



BENEFICE BULLETIN

Church News for
Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass
Sunday 6th February 2022

Epiphany 5

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Bel Newman; Marge Craddock; Lucy; Geordie; Lesley Hall; David & Delma Bode; John Hall; Fr Simon Gurd; Lynne Riddlestone; Olive Robinson & Barbara Jaques

RIP

Kathleen Marshall; Sid Blanchard; and Chris Walker.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

We remember the residents and workers in care homes throughout the Benefice: those individuals we know and those residing or working at Leeming Garth; The Millings and Greenwell House,

COLLECT AND READINGS FOR EPIPHANY 5

Collect

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading - Isaiah 6.1– 8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out. 'Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15.1–11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had

received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them - though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Gospel - Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Post Communion Prayer

**Lord of the hosts of heaven, our salvation and our strength,
without you we are lost: guard us from all that harms or hurts
and raise us when we fall; through Jesus Christ our Lord. .**

COMMENTARY ON THE READINGS

Isaiah 6:1-8

Isaiah had warned the leaders of Judah of God's pending judgment. The people of Judah's adulterous passions broke their relationship with YHWH. Their foundation of being who had once been a God of faithfulness and provision had been replaced by gods of want and aversion. The result: The poor are neglected, the land is ravished, and they are just like every other nation. In an epic vision of technicolor phantasm, God reveals Godself to Isaiah. Like smoke billowing from a fire, God's sovereignty and holiness envelop the whole earth. Overcome by God's holiness, Isaiah declares his unworthiness to be in the presence of the "Lord of Hosts." What happens next? This sovereign, holy, completely other God invites and sets apart a finite creature to proclaim the good news of

salvation. In partnership with Isaiah, God promises to bring refining fires, and Zion would once again be a light to all nations.

How does it make you feel that a transcendent God has an indissoluble connection to God's creation? In what ways might God be calling you to live a life that is set apart to serve amid your community?

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

In the first fourteen chapters of the letter to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul writes a polemic against divisiveness, sexual misconduct, food sacrificed to idols, and chaotic worship. Paul identifies the root of the issue as a disregard for one's neighbour. For Paul, it is not enough to only say, "Jesus is Lord," – rather, all aspects of one's life should reflect this reality. In chapter fifteen, Paul tackles the question of the Resurrection. In his response to the Corinthians' scepticism, Paul leaves no room for misunderstanding. Christ died and Christ rose again – a fact supported by first, numerous eyewitnesses, including himself, and secondly, the reorientation of reality birthed through the regeneration of the Resurrection. The latter point supports the question of the "how" for the previous chapters. How can all of one's life reflect the Gospel? The answer is through the Resurrection. Christ dismantles death and sin in the Resurrection and pours out regenerative grace that reorients us to a life of kingdom values. Paul testifies to this grace in his own life by reflecting on his past as the leading persecutor of the church, and how he is now a humble apostle and faithful proclaimer of the Gospel.

How does your testimony reflect God's resurrection power in your life or your community's life? In what ways do the sacraments sustain you in living out the hope of a world being regenerated by resurrection power?

Luke 5:1-11

One could argue that the focal point of this story is the miracle of a great catch of fish or even the calling of Simon Peter. However, there is another perspective here that is worth our attention - the crowd's. Sometimes it is easy to forget in the thrill of this narrative that the crowd is even there. Throughout the Gospel narratives, "the crowd" or "the people" always press toward Jesus, trying to get closer, reaching out for something. In Luke 5, the crowd wants to hear the "word of God." Not a word of inspiration, a pithy statement, or anecdote – no, they want to hear the word of God. They want to hear the words that created the cosmos that animated dust into life; they want to hear a word that sustains and transforms. Jesus, sensing their longing, fulfils their need not just for today but forever. After teaching the crowd, Jesus calls Simon Peter to "[catch] people." In this scene, we see a perfect foreshadowing of what is to come. Peter will be the rock the Church is built upon. While neither of them knew it, parish and priest met each other for the first time. In the calling of Peter and the continual calling of God's people, the word of God would continue to be heard by those longing to be sustained and renewed.

How has the ministry of the word impacted your faith journey? Do you see yourself within this narrative? Where?

Notices

Service Times and Venues.

	<i>Morning Services - St Gregory's, Bedale</i>	<i>Morning Services - St Mary's, St John's and Burrill</i>	<i>16.00—Evensong conference call</i>
6th February	8am St Gregory's #	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass	St Gregory's, Bedale *
	9.15am St Gregory's #*~	11am St John's, Leeming *#	
13th February	9:15am St Gregory's *#~	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #*	Burrill Church *

* conference call

Communion

~ Facebook

**Coffee Morning St John's Church Leeming
Thursday 17th February - 10:00 - 11:30**



THE BELLS We hope you notice(d) the difference in our ringing this morning at St. Gregory's. In honour of the 70th. Anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession, we are concentrating on the change 135246 (or 13572468 if we're lucky). This change is known everywhere as "Queen's" and was supposedly named when Elizabeth I said how much she liked to hear it.



BUILDING FAITH BRICK BY BRICK LEGO JOURNEYS

JOINING TOGETHER, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, MAKING STORIES AND MEMORIES THAT MATTER.

LEGO JOURNEYS is something for all ages, it's a place where play is encouraged, and fun brings to life the greatest stories of all time.

The **Methodist Church**

SUNDAY

23rd Jan, 6th Feb,
20th Feb, 6th Mar,
20th Mar and
10th Apr
3pm Start

**A SUPER FUN
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All Ages
Welcome

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Joining Together
Building
Relationships

Fantastic Stories

Where?

**BEDALE & DISTRICT
METHODIST CHURCH**

On the corner of
The Wynd & Wycar Road
DL8 1ER



Current shortages

- Washing up liquid
- Washing powder
- Tinned meatballs
- Tinned meals
- Tinned veg
- Sponge puddings
- UHT milk
- Coffee

SHORTAGE

CAN YOU HELP?

All donations are gratefully received
if you need a food parcel email:

info@hambletonfoodshare.org.uk or ring **07514 244158**

We are here to help

Andrew's Adventures Reunion Party

*Saturday 19th
March*

*The Buck Inn,
Thornton Watlass,
7pm start.*

