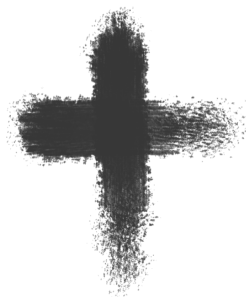


The February Broadsheet 2022



**for the parishes of
Humshaugh
with Simonburn & Wark,
Chollerton with Birtley,
Gunnerton, Thockrington,
St Oswald in Lee.**

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**Revd Frances Dower Associate Priest
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Chollerton Vicarage

I write this as we have just celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany, the twelfth night, the date on which we as Christians in the West remember the coming of the Magi, and the time when Jesus was shown to those who were not of the Jewish faith. To those who had consulted their astrological maps and followed the star to see the Light of the World. By the time you read this we will be approaching the end of the Christmas season (yes, it goes on until February 2nd!). So much time and energy is put into the run up to Christmas- and yet after all the build-up, not least in the retail world, but also in church in the many carol services and crib and nativities, we move on so swiftly, maybe missing opportunities to reflect upon what we are shown in the season of being given to, and giving and showing, and in the Epiphany, making known.

Have we made time to be thankful for what we have been given in every sphere of life, and what we have learned about God and about ourselves this Christmas and Epiphany? For example, I wonder if you have been given a surprising or unexpected gift this year? Sometimes the surprises or unexpected gifts bring us great joy and happiness, even more so than those we might have expected! The Magi gave their gifts to the greatest gift, Jesus, and then they went away by a different route, because they were warned to do so by a messenger of God. Have you resolved to do anything differently this year? Approach things in a new way?

As we move on the liturgical journey through the Christian season and beyond, perhaps we could all take a bit more time to see what is around us and how God shows himself to us in life. You never know, like the wise men, you may find yourself travelling in a different direction from that which you imagined or planned!

God Bless. Sarah Lunn

News about the Post of Priest in Charge in the North Tyne and Redesdale

The post has been advertised nationally and there has been some interest, about which we are delighted. It is anticipated that interviews will be held towards the end of January, and we hope that someone may be appointed to join in with our journey together in this area.

Please do pray for candidates and those who will make a decision on our behalf.

Many thanks.

Sarah Lunn



Humshaugh Notes

The Christmas Carol Service, held in St Peter's, with more than a hundred people, was something very special: Beautifully led by Melanie Wilkinson with Isaac doing the prayers and all of us being able to sing the Carols together, was wonderful.



The First Coffee Morning this year, will be on Saturday, February 12th at 10am. Do come along and catch up with your friends over a coffee and cake! If you would like to hold a coffee morning for your group and/or favourite charity, please contact Diana Linnett by email at humvilhall@gmail.com



The Crown Players would like to extend a big thank you to all who came and supported the production of "A Christmas Carol" and wish everyone a very Happy New Year!
(And all of us in Humshaugh want to thank the Crown Players for a fantastic performance!)



HAP are planning to screen "The Artist" on Friday, February 11th, if the Covid situation improves. The film is a comedy-drama in a black-and-white, mostly silent film. It takes place in Hollywood between 1927 and 1932, as silent cinema falls out of fashion and is replaced by talkies. It won 5 Academy Awards, including Best Picture. Doors will open at 7pm for 7.30 start with the usual bar (and the fabulous puddings for £2). Tickets will be sold at the shop for £5 for adults and £2.50 for under 18's. Posters will give updates nearer the time.



Humshaugh First School. Mrs. Porteus has forged a link with St. Catherine's Primary School in Newcastle. Their children will be paired as Pen Pals with our year 1 to 4. Christmas Cards were sent and in the new year letters and messages will follow...



The Pub Quiz was cancelled in January, but hopefully the February Quiz will take place on Tuesday the 15th of February at 8pm. It will be in aid of the Humshaugh Cricket Club.

It was with great sadness that we heard about the very sudden death, not long before Christmas, of June Jerrard, who lived in Chester Meadows. Our thoughts and prayers are very much with her husband Tony and we wish him all the strength he now so needs.

