

# St Botolph's Church Magazine

February 2025

PRICE 50p

# Knottingley



# Parish News

# The Parish Church

Priest in charge	Mother Sharon	671415
Church Wardens	Linda Brown	673463
	Janet Laycock	662028
Deputy Wardens	Ray Wilson	
	Wayne Evans	
Organist	Daniel Fretwell	
Standing Committee	Mother Sharon, L. Brown, J. Laycock, R. Bagley	
Deanery Rep.	Wayne Evans	
Safeguarding	Janet Laycock	07790939025
Health and Safety Officer	Sheila Hutley	
Flower Co-ordinators	Janet & Linda	
Parish Room Bookings	Linda Brown	673463
Tower Captain	Paul Hargrave	678741

## **Organisations**

Rainbows/Brownies /Guides	Janet Laycock	662028
Friends of St Botolph's	Linda Brown	673463

## **Knottingley Parish News**

Editor	Janet Laycock	662028
Treasurer	Janet Laycock	662028
Advertisements	Janet Laycock	662028
Printing and Distribution	Linda Brown/Richard Bagley	673463 07396598237

## **The Parochial Church Council**

Chairman	Mother Sharon	671415
Vice Chairman	Janet Laycock	662028
Secretary	Sue Barlow	07485170704
Treasurer	Richard Bagley	07396598237
Electoral Roll Officer	Janet Laycock	662028

# of Knottingley



## Sunday Services:

**Parish Eucharist 10.00am**  
(all the family are welcome)

**Holy Days - As announced**

**Contact us: Mother Sharon 01977 671415**

**Churchwardens :** Linda 07939967800

Janet 07790939025

Or email **[stbotolphchurchknott@yahoo.com](mailto:stbotolphchurchknott@yahoo.com)**

Parents wishing their children to be Baptised should attend church beforehand, our services are 10 am on Sundays.

## Diary Dates

5 March Ash Wednesday

6 March Lent Lunches begin, 12noon, St  
Botolph's Parish Room

7 March World Day of Prayer, 2 pm, Ropewalk  
Methodist Church

The Editor

email **[stbotolphchurchknott@yahoo.com](mailto:stbotolphchurchknott@yahoo.com)** (please use plain text)

Web site - **[www.stbotolphsknottingley.org.uk](http://www.stbotolphsknottingley.org.uk)**

**Copydate**

**Copy for March:- 2 February 2025**

**April:- 8 March 2025**

**May:- 6 April 2025**

Dear Friends,



February brings heart shapes everywhere – cards, sweets, ornaments, cushions, I've even seen heart shaped crumpets. St. Valentine, has become the patron saint of love and around his festival on the 14th we are inundated with symbols of love everywhere. Of course, once the 15th arrives all those symbols will have been eaten, recycled, discarded, or perhaps put away as keepsakes – and the remainder in the shops will be sold off at a discount.

Romantic love is a wonderful thing while it lasts, and can be the foundation for lasting, mutual care and relationships, but like the cards and gifts, chocolate and crumpets, it is often soon gone or sold cheap. But love is very important: - love of family, friends, neighbours, all humankind, as individuals, as groups, love for creation, for all life on our planet, for ourselves. Without love, which gives us a focus, a passion, a reason to act positively for others we would miss so much that is good in our lives. Real love is not cheap, easy, or disposable, it's not always shiny or fluffy or tasty; it can be difficult, unrewarding, costly, unrelenting – but as the song says, it's what makes the world go round.

The Bible has much to say about love – asking us to love one another, to love God and to love ourselves. It tells us to love because God loved us first and God's love is unconditional – that love doesn't care who we are, what we look like, what we have done, whether we are rich or poor or have a good sense of humour or not, it's never-ending and we can never do anything to earn it, or anything that will stop it.

For those of us who are Christians, we are asked to share that love, to pass it on and follow God's example, that's not easy, and we often fail as we are human, not divine. If you find it hard to love, or feel you fail at times the passage below helps us with some instructions. But also, being reminded just how much we are loved by the one who will never stop loving us, can make it easier.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. *1 Corinthians 13:4-7*  
May you know just how much you are loved and share that love with everyone you meet.

God bless.

Mthr Sharon



## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION KNOTTINGLEY BRANCH

Chairman:  
Mr R Spacey  
24 Quarry Avenue  
Knottingley  
West Yorkshire  
WF11 0DG

Mrs Ann Penistone  
34 Womersley Road  
Knottingley  
West Yorkshire  
WF11 0DJ  
Telephone : 01977 672855

Could I on behalf of the Knottingley Branch of the Royal British Legion, thank everyone who so generously donated to this year's Poppy Appeal. The total raised in the Knottingley and surrounding areas so far is £29,494.62p, which is a tremendous amount.

Thanks must go to all shops, offices, schools, pubs and clubs who had our Poppy boxes in their premises. Morrisons, Lidl and Moto service station who allowed our volunteers to collect on their premises and made us all extremely welcome. Plus, a massive thank you to our loyal band of volunteers who gave their precious time to man these sites.

Thanks also to the wonderfully talented people who made handcrafted items for us to sell, helping us to raise further funds.

A special thank you to Bev Rooker who sang at our fund raiser earlier in the year, where a number of our volunteers were presented with 15 year and 20 year long-service badges.

Last but certainly not least, thank you to the Knottingley Silver Band who started our appeal off in brilliant flag waving style with a wonderful evening of entertainment in the Knottingley Club, and who once again provided the music at our annual Service of Remembrance at the Knottingley War Memorial. This was led by Mother Sharon and was once again very well attended.

My sincere thanks to everyone once again – what a brilliant team effort.

Kind regards

Ann Penistone – Knottingley Branch Royal British Legion

[The Legion's mission is to safeguard the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or have served in the Armed Forces.](#)

The advice provided by the Welfare Division of the charitable body of The Royal British Legion (TRBL) is intended as guidance only and given in good faith. No liability howsoever arising from the giving of such advice is accepted. If in doubt TRBL advise that suitable independent advice should be sought. Furthermore, where TRBL represent any claimant before any body of Tribunal, all liability arising there from is expressly excluded.

