BEDALE AND BEYOND

Linking Church and Community in
Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass

February and March 2025

Burrill News

We held two enjoyable events just before Christmas. Lucy and Jonathon invited us to their house for a Christmas meal with 17 people being able to attend. Thanks are due to Lucy & Jonathon and all those who helped to provide the various courses.

Just before Christmas we held a carol service in the Church. At first glance this may not appear newsworthy, however it is a first for us as we usually walk around the village in the dark and cold.

It was suggested we could use our newly reconfigured pews to turn the church into an auditorium and invite everyone in Burrill .

With Simon plus guitar,37 people turned up playing, choosing, and singing our favourite carols, and partaking of mulled wine (provided by Lindsay & Andrew) and mince pies. A huge success all round!!!!

Tuesday Togetherness Christmas

THE RECTOR WRITES

It says in the dictionary that the word preparation means: "The act or process of preparing, the state of being prepared: readiness."

If I remember in school during home economics, all our recipes began with 'preparation', and all we ever wrote was 'hands, hair, equipment'. In other words, wash hands, tied back hair (if long) and get out equipment. I remember clearly such preparation, once drilled in it becomes as second nature. I still try and collect the tools I need for a job before I start. However, I always seem to forget something, a certain screwdriver or saw etc.

Is it a school's job to prepare children for life? I suppose in some ways this has to be true, especially when you think how long children spend in school. But then, I think back to theological college. We didn't expect to go into parishes as fully fledged vicars. We were just given the tools for part of our role and were to continue a preparation in our curacy. Then again, part of our training in our first parishes, and in college, was I suppose real preparation in the sense that we were not necessarily the finished article, but equipped with partial readiness.

Then, I suppose, another preparation is recognising that God is with us. This means that whatever the situation that we meet on a day-to-day basis, God is there, even for a green vicar, meaning we will get through what ever is thrown at us. The preparation of God's presence must be worth more than 1000 years in college.

Lent is about preparation. Some people will give up things,

others will take on things, still others use the time as at learning process. Are you prepared for Lent, which in itself is preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Do you need such preparation? A question you need to think about as Lent draws closer.

Are you prepared for God, readiness for his love and grace?. I suppose that when you have such acceptance, you quickly move on to look at the consequences and therefore, how you live. Preparation, does not mean you can sit on your laurels but rather calls us to action and learning.

Indeed, are you prepared for the end of this life? Are you ready to meet your maker? My answer would be not just yet! Preparation means we are to think about such a questions now. You see, preparation is not about the future but about the present; the here and now. Preparation should be immediate, and perhaps even urgent.

Perhaps we may have such a Lent this year.

Advance Notice for Annual Parish Meetings.

There will be notices posted in and outside the churches and on the weekly bulletins as the dates draw closer. These will advertise the date of the annual parish meetings for this year as well as information about being on the electoral roll, This year we undertake a total renewal. Being on the church electoral roll allows you to vote to elect PCC members in the annual parish meeting. Come and hear how your church has operated over the last year , and looks towards the future.

If you would like to serve on the PCC, please see the churchwardens or vicar for a nomination form.

(Note—During Covid the rector kept in touch by telephone by using the information held from the electoral roll. Please consider filling in one of the forms.)

The Emotions of Jesus

The Lent Course this year is taken from a Diocese of Edinburgh publication. The study and discussion will take place at Bedale and District Methodist Church each Monday in Lent at 7pm and then in Chantry Hall each Tuesday at 2pm.

We believe that Jesus was fully human. As such, he would have experienced the full raft of emotions as he responded to the community around him.

However, in our gospel narratives, there are few overt expressions of his emotional response (normally in grief and sadness). We are all emotional beings, and often respond emotionally without thought or judgement. This year, we'd like to invite you to explore what it means to have a healthy and robust emotional life, acknowledging and 'owning' our emotions and our emotional responses.

The course has chosen five emotions that it is hoped will resonate with our own experience of being human. Emotions have both positive and negative expressions, and we hope that through these studies, we will come to a fuller understanding of who we are, the emotions that God has uniquely given us, and discern how we feel God is calling you to express and use these amazing gifts.

