

St Botolph's Church Magazine

May 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**

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

Diary Dates

3 May Plant Sale and Coffee Morning,
10am – 12 noon, St Botolph's Parish Room

14 June Church Summer Fayre, 10am - 2pm

The Editor

email **stbotolphchurchknott@yahoo.com** (please use plain text)

Web site - **www.stbotolphsknottingley.org.uk**

Copydate

Copy for June:- 4 May 2025

July/August:- 8 June 2025

September:- 10 August 2025



Saint Botolph's Church, Knottingsley

Dear Friends,

You may have come across the online game Wordle. If you haven't, it consists of guessing a 5-letter word by putting in a series of your own words. Each time you put in a guess, the game shows you how close you are to the hidden word: the right letters in the right places are green, the right letters in the wrong places are yellow, and letters which don't belong there at all are grey.

There are 6 guesses available, and it usually takes me at least 4 of them to find each day's word! If Wordle is too easy for you, there's Quordle where you have to solve 4 Wordles simultaneously. If words aren't your thing, there's Nerdle where you have to guess an arithmetic sum, and Worldle where you have to guess a country from its outline.

Because we humans live most of our lives with insufficient information. We are good at picking up clues, spotting patterns, filling in gaps from our experience and general knowledge, and drawing conclusions as best we can.

In the Gospels we see that Jesus' followers had the same issue: they heard what Jesus was saying, saw what he was doing, and tried to put that together with what they understood from their Bible. They had the clues and made their guesses as to who Jesus was and what he was doing. Some of their guesses were spot on, some were in the right direction, but in the 'wrong place'. Some they just got wrong: those ideas didn't belong with Jesus at all.

They struggled along, and at one point it seemed that they'd got everything wrong – on the first Good Friday they saw Jesus crucified, dead, and buried. But then a couple of days later they got the biggest and best clue of all: Resurrection!

Then gradually, the 'letters' started to fall into place: Jesus was God, come to be one of us, and his purpose was to give us all a way back to God, forgiven and accepted.

If there are things in your life just now which feel as if they don't belong, or as if they're in the wrong places, don't despair – in church we are still in the season of Easter, so have another look at the Easter story. Take heart from those first disciples' experience, put Jesus in as the first clue, and God will help you put whatever else is happening into a new and better perspective.

God bless,
Mother Sharon



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.

Make new friends
But keep the old
The new are silver
The old are gold

The Dawn Chorus

The orchestra starts tuning up
At dawn begins to break,
And rays of light now tell the world
That is is time to wake.
The blackbird likes to lead the way,
Sounds swelling in his throat,
And then the red-breasted robin adds
His rather wistful note.
That tiny feathered ping-pong ball,
The wren, now adds his trill,
Then blue tits, sparrows, finches join
And fill the air until
The sweetest singer of them all,
The song thrush, joins the choir,
And now their singing's at its peak,
Just soaring higher and higher.
I know they sing to find a mate
Or just defend their patch;
To me, it seems they sing for joy—
This choir that has no match.