[Registered no. 219279 under the Charities Act 1969](#)





## Some useful numbers

Ash Grove Drs Surgery 01977 673141

Ash Grove Pharmacy 01977 622107

Ferrybridge Medical Centre 01977 664141

Non Emergency Medical 111

Emergency Dentist Urgent treatment cost £23.80 + Dental cost 111

Non Emergency Number 101

You should call 101 if you want to talk to your local police officer, get crime prevention advice, or report a crime that does not need an emergency response, for example: if your car has been stolen. your property has been damaged. you suspect drug use or dealing.

Emergency 112 can use this on mobiles also landline world wide; equivalent to 999

Emergency Gas Number for gas leaks or you can smell gas. 0800 111 999

Fast Response Electrician 24/7 local call outs, ask for a quote beforehand - Fault finding, Land Lord Certificate, Electrical Wiring, Pat testing 0800 038 5658



Looking through my albums and scrap books I found  
these lovely pieces that I would like to share with you all.

*Peter Greenwood.*

### Spring Again

Spring has slipped her slippers off  
And gently flutters through the air,  
Touching trees that soon will leaf,  
Bringing beauty everywhere.

The snowdrop lifts her lovely head  
And others soon will join the ranks;  
A verdant mantle clothes the ground  
With cowslips seen 'midst the grassy banks.

Softer winds begin to blow,  
The earth refreshed with gentle rain  
Will once again burst forth with life,  
So pleased to see spring back again.

*Megan Carter*



**St Botolph's Church , Knottingley**  
**REQUEST FOR AN ENTRY IN THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

Please complete this form and return to one of the Churchwardens, There is no fee for making an entry in the Book of Remembrance, but a donation towards the cost of a new Book will be most welcome, please make cheques payable to KNOTTINGLEY ST BOTOLPH'S PCC. The Parochial Church Council reserves the right to refuse any entry which is deemed unsuitable.

**DETAILS OF THE DECEASED**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Additional short inscription (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILS OF PERSON REQUESTING ENTRY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

Donation enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

The name and date of death will appear annually, in the appropriate month, in the Parish Magazine . Please tick the box if you do NOT agree to this.

For office use only – details to go in Church Parish Magazine

Full date of death, day-month-year \_\_\_\_\_

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date request received \_\_\_\_\_



## Puzzle Corner

Astronaut	Mercury
Constellation	Solar System
Dwarf Planet	Saturn
Earth	Orbit
Galaxy	Uranus
Rocket	Planet

Oxygen	Milky Way
Eclipse	Comet
Telescope	Vega
Light Year	Venus
Shuttle	Jupiter
Meteor	

# Space Word Search

Z U S R N R U T A S Z U Z C T F F R Q W I I G  
 R O O N K U P L A N E T D D G U R J I D G P S  
 O D L N T E N A L P F R A W D D B G I O Y K U  
 E K A D T D E E K R O P M I L K Y W A Y E E N  
 T R R O K J F W M A C J L M E R C U R Y R P E  
 E R S N Q M B K S S O T R I D P C J H N G O V  
 M E Y W O T W M P T M I E G G M V N L P A C R  
 J C S M O V A V G R E B T Z C H K O M V L S U  
 K L T F X F E L G O T R I O P L T T N E A E U  
 I I E R Y L C J G N G O P Q F B S Y G G X L H  
 A P M F G S U I U A V I U H R W I Y E A Y E T  
 C S X N E K U F I U J L J P N N L K U A Z T Z  
 J E M R N C O N S T E L L A T I O N P L R V A  
 L O A C V E M I B A V I C K S H U T T L E L D  
 R E A R T H V Y O L W B N Q V G S U N A R U G  
 W Y X X R B W R L J S Q W G N T E K C O R H B

### Some space jokes



**How do you know when the moon has enough to eat?**

When it's full.

**How does our solar system hold up its pants?**

With an asteroid belt.



**What did the astronaut cook for lunch?**

An unidentifiable frying object.

**WHAT IS THE CENTER OF GRAVITY?**

The letter V.



### Some fun space facts

**Did you know that a year on Mercury lasts just 88 Earth days? This means that two years on**



**Mercury lasts for only 3 days.**

**Did you know that space is completely silent because there's no air to carry sound waves? No one can**



**hear you scream in space!**



# St Botolph's



## Handbell Ringers

**Available for any event to provide some musical entertainment, with tunes that can be adapted to any function,  
i.e. Garden Parties, Charity Fundraisers, Christmas and Easter Festivities, Care Home Gatherings, and much more.**

**Contact Paul Hargrave, Bells Captain, on 01977 678741 to discuss how we can best perform to your particular audience.**

***We do not charge a specific fee, but donations are appreciated towards the upkeep of the handbells – thank you.***

# St Botolph's Church Bell Ringers

## Tower Bell Ringers

St Botolph's Church, Knottingley has a beautiful ring of 10 bells.

Unfortunately we have only 6 ringers.

If anyone is interested in tower bell ringing, please get in touch.

Paul Hargrave 01977 678741



**SIMON COCKCROFT**

D.Pod.M, M.ChS.

112 Weeland Road  
Knottingley, WF11 8BG  
(01977) 671791

**CHIROPODIST**

**LOW FARM**

MOT's  
While-U-Wait  
(No re-test fee)

Repairs & Service

65B WEELAND ROAD

KNOTTINGLEY

01977 673189

**GARAGE**



**Need a joiner?**

Contact Scot

tel: 07925923782

SamSco. Construction Limited



# Community Shop

OPEN FOR MORE

## Knottingley Community Shop

### Opening Hours

Mon - Fri - 9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturday - 9.00am - 3.00pm

Address: Hill Top, Pontefract Rd, Knottingley WF11 8EE

Membership is free and open to those who live locally to a Community Shop store and are in receipt of a means tested benefit (e.g. JSA, ESA, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support).

