



BENEFICE BULLETIN

Church News for

Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass

6th November 2022

Third Sunday before Advent

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Bel Newman, Marge Craddock, Lesley Hall, Delma Bode, John Hall, Jenny, Chris, Elise, Lynne Riddlestone, Olive Robinson, Barbara Jaques, Harry Scorer, David Disney, Harry Lillystone and Edwin in Bolivia.

RIP

Michael Potter, Margaret Exelby, Malcolm Stokoe, Roy Hyde, and Sandra Lowe

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

COLLECT AND READINGS

Collect

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading - Job 19.23–27a

O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

Second Reading - 2 Thessalonians 2.1–5,13–17

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you? But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the

first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Gospel Reading - Luke 20.27–38

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, 'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.' Jesus said to them, 'Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.'

Post Communion Prayer

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

COMMENTARY ON THE READINGS

Psalm 17.1-9

These are the opening words of an individual lament psalm addressed to God by a faithful worshipper who trusts in God. It contains two petitions for deliverance (vv. 1-2 and 6-9). The first uses legal language and calls on God as judge, while the second uses the imagery of someone who is persecuted seeking sanctuary at a shrine. Between these comes a plea of innocence (vv. 3-5) in which the psalmist claims that all aspects of his life accord with God's ways of righteousness. The precise nature of the problem is not given, but God is asked to intervene on behalf of a faithful servant.

New Testament 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-17

Authorship of this letter is disputed as its interest in the second coming of Christ (2.1), preceded by a period of apostasy and the arrival of 'the lawless one' (2.3) who will try to depose God (2.4), are different from Paul's thoughts elsewhere. This reading ends with an assurance that the faithful will be saved.

Gospel Luke 20.27-38

This is the only place in Luke's Gospel where Sadducees are mentioned. They were a priestly party who, unlike the Pharisees, totally rejected the recently emerging doctrine of resurrection and maintained a literal adherence to the words of the Torah. Their question is based on the law of levirate marriage in Deuteronomy 25v5-6 and Genesis 38v8, which is concerned with continuing a family line and inheritance issues. They propose a far-fetched example, paralleling an idea in Tobit 3v7-9. In Luke, the scenario would leave the woman with seven husbands at once after resurrection, a possibility not permitted by the law.

There are two parts to Jesus' response. First he attacks the Sadducees' understanding about resurrection. He contrasts all ordinary human life, in which marriage is linked with procreation and the continuation of the generations, with the life of those judged worthy by God to enter into the new age through resurrection, for whom such issues will be irrelevant. Not all will enter into resurrection life. Those who do will become immortal with no interest in procreation. They will be as brothers and sisters in a new relationship and will all be children of God. The second part of Jesus' response offers a positive reason to believe in resurrection based on the story of Moses and the burning bush (Exodus 3v1-6). The argument depends on God's claim to be the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. If they are dead, then God's word is untrue. Since God is faithful and true, they must still be alive to God. This logic could suggest immortality rather than a belief in death followed by a future resurrection. However, in Old Testament thought the dead all descended to Sheol, an understanding shared by Jesus and his opponents, and the concept of body/soul dualism was totally alien. Therefore the phrase 'alive to God' needs to be understood as having future implications.

Verses 37-38 show Jesus playing the Sadducees at their own game, using a literal reading of a Torah verse, out of context, to build an argument on an entirely different topic. The process appears learned but it doesn't lead to clarity in communicating important ideas.

Service Times and Venues Thursdays 10:30am BCP communion at St Gregory's

	<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 Nov	8:00 St Gregory's #	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass	St Gregory's, Bedale *
	9.15 St Gregory's #*F	11am St John's, Leeming #*	
13th Nov	9:15 St Gregory's—Said Communion #*F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass—Remembrance Service	Burrill Church *
	10:30 - Riverside Club for Remembrance Parade and Service	10:45 St John's, Leeming—Remembrance Service	
20th Nov	9:15am St Gregory's #*F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #	St Mary's, Thornton Watlass
		11am St John's, Leeming	

Communion * conference call F Facebook

This week's floodlighting is in memory of

Ray Court



To sponsor the floodlighting in memory of someone then please get in touch with Sarah in the office on 07949 006681 or admin@bedale.church

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



**LEST WE
FORGET**

There will be services of remembrance at St Gregory's, Bedale; St Mary's, Thornton Watlass and St John's, Leeming. All three will start at 10:45am on 13th November 2022. St Gregory's service will start with a march of remembrance from the Riverside Club to the churchyard, gathering from 10:30am.

HAMBLETON FOODSHARE

We would really be grateful for anything as our stocks are going down so quickly at the moment. At the time of writing our current list of urgent shortages are: custard; coffee; sponge puddings; sugar; tinned ready meals; jars of spicy sauce; jars of pasta sauces; corned beef; tins of mixed veg; rice; jelly; shower gel; deodorants. We would also really appreciate toiletries and cleaning materials such as washing powder, washing up liquid etc and even pet food is helpful.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



It's that time of year again, Samaritan's Purse are collecting shoeboxes for operation Christmas child. If you would like to contribute, shoebox leaflets are available in church or Chantry Hall.

Please place your shoebox in the boxes located at the back of church near the font between 14th & 21st November.

Edwin

8 year old Edwin lives in Bolivia with his parents and 3 siblings.

Please pray for Edwin, his family and their church.



Lord God, we praise you that you are fully in control of all things. We pray you would protect Edwin. Keep him healthy and help him to thrive. We thank you that you know every hair on Edwin's head. You know exactly when he rises and when he falls. Watch over Edwin in every area of his life and keep him safe we pray, Amen.



Prayer and Praise

Next Sunday, 13th November

At 5pm online