Eileen Hay

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 _____

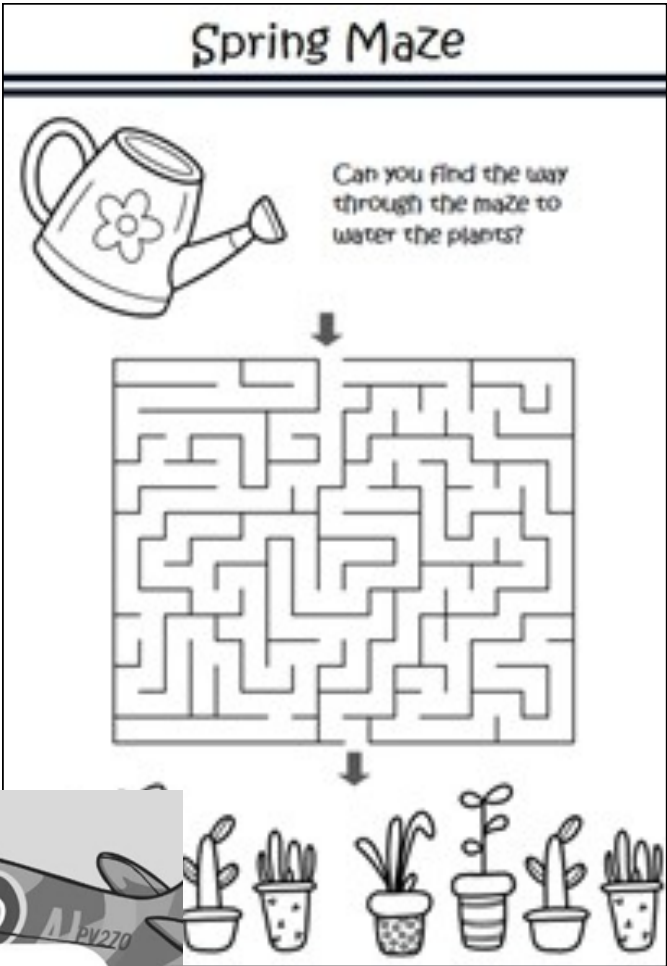
Date request received _____

Puzzle Corner - Picture to colour



Jesus' Ascension

SaintAnnes-Helper.com



VE Day

v i c t o r y v b d e l
f c e e v b h j n f u i
f h l s w f v h j b r b
i v e a u h j n m c o e
g o b p a r v r v b p r
h p r f v b r a g b e a
t r a a v b n e e v b t
i g t r a v b h n b n i
n f e s t i v a l d o o
g p v b n y v e f v e n
a f v n j k l a o a n r
g e r m a n y v b q d k

victory
europe
liberation
end
surrender

fighting
party
festival
germany
celebrate

29 May is Ascension Day when we celebrate the ascension of Jesus into heaven.

How many words with 3 or more letters can you make from the letters of the word

ASCENSION

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.

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Community Shop

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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.



The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of stylized tropical leaves, including large monstera leaves and various palm fronds, rendered in a light gray tone.

St Botolph's Church Plant Sale and Coffee Morning with bacon butties in the Parish Room

**3rd May 2025
10 am - 12 noon**

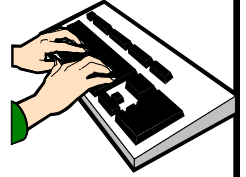
Everyone welcome

**Proceeds for church funds
and clock appeal**

Calendar - May 2025

3rd Sat Plant Sale, Parish Room, 10am - 12noon

4th SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am
*** * * JUNE MAGAZINE COPY DATE * * ***



11th THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am

18th FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am

25th FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
PARISH EUCHARIST 10.00 am

29 Thur ASCENSION DAY

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



| | | | |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| 4 May | Renée | Edna | Mark |
| 11 May | Jackie | Dianne | Jackie |
| 18 May | Glenis | Ann | Colin |
| 25 May | Sheila | Rita | Sheila |
| 1 June | Renée | Edna | Mark |
| 8 June | Jackie | Dianne | Jackie |
| 15 June | Glenis | Ann | Colin |
| 22 June | Sheila | Rita | Sheila |
| 29 June | Renée | Edna | Mark |



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 (3rd Dan) with the help of Catriona Barber (1st 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

| | | | |
|----------|-----|-------------------|-----|
| 2 March | 72 | Michael Daniels | £40 |
| | 50 | Genis Moon | £10 |
| 9 March | 50 | Glenis Moon | £40 |
| | 139 | Linda Wood Stones | £10 |
| 16 March | 71 | Margaret Booth | £40 |
| | 44 | June Haggan | £10 |
| 23 March | 161 | Ann Webb | £40 |
| | 123 | Janet Tucker | £10 |
| 30 March | 45 | Katherine Carr | £40 |
| | 93 | Joan Clayton | £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

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

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:

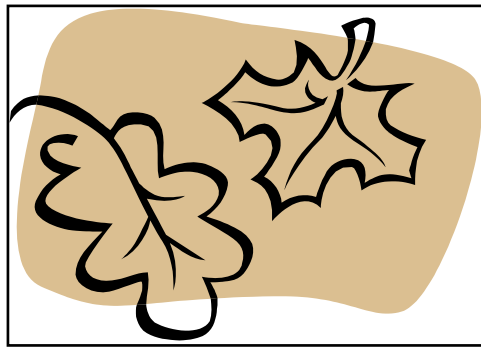
via gift form available from Richard Bagley (Treasurer).

Tel: 07396598237. Email: richardbagley99@gmail.com

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

The Manse

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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 May 2025

10am until 12 noon

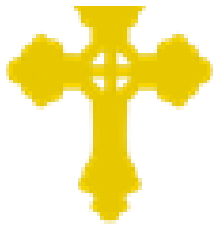
at

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
9.15am Parish Eucharist
11.00am Parish Eucharist

St Andrew
St Edward the Confessor
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

Website: www.standrewsferrybridge.co.uk

Events

25 May

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

3 May

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

12 April - Coffee Morning, Eggborough Village Hall, 11am-1pm

10 May - Plant Sale, St Edmund's, 11am - 3pm

Please come along and join us

Arrangements for Baptisms and Weddings contact Mother Sharon Brown 01977 671415

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1st Knottingley Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Guides

At the end of last half term we tried a few challenge badges including Sea Savers; making a pneumatic sea creature and decorating biscuits with sea creatures. and the Easter Challenge. We also made presents and a card for Mother's Day.

