ask.

If you wish to bring personal refreshments again you are welcome to do so.



### Film Programme

3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Made in Dagenham
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Testament of Youth
7 <sup>th</sup> April	A United Kingdom
21 <sup>st</sup> April	A Beautiful Mind
5 <sup>th</sup> May	1917
17 <sup>th</sup> May	The Velveteen Rabbit



All screenings are subject to change, so please check weekly bulletin.

## FEBRUARY 2021 PRAYER DIARY

1	For the Archdeacons in the Diocese
2	Today is Candlemas, Simeon and Anna both recognised Christ, pray that you will also recognise him in your daily life (Luke 2: 22-40)
3	For new members to come into our church family and that they will be continually welcome
4	For Simon, Caroline and their family
5	For the musicians and choirs who help to lead us in our worship
6	For the clergy PA and all who help prepare and disseminate the weekly bulletin, the quarterly magazine, and other information to us
7	Christ is the light and creator of the world, pray that you will let the light of Christ shine in you and through you for all to see. (John 1:1-14)
8	For Doctors, Home Helpers, the McMillan Nurses and Hospices and the Marie Curie Nurses
9	For those areas of the world that are suffering from natural disasters.
10	For all involved in home visiting and who administer home communions
11	For Mothers Union members and officials, locally and nationally.
12	For Michelle and her work with the families in the Benefice
13	For those who provide and maintain our utility services.
14	The disciples were told to 'listen to Christ', take time to listen through prayer and the reading of the scriptures (Mark 9:7)
15	For the congregation of St. Mary's Thornton Watlass
16	For all who assist in the running and distribution of the Food Bank supplies
17	For our local prayer and study groups, the leaders and those who attend
18	For residents and staff at Greendale Court and Greenwell House
19	For the mission and ministry of our churches in their respective parishes and in the benefice
20	For the residents of the street where you live
21	When subjected to temptation Jesus' response was to trust God, obey God, worship God, pray that you can have the same response when tempted (Mark 9:12)
22	For the residents of Leeming Bar
23	For the staff and children in the pre-school groups
24	For your own family and friends
25	For St Mark, his faithfulness and his gospel giving us the word of God
26	For all who help provide the meals on wheels service from Chantry Hall.
27	For the uniformed organisations in all our churches.
28	Christ asks the disciples 'Who do you say I am?', he also asks you the same question, who do you say he is? (Mark 9:27-38)

## MARCH 2021 PRAYER DIARY

1	For all who are suffering as a result of the Covid virus and for the speedy delivery of the antidote inoculations
2	For new members to come into our church family and for their welcomed
3	Lent is a time for us to spend more time with God, pray that you will do that, only giving up those things which allow you to have that special time with Him.
4	For Simon and Caroline pray and give thanks for their ministry with us.
5	For all the retired clergy who help and assist within the Benefice
6	For all the families who come for baptisms and all involved in this ministry
7	God does not offer worldly things like power, wealth and influence, but eternal life through faith in Christ and the love of God and our neighbour (1 Cor. 1:18-25)
8	For the congregation of Burrill Mission Church
9	For ministry to young children, youth work and the work taking place in the schools
10	For the residents and staff of the Millings and Leeming Garth
11	For all the Health Centres & those in private practice who also provide health care.
12	For the Local Government, Town & Parish Councils & all local councillors
13	For the Methodist and Catholic Churches in our Benefice
14	Families are precious gifts from God, pray and give thanks for your family (Jn 19:22-25)
15	For the residents of the street where you live
16	For the mission & ministry of our churches and parishes in the benefice
17	For Michelle our Families Chaplin and her work with families.
18	For all who suffer from any form of addiction
19	That you may have the same faith and trust as Joseph as he was obedient to God
20	Give thanks for St Cuthbert and his part in bringing the Christian faith to this region
21	Jesus knew his darkest hour was imminent but continued to put his faith and trust in God, pray that you can do the same when faced with difficulties (John 12:23-26)
22	For those who suffer from mental health issues
23	For families struggling through lack of finances or other resources
24	For the bellringers, sides people and welcomers in all the churches.
25	Give thanks for Mary, Jesus' mother and her willingness to do as God wished
26	For the industries and workers on the Leeming Bar industrial estate
27	For all involved in the local tourist industry
28	The crowd who honoured Jesus turned against him when he did not behave the way they thought he should, pray you will continue to honour him when things do not turn out as you wish (John 12:12-16)
29	For the residents in Thornton Watlass
30	For all who provide the refreshments after the services and on other occasions
31	For those whom you find it difficult to pray for