In each booklet there are also 'Holy Week' reflections. We will not meet in Holy Week in these groups, other services are offered, but there is awareness of the huge range of emotions present in Jesus and in those around him, during that week. The pictures included can be used for private prayer during the week, or for a discussion if the group wishes to meet.

As a final note David Paton-Williams is a joint contributor to these studies. David was rector in Bedale a number of years ago.

Lent 2024

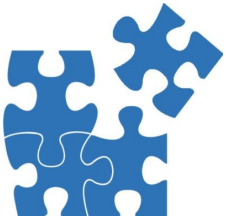
Feb and Mar Prayer Diary

Intercessions for the streets, roads and lanes within the Benefice and specific themes for daily prayer during the months covered by this magazine.

1	Queen Anne's Court	Bedale		The Spinney	RAF Leeming
2	Queen Anne's Drive	Bedale		The Square	RAF Leeming
3	Railway View	Aiskew		The Wynd	Bedale
4	Robin Way	Aiskew		Thirn Village	T/Watlass
5	Roman Road	Leeming		Tofts Lane	Exelby
6	Roman Road	Londonderry		Tom Hall Court	Bedale
7	Rookwith	T/Watlass		Tornado Close	Bedale
8	Roughley Bank	Leeming Bar		Tutin Road	Leeming Bar
9	Russel Terrace	Londonderry		Vasey Close	Bedale
10	Sandhill Lane	Aiskew		Water Lane	Leeming
11	Scroggs Lane	T/Watlass		Watlass Lane	T/Watlass
12	Sergeant Bank	Charlcot		Watlass Moor Lane	T/Watlass
13	Snape Road	T/Watlass		Westfield Lane	Exelby
14	South End	Bedale		Willow Close	RAF Leeming
15	South End Avenue	Bedale		Willow Drive	Aiskew
16	Spruce Gill Avenue	Aiskew		Willow Gardens	Leeming Bar
17	Spruce Gill Drive	Aiskew		Woodland Drive	RAF Leeming
18	St John's Crescent	Leeming		Wren Close	Aiskew
19	St. John's Road	Leeming		Wycar	Bedale
20	Stapleton Close	Bedale		Aiskew Bank	Aiskew
21	Stubbing Nook Lane	Burrill		Alder Close	RAF Leeming
22	Sussex Close	Bedale		Alexandra Court	Bedale
23	Sussex Street	Bedale		Anvil Gardens	Leeming Bar
24	Sycamore Avenue	Aiskew		Ascough Wynd	Aiskew
25	Sycamore Drive	Bedale		Ash Tree Close	Bedale
26	Sycamore Lane	Leeming		Ash Tree Road	Bedale
27	The Coppice	RAF Leeming		Ash Tree Walk	Bedale
28	The Court	Bedale		Back Lane	Aiskew
29	The Crescent	Aiskew		Badger Hill Drive	Aiskew
30	The Grange	Leeming		Barras Terrace	Bedale
31	The Paddock	Aiskew		Bedale Road	Leeming Bar

1	For the Archdeacons in the Diocese
2	For the sides-persons, welcomers and bell ringers
3	For new members to come into our church family and that they will be welcomed
4	For the ministry of Simon, Caroline and their family
5	For the musicians and choirs who help to lead us in our worship
6	For all involved in the administrative support of the Benefice
7	For all who minister & attend the Methodist & Catholic Churches in our Benefice
8	For Doctors, Home Helpers, McMillan Nurses, Hospices & the Marie Curie Nurses
9	For the retired clergy and their support in the ministry within the benefice
10	For all involved in home visiting and who administer home communions
11	For our ministry with children & young persons both in school & outside activities
12	For Michelle and her work with the families in the Benefice
13	For those who provide and maintain our utility services.
14	For all who help provide refreshments after services and at other functions
15	For all who suffer from addiction in its many and varied forms
16	For all who use the Chantry Hall whether associated with the church or for private functions
17	For our local prayer and study groups, the leaders and those who attend
18	For residents and staff of the Residential and Care Homes in the Benefice
19	For the mission and ministry of our churches in their respective parishes and in the benefice
20	For people suffering from mental health issues and those who care for them
21	For the families who come for baptism and those involved in this ministry
22	For all who volunteer help in the many and varied ways in the local community
23	For the staff and children in the pre-school groups
24	That we will become a praying benefice and that we will be strengthened through prayer
25	For the Health Centres and those involved in private practice who provide individual health care
26	For all who help provide the meals on wheels service from Chantry Hall.
27	For the uniformed organisations in all our churches.
28	For Local Government, Town & Parish Councils and Forums & the local Councillors
29	For those whom you find it difficult to pray for
30	For the clergy and volunteers at Ripon Cathedral
31	For the visitors to our churches and those leaving prayer requests