Next term we will be exploring the theme 'Know Yourself' so the Rainbows will be looking at family trees, the Brownies exploring local history and the Guides considering human rights.

A number of our girls achieved Bronze and Silver Awards and Hattie achieved her Gold Award; well done everyone.



Brownies

Rainbows

Church Funds/Flowers

We gratefully acknowledge donations for flowers

Brenda in loving memory of her husband, Paul

Mary in loving memory of her sister, Doris, dad and family

Everyone who gave for Easter flowers



FRIENDS OF ST BOTOLPHS

As I write this, we are nearly at the end of Lent Lunches. It is always hard work but well worth it. We had only a few attendees at the start of the lunches but numbers have built up in the last week or two which has been a bonus.

We have a few helpers and appreciate what they do, we have Ray who delivers the meals to people who are not able to come to the lunches, Edna and Mary who do the baking for the puddings also serving with Glenis who helps with the setting the tables then calling the numbers out for the bingo. Also, a massive thank you to the ladies who attend the lunches, without you we wouldn't be able to send anything for these poorly children at Martin House Hospice. Everyone always seems to go home with more than what they came with. They all support Martin House by knitting, buying homemade cards and by doing a game or two of bingo.

We will be helping Fr Philips wife, Charlotte with her Good Friday event for children. Charlotte has worked really hard making this event a success so please bring your children or grandchildren along to join the fun.

Love From Friends x



The Knottingley Branch of the Royal
British Legion invite you to join them for a
Memorial Service
on Saturday 10th May 2025
parade to assemble at 10:45am
at the War Memorial.

This is to commemorate the
80th Anniversary of VE and VJ day and to
remember all who gave their lives during
the 2nd World War.

Everyone is welcome.

Everyone Welcome



80th Anniversary

VE & VJ Day
The Knottingley Club

Friday 9th May

8.00pm

1940's dress
optional



Entertainment by

Bev Rooker



Tombola

Support Your Local British Legion



7 days

**to
make a
difference**

Together we can beat extreme poverty.

Join us this Christian Aid Week.
11-17 May 2025



Sign up at **caid.org.uk** or scan this QR code:
#7DaysToMakeADifference



Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Alliance. For more information visit: www.actalliance.org. Christian Aid is a registered charity in the UK (1004000) and in many other countries. Christian Aid is a member of the Christian Aid network. For more information visit: www.christianaid.org.uk. Christian Aid is a member of the Christian Aid network. For more information visit: www.christianaid.org.uk.

A Reflection - hoping for rain

1 Kings 18.1,41-44

After many days the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year of the drought, saying, 'Go, present yourself to Ahab; I will send rain on the earth.'

Elijah said to Ahab, 'Go up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of rushing rain.' So, Ahab went up to eat and to drink. Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; there he bowed himself down upon the earth and put his face between his knees. He said to his servant, 'Go up now, look towards the sea.' He went up and looked, and said, 'There is nothing.' Then he said, 'Go again seven times.' At the seventh time he said, 'Look, a little cloud no bigger than a person's hand is rising out of the sea.' Then he said, 'Go and say to Ahab, "Harness your chariot and go down before the rain stops you."'

Reflection

Elijah has been waiting, and hoping, for rain.

Seven times he and his servant have looked to the skies and seen nothing, but on the seventh time, they see a cloud – the thing is, it's tiny. But, for Elijah, that doesn't seem to matter, it's enough for him to expect imminent and heavy rainfall.

Don't despise the small beginnings, that's what the Bible tells us. Don't disqualify the seemingly tiny developments, don't assume that God isn't working in the ordinary or moving in the mundane.

Hope can feel tough when we're continually overlooking the things that God is doing in our everyday experiences. We must learn to see our daily lives – as familiar as we are with them – as the back-drop against which God is doing wonderful things.

Prayer

Today let's pray that we will be given eyes to see the things that God is doing, giving our attention to even the smallest and most ordinary-looking developments.

Suicide? No Way! (Part 1)

Lynne Brandon was angry.

"He is getting a divorce and will marry me as soon as it comes through."

"I'll see him dead, first." Martin Brandon declared. "May I remind you that you are not yet eighteen and, as your brother -----"

"Step-brother."

Martin flinched and some of the colour left his face. He controlled his temper with some difficulty.