# WHO'S WHO AROUND THE BENEFICE

## Rector

Rev'd Canon Simon Moor samoor@bedale.church 01677 988175

## Clergy

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## Bulletin and Magazine

Via the Rector or Parish Administrator

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# **A Conversation**

Recognising Jesus' presence with us in all situations is the beginning of both great wisdom and indeed wholeness. Since it is then that prayer becomes like breathing. People and situations are always before God

**“...I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS...” MATTHEW 28:20 NIV**

“Hello there. When you wakened this morning, I thought perhaps you'd talk to Me and involve Me in your day, but you were preoccupied finding something to wear for work. When you'd time to spare, I thought we'd have a few moments together, but you got on the phone and started talking to somebody else. I noticed that before you ate lunch at work, you looked around and seemed embarrassed to talk to Me. Maybe that's why you didn't bow your head and give thanks, even though some of your friends did. Later at home, I waited while you watched television, ate dinner, and did paperwork. At bedtime I guess you were just too tired, because you dropped into bed and fell fast asleep. Do you know I'm always here for you? I love you so much that I wait every day for a prayer, thought, or just a chance to speak with you. The problem as I see it is it's hard to have a one-sided conversation.”

*Signed, Your Friend, Jesus”*

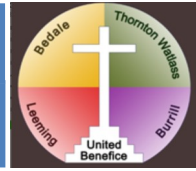
When did you last talk with the Lord? Or take time to listen to Him? There's never a time when He's not speaking; no room so dark, no lounge so crowded, or no office so busy that He's not there. Never mistake your insensitivity for His absence. Among life's fleeting promises of pleasure is this timeless assurance, “...I am with you always..”. (Matt 28:20 NIV).

***Make time for Him today!***



# Bedale Benefice

## LENT 2021



*As a community of Christians does Lent mark us out as God's faithful?*

Observing Lent, a taking on something & learning a little, questioning ourselves, praying some & preparing for Holy Week and Easter. So, choose something from these resources, then borrow or buy a copy of one of the resources. Read, watch, listen, pray and think on God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit; forgiveness & faithful development this Lent.

**PRAYER** A number of options.

1. Join morning (8.30am) or evening prayer (4pm) on the conference call facility details online or in the magazine.
2. Use the #LIVE LENT booklet available in church.
3. Use this prayer for the church each day -

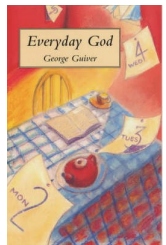


*O God who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions & power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

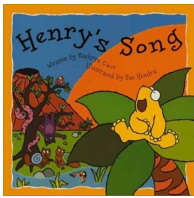
**READING**

Certain books have been chosen (although you may choose one for yourself) and offered in the hope that your conversations with each other and God may be inspired. The books are of varying length, subjects and styles. All are available to borrow from the church or purchase on Amazon etc. Try and read within a week and pass on or return to church.

**Everyday God— George Guiver**



Everyday God is a short book by Father George Guiver of the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, West Yorkshire. 'The Creed starts, I believe in.' It does not start 'I believe that...' In other words it does not ask us for an opinion about ideas. It is an invitation to trust a person'. To trust a person, we need to know them. To know God we need to talk with him in prayer as we would to anyone we are trying to get to know. Guiver puts things in such a practical manner, so much sensible & easily understood advice.

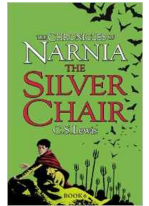


## **HENRY'S SONG - Kathryn Cave**

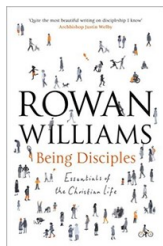
A story for everyone who's been told they're just not good enough to sing, or dance, or play, or join in, or do anything they love. It's such a glorious morning, Henry bursts into song - loud and joyful and full of surprises. His singing is not appreciated by his neighbour. The maker of all things wakes up too and when it's quiet again, the creatures decide to sing a proper song to put the maker in a good mood again. But Henry can't join in: he'd spoil it...or would he...?