Love, Liesbeth

WARK PARISH NEWS

As we slowly slip towards Easter, Ash Wednesday is 2nd April, I'll briefly mention Christmas morning at St. Michael's, where a number of communicants joined from neighbouring parishes and churches for the Eucharist which was led by Catherine, Archdeacon of Lindisfarne, who has expressed her thanks for the welcome and friendship given to her and her husband. She was also very complimentary regarding the way we are all working together in the parish providing between St. Michael's and MURC a weekly worship.

Certainly, early January is being complicated by Covid-19 with a number of events being scaled back or cancelled. Fortunately, other than the need for a face covering and sensible precautions, restrictions on attendees in church are not in place.

Saturday 8th January and St. Michaels hosted the funeral of, I think reasonable to say, one of the great characters of the area, Tot Hutchinson, who died prior to Christmas. Many will recall the Country and Western weekends Tot and Annie held at The Haining for a number of years. What weekends they were! Simon, their son, read the tribute to his father. This was spoken with warmth, sincerity and confidence. A lesson to all on how to pay tribute to someone so close to you. Our thoughts and prayers go to Annie and Simon and may Tot rest in peace at The Haining. Around the same time Fiona Slade's mother died. Thoughts and prayers go to Fiona, Mike and their family. Let perpetual light shine upon her.

As I prepare to send these notes the sad news of the death of Jim Tait has arrived with me. Well known and respected in the village, Jim not only enjoyed fishing but was a great baker of cakes. His chocolate cake was superb. To Christine and Andrew we send you our thoughts and prayers. Your father was a true gentleman.

Prior to Christmas, Wark School distributed Christingle candles amongst the children to act as a collection box for The Children's Society, resulting in a collection of £136. Well done to all.

Something to look forward to.....Easter Eggs are in the shops! I'll chat with you soon.

Love John

Birtley Notes

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Let us hope it turns out better than the last two, even though Covid has reared it's ugly head once again, with many things in the parish being put on hold.

A belated 'Thank You' to Hughie and Gloria Milburn for kindly donating the two metal soldiers beside the War Memorial.

The headstones which were keeling over in the churchyard and some bits of walling which needed sorting have been attended to. Our thanks go to Lesley Gosling, who acquired funding from the Ray Wind Farm to do this work.

A vacancy has occurred on the Parish Council, with Tony Brotherton leaving the district. If anyone is interested please contact the Chairman, Ernest Coulson.

At the top of the village, Ben and Emma have shifted to (Bob Hunter's) house and the new tenants of no. 1 Percy View are Lewis and Shannan, we wish them well and hope they enjoy living among us.

Mary.

Simonburn Notes

A little late but Happy New Year! Thank you to Rev. Canon Sarah for taking our Carol service, to Rev. Claire Robson for coming to lead the Midnight Eucharist on Christmas Eve and to Jani Keep for playing the organ. How lovely it was to have a little bit of normality.

It was sad to hear of the passing of Isobel Church in December. Isobel and Anthony, her son, moved from Wark to Simonburn 15 years ago and last year they moved to Acomb. The collection at her funeral was for The British Legion, of which Isobel was a great supporter. Our thoughts go to Anthony at this sad time.

Due to popular demand, the village hall will be selling bacon butties on the first Tuesday of the month, starting on Tuesday 1st February at 9-11am. Bacon butties with tea/ coffee £2.50, sit in or takeaway. This is a good chance to meet up with friends, old and new, and have a good chat.

On Friday 25th February, the village hall will be holding another social evening 6.30 for 7pm. (Darts, Dominoes, Pool, Bowls optional). PIE AND PEA SUPPER AND DESSERT £5. Bring your own refreshments. Booking isn't necessary but it would be helpful if you could contact Christine on 07523 166543 to let her know if you are planning to come, so that she has an idea of numbers for the pies etc., thank you.

Fancy a book to read? There are lots of books in church, donations for St.Mungo's.

The evenings are becoming noticeably lighter already, it makes you feel better and fingers crossed things will be better, all round, this year too.

Take care,

Love Sharon x

Bacon Butties

1st Tuesday of every month
Starting Tuesday 1st February
9am to 11am
at

Simonburn Village Hall

with tea or coffee

£2.50

Eat in or take away

Do come along
for a butty & a chat.



Coffee Mornings

Humshaugh Village Hall
Saturday February 12th
Do come along and enjoy a coffee
and cake between 10 and 12 noon.

All welcome.