"Until you are eighteen, I am responsible for you. Have you any proof that he is getting a divorce?"

"He has told me so and I believe him."

"So, you have no proof?"

"I have his word."

"The word of a scrounger and womaniser."

There was an explosion of sound as a hand met his cheek with stunning force. Just for a moment he stood still, then "You will regret this," he said and turning, he left the bungalow.



I answered the knock at the door to discover the law in the persons of a male Police Sergeant, Constable and a Policewoman. I looked surprised.

"Mr Brandon? Andrew Brandon?"

"Yes."

"May we come in for a moment?"

"How can we say no?" Lynne came through from her bedroom, almost ready to go out. She had a date.

"Can you spare us a minute, Miss Brandon?" the Sergeant asked. I suddenly felt uneasy. "Is something wrong?"

"I think it would be better if we all sat down," I was told.

The uneasiness grew. I glanced at Lynne. She had gone very pale. I joined her on the settee.

"I'm afraid there's been an accident," the Sergeant began. He looked at Lynne.

"Charles?" she whispered

"Yes, Miss Brandon."

"Oh, God, no! Is he ---?"

"I'm afraid he's dead."

"Oh, no! No!"

I tried to put my arms around her shoulders but she leapt to her feet.

"Martin! Martin! He said he would! He said ----"

"Lynne!" I jumped up and tried to take her hand. She pushed me away and turned to the Sergeant.

"He said he'd kill him! He wouldn't let me marry him! He said --- Oh, no!" Her voice broke off in a wail of anguish and she almost collapsed in the Policewoman's arms, crying hysterically.

As they went into the bedroom, I looked at the Sergeant. I knew that my face was empty of colour as I said, a little unsteadily: "It's the shock. She doesn't mean it."

"Sit down, Mr Brandon. Martin is, I believe, your brother?"

"Our step-brother. Father married twice. Lynne doesn't know what she's saying. Martin wouldn't harm anyone."

How could I convince him after what he had just heard?

"He didn't approve of the alliance?"

"No. Neither did I. Martin, being the eldest, feels responsible for us. Since our parents died, he has looked after us. Very well."

"Do you know if he ever threatened Charles Dennis?"

I felt uncomfortable. Lynne had told me about their quarrel.

"He told Lynne he would see him dead before he let her marry him but that was just talk. Martin would never harm anyone in cold blood."

I had said the wrong thing. The Sergeant pounced on the words.

"In cold blood? How about hot blood? Does he have a temper? A bad one?"

"He very rarely loses his temper."

"And when he does?"

"He would not kill."

I was beginning to shake. They couldn't suspect Martin? They could. And I knew they did.

"Where is your step-brother, Mr Brandon?"

"He's usually home by now but he might be waiting until Lynne has gone out."

"In other words, you don't know?"

I was silent. He took a piece of paper out from his pocket. "Is that your step-brother's writing, Mr Brandon?"

"It looks like it ----" My voice trailed off as I read it.

*"Sorry. It was the only way
under the circumstances.
Martin N Brandon"*

There was silence as, what little colour I had left, deserted me. I thought was going to faint. My lips moved and the voice that came out didn't sound a bit like mine. "Where is he?"

"In hospital."

"In ----?" It was the last place I imagined. "Where?!"

"In hospital."

"Why?"

"He was found on a ledge, half-way down the cliff, at the North end of the town."

"Is he ---?" My brain wouldn't take it in, "How bad is he?"

"Some broken bones and concussion."

"Some ---? He won't – die - will he?"

"The hospital staff don't think so."

I suddenly 'saw' again the piece of paper. "How did Dennis die?"

"He was found on the rocks at the foot of the South Cliffs"

I looked at him helplessly. "You think Martin threw him over, then went to the other end of town to commit suicide?"

Oh, God! If it wasn't so serious, it would be laughable!"



They said I could visit Martin the next morning. I telephoned Aunt Helen in the next village and asked her to come over. I couldn't cope with Lynne and I knew I could rely on my father's sister." She came straight over. Lynne came through as I was telling her what had happened. Before I could stop her, she said "Andrew, do you think Martin did it and then tried to commit suicide?"

Aunt Helen looked shocked. Neither of them knew about the note. "Don't be silly child. Martin wouldn't do a thing like that."

"He said he would see him dead before letting me marry him."

"We all say things we don't mean. For heavens sake, don't tell the Police that, it might give them ideas."

"You're too late, Aunt Helen. Lynne accused him of it when they came to tell us." I said bitterly.

