



BENEFACT BULLETIN

Church News for

Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass

8th January 2023

Plough Sunday

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Gaynor, Ross, Bel Newman, Lesley Hall, Delma Bode, John Hall, Barbara Pike, Chris, Elise, Jenny, Lynne Riddlestone, Olive Robinson, Barbara Jaques, Harry Scorer, David Disney, Harry Lillystone, Enid Farrow and Edwin in Bolivia.

RIP

Joan Dennis, Mally Amstrong, Keith Gatford and Marge Craddock
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Praying for Edwin

Praise and thanks that the project now has indoor bathrooms. Please pray for the families as they use this new commodity, one which we take for granted.

Plough Sunday

A traditional English celebration of the beginning of the agricultural year that has seen some revival over recent years. Plough Sunday celebrations usually involve bringing a ploughshare into a church with prayers for the blessing of the land. It is traditionally held on the Sunday after Epiphany, the Sunday between 7th January and 14th January.

Accordingly, work in the fields did not begin until the day after Plough Sunday: Plough Monday. Although the nature of farming has changed over the centuries, Plough Sunday is seen as a way of generally celebrating farming and the work of farmers.

COLLECT AND READINGS

Collect

O Creator God, who works through our hands and our minds, as we strive to renew the face of the earth and bring in your kingdom; help us to feel your reverence for the power you give us, and to love the small part of your creation which you have entrusted to each of us. Amen

First Reading - Genesis 1.9-13

And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 6.25-34

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

**We plough the fields with tractors, with drills we sow the land;
but growth is still the wondrous gift of God’s almighty hand.
We add our fertilizers to help the growing grain;
But for its full fruition, it needs God’s sun and rain.**

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.*

**With many new machines now we do the work each day;
we reap the fields with combines, we bale the new-mown hay.
But still it’s God who gives us inventive skill and drives
Which lighten labour’s drudgery, and give us better lives. Refrain**

**He only is the maker of galaxies and stars;
of birds and beasts and flowers, and any life on Mars.
Atomic powers obey him, yet still the birds are fed;
by him our prayer is answered: give us our daily bread Refrain**

**We thank thee then, O Father, for life so rich and good,
For seedtime and the harvest, the wealth of daily food.
No gifts have we to offer such as thy love imparts,
But what thou most desirest: our humble thankful hearts. Refrain.**

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>
8th Jan	9:15am St Gregory's #*F	10:45 St Mary’s Thornton Watlass #*	Burrill Church *
15th Jan	9:15am St Gregory's #*F	10:45 St Mary’s Thornton Watlass #* 11am St John's, Leeming	St Mary’s Thornton Watlass *