## **The Chronicles of Narnia – THE SILVER CHAIR – C.S. Lewis**

A mission of mercy sends two more children to the magical world created by C.S. Lewis. Eustace and Jill are two misfit schoolchildren who discover that a garden shed on the school's grounds is actually a gateway to the magical land of Narnia. Eustace had visited Narnia years before, and is troubled to discover King Caspian has aged considerably. Caspian is troubled by the disappearance of his son, Prince Rilian, who had been kidnapped years earlier. With the help of the King's helper Puddlegum and the lion, Eustace and Jill set out to find the lost prince and reunite him with his father.



## **BEING DISCIPLES: Essentials of the Christian Life – Rowan Williams**



This brief book lifts up for discussion essential elements of the Christian life. To be a Christian is not simply to believe. It has to do with life's story. I believe that this book will be helpful to all who seek to dive deeper into the life of faith. In the wake of political turmoil, who do you follow? When faced with difference and divergence, whose example do you copy? What does it mean to follow a clear path in the

midst of cultural confusion? This little book's aim is simple: to help readers to see more clearly, love more dearly and follow more nearly the way of Jesus Christ.

## **WATCHING**

If you do not get to read a book for Lent how about watching a film? Below are three film choices to watch, of different styles, some have obvious religious themes. Why not invite someone to watch a film with you? Then have a conversation with yourself, God and other people in your family, friends or church.

### [Chariots of Fire](#) Dir: Hugh Hudson (1981)

A historical drama film which tells the fact-based story of two athletes in the 1924 Olympics: Eric Liddell, a devout Scottish Christian who runs for the glory of God, & Harold Abrahams, an English Jew who runs to overcome prejudice. Alongside the music from Vangelis, the title is also musically inspired by the line from the poem/hymn Jerusalem. A quote from Eric Liddell, "I believe that God made me for a purpose. But He also made me fast, and when I run, I feel His pleasure."



### [Frozen](#) Dir: Chris Buck & Jennifer Lee (2013)

Based on a Hans Christian Anderson fairy tale, Frozen tells the story of a fearless princess who sets off on a journey alongside a rugged iceman, his loyal pet reindeer, and a naïve snowman to find her estranged sister, whose icy powers have inadvertently trapped the kingdom in eternal winter. Somewhat 'un-disney' the story twists and turns with some wonderful song. Just let it go....!

### [City of Angels](#) Dir: Brad Silberling (1998)

This film concerns angels, love, free will and commitment. The film stars Nicolas Cage and Meg Ryan and is set in Los Angeles (did you see what they did there?) A beautiful love story full of music and angst.



## [LISTENING](#)

Music is another activity that can transport individuals towards the spiritual. Each piece of music has been chosen for its significance to a particular individual.



### [Come Healing](#) - Leonard Cohen

One of Cohen's later Songs from the album "Old Ideas". Its message of kindness and gentleness combined with Cohen's wonderful delivery give this song a tenderness that is hard not to enjoy.

### [An Eala Bhan \(The White Swan\)](#) - Julie Fowlis

The words are a poem written by a soldier from Scotland in the trenches of WW1. He says that if he "could fly like the white swan, he'd fly home to her". If he returns he will marry his love, but if not he wishes her to think of him fondly and to not be sad. Lyrical language and also a beautiful story.





## Summertime - Charlie Parker

Charlie Parker's recording of Summertime, partly for the phenomenal sax player Parker was and is a testament to his hard work. Partly as a celebration of musical diversity, epitomised by this song: and operetta's opening soprano aria composed by a Jew (George Gershwin) in New York, played here by a Jazz saxophonist from the complete opposite end of the musical spectrum coming together to create something wonderful.

## Arms of the Angel - Sarah McLachlan

A song inspired by articles that Sarah McLachlan read about musicians turning to drugs to cope with the pressures of their life & their subsequent overdose.