Social Night

Simonburn Village Hall

Friday 25th February
£5 inc. Pie & Pea supper with dessert

Extra for knockout Darts, Dominoes,
Bowls & Pool



(bring your own drinks)

Starting at 6.30pm



To book your supper contact

Christine Burrige on 07523166543

TEA AT THREE



At Gunnerton Church
Tuesday 15th February
Please come along for the
Home baking and good
conversation



Gunnerton Lunch Club

Wednesday 23rd February
Soup, dessert and tea or coffee

at 12 noon

All welcome



Date for your diary



Easter Bingo
Simonburn Village Hall
Thursday 7th April



**Donation of prizes would be much
appreciated thank you**

**Donations of prizes please contact:
Christine Burrige on 07523 166543**

Late@8 – a relaxed way of worshipping

Each month on the first Sunday, St Peter's Humshaugh hosts an informal worship service. It starts with refreshments (Covid rules permitting!) from 7.30 pm, then from 8 pm for around an hour we sing modern worship songs with the help of a band, hear Scripture read and opened up for us, and spend some time in prayer. Everything is very informal and everyone is welcome (whatever your worship experience or background) – just come with an open heart to meet with God.

For our Spring 2022 series, we will be taking a look at the themes of Faith, Hope and Love, starting on Sunday 6 February (7.30 for 8 pm) with Faith. Final details (e.g. response to Covid rule changes) are advised by e-mail each month, so if you would like to receive these, please send your e-mail address to Roger Langford (rogerlangford37@outlook.com).

For more details about this monthly service, contact Elaine (revelaine212@gmail.com or 01830 520212).

We look forward to seeing you at St Peter's for Late@8!

Elaine and the Late@8 team

Lent Groups

Easter is late this year (April 17th) and so there is still time to consider if you would like to be part of a Lent Group in the Deanery. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which is March 2nd. If it is possible with Covid, we will try meet in person, but if not it would be good to meet online. Do consider if you might like to be part of a group meeting for a few weeks. Please contact one of the clergy if you would like to be part of this.

A date for your diary **A Quiet Morning for Lent**

Thursday 24th March at the Old Rectory, Wark
10am for coffee, session starting at 10.30am
Finishing with a light lunch at 1pm

More details to follow next month!

Services in the Deanery for February

- **3rd February**
10.00am Holy Communion at Chollerton
- **6th February** 4th Sunday before Lent
Readings: Isaiah 6: 1-8; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Luke 5: 1-11
8.30am Holy Communion at Gunnerton
10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham
10.30am MURC Service at Wark
11.00am Parish Worship at Falstone
2.00pm Holy Communion at Otterburn
3.00pm Holy Communion at Bingfield
6.00pm Holy Communion at Elsdon
8.00pm Late@8 at Humshaugh
- **10th February**
10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham
- **13th February** 3rd Sunday before Lent
Readings : Jeremiah 17: 5-10; 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20; Luke 6: 17-26
8.30am Holy Communion at Thockrington
8.30am Holy Communion at Horsley
10.00am Holy Communion at Humshaugh
3.00pm Holy Communion at Thorneyburn
4.00pm Holy Communion at Wall
6.00pm Holy Communion at Wark
- **17th February**
10.00am Holy Communion at Gunnerton
- **20th February** 2nd Sunday before Lent. Readings: Genesis 2: 4-9, 15-end; Revelation 4; Luke 8: 22-25
8.30am Holy Communion at Falstone
10.00am Holy Communion at Chollerton
10.00am Parish Worship at Bellingham
10.30am MURC Service at Wark
11.00am Parish Worship at Otterburn
3.00pm Holy Communion at Birtley
6.00pm Holy Communion at Simonburn
- **24th February**
10.00am Holy Communion at Wall
- **27th February** Sunday next before Lent.
Readings: Exodus 34: 29-end; 2 Corinthians 3;12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36
8.30am Holy Communion at Chollerton
10.00am Deanery Zoom
3.00pm Holy Communion at Byrness
6.00pm Parish Worship at Thorneyburn
6.00pm Holy Communion at Humshaugh
6.00pm Parish Worship at Wark



Everyone will find a warm welcome everywhere! We will continue to send out an email weekly bulletin to advise of any changes to services due to Covid or adverse weather. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact Sarah Lunn at sarahlunn63@gmail.com