



BENEFICE BULLETIN

Church News for

Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass

15th June 2025

Trinity Sunday and Confirmation

Service Times and Venues

Daily Morning and Evening Prayer conference calls at 8:30am and 4:00pm

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</i>
15th June	10:30 Benefice Service with Confirmation , St Mary's Thornton Watlass #		St Mary's Thornton Watlass
22nd June	9:00 Burrill #	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #	St John's, Leeming
	9.15am St Gregory's #F	11:00 St John's, Leeming #	
22nd June	10:30 Benefice Service, St John's, Leeming #		

Communion F Facebook

Conference Call Tel 03330110945 and enter when prompted Room No.66307496# PIN 9498

NOTICES

Coffee Morning St John's Church Leeming
Thursday 19th June - 10:00 - 12:00



Many thanks to all who contributed to Christian Aid Week. We raised a total of £859.01.

John Critchlow.

PRAYERS AND READINGS

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Bel Newman, Mark Newman, Lesley Hall, Delma Bode, John Hall, Chris, George, Olive Robinson, Chris, Justin, Amanda, Alison, Tim, Dan, George Carling, John, Rachel Oysten, Doris Pearson, Michelle Hammond, and Kevin.

RIP

Gerald Bunting, Elizabeth Rushby, James Constantine, June David, and Pam Conway.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Praying for Edwin in Bolivia

We pray you would bless Edwin as he grows. Keep him safe and strong in the weeks, months, and years ahead. Give his family grace and strength through the highs and lows of caring for a child. In Jesus' name. Amen

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; 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 - Proverbs 8.1–4, 22–31

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: 'To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live. The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth — when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

Second Reading - Romans 5.1–5

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.

Gospel Reading - John 16.12–15

'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. Amen.

COMMENTARY ON THE READINGS

Today's readings remind us that all we are and hope to be comes from God as Trinity. The passage from Proverbs introduces us to the woman called Wisdom, one expression of the creative role of the Spirit within the Godhead. The Psalm celebrates the exalted place of women and men in the created order. The Epistle and Gospel explore how we come to share in the Sonship of Christ, and thus in the life of the Trinity itself.

Proverbs 8.1-4,22-31

Wisdom is not a human achievement but a divine gift offered to all. Wisdom is like a wandering teacher who comes to a city and seeks to recruit students (vv. 1-4). In all the most public places (the reference to 'heights' in verse 2 is probably to the highest point in a city, perhaps the city walls), wisdom looks for those willing to learn. This is the only entry qualification, and those who are simple or lacking in intelligence can become good students in this school (8.5). Thus Wisdom seeks us out, offering a God-given way for society to be ordered (8.15-17) and for individuals to live (8.32-36). Wisdom can do this because she was God's first offspring (vv. 22-31), created before the earth was made. She can advise human beings how to live because she has the knowledge that comes from seeing the act of creation and participating in it as God's partner (v. 30). Her advice now reflects nature itself, for divine order and stability were built into the universe through her. Wisdom was present when God established, drew, made firm, assigned, and marked out the different aspects of creation (v. 29). Many scholars think that the evangelist drew on this picture of Wisdom in expressing the truth about the role of the pre-existent Christ in creation as the Word (logos) in John 1.1-18.

The picture of wisdom as a woman drawn here forms a contrast to the portrait of the adulterous wife in the previous chapter. Both compete for the attention of the young man, but the way of

the adulteress leads to death (7.28), while that of Wisdom leads to life and the Lord's favour (8.35). Wisdom rejoices and delights in human beings (v. 31). When people follow her path all is right, for they are being who they were meant to be, fulfilling God's intentions for them. The idea that it is either right or conducive to human happiness for men and women to chart their own course in life is utterly alien to the text.

Romans 5.1-5

Paul names three benefits that flow from justification by faith. The first is peace with God (v. 1), the second is the grace in which the believers stand (v. 2). Grace is God's undeserved kindness towards us, but Paul develops the idea so that this divine attitude is shown as the secure place upon which we can build our lives. The third benefit is the hope of sharing the glory of God (v. 2). We can look forward to the 'End' confident that in Christ we will be safe from judgement. This hope for the future produces a particular approach to life here and now (vv. 3-5). All kinds of affliction can produce positive results in character, not because they are good in themselves, but because they are lived in hope in God and generate yet more hope in God. Christians know they are eternally secure because the Holy Spirit assures their hearts that God loves them (v. 5).

John 16.12-15

Discovering the truth is not merely a matter of recovering the truth. It is not simply an archaeological exercise. Rather, truth is dynamic and has to be applied afresh in each new situation as the Church engages in mission. In this passage we are promised that the Holy Spirit will guide us in this process. And yet this is not new truth, supplementing or correcting the old. It is still the same truth, expressed with freshness. It is not truth that leads us away from or beyond Jesus, but is rather the truth of Jesus that he shares with the Father and the Spirit.