McLachlan empathised with the sometimes hopelessness of life saying: "I've been in that place where you've messed up and you're so lost that you don't know who you are anymore, and you're miserable... I've done plenty of other things to escape." McLachlan said that the song is about "trying not to take responsibility for other people's problems and trying to love yourself at the same time". The song featured in the film 'City of Angel' another resource this Lent.



## BIBLE STUDY



Two thoughts for bible study, on your own or in small groups.

'#Live Lent' is a small booklet of daily readings and meditations that can be used for the 40 days of Lent. The booklet will be available before Lent and there are various other resources accessible online. Just type '#Live Lent' into your search engine.

Starting on Shrove Tuesday and every week until the final gathering Tuesday 23 March there will be a gathering on Zoom at 7pm.

Follow the link (available digitally on the website.)

Meeting ID: 832 9480 0784      Passcode: 130526

During each session we will look at the readings set for the following Sunday and talk around how each set of scriptures speak to us. The appropriate readings will be available beforehand from the Benefice of Bedale web site from the beginning of Lent.

# Join in and grow a little this Lent.

# Access to Services

Over the Lenten season in the Benefice we will have different resources available. It is hoped that events will take place at the times as they appear in the bulletin and on posters around the churches. Please keep watch for alterations to each event as the Covid 19 rules may prevent gatherings in churches if the lock-down is not lifted.

Certain events can be listened to by joining on a Conference Call:

- Dial the Number: **03330 110 945**
- When asked for a 'Room Number': **66307496 then #**
- When asked for a Guest Pin: **9498 then #**
- Then press any number to connect.



This means that any Sunday or Lenten service can be shared.



If you have the technology, a computer, tablet or smart phone, searching for the Facebook Benefice of Bedale will give you access to any of the services as advertised. This is even easier if you have a Facebook account.

Watch out on the web and bulletin for any Zoom events too!



## Service Times and Venues.

	<i>9.15am—Communion Facebook and Conference Call</i>	<i>10.45—Communion Conference Call</i>	<i>16.00—Evensong Conference Call</i>
<b>Week 1</b> 7 Feb, Mar	St Gregory's Bedale	St John's Leeming	St Mary's Thornton Watlass
<b>Week 2</b> 14 Feb, 14 Mar	St Gregory's Bedale	St Mary's Thornton Watlass	St Gregory's Bedale
<b>Week 3</b> 21 Feb, 21 Mar	St Gregory's Bedale	St Mary's Thornton Watlass	St John's Leeming
<b>Week 4</b> 28 Feb, 28 Mar	St Gregory's Bedale	Burrill Church	St Mary's Thornton Watlass

Loving.  
Living.  
Learning.

## A JOURNEY THROUGH LENT 2021

'Loving, Living, Learning' is the outward facing theme of the diocese, now seen in branding, publicity, online and in print.

Bishop Nick explains, "This emerges from our work to provide a simple lens through which people - both inside and beyond the church - can see who we are and what we are about as a church and diocese.

'Loving, Living, Learning' are also three words that any parish can use to help explain what we are about and to help prioritise our work - keeping it simple:

**Loving** - because our experience of God's love compels us to love God, the World, and our neighbour, showing compassion to all and building outward-looking communities.

**Living** - because we celebrate the abundance of life and promote human flourishing, engaging with the world and working for its transformation, challenging injustice, respecting, and protecting the environment for this and future generations.

**Learning** - because we're confident in God and the good news of Jesus Christ ... but we're always listening - to God, the world and each other, and we're always learning - alert to Jesus Christ's challenge to live differently.