From the Registers



Baptisms St Gregory's, Bedale

18th August 2024	Lyra Rose Fletcher
6th October 2024	Charlotte Fall
27th October 2024	Harrison George Fisher
3rd November 2024	Phoebe Carolyn Bowe
1st December 2024	Oliver James Thornton
1st December 2024	Joseph Gregory Thornton

St John's, Leeming

6th October 2024	Edward Mills

St Mary's, Thornton Watlass

25th August 2024	Edward Dunks-Gray
1st September 2024	Olivia Linsley-Jones
6th October 2024	Ottilie Margot Dorothy Biker

Funerals St Gregory's, Bedale

17 October 2024	Chris Asquith
14 October 2024	Kenneth Brown
29 October 2024	Ivy Davies
29 November 2024	Margaret Kitching
02 January 2025	Alfie Ostler-Gill
02 January 2025	Patricia Stubley
10 January 2025	Robert Smith
16 January 2025	Malcolm Peacock
24 January 2025	Maureen Graham
06 February 2025	Prudence Southall

St John's, Leeming

15 November 2024	Monica Harrison
9 December 2024	Pamela Exelby (Ashes Interred)
20 January 2024	Heather Abbott

St Mary's, Thornton Watlass

14 November 2024	Jo Harris
2 December 2024	Norena Backhouse

A Thought for Mothering Sunday.

When you're unwrapping your presents on Mother's Day .
And joined enthralled with your cards and what they have to say;
When you're admiring the flowers, you've got by the bunch .
And perhaps looking forward to Mother's Day lunch,
Spare a thought for the mothers whose loved one has died .
Try hard to conceal the anguish inside;
Desperately trying to hold back the tears.
Evoked by the memories, undimmed by the years;
For whom the passage of time affords little relief .
And Mothering Sunday only adds to the grief.
Not for her a hug, even a voice on the phone,
But the desolate feeling of being alone.
So spare just one thought and perhaps utter a prayer
From the mother whose loved ones is no longer there .

Frank

Deanery Prayer Meetings - 2025

WHEN? 1st Mondays 11am - 12noon.

Arrive at 10.45am if you would like tea/ coffee

WHERE? East Witton Parish Room each month (near the bus stop at the bottom of the Green). You can park on the road side.

WHAT? Our prayers for our beautiful deanery will have a liturgical structure with space in between for our own prayers and for silent prayer. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PRAY OUT LOUD. God hears all the prayers of our hearts, whether spoken or unspoken, and everyone is warmly invited to come.

WHO? You! Why not? God hears all the prayers offered to him. He doesn't favour the prayers of some over others.

DATES: 1st Monday of each month (not May or August) beginning on:
Monday 6th January 10.45am for coffee. Finish at 12pm

Service Times and Venues.

Thursday @10.30am
HC @ St Gregory's

	9.15am—Communion * Facebook	***10.45—Communion***	***18.30—Evensong Conference Call***
Week 1	+8am St Gregory's Bedale	10.45 T/Watlass 11am Leeming	St Gregory's Bedale
Week 2	St Gregory's Bedale	St Mary's Thornton Watlass	Burrill Church
Week 3	St Gregory's Bedale	10.45 T/Watlass 11am Leeming	St Mary's Thornton Watlass
Week 4	9 am Burrill Church St Gregory's	St Mary's Thornton Watlass	St John's Leeming

Note that Evensong begins at 6.30pm when the clocks change for summer

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, WEDDINGS & MEMORIALS

For any enquiries please contact admin@bedale.church.