Community Shop Knottingley provides eligible members of the local community with access to high-quality, low-cost food and household products, as well as giving wrap-around support through its life-changing personal development programmes that deliver real change for individuals and communities.

Call in for your shopping or a tasty meal.





# Church Funds/Flowers

We gratefully acknowledge donations from

Peter and Nancy in loving memory of their parents,  
Albert and Rose Greenwood.



Peter, Nancy and family in loving memory of a very dear friend,  
Anne Slack (nee Houlden) and of her mum, Nellie Houlden.

everyone who donated to our flower fund for the Christmas  
Flowers.



## LSH DECOR

COMMERCIAL AND DOMESTIC  
DECORATING

LUKE SPENCE-HIRST

☎ 07508 678 092

📌 LSH Decor

Call for a no obligation quote

# Calendar - February 2025

**2nd CANDLEMAS - PRESENTATION OF CHRIST  
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am**

**9th FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT  
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am  
\* \* \* MARCH MAGAZINE COPY DATE \* \* \***



**16th THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT  
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am**

**23rd SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT  
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am**

## March

**2nd SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT  
TEAM EUCHARIST 10.00 am**

**5th ASH WEDNESDAY  
TEAM EUCHARIST, 6.30pm, St Martin, Womersley**

## St Botolph's Parish Room

Monday

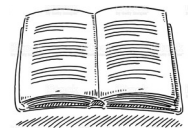
Tuesday      Saviour Trust  
Rainbows, Brownies and Guides  
Hand Bells

Wednesday   Children's Gymnastics

Thursday      Friends of St Botolph's (second Thursday)  
Lunch Club (fourth Thursday)  
Judo

Friday

### Church Rotas



2 February	Sheila	Rita	Sheila
9 February	Renée	Edna	Mark
16 February	Jackie	Dianne	Jackie
23 February	Glenis	Ann	Colin
2 March	Sheila	Rita	Sheila
9 March	Renée	Edna	Mark
16 March	Jackie	Dianne	Jackie
23 March	Glenis	Ann	Colin
30 March	Sheila	Rita	Sheila



# Knottingley Judo Club

**BRITISH  
JUDO**



Knottingley Judo Club can be found in St Botolphs parish rooms on Thursday evenings. We pride ourselves on the fun, friendly, family atmosphere in the club and welcome all new members regardless of experience and ability. The club is run by Ian Sidaway (3<sup>rd</sup> Dan) with the help of Catriona Barber (1<sup>st</sup> Dan). All coaches are fully qualified, DBS checked and first aid trained.

## **Training Times**

Thursday evenings at St Botolphs parish rooms

Junior grades	(5-14years)	6-30-7.30pm
Senior grades	(14 years +)	8.00-9.00pm

## **Contact**

Ian Sidaway	07935 498518	iansid@live.co.uk
Catriona Barber	07594 922614	catriona.barber50@gmail.com



# Bottery



## Club

Membership costs £1 per week per number and the draw takes place in the Parish Rooms after the Sunday morning service

27 October	82	Emma Wilson	£40
	73	Renée Huby	£10
3 November	23	Julie	£40
	29	Jackie Prince	£10
10 November	17	John Bywater	£40
	71	Margaret Booth	£10
17 November	178	Anne Rowling	£40
	48	Brenda Barlow	£10
24 November	80	Jack Hall	£40
	78	Molly Fox	£10
1 December	53	AH	£40
	25	Linda Brown	£10
8 December	138	Sandra Ward	£40
	53	AH	£10
15 December	47	Katherine Carr	£40
	9	Ruth Blackburn	£10
22 December	46	Janet Penty	£40
	51	Gary Wilson	£10
29 December	104	Julie Dobbins	£40
	29	Jackie Prince	£10

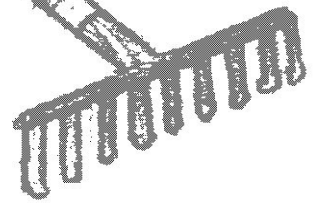
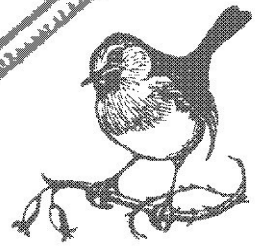
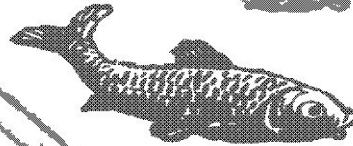
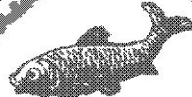
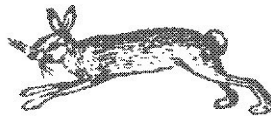
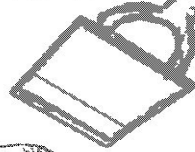
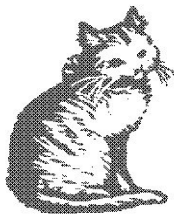
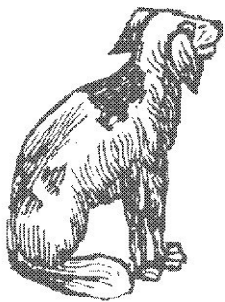
We would be grateful for any additional members to join our Bottery Club, all proceeds go directly to support the upkeep of St Botolph's Church.

If anyone would like to join the weekly bottery, which is £1 per number per week, please contact, Sue Barlow on 07485170704



# **KNOTTINGLEY PET & GARDEN SUPPLIES**

**15 RACCA GREEN,  
KNOTTINGLEY 671238**



01977 690899



# **H & COMPANY**

HAIR & BEAUTY



# Is the cost of living crisis affecting you?

With food and energy prices rising, it can be a worrying time for many of us. But we are here to help you.

The foodbank can support you with:

Providing emergency food

Offering a listening ear over a cup of tea

Support to find further help

Please call our help through hardship  
freephone number 0808 208 2138  
or come in and see us!

We are located at:

The Methodist Church, Ropewalk, Knottingley, WF11 9AL

Tuesday and Friday 10am – 12noon

## Donate

We rely on donations!