*Why don't you, your family, and friends (including the 4-legged ones!!) come and join with us on a Lenten journey in The Bedale Benefice starting on Ash Wednesday and running through out Lent until the start of Holy Week.*

*This journey will be a signposted walk around each of our Churches and Churchyards.*

*A fantastic opportunity to spend sometime together on in solitude reflecting and meditating on Lent.*



*You will be able to interact with the 5 information vantage points either by QR codes which will form the signposts for the journey or a booklet will be available in each church containing all the relevant information and guide to the 5 points which can be used instead of the QR codes if like me you struggle with technology. Just how Columbus ever found America without a Sat-Nav I will never know.*



*The 5 stations outside will be based around the Diocesan incentive of Loving, Living and Learning as well as Lent thoughts and Scripture.*



*The journey will be mostly outside and around the Churchyards with a final vantage point inside the Church with a practical task which will be based on Growing Gods Kingdom.*



*The weather will hopefully be a little more clement by February but please bear this in mind and come suitably attired. As far as possible you will be on designated foot-paths, so the environment is always protected, as are you.*

*We really hope you will be able to come and join in this exciting project and be able to share and enjoy Lent in a Covid safe way.*

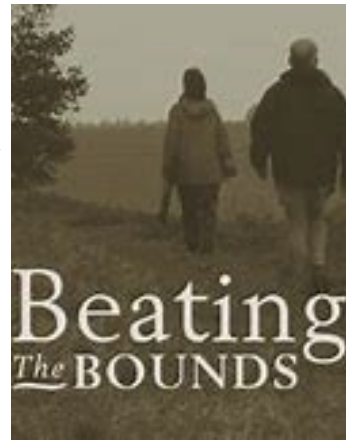
*If you have any questions or comments please contact*

*Michelle on [michelle@bedale.church](mailto:michelle@bedale.church)  
or call 07483 296927*

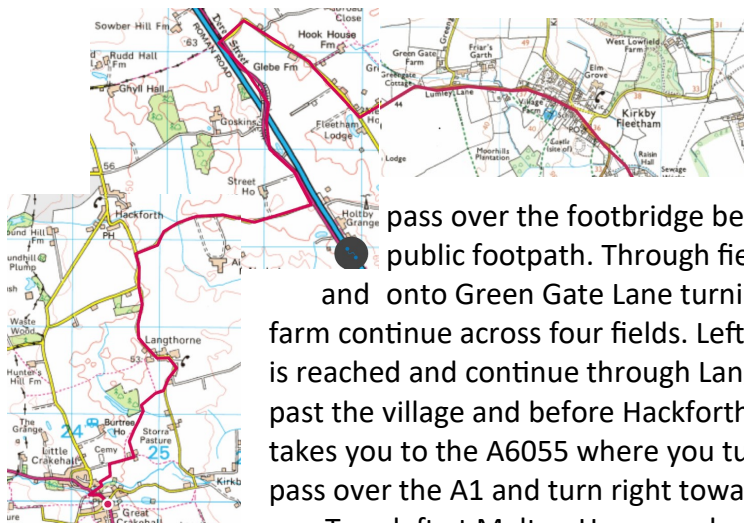
*Beating the bounds is a pre-Norman conquest custom where prominent citizens would walk the geographic boundary of their locality so as to maintain the memory of their precise location. Some churches have the same tradition for their parish, praying at different locations as they walked.*

*During the limited daylight hours of Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st December the Rector and his son-in-law circumnavigated the Benefice of Bedale.*

*The 45 miles or so was not perfectly on the exact borders of the Benefice as farmland, rivers, airfields and private estates got in the way, but a route was designed which used public footpaths and quiet lanes. The route has been split into smaller sections if you prefer smaller jaunts. The first set travel clockwise from Crakehall and the second set takes an anti-clockwise direction. The paths were reasonably marked, there are stiles to negotiate and warmer times may have live-stock in the fields.*



### **Crakehall to Kirkby Fleetham. Distance 7.1 miles**



From the Green next to the Bay Horse take the Leyburn Road and when you

pass over the footbridge bear right onto the public footpath. Through fields turn right and onto Green Gate Lane turning left at the farm continue across four fields. Left when the road is reached and continue through Langthorne. Well past the village and before Hackforth turn right which takes you to the A6055 where you turn left and you pass over the A1 and turn right toward Kirkby Fleetham. Turn left at Melton House and walk Lumley Lane to the green and the bus stop in the village.