The beginning of Lent is on Ash Wednesday. This year falling on 5th March. The service associated with this say is an 'Ashing' service, which focuses on the themes of Lent and particularly self examination.

There are three opportunities to take part in this liturgy.

Tuesday 4 March 11am Tuesday Togetherness

Wednesday 5 March 7pm St Gregory's

Thursday 6 March 10.30am St Gregory's

Desmond Morris wrote a book called "The Nature of Happiness"

Interestingly, he cites one of the best " expressions of intense, delirious happiness in the actions of players and fans when a last-minute winning goal is scored in an important match."

He actually lists 10 different types of happiness: -

a. Target Happiness, when a particular goal is reached by the Achiever.
b. Competitive Happiness, when a game or match is won by the Winner.
c. Co-operative Happiness experienced in service to others by the Helper.
d. Genetic Happiness, found by humans, especially parents, as Relatives.
e. Sensual Happiness particularly felt in a sexual relationship, by the Hedonist.
f. Cerebral Happiness, when a particular problem is solved, by the Intellectual.
g. Rhythmic Happiness, often involving a particular beat, by the Dancer.
h. Dangerous Happiness, an antidote to boredom for the Risk – Taker.
i. Devout Happiness discovered through faith, by the Believer.
j. Comic Happiness, best seen in a joke, by the Laugher.

Who's Who Around the Benefice

Rector

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

Clergy

Rev'd Robin Brown robin.stel1@btinternet.com 01677 425483
Rev'd Philip Carrington philipjcarrington@gmail.com 01677 425077
Rev'd Canon Adrian Gatrill adrian.gatrill@gmail.com 07920 837256

Readers

Michelle Dearlove michelle@bedale.church 07483 296927
Steve Madsen snmadsen@outlook.com 01677 988178

Family Chaplain

Michelle Dearlove michelle@bedale.church 07483 296927

Parish Administrator

Sarah Ryder admin@bedale.church 01677 425985

Benefice Safeguarding Officer

Linda Collingwood safeguarding@bedale.church 07944 599351

Chantry Hall Lets

Sarah Ryder admin@bedale.church 01677 425985

Bulletin and Magazine Via the Rector or Parish Administrator

St Gregory, Bedale

Church Wardens

Phillip Witty cw.phillip@bedale.church 07891 537082
Linda Collingwood cw.linda@bedale.church 07944 599351

Treasurer

Paul Carnell treasurer@bedale.Church 01677 422503

PCC Secretary

Sarah Ryder admin@bedale.Church 01677 425985

Organist

Richard Boyton rickdomino47@aol.com 01677 425800

Bell Ringers

Tower Captains Val Dobson and Janet Allen
or Tower Secretary Matthew Bell bedalebellringers@gmail.com

Electoral Roll Officer

Sarah Ryder admin@bedale.Church 01677 425985

Mission Church, Burrill

Church Warden

Chris Griffiths	chrisandmargie@btinternet.com	01677 422632

Treasurers

John Gill	jd.gill@btinternet.com	07549 353696

PCC Secretaries

Elaine Averis	elaineaveris@gmail.com	01677 424300
Jonathon Page		077894 36119

St Mary the Virgin, Thornton Watlass

Church Warden

Christopher Carruthers	cjcskiwatlass@aol.com	01677 423519

Treasurer

Elizabeth Cross	crosselizabeth250@gmail.com	07529220540

PCC Secretary

Carol Armstrong	carol.armstrong21@outlook.com	01677 460063

Organist

Christine Carruthers	cjcskiwatlass@aol.com	01677 423519

Electoral Roll Officer

Sandra Wilkinson	sandrawilkinson999@gmail.com	07387 683563

St John the Baptist, Leeming

Church Warden

David Pratt	dandepratt@hotmail.com	01677 427117
Chris Lyon	chrislyon_52@hotmail.co.uk	01677 425168

