BENEFICE BULLETIN

Church News for

Bedale, Burrill, Leeming and Thornton Watlass

8th February 2026

Plough Sunday

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

	Morning Services - St Gregory's, Bedale	*Morning Services - St Mary's, St John's and Burrill*	*16:00—Evensong conference call*
8th Feb	9:15am St Gregory's #F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #	Burrill
15th Feb	9:15am St Gregory's #F	10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #	Thornton Watlass
		11am St John's, Leeming #	
22nd Feb	9:15am St Gregory's #F	9:00 Burrill	Leeming
		10:45 St Mary's Thornton Watlass #	

Communion F Facebook

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

PRAYERS

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Bel Newman, Mark Newman, Lesley Hall, Delma Bode, John Hall, Olive Robinson, Chris, Justin, Alison, Dan, John, Rachel Oysten, Doris Pearson, Mal Rowland, Michelle Hammond, Terry and Marion, Caleb, Bailey Cuthbert, Brenda, Ann Madsen, Claire Bell, and Christina.

We continue to pray for our local schools and care homes.

RIP

David Rayner.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Praying for Edwin in Bolivia

Father God, I thank you that you made us to be in relationship with others. We pray for Edwin to know great care and support from those around him. May he be encouraged by his friends at school, and may he show your love and care to his friendship circle. Amen

Readings

Collect

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

First Reading - with congregational response

1 O all ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

2 O ye Angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

3 O ye Heavens, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

4 O ye Waters that be above the Firmament, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

18 O let the Earth bless the Lord :
yea, let it praise him, and magnify him for ever.

19 O ye Mountains and Hills, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

20 O all ye Green Things upon the Earth, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

21 O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

22 O ye Seas and Floods, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

23 O ye Whales, and all that move in the Waters, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 28: 23-26

Listen to me now.
    Give me your closest attention.
Do farmers plow and plow and do nothing but plow?
    Or harrow and harrow and do nothing but harrow?
After they've prepared the ground, don't they plant?
    Don't they scatter dill and spread cumin,
Plant wheat and barley in the fields
    and raspberries along the borders?
They know exactly what to do and when to do it.
    Their God is their teacher.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 13: 3-9, 18-23

"What do you make of this? A farmer planted seed. As he scattered the seed, some of it fell on the road, and birds ate it. Some fell in the gravel; it sprouted quickly but didn't put down roots, so when the sun came up it withered just as quickly. Some fell in the weeds; as it came up, it was strangled by the weeds. Some fell on good earth, and produced a harvest beyond his wildest dreams.

"Are you listening to this? Really listening?"

"Study this story of the farmer planting seed. When anyone hears news of the kingdom and doesn't take it in, it just remains on the surface, and so the Evil One comes along and plucks it right out of that person's heart. This is the seed the farmer scatters on the road.

"The seed cast in the gravel—this is the person who hears and instantly responds with enthusiasm. But there is no soil of character, and so when the emotions wear off and some difficulty arrives, there is nothing to show for it.

"The seed cast in the weeds is the person who hears the kingdom news, but weeds of worry and illusions about getting more and wanting everything under the sun strangle what was heard, and nothing comes of it.

"The seed cast on good earth is the person who hears and takes in the News, and then produces a harvest beyond his wildest dreams."

Hymn

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.

To gather in the harvest machines now lead the way.
We reap the fields with combines, we bale the new mown hay;
But it is God who gives us inventive skills and drive;
Which lighten daily labour and give us fuller lives!

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.