### **Kirkby Fleetham to Morton Bridge Distance 3.5 Miles**

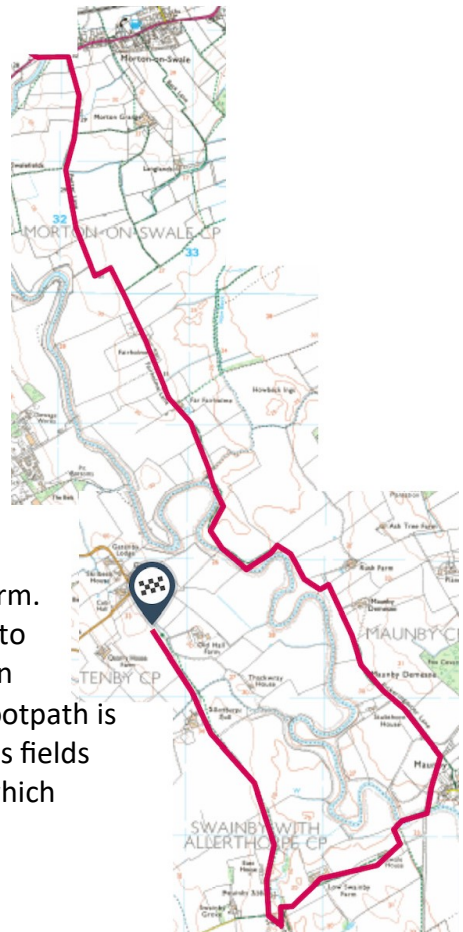
From the bus stop on the green in Kirkby Fleetham, take the Great Fenton Road. At the right hand bend carry straight on to the footpath negotiating various fields, stiles and gates. The path is reasonably straight until you meet the lane, turning right when you do.

Walk all the way into Scruton turning right in the centre which takes you past the

Coores Arms. When you see the railway line, a full field away there is a public footpath left which is a field parallel to the railway and then bears right to cross it. Take either the footpath across the field or the lane to the main road. Cross the river Swale and continue until the lane on your right.

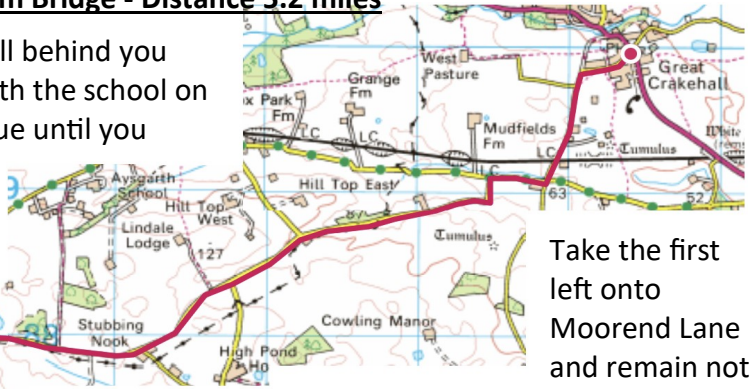
### **Morton Bridge to Gatenby - Distance 7 miles**

Just over the river Swale towards Morton, take the lane on your right. The lane then changes from Potter Lane to Fairholme Lane. This turns into a field path which leads to the Swale Embankment. Continue until the road, turn right towards Maunby. Just before the village a track turns you right. This leads to a privilege bridge over the river and a gate right leads up to and beyond Swainby House and Low Swainby Farm. Leaving the farm grounds turn right to cross the stream and then right again through the gate/stile. The public footpath is straight, bearing gradually left across fields and eventually turning into a lane which comes out at Gatenby.



## Crakehall to Kilgram Bridge - Distance 5.2 miles

Travel with the hall behind you from the green with the school on your right. Continue until you cross the railway and turn right at the crossroads.