Treasurer and PCC Secretary

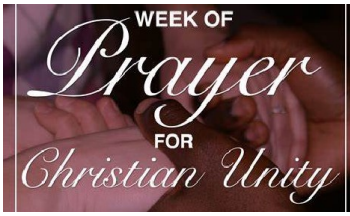
Diane Crisp	mail@thecrisps.plus.com	01677 426049

Organist

Joan Lyon	chrislyon_52@hotmail.co.uk	01677 425168

Electoral Roll Officer

Chris Lyon	chrislyon_52@hotmail.co.uk	01677 425168



Two events were held to mark the 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity' using the same liturgy, prepared by an Italian community entitled, 'This I believe! ' A good number from all our churches gathered in Bedale and District Methodist Church where the Rev'd Ian Prudom, the District Ecumenical Officer spoke.

The abridged version of the service was used in potions at each of the participating churches the following Sunday. Two groups walked one from Leeming and one from Thornton Watlass, via Burrill. They walked to St Mary and St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, (refreshments provided) then onto St Gregory's and Bedale and District Methodist Church (more refreshments provided) .

The next gathering of Churches Together is 10.30am on Good Friday where we gather for another walk of witness.

Tuesday Chattering (from Tuesday Togetherness)

Just to firstly wish everyone a happy and prosperous 2025 and to thank everyone who joined us for our Christmas Buffet and Celebration. A good time was had by all and we even had a surprise visit from some of Santas helpers, a rogue Reindeer and a confused Chicken. (see inner cover of Bedale and Beyond)

What will next year bring?

Out and About

We are in the process of looking into a minibus trip to Mount Grace Priory. The plan would be to leave Bedale about 11am on Tuesday 6th May armed with a picnic Lunch and travel to Mount Grace. If the weather is kind, there are some beautiful walks around the area as well as the Priory itself and the House. There are some lovely gardens, a café and gift shop, it's a beautiful place just to go and ponder a while. And hopefully share in a short Act of Worship and thanksgiving if we can get permission. More details as and when we have them.

Annual Outing - SKIPTON

Again, this is in the planning stages, but we are proposing that this year's outing is to Skipton. There is so much to see and do and for all abilities. The planned date is Tuesday 29th July with details to follow as we know more.

Not much to report on but plenty to look forward to.

Please come and join us on a Tuesday Morning
from 10am in Chantry Hall
SEE YOU THERE

Notices of the Watlass Warden.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THORNTON WATLASS

FEBRUARY

3rd Parish Council - 7.30pm in The Village Hall
9th Plough Sunday Service - 10.45am in church
11th Tuesday Club - 12.30pm for a visit to Kiplin Hall to see the snowdrops
18th Gardening Club - 7.30pm in The Village Hall, all welcome
Wildlife Gardening, Steve Ashton

MARCH

7th World Day of Prayer - Service time TBC
11th Tuesday Club - 7.30pm at The Buck Inn "Fireman Phill"
18th Gardening Club - 7.30pm in The Village Hall, all welcome
Pond Construction and Maintenance - Peter Kirkland
30th **CONFIRMATION SERVICE** - 4pm at Thornton Watlass

Christmas in Zermatt

As some of you know, we decided to go away with some of the family for Christmas. The journey took longer than we had expected, as we were delayed at Leeds Bradford airport for about eight hours, due to high winds, but we eventually arrived at our destination some hours later. We had thought we would be arriving for our evening meal, but it was about two in the morning when we eventually got to Zermatt.

Next morning Chris was eager to go and get his skis and boots fitted, and set off early. The conditions were not very good, and it snowed throughout the day, but he managed a few runs. I set off to the little English Church, St Peter's, hoping to join the morning service at ten o'clock, but the door was locked, and I could not get in. The chaplain who should have been there had unfortunately been unable to travel, as his wife was unwell.