For the first time, I saw Aunt Helen lost for words, then, slowly, she said: "I'd better take you home with me before you do any more harm. Go and pack all you need." Lynne did as she was told.

(To be continued)

by D Kaye



A decorative banner made of triangular flags in shades of grey and white, strung across the top of the poster.

St Botolph's Church Knottingley

Summer Fayre

Saturday 14th June 2025

10.00 am - 2.00pm

Various stalls including:

**Books, Bric-a-brac, Raffle,
Tombola, Cakes and many more.
Refreshments**

A close-up, stylized illustration of tall grass blades at the bottom of the poster.

Everyone Welcome

Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week in 2025 will take place from May 11th to 17th, marking 80 years of Christian Aid's work, with a focus on supporting farmers and communities facing hunger and hardship.



- **Dates:** May 11th to 17th, 2025.
- **Focus:** This year, Christian Aid Week will focus on supporting farmers and communities facing hunger and hardship, particularly in the context of climate change and climate resilience.
- **80th Anniversary:** Christian Aid will be celebrating its 80th anniversary during this week.
- **Fundraising:** Christian Aid Week is a time for churches and individuals to come together to raise funds and awareness for Christian Aid's work in tackling poverty and injustice.
- **Events:** Churches and individuals across the UK, Republic of Ireland, and the world host a variety of fundraising events during Christian Aid Week, including walks, dances, bake sales, and more.
- **Campaign:** Christian Aid is calling on the UK Government to make polluters pay for the climate crisis and to introduce new debt justice laws that could pull millions of people out of poverty.
- **Worship:** Christian Aid provides resources for churches to hold services and collections to support Christian Aid Week.
- **Get Involved:** You can get involved by fundraising, participating in events, praying, or signing the petition.
- **Areas of Work:** Christian Aid works in areas such as gender, power and inclusion, humanitarian work, climate adaptation and resilience, and governance and rights.

- **What they believe:** Christian Aid is rooted in Christian beliefs and seeks to follow the teachings of Jesus, who commanded his followers to love their neighbour and work for a better world.

Prayers for Christian Aid Week

Jesus,
you love us beyond measure. Help us to grow into your likeness,
showing love to one another. Bless those facing an uncertain
future. Open our eyes to the challenges our global neighbours face
each day.

Amen

God of justice,
Pour out your Spirit, that we may abound with hope. When we feel
defeated, give us courage, Amen. and remind us that nothing is
impossible with you.

Amen



80 years of hope

For decades, hope has united us in the fight
against poverty and injustice.

Diocesan News

April 2025

 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND **Loving. Living. Learning.**
Diocese of Leeds www.leeds.anglican.org

Bishop Nick announces his retirement with thanks to all in our diocese



The Rt Revd Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds announced his retirement, and will end his ground-breaking role at the end of November this year.

Bishop Nick writes: "I write to inform you that I have submitted my resignation to the King and he has accepted it. I will retire as Bishop of Leeds on 30 November 2025 after nearly twelve years in post.

"It has been an immense privilege to have been asked to serve in this role, and it has been an honour to work alongside clergy and lay leaders who demonstrate joy, vision, courage and resilience.

"I will for ever be grateful for support, prayers and encouragements - even when people strongly disagreed with me or my colleagues. I cannot

put into words my respect and gratitude for all the colleagues with whom I have worked closely in building this diocese: diocesan staff, bishops, archdeacons, deans, and many, many more.

"However, the time is right for me to go and for the diocese to seek a new diocesan bishop who can bring new vision and build a stronger future. I will continue to work as hard as ever until mid-September before delegating to Bishop Toby Howarth, Bishop of Bradford, while I begin to extract myself and do the necessary archiving and preparing for the vacancy and retirement.

"I will delegate my authority to the Bishop of Bradford, on Friday 12 September. I will officiate for the last time at Bradford Cathedral on Sunday 19 October and at Wakefield Cathedral on Sunday 26 October. My farewell service will take place on Sunday 23 November at Ripon Cathedral.

"You will remain in my heart and my prayers into the future. Please pray for me and Linda."

The Ven Malcolm Chamberlain to be Bishop of Wakefield



The Venerable Malcolm Chamberlain, Archdeacon of Sheffield and Rotherham, will be the new Bishop of Wakefield in the Diocese of Leeds.

Introducing himself to the Wakefield Episcopal Area, where he will serve as a Suffragan Bishop, and to the diocese as a whole, Malcolm said: "I'm delighted to be called to serve the people and parishes of Wakefield, Barnsley and the surrounding towns and villages as their Area Bishop, and greatly look forward to joining you in June.

"Having studied at York University and lived for the last eleