

# BENEFICE BULLETIN

Church News for

Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass

18th June 2023

## The Second Sunday after Trinity

### OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Gaynor, Bel Newman, Mark Newman, Lesley Hall, Delma Bode, John Hall, Chris, Lynne Riddlestone, Olive Robinson, Harry Scorer, Kath Finkill, Barbara Cooper, Harry Lillystone, Anne Jardin, Adrian Grayson, and Maureen Graham

### RIP

Keith Brooks, Richard Lamming.

*May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

### COLLECT AND READINGS

#### Collect

**Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### First Reading - Genesis 18.1–15

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the

manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' The LORD said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.' But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.'

## **Second Reading - Romans 5.1–8**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

## **Gospel - Matthew 9.35 – 10.8**

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.' Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

## **Post Communion Prayer**

**Loving Father, we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son: sustain us with your Spirit, that we may serve you here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven, and we share in the eternal banquet with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## COMMENTARY ON THE READINGS

### **Romans 5.1-8**

Romans 5 begins with the word 'therefore', a crucial word in this letter (compare 12.1). Having described the way in which the death and resurrection of Jesus demonstrate God's faithfulness and saving power, and shown how this is a fulfilment of God's promise to Abraham, Paul now draws out the consequences. Believers, who 'stand' in God's grace, find that they are able to endure suffering (v. 3). Their lives are characterised by hope, and an ongoing awareness of the presence of God through the Holy Spirit (v. 5). The love that God has poured into the hearts of those who have faith, is a love that is for all, even for sinners, as Christ's death makes clear (v. 8).

### **Matthew 9.35–10.8, (9-23)**

The so-called 'Missionary Discourse' is the second of the five main teaching sections in Matthew's Gospel. Those who have been called to follow Jesus (Matthew 4 and 9), and have been taught about the new way of life that Jesus brings (Matthew 5-7), are now sent out to share what they have learned about the kingdom of God. The twelve disciples named in Matthew 10.1-4 are not representatives of a special elite who are given a particular 'missionary' task. They represent the whole people of God, and so the task given to them becomes the task given to the whole Church (see Matthew 28.16-20). Note the shift in the anticipated audience for the good news in these two passages. The disciples are to be faithful to the mission of Jesus because they are sent with his authority (Matthew 10.1). They are to proclaim the good news of God's present and future reign (compare Matthew 10.7 with 9.35). They are to heal, raise the dead, cleanse lepers and cast out demons (Matthew 10.8; compare 9.27-31, 9.18-26, 8.1-4, 9.22-24). This is not an easy task, however. They must learn to trust in God, and they must not profit from their ministry (Matthew 10.8-10: the teaching in Matthew 6.25-34 is relevant here). They will also encounter hostility and opposition (Matthew 10.11-23), both from the Roman authorities and from their fellow Jews. Their task is to bear witness. Jesus promises that disciples who are obedient to his missionary instructions will know the presence of God, by the Holy Spirit, in times of trouble (Matthew 10.19-21, compare 28.20).

# 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>18.30—Evensong conference call</i>
18th June	9:15am St Gregory's #*F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #* 11am St John's, Leeming #	St Mary's Thornton Watlass *
25th June	9:15am St Gregory's #F	9 am Burrill Church #* 10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #*	St John's, Leeming
2nd July	8am St Gregory's # 9.15am St Gregory's #*F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass 11am St John's, Leeming #*	St Gregory's, Bedale *

# Communion \* conference call F Facebook

## Rambling Rector



Simon is setting off on one of his annual pilgrimage walks this week, walking a circular route from Bedale, through Swaledale and back again.

On Tuesday he will be walking from Bedale to Wensley Bridge, on Wednesday from Wensley Bridge to Hardraw, on Thursday Hardraw to Marrick (Swaledale) and on Friday Marrick via Richmond to Bedale.

Please sponsor Simon by using the sponsor forms at the back of St Gregory's church or you can email the office ([admin@bedale.church](mailto:admin@bedale.church)) and also pray for him as he walks. The sponsorship will be split between the Benefice and the Scouts.

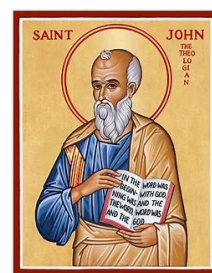
Anyone who wishes to join Simon on part of the route will be warmly welcomed.

## St. John's Patronal Festival

Evensong at Leeming on 25th. June at 6.30pm

will celebrate St. John the Baptist, the Church's patron saint,

and will include a hymn specially dedicated to John. Refreshments will be served after the service. Everyone welcome.



## St Mary's, Thornton Watlass

Dates  
for your



- 20th June Gardening Club in the Village Hall 7.30pm.  
Talk on growing and showing Sweet Peas.  
Visitors welcome.
- 30th June Thornton Watlass Choral Group  
SUMMER CONCERT 7.30pm in St. Mary's Church.  
Tickets £10, including supper, available from  
Christine Carruthers 01677 423519.