I spent the day wandering around Zermatt, revisiting some of the places I like, while Chris was skiing, and we met up late afternoon to await our family's arrival. It was snowing, and there was lots of snow lying. They got their skis and we got them settled in their apartment, and arranged for Chris to meet them next morning.

Monday was another snowy day. I wandered back to the Church, and there was a phone number on display for the chaplain. A volunteer replacement chaplain had been found – a retired priest who was able to travel at short notice to take the Christmas services. He was to do two Carol Services on Christmas Eve, a Midnight Mass, and a service at 10 am on Christmas Day.

I rang him and asked him if he had anyone to play the organ for his services. When he said no, I volunteered to play for him, and asked if he would like to meet up to discuss the services and the music. We met up in the Church, where he was getting to know where things were. We opened the organ, and I managed to play a few carols from Mission Praise. He had prepared a Carol Service, which would take about an hour. There had been so many people there last year that it was felt that it would be better to do two services. I agreed to play at the 5pm one, but could not do the 7.30pm one because of the evening meal at our hotel. Luckily he could sing and could lead the singing if there was no-one to play! But he seemed pleased when I said I would play at the two Communion services as well. Most of the carols were well-known, and the Bethlehem Carol Sheet was there to be used!

On Christmas Eve Chris said he would go to the Carol Service, and also ended up with a share of the jobs which needed doing. He rang the bell, welcomed people as they arrived, gave out the service sheets, and read one of the lessons. There was a good atmosphere as people started to arrive, and I could hardly believe how the Church filled up. The seats were all taken, the service sheets had all been given out, and people were still arriving. There were quite a

lot of people standing at the back, and when the service started, the singing was very good with several people singing descants. There were volunteers to read the lessons, and it was uplifting to be in a full Church. The second Carol Service and Midnight Mass were also well attended. On Christmas morning there were not as many people there, but it was good to be part of the worship with others who were there on holiday.

The Church was built in 1870, and is run by ICS (Intercontinental Church Society) to serve Zermatt's English-speaking residents, resort workers and tourists.

On Christmas Day (Wednesday) and for the rest of the week the weather was beautiful – blue skies, sunny, ideal skiing conditions and it didn't feel cold! We enjoyed ourselves in the beautiful scenery, and it was definitely a different sort of Christmas!!

Christine Carruthers

PHOTOS
This page: The slope and mountains,
Next page: the church and the organist.

Words From Leeming

Is it just me, or is the winter season dragging on, seems like a lifetime ago that we had a whole day of sunshine. But looking on the bright side, the snowdrops are emerging at last. Also, I think that it is really nice to see just how well kept are the majority of graves, with an abundance of fresh flowers.

So, what's ben going on since the last B & B. Well really bad weather forced us to cancel one service, but attendance at the Christmas services, including the Carol service, was really pleasing. So thank you to all who braved the weather, and continue to support our monthly Coffee Morning.

Now, as is my want, here's something completely different. The "Role" of Church Warden. I'm sure that my fellow Wardens, across the Benefice, will agree that no two days are the same, in respect of looking after our churches. There is always something that needs attention.

The office of Churchwarden dates from the 13th Century, and is thus one of the earliest forms of recognized lay ministry. Duties and responsibilities are many and varied.

They are the legal guardians of the church's moveable goods, such as moveable furniture, plates and ornaments. They are required to keep an accurate, up-to-date inventory of these items. And that's just for starters!! One thing that I have not (yet) had to put into practice is the use of the Warden's Stave to "prod" sleeping or disruptive congregation members. So beware, I'm biding my time!!

This week's tasks, amongst other random things, will include clearing up the remnants of a tree that was blown down during the latest storm (luckily just missing our War Graves) and keeping an eye on a random electrical fault.

As I mentioned earlier, there's always something to be done. But, and I feel sure that my fellow wardens across the Benefice will agree, we love doing it and are very, very lucky to have an extremely supportive vicar, support staff, and loyal congregation. Got to go, time to lock up and see what's on the agenda for tomorrow.

God bless. Chris L

PHOTO

A warm Christmas Glow.