Items we run short of

Tinned Veg/fruit, Long Life  
Milk, Cordial, Tinned meat/  
fish, Biscuits, Sugar,  
Tinned Soup

## Volunteer

We rely on volunteers and we  
have some amazing people who  
volunteer with Knottingley  
Foodbank! If you would like to  
volunteer please do  
get in touch

Contact via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or Email  
[manager@knottingley.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:manager@knottingley.foodbank.org.uk)

## St Botolph's Parish Giving Scheme

As reported in last month's magazine, the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) was launched for St Botolph's in June 2020.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an established service for managing Direct Debit donations, designed to support churches to fund their mission and ministry. It reduces the burden of work on church volunteers and provides a simple and secure service to donors.



The service is freely available to all parishes, their churches and donors, within dioceses that have chosen to participate. Uptake is growing every year, with the majority of dioceses in the Church of England - and many of their parishes - now members of PGS and experiencing the benefits.

Further details can be found here: [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk)

**The PGS makes it possible for donors to:**  
**Donate monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit**  
**Sign up to inflation-linked giving annually**  
**Enhance your gift to your church by having Gift Aid at 25%**  
**added to your giving**  
**Give securely and donate anonymously, if you prefer**

**You can set up a Direct Debit to donate regularly to St Botolph's:**

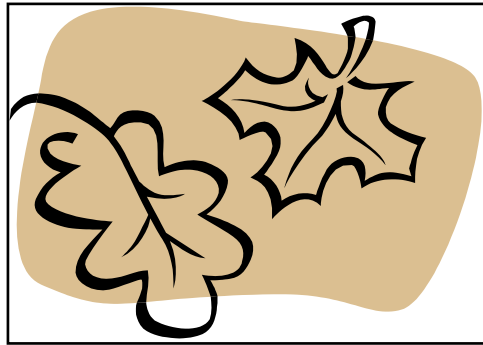
**via gift form available from Richard Bagley (Treasurer).**

**Tel: 07396598237. Email: [richardbagley99@gmail.com](mailto:richardbagley99@gmail.com)**

**or directly via the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1271  
(Monday to Friday, 9 am- 5 pm)**

# **The Manse**

**Residential Care Home  
Ropewalk  
Knottingley  
WF11 9AL**



**Placements available for: -  
Permanent Care  
Holiday/Short Stay Care  
Day Care**

**Private & DSS welcome**

**For further details or to arrange a visit please contact us on  
01977 677955**

**A Family Run Home Where Care Comes First**



email :- *care@the-manse.me.uk*  
**www.the-manse.me.uk**



# Fancy a cuppa?

**The 3rd Saturday of each month**

**15 February 2025**

**10am until 12 noon**

**at**

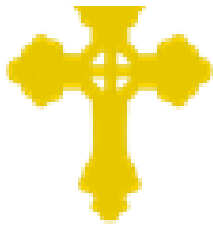
**The Knottingley Club**



**Meet for a bacon butty and a cuppa  
With your local British Legion**







## St Edward the Confessor

From the parishes of Ferrybridge and Brotherton and Byram



Our usual service times are below:

### Sunday

8am	Said Holy Communion	St Andrew
9.15am	Parish Eucharist	St Edward the Confessor
11.00am	Parish Eucharist	St Andrew

### Wednesday

9.15 am	Eucharist	St Edward the Confessor
---------	-----------	-------------------------

### Thursday

10.00 am	Eucharist	St Andrew
----------	-----------	-----------

We now hold our Sunday evening services. Their format will vary, more information will be found on our Facebook pages and website.

1st Sunday of the month	St Edward the Confessor
-------------------------	-------------------------

3rd Sunday of the month	St Andrew
-------------------------	-----------

Facebook: St Edward the Confessor, Brotherton.

Facebook: St Andrew's Church, Ferrybridge

Website: [www.stedwardsbrotherton.co.uk](http://www.stedwardsbrotherton.co.uk)

Website: [www.standrewsferrybridge.co.uk](http://www.standrewsferrybridge.co.uk)

## **Events**

23 Feb      Sunday Social, 1 - 3pm  
                 Brotherton Parish Hall (last Sunday of the month)

To arrange weddings or baptisms please contact Mother Sharon.

God Bless  
Mthr Sharon Brown MA SCP

Priest in Charge of the parishes of Ferrybridge, Brotherton, Knottingley, Kellington & Whitley with Eggborough, and Womersley.

New Vicarage  
Pontefract Rd  
Ferrybridge  
WF11 8PN  
Tel: 01977 671415

---

## **Womersley** **Church of St Martin**

Sunday      Mass 11am

Arrangements for Baptisms and Weddings  
contact Mother Sharon Brown 01977 671415



## **Events**

1 Feb      Coffee Morning with various stalls, 10.30am - 12 noon

Everyone Welcome

# Kellington, Eggborough and Whitley

## Church of St Edmund King and Martyr

Sunday Parish Eucharist 9.30 am



## Events

Arrangements for Baptisms and Weddings contact Mother Sharon Brown 01977 671415

Please come along and join us

---



## Lent Lunches St Botolph's Parish Room



Thursdays during  
Lent

6 March - 17 April 2025  
at 12 noon

Soup, roll, dessert and tea/coffee £5.00

Everyone welcome  
All proceeds for Martin House Hospice



# 1st Knottingley Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

The logo for Guides, featuring a white star above the word "Guides" in a white, sans-serif font, all set against a dark blue rectangular background.

What support we had for our coffee evening back in November, we had the fantastic result of £721 for our funds. This will be a great help for our census that will be about £1000 this year. Thank you so much to everyone who supported us in any way.

The girls made lots of Christmas crafts.



We are all following the Express Myself Theme this term so lots of creative work to be done. There will be some Challenge Badges on the way and Thinking Day to celebrate on 22 February. This is the day when we think about other members of Guiding all over the world and also it is the birthday of our founder Olave Baden Powell.

