



Outlook

**The magazine of
St Mark's Church
Longwood**



June 2024

From Fr Simon: Joining up and joining in

During 4 mornings, and for over 30 miles, we walked to 17 local Church of England Churches, 1 Hospital Chapel, and 1 University Faith Centre. At the most there were 15 of us gathered in a church, and 13 walking. At the least there were 2 walking, but this was rare. Bishop Smitha joined us at Golcar, and Archdeacon Bill walked and prayed with us from Christ Church Woodhouse, via St Hilda's Cowcliffe, to St Cuthbert's Birkby.

The weather ranged from beautiful sunshine, to solid rain (but not for long).

All but one church was open as we arrived.

At most we were greeted with drinks and/or food.

Some people were visibly pleased to see us, to join us for prayer, to share stories.

At other churches it seemed more as if we were a curiosity or irrelevance or even an inconvenience.

We started on the Monday at Shred Church above Slaithwaite, who greeted us with a very early (and very impressive) breakfast. We ended on Thursday at Huddersfield Parish Church, for a sung service. We arrived at Longwood, where we prayed before having lunch outside.

For me, it felt very special to deliberately walk to a church, dedicating that journey to God. Then to arrive and pray in that church and for that church. Then to leave, with the intention, "As we walk, we are praying that the presence of God is known in the places where we are walking."

It was good to pray for our churches of St John's and St Mark's; and to link all our deanery churches together in this way.

For some churches, including some in vacancy, our task felt to be to encourage, to say 'well done', and 'thank you', that 'you are not forgotten', 'you are part of us'.

As the days progressed, the rhythm found its heartbeat. Gathering, praying, dedicating, leaving, walking, arriving and so on.

At one church, when choosing the bible verse from the selection in the leaflet, someone noted that ‘there is a rich vein of bible verses and passages about walking’. Isn’t it amazing how often we read about walking, and how seldom we do it as church!

The dynamics of the group had its own life as people joined and left, and as the weather and terrain changed. This was good, and gave a different feel to each day and to each section, even as the days all seemed to link together into one journey, and one prayer.

Stories were shared as we travelled together. Specific prayers were offered for those who requested.

Some folk who joined in said how good it was, and they were looking forward to it again next year! I had only planned to do it at as a one-off, but who knows...

Thank you to all who helped, designed leaflets, encouraged, prayed, walked, welcomed and joined in in any way.

God bless

May God bless this church, and this place.

Amen.

May it be

a place of welcome for the traveller
a beacon of hope for those who seek
a place of rest for the weary
a home for the restless
an open door for those with questions
a space for healing for those who hurt
a place of joy beyond words

In God’s Spirit, may this church grow, flourish, and bear fruit.

Amen.

What's on – some important dates

Sunday 2nd June 11am Baptism of Sophie

Sunday 9th June 11am Family Service

Monday 10th June 7pm, at St John's Golcar. A session about prayer, led by George Guiver, one of the monks from Mirfield, the Community of the Resurrection.

Saturday 15th June 4pm, at St John's Golcar. Royal Cocktail Party, and The King's birthday

Wednesday 26th June 3pm, The Longwood Sing "working party": clearing leaves etc at the Longwood Tower and Amphitheatre.

Sunday 30th June, at St John's Golcar. Afternoon Concert by Musica Kirklees

Looking Ahead

Sunday 7th July 10am at St John's Church, Golcar. Confirmation service with the Bishop of Huddersfield, Smitha Prasadam. There will be no service at St Mark's on this day.

Sunday 14th July 11am ECO Family Service. A service all about our beautiful world and our care for it.

Saturday 10th August 10am-12.30pm Summer Fair, with local craft stalls

Sunday 11th August 10am, Service on the Vicarage Lawn, followed by Olympics Garden Party

Memorial Roses

We have created an area of the churchyard for roses to be planted in memory of loved ones. To do this, please make a donation, and we will purchase a suitable plant on your behalf.

Pentecost

We had a joyous Pentecost Service and Whitwalk together with St John's Golcar, Providence Methodist and Parkwood Methodist churches. The photo on the front was taken as we left St John's and began the walk in glorious weather down to St Mark's. "We are one in the Spirit!". Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Taizé

17th – 26th August, Pilgrimage to Taizé with The Bishop of Huddersfield, Smitha Prasadam.

Go as a young person, adult, as a family or church leader.

£300 per person includes your stay and return coach travel from Huddersfield.

"Experiencing a simple life shared with others reminds us that daily life is the place where Christ is waiting for us.

Some young people are looking for ways of following Christ with their whole lives. A stay in Taizé can help discern this call." More information from Fr Simon, and on leaflets in church.

Ordinary Time

Did you know, the Sundays after Trinity Sunday are known as "Ordinary Time". It is a time to find God in our everyday lives and to grow. The colour for this season is green, and lasts until the end of October.

Puzzle Pages



Names and Titles of Jesus



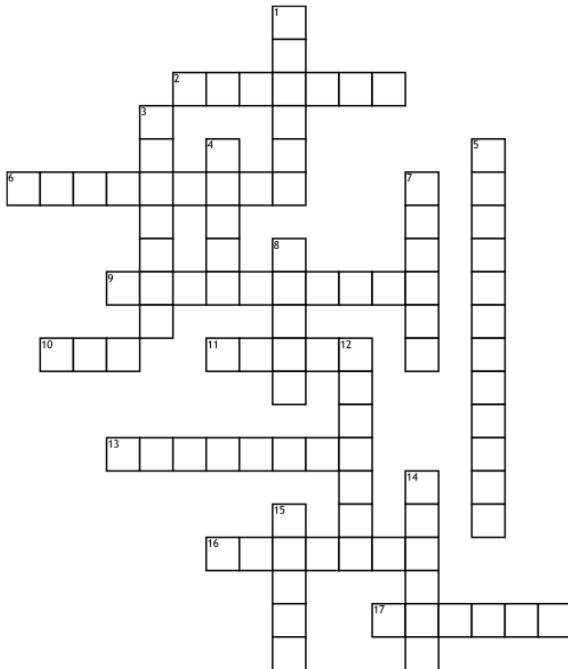
Word list:

CHRIST
EMMANUEL
JESUS
KING OF THE JEWS
LAMB OF GOD
LIGHT OF THE WORLD

LORD
MASTER
REDEEMER
SAVIOR
SON OF DAVID
SON OF GOD



Church Life



Across

- 2. Special wine cup
- 6. Holy Communion
- 9. Last book in the Bible
- 10. Seat row
- 11. Rings for start
- 13. Late night evening prayer

- 16. Persons responsible for Church and Glebe
- 17. Select or Easter meetings

Down

- 1. Preaching spot
- 3. Front part of church
- 4. Walkway

- 5. See through coloured art
- 7. Book of songs
- 8. Bird that a Bible might be on
- 12. Tallest point of building
- 14. Day of resurrection
- 15. Colour for ordinary time

Joke

I couldn't believe the way the vicar changed in church.
It was his altar ego!

Think you can do better?

Email your church jokes to Fr Simon revscrook@gmail.com



Weekly events

Sunday Services are at 11am

Tuesdays 6pm Midweek communion, it is a shorter and simpler service than our Sunday services

Mondays and Wednesdays 9am morning prayer (use the side door)

Wednesdays 2-4pm friendly gardening group

Bible studies are usually Mondays 2pm at St John's Golcar, Thursdays 7.30pm at the vicarage. See the weekly pewsheet for more details.

**For Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals
To receive this magazine by email
or for any other enquiry**

contact us: **01484 654647**
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