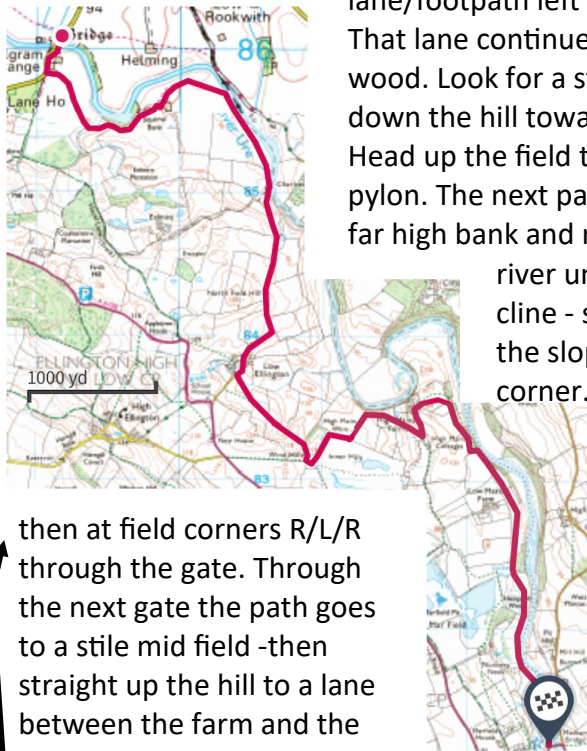
Take the first left onto Moorend Lane and remain not

turning left or right until the Cocked Hat Farm and the right turn to Masham. Descend down to the River Ure at the Kilgram Bridge.

## Kilgram Bridge to Masham Bridge - Distance 5.7 miles

Cross the river Ure and follow the concrete lane/footpath left after the farm buildings. That lane continues over the hill and past a wood. Look for a stile in the fence coming down the hill towards the next buildings. Head up the field toward the second electric pylon. The next pasture path, head for the far high bank and river junction. Stay by the river until the gate to the large incline - stay as right as you can up the slope as the next stile is in that corner. The footpath continues

until you reach a lane bearing right down to farm buildings. Pass through Low Ellington and look for footpaths right. The next gate is top right of the field and then alongside the next wood. Pass the wood the path turns left and

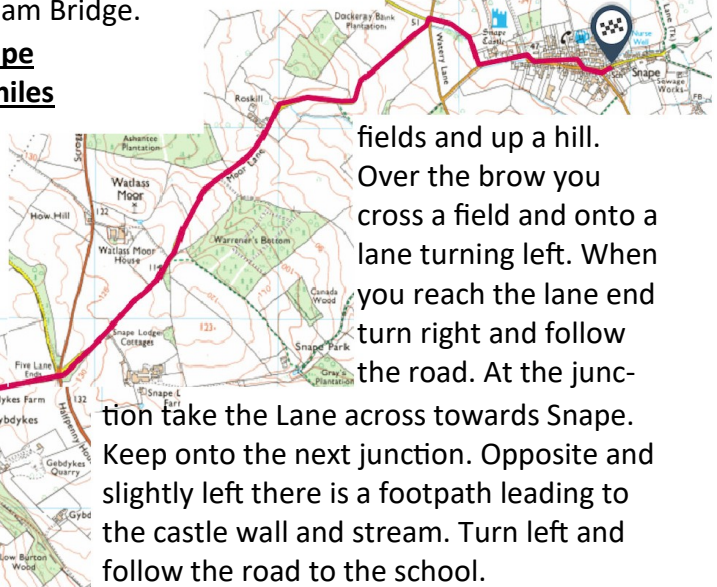


then at field corners R/L/R through the gate. Through the next gate the path goes to a stile mid field -then straight up the hill to a lane between the farm and the

lower house. Turning left pass through the farm yard and turn right between the final buildings, cross the field heading for the bottom right corner of the field. The footpath is relatively straight following the river all the way to the Masham Bridge.

**Masham Bridge to Snape**  
**School - Distance 4.2 miles**

Cross the bridge and turn left towards High Burton. Just past the first houses and the first bend there is a right turn public footpath track across

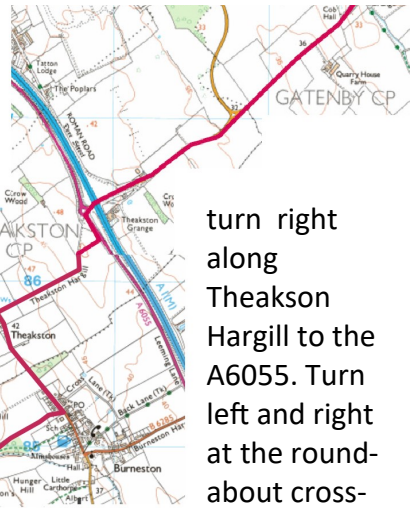


fields and up a hill. Over the brow you cross a field and onto a lane turning left. When you reach the lane end turn right and follow the road. At the junction take the Lane across towards Snape. Keep onto the next junction. Opposite and slightly left there is a footpath leading to the castle wall and stream. Turn left and follow the road to the school.