As always we are requesting adult volunteers to help with our units. Please consider this even if you cannot help every week. If you can contribute to a rota that would be a great help. Please contact me (07790939025) or pop in one Tuesday to find out what we are about.





## St Botolph's Christmas Fayre

Do you remember back in early December and Storm Darragh? It was a terrible weekend weather wise and of course that was the weekend we had chosen for our fayre.

Well all we can say is thank you to everyone who turned out and supported us. Thank you to our bakers, refreshments maker, washer up, stall holders, Santa and his naughty elf, St Botolph's Hand Bell Ringers and to everyone who came along. (Never knew than Santa could ring the hand bells!)

We raised £690 for church funds, a great effort.



## FRIENDS OF ST BOTOLPH'S PARISH ROOMS

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December we had our Christmas Lunch at the Kellington Manor it was a lovely lunch.

We would like to thank Susan, the lovely Eunice's daughter, for donating all the lovely gifts in memory her mum. We raised £82 by raffling the prizes and the money goes in our funds.

Eunice was a quiet lady who was an active member of our group and just loved coming, she enjoyed knitting for our charities and loved chatting with the other ladies. We hope that Susan joins us in the group once she and her family are settled in their new home.

We had 25 at our lunch, we gave all the ladies a present to go home with.

Janet a new lady started coming a few weeks ago, she enjoys knitting and supporting the group.

Ann let me know she had a sale with the knitting for Martin House for the children hospice and she made £1,280. Ann will be having a rest until her next sale that will be 17th May; the ladies will have time to build the knitting up.

We from Friends Of St Botolph's wish you all

Best Wishes and a Healthy 2025 x



# World Day of Prayer 2025

## March 7, 2025



The message that we, as women and girls, are “fearfully and wonderfully” made in the image of God reinforces our movement's support of women in expressing their faith and speaking about their lives in prayer and worship before God and in community.

### **Theme for 2025 - I Made You Wonderful.**

Our sisters from the Cook Islands have spent the last few years deepening into the theme: “I Made You Wonderful,” based on Psalm 139:1-18. The 2025 program invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God.

**Artist statement:** Tarani Napa and Tevairangi Napa, a mother and daughter duo, created this year’s artwork. They share the vision they had for their composition based on Psalm 139:14: *‘I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made’*.

“Our Heavenly Father blessed our islands of the sea. From the northern islands across the ocean to the southern islands, the golden sun shines through the clear blue skies and birds freely fly. From the bright, white sandy shores all the way to the highest mountain top our islands are abundant with fresh produce and colourful flora and fauna. The lagoons and oceans are bountiful with sea life, fish and gems (like black pearls), which link us to the world.

On each island the mighty coconut tree stands tall, a symbol of strength and goodness. The coconut tree provides for our health and wellbeing. We have discovered how to use every part, from the fronds to the very deep roots for food, drink, medicine, shelter and much more. The coconut tree is essential to our survival and is the tree of life for our people.

We are grateful for the arrival of Christianity to our shores 200 years ago. The gospel of Jesus Christ brought hope, peace and light. In time, our cultures have interwoven with Christianity, and



the blessings are evident today. As guardians and caretakers of God's marvellous works, we always treasure these words, 'I made you wonderful'.

Our women play a vital role in keeping our heritage and traditions alive. They are the keepers of talents, teachers and mentors. From mothers to daughters, the cycle of life, faith and love continues here on our islands of paradise. We show our respect and love for God and for one another in harmonies of song and prayer. Our precious Tivaevae quilts represent patience, love and unity. We honour God's love and mercy with hats we wear to church, woven by skilful loving hands from the strands of rito, the young coconut leaf. We adorn ourselves with sweet scented Tiare tropical flowers, made into crowns and garlands. From the heart, we teach and nurture our beloved children, the younger generation, our future. At the closing of a gathering, our Tongareva elders always say these powerful words of encouragement: '**Kia mau te serenga! Kia mau te napena! Kia mau!**' This means '*hold on tight to who you are, in all aspects of your existence!*' We are wonderfully made by God, and we should cherish all the aspects of who we are!"

**About the artists:** Tarani Napa is a mother of six children and has three grandchildren. She is a certified primary school teacher, entrepreneur and creative artist. Tevairangi Napa, also a creative artist, is the eldest daughter of Tarani, and is a proud mum of two children. They feel honoured to have been able to share this piece of artwork in recognition of their love for their home, their faith and their heritage.





## The Little Things

When the sky is grey and heavy,  
Seek a tiny patch of blue,  
And when the earth lies cold and hard,  
Just watch those shoots break through.

If sometimes you are downhearted,  
It's time to share a smile,  
For someone else is needing one  
To make their day worthwhile.

And even when it's pouring down,  
Still look for something bright,  
Just see the florist's window bloom  
With colour and with light.

So flow with nature, time and tide  
And all tomorrow brings,  
And counting blessings, look around,  
Enjoy the little things!

*Iris Hesselden*





# World Day of Prayer 2025



March 7, 2025

Ropewalk Methodist Church

2 pm

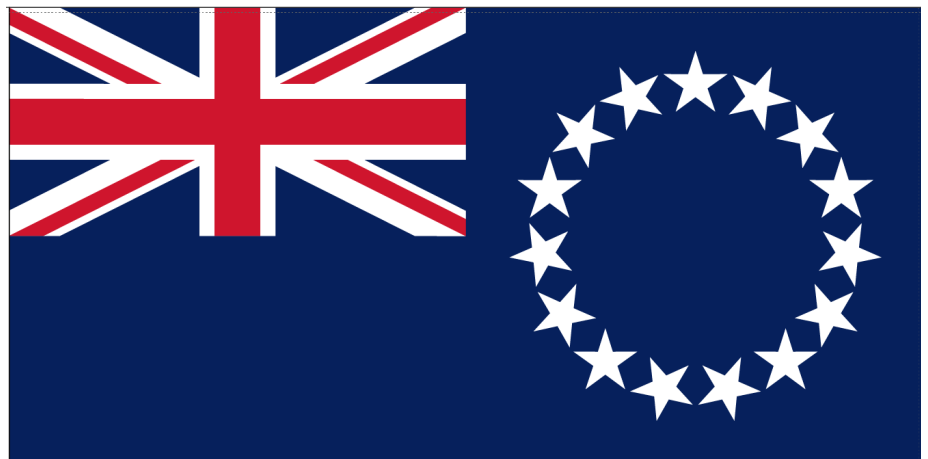
A very special service designed by the women  
of the Cook Islands

Theme: I made you wonderful

Everyone welcome



The flag of the Cook Islands has 15 stars  
one for each of its  
islands.



# Diocesan News

## December 2024

 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND **Loving. Living. Learning.**  
Diocese of Leeds [www.leeds.anglican.org](http://www.leeds.anglican.org)

### Bus stop nativity brings people together at Advent



People at a bus stop outside a Bradford church are enjoying a special nativity just for them.

Members of St James' Community Church on Bolton Road in the Bradford area have used old pop bottles and milk cartons to create the festive scene, to remind people of Jesus as they travel into the city centre.

The Revd Marianne Clough, curate at the church, said: "It's a really busy bus shelter right outside our church and so last year, we tried doing a little display using pop bottles dressed as the characters to tell the story, all with googly eyes, obviously!"

"It had a great response and really seemed to bring people together.

"We had people waiting for buses talking to us, and we had nice chats with local dog walkers, as we were out changing the scenes each week.

"The Scouts kindly built us a manger and it became something that people really got behind.

"We did have a few issues with the milk carton angels when they got a bit over excited in a high wind and took off down Bolton Road but we'll be fastening them down a bit tighter this year!"

This Advent, the church enlisted the help of their Wednesday drop-in Place of Welcome, who have helped remake the characters and all are now enjoying the Bus Stop Nativity's first scene featuring Mary and Gabriel.



Diocese of Leeds reaffirms commitment to Fairtrade with new resources



The Diocese of Leeds is committed to sharing and supporting Fairtrade, and has launched a refreshed website page with resources for parishes.

At Diocesan Synod in 2016 a motion was approved supporting our diocesan commitment to Fairtrade, which was reaffirmed with another vote at Synod in 2024.

The refreshed Fairtrade page has information including ten steps to becoming a Fairtrade church; a Bible study guide introducing the ten principles of Fairtrade; some answers to common questions about Fairtrade; and links to more resources, information and supportive organisations.

The diocese aims to take steps to ensure that all deaneries, parishes and schools are encouraged in sourcing Fairtrade products, promoting Fairtrade principles and participating in Fairtrade campaigns.



# Yule never walk alone

Bishop Nick

I have just seen an advert for a red Christmas jumper with the words "Yule Never Walk Alone". Now, I know this is a bit of a niche interest – basically only Liverpool fans are likely to buy one – but it hits the Christmas spot for me.

Why? Because Christmas, once you strip it back to the core, is the fulfilment of God's promise to come among us as one of us. This is why we are invited to celebrate the fact that whatever the world and life can throw at us, we never have to walk alone.

Fantasy? Vague spiritual nonsense for the gullible?

Not so. The people of Jesus's time had no illusions. They lived under oppressive military occupation by the Roman Empire. Life was cheap – people crucified or summarily snuffed out – every day of the week. No human rights legislation applied, no right to life, liberty or happiness. Their longing was for liberation, but the quick fix never seemed likely to come. Messiah was supposed to solve the problems, but the power of the violent never dimmed.

And there lay the problem. How are you supposed to spot



the presence of God in a confusing world when he refuses to give us what we want? We look for the giant saviour, but are offered a mere baby in a feeding trough. We long for security, but find only this same baby hunted at birth by a paranoid ruler's troops. We seek our salvation in things going our way, but discover in this baby that it is OK not to be in control of the world. And it is into this dark night in an obscure part of the Middle East that God comes among us.

Small. Vulnerable. Unprotected from all that real life brings. God, in person, whispering into the silence of fear or bewilderment that we are not alone.

So, after Christmas we are invited to grow up with the baby we read about in the gospels; journey with the man and his friends; live with the hopes and expectations, fears and suspicions of his close society; Christmas is the beginning of surprise, not the end.

Happy Christmas! Yule never walk alone.

## 'Oh yes it will!': Panto donation to support ministry in Pontefract

A generous donation of £5,000 from the St Giles with St Mary's Pantomime Theatre Society will help boost church ministry in Pontefract, says the group's new president Fr Ian Bullock.

"The Society's Constitution states that "The Vicar of St Giles' Church shall be the standing President of the Society and we are delighted to have Fr Ian joining us in the role," said a spokesperson.

"Despite our best efforts he hasn't yet agreed to appear on stage, but we will keep trying!

"The Society was delighted to give a financial donation to St Giles and St Mary's churches this year and is now busy rehearsing for its next pantomime 'Hansel and Gretel'."

Fr Ian commented: "As I've always had a love of all things theatre, I am delighted to take up this role and I am looking forward (yes I am!) to working closely with them"

"St Giles and St Mary's are immensely thankful for their recent donation of £5,000 towards the ongoing work and ministry of the church."





# Diocese of Leeds welcomes Bishop Moses from Tanzania



The Diocese of Leeds was pleased to host the Rt Revd Moses Yamo, Bishop of Rorya in Tanzania, on recent visit.

Bishop Moses arrived on Monday, November 18, and got to experience snow and have his first ever snowball fight.

On Tuesday, November 19, Bishop Moses visited Wakefield Cathedral, while on the Wednesday he visited Almondbury.

On Thursday, November 20, Bishop Moses visited Halifax Minster, presiding at the daily Eucharist service, eating with members of the Mothers' Union and meeting with the Mayor of Calderdale.

On Friday, November 21 the Benefice of Hartshead, Roberttown and Scholes hosted Bishop Moses, where he spent time visiting each of the three churches in the benefice and speaking with parishioners.

There he explained about the challenges faced by the church in Rorya.

After being shown around Roberttown C of E Junior and Infants School, Bishop Moses

enjoyed a classic lunch of soup followed by Yorkshire curd tart and Parkin.

The visit concluded with a visit to Hartshead Junior School, where he was guest of honour at their celebration assembly.

After a quiet Saturday, Bishop Moses spent Sunday, November 23 at Bradford Cathedral, and attended a service for installing new Canons at the Cathedral.

The Ven Cat Thatcher, Archdeacon of Pontefract, said: "We have been delighted to welcome Bishop Moses of Rorya in Tanzania to the diocese, and to refresh the friendships he made when he was with us a year ago.

"During the week he has visited friends across the diocese, as well as joining us for a special service of Choral Evensong at Bradford Cathedral for the installation of Honorary Canons.

"My huge thanks go to the many people involved in welcoming and hosting Bishop Moses, especially to the Revd Canon Hilary Barber, and to the Revd Bill Henderson, without whom the visit could not have happened."



## Diocesan schools helped to go green with government grants



Schools across the diocese will be able to help plan for the sustainable future of their buildings, thanks to some £40,000 of government grant funding.

Some 47 diocesan Voluntary Aided (VA) schools have secured the funding from Phase 5 of the Low Carbon Skills Fund, which is a government fund for providing grants to public sector bodies to access skills and expertise to unlock heat decarbonisation on their estate.

The funds, run by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and delivered by Salix, will allow each school to undertake an energy survey.

The energy surveys will allow schools and the diocesan Education Team to get a clearer picture of what improvements might be needed for VA schools.

The Rt Revd Anna Eltringham, Bishop of Ripon, diocesan bishop for the environment and Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education, said: "I'm really pleased that we've managed to secure this funding for our schools, which will help reduce emissions."<sup>1</sup>

## Waiting for God

Revd Canon David Gerrard  
Vicar of St Catherine's Belle  
Vue

Yesterday I ordered my 'Real Advent Calendar' (OK, I ordered 4 of them, but they're not all for me - honest!). I'm sure many of you are familiar with them - Advent calendars telling the Nativity story and containing delicious Fairtrade chocolate. One of a number of ways in which we mark the progression of Advent.

Advent is about waiting or at least that's what I was always taught. Which unfortunately made me approach Advent with frustration. After all, who likes waiting? Waiting makes me think of dentist's waiting rooms or standing on train station platforms. Maybe those places fill you with excitement and anticipation. They fill me with boredom and dread. Which always makes it a little difficult when people try and tell me that there is joy in the waiting.

All this, I expect, would lead you to assume that I dislike Advent. However, you'd be wrong. I love Advent. I love seeing lights appearing in the darkness, terrible Christmas jumpers starting to be worn and even Mariah Carey's annual reappearance on the radio. And yes, I love the Advent calendars, Advent wreaths



and even the purple colour of the churches.

Why do I hate waiting, but love Advent? Because I'm not convinced Advent is about waiting at all. I think Advent is about expectation.

The expectation that God can, and will, turn up. The sure and certain hope that God has turned up, will turn up and is turning up - if only we have eyes to see it. In a world that feels divided - in a church that feels divided - it seems good to me to be reminded of that expectation.

One of the (numerous) ways I believe God has turned up recently is in our diocese's recommitment to Fairtrade. If the world is dark, it is even more important that we stick to the basic principles about justice and fairness. So why not check out the diocese's new Fairtrade page on the website, sign up to make your church a Fairtrade Church and order yourself a Real Advent Calendar - you know you want to!

## St Mary's Todmorden raise funds for food at Christmas Fair



The people of Todmorden have been able to look towards Christmas and raise funds to help provide meals at their recent Christmas fair.

St Mary's Todmorden held their Christmas Fair on the first weekend of December, with the Mayors of Calderdale and Todmorden officially opening the event alongside in the Todmorden Town Crier.

Some 20 stallholders took part, including makers, bakers and crafters.

Over 200 families explored the church's Follow the Star trail whilst queuing to meet Santa.

Attendees enjoyed live music from the Three Valleys Gospel Choir, and guests could also take part in Christmas karaoke which was fun for all in the community.

Luke Greenwood, Safeguarding Officer at the church, said: "It has been a resounding success and funds raised will help us support our new community food project: School Holiday Meals 2025."

## **February - days to remember**

In Catholic churches the month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family. The special devotion which proposes the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as the model of virtue of all Christian households began in the 17th century.

### **02 February Presentation of the Lord**

Forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we recall the holy day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses and at the same time going to meet his faithful people. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognised Christ as their Lord, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the Spirit, may we now go to the house of God to welcome Christ the Lord.

### **11 February Our Lady of Lourdes**

Observed since 1907, this memorial celebrates the immaculate Virgin Mary as honoured in Lourdes (France). This site of apparitions to the young Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 has become a focus of devotion to Mary. It is a place of prayer and pilgrimage, of conversion and healing for Christians from every land.

### **26 February**

According to classical Biblical reckoning, Moses the son of Yocheved was born into slavery on this date in 1393 BCE and died on this date 120 years later. Moses is the dominant human figure of the Old Testament books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy: liberator of the Hebrew slaves in Egypt, leader and miracle-worker during their forty-year sojourn in the wilderness, law-giver, jurist, teacher, prophet, and intermediary between the people and God.



The Midrash (a commentary on the Hebrew Scriptures) tells the story of Moses' death as follows:

He entreats God over and over (515 times) to withdraw the decree and allow him to enter the Promised Land -- but he is denied his plea. He asks to be turned into an animal or a bird or an insect so that he might enter the Promised Land -- to no avail. He tries to recruit heaven and earth to his cause, but is rebuffed. God finally sends the Angel of Death to do the job, but the angel is overwhelmed by the holiness of the man and cannot perform.

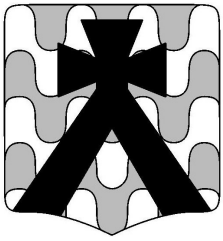
At last, three angels arrange Moses on his couch, and God says to him: *Cross your feet. Fold your hands and lay them on your breast. Close your eyes.* Then God speaks to Moses' soul: "My daughter, you have dwelt in this righteous man's body for 120 years, and your time has come..." God kisses Moses, and his soul rushes forth in ecstasy.



### The final words of Moses

Deuteronomy 31:7-8 - Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their forefathers to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance.





# From the

## Baptism

30 December

Katerine Beatrix Loffelmanova  
Lara Clara Loffelmanova



## Holy Matrimony

2 November

Robert Nodder and Suzette Henry



**May God bless this marriage and may their love for each other continue to grow.**

## Funeral

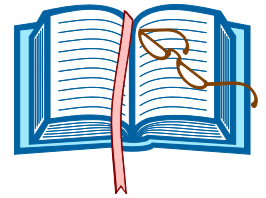
23 December	Rosemary Webster	90yrs	St B
6 January	Margaret Brenda Firth	78yrs	St B
10 January	Joseph Frost	94yrs	St B

**May they rest in peace and rise in glory**



# Parish Registers

## IN MEMORIAM



*On these days of February please pray for the repose of the souls of:*

1	John Atha	1999	17	Lily Harland	1975
	Albert Edward Shay	2009		Nora Dickinson	1979
2	Jean Marley	2005		Sara Barker	2019
3	Reginald Draper	1989	18	Arthur Broughton	1977
	Minnie Daw	2003		Robert Glendenning	1979
5	Jane Amelia Hodgson		19	Nora Hepworth	2019
		1947	20	Louisa Barling Dowle	1963
	Wilhelmina Hutchinson			Violet Ward	2000
		1988	21	Leslie Jordan	1975
	Sydney Fowles	1994	22	Nora Huscroft	1996
	Ivy Fairbairn	2005	23	Herbert Woodall	1986
7	Clarence Hinchliffe		24	Emma Dickinson	1981
	Littlewood	1975		James Sellers	2005
	Jack Charlesworth	1999	25	Esme Bagley Hargrave	
8	Margaret McNee				1977
	Scott-Richardson	1989		Ellen Dorothy Shay	1978
	Granville Walker	1952		Bertha Markham	1982
	Brenda Malpass	2006		Horace Rayner	2000
9	Thomas Fairbairns Birch			Joyce Crabtree	2012
		1978	26	Dorothy Violet	
	Wilfred Newby	2015		Bedworth	1997
10	Mary Jane Bell	1998		Arthur Charles Fish	2004
11	Joseph Harvey	1960		Pauline Ann Willis	2002
12	Angela Louise		27	Kathleen Spence	2021
	Macintosh	2005	28	Kenneth Victor Lowe	1984
	Denis Wilcox	2010		Peter Hardy	1998
14	Derek Gill	2004	29	William Alfred Fuller	1976
15	Henry Stockdale			Peter Lancaster	1988
	Fletcher	1992			
16	Murial Winterbottom	2000			
	Joseph Hardy	2003			

## Holy Days and Commemorations

### February

- 1  
2 **PRESENTATION OF CHRIST**  
3  
4 World Cancer Day  
5 Agatha, Martyr, 251  
6 The Martyrs of Japan, 1597  
7 Ina, King of Wessex , 726  
8 Elflada, Abbess of Whitby, 734  
9 **4 SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**  
10  
11 Our Lady of Lourdes  
12 Ethilwald, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 748  
13  
14 Valentine, Martyr, 269  
15  
16 **3 SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**  
17 Janani Luwum, Archbishop, 1977  
18  
19 Thomas Burgess, Bishop, 1837  
20  
21  
22  
23 **2 SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**  
24 Matthias the Apostle  
25 Ethelbert, Christian King of England, 616  
26  
27 George Herbert, Priest, Poet. 1633  
28 Oswald, Bishop of Worcester, 992

### March

- 1 St David, Patron Saint of Wales, 601  
2 **NEXT SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**  
3  
4 Shrove Tuesday  
5 **ASH WEDNESDAY**

## Eucharist Readings

**2 February**  
**Presentation of Christ**  
Malachi 3: 1-5  
Hebrews 2: 14-18  
**Luke 2: 22-40**

**9 February**  
**4 Sunday before Lent**  
Isaiah 6: 1-8  
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11  
**Luke 5: 1-11**

**16 February**  
**Septuagesima**  
Jeremiah 17: 5-10  
1 Corinthians 15: 12-20  
**Luke 6: 17-26**

**23 February**  
**Sexagesima**  
Genesis 2: 4-9, 15-25  
Revelation 4: 1-11  
**Luke 8: 22-25**

**2 March**  
**Quinquagesima**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**  
Exodus 34: 29-35  
2 Corinthians 13: 1-13  
**Luke 9: 28-36**

**9 March**  
**Lent 1**  
Psalms 91: 1-11  
Romans 10: 1-13  
**Luke 4: 1-13**

## Christingle at St Botolph's

Thank you to everyone who came along to decorate the church for Christmas and to make the 97 Christingles ready for the Christingle Service on 21 December 2024.

Special thanks to Mary, Renée, Ray, Daniel, Mollie and Maisie for their help. The church looked beautiful.

We were pleased to welcome so many people to our Christingle Service; a lovely way to remember Jesus being born as part of the Christmas celebrations.

Thank you to everyone for giving so generously, £148 was sent to the Children's Society who provide specialist support to young people in the hope that step-by-step we can create a society where all children can thrive and develop.

Everyone went home with a festive treat, thank you Jackie and Michael for the cake and mince pies; delicious.





Knottingley, St Botolph's Church  
in the Parish Room

Lunch Club  
Fourth Thursday of the month  
12 noon

Tickets £5 available from Linda

Friends of St Botolph's  
in the Parish Room  
Knit and Natter  
Second and fourth Thursdays of the  
month  
1.30 - 3 pm

All welcome

**The Parish Room is available  
for hire for  
Parties or Meetings  
at a reasonable rate  
Ring 673463  
for bookings**