**Snape School to Gatenby - Distance 5.2**

Continue down the lane with the school on your right. At the end bear right onto Mires Lane. Eventually entering a massive flat field you are heading to the right boundary before the corner. (This field floods but is passable on the raised edges.) cross the bridges and diagonal across the field and the path is on the field boundary until Burneston. At the road turn left just past the Theakston junction



turn right along Theakston Hargill to the A6055. Turn left and right at the roundabout cross-



ing the A1. Follow the road to the lane before Gatenby village.

## [NEWS FROM THORNTON WATLASS](#)

Here we are again! In more ways than one. Doesn't time seem to be flying by? It seems strange to say this but even in lockdown where we are all staying at home far more than we have



ever done before the months appear to be moving on at a pace. We did manage to hold most of our usual Christmas services, understandably not as well attended as usual but much appreciated nevertheless. The Choral Group were able to take part in the carol service, few in number but they did much to enhance the worship. The service was attended by over 30 people who went away feeling that Christmas did mean something important to us all, even in these difficult times.

As I write, 21<sup>st</sup> January, it is trying to snow again, a reminder that we are still in the middle of Winter, and I include a photo to show what the church looked like last week. I promised you aconites and snowdrops in the last edition of Bedale and Beyond and sure enough we had aconites in flower in the churchyard at Christmas and snowdrops in the first week of January. Nature has a way of showing us that life continues in God's world. Daffodils are already growing through and will soon make our churchyard and village look a picture once again. Well worth a visit, if you are allowed out in the next couple of months! By the time you read this we will be in the season of Candlemas, 40 days after Christmas, February 2<sup>nd</sup> and the end of the Christmas season, half way through Winter. *"If Candlemas Day be dry and fair, the half o the winters to come and mair. If Candlemas Day be wet and foul, the half o the winters gone at Yule."* Traditionally farmers would do a stocktake at Candlemas to make sure that they had enough winter fodder left to feed their animals until the beginning of May. Candlemas also reminds us of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple and of the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. These ancient ceremonies serve to remind us of the conviction that a child is a gift from God and of all God's gifts there is none more important than the gift of a child. Even God's own Son. Simeon, in Luke 2vv25-35, was able to see the revelation of God's own son to the world and we are reminded of this every day at evening prayer in the words of the Nunc Dimittis.

As many of you know Thornton Watlass Church runs a "Hundred Club" draw each month and the time has come to either renew member-

ships or take out a new one. Subscriptions remain at £12, £1 per month. Two prizes each month. If you wish to join for 2021 then please let me have your cheque (payable to "PCC of Thornton Watlass") or cash at your earliest convenience. (Chris. Carruthers, School House, Thornton Watlass, Ripon, HG4 4AH). Many thanks to those who support our church in this way.

The Buck Inn has reduced its opening hours slightly but continues to provide take away meals and drinks, free delivery within five miles of Thornton Watlass. Menu available at [www.buckwatlass.co.uk](http://www.buckwatlass.co.uk), Tel. 01677 422461, opening times 12-2pm, 5.30-8pm Thursday and Friday, 12-2pm, 5.30-8.30pm Saturday, and 12-6pm Sunday. Always a traditional roast on Sunday, and specials nights as advertised. (I'm looking forward to Haggis this weekend!) Vicki is very appreciative of the support of all her customers in these difficult times.

Chris.



St Mary's in the snow—a Christmas Card view?

# A PRAYER IN SPRING

Robert Frost - 1874-1963



Left and bottom right  
Watlass Church Yard  
Spring hints.

Below - Bedale  
The War Memorial in the  
grip of winter.

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;  
And give us not to think so far away  
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here  
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,  
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;  
And make us happy in the happy bees,  
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird  
That suddenly above the bees is heard,  
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,  
And off a blossom in mid-air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,  
The which it is reserved for God above  
To sanctify to what far ends He will,  
But which it only needs that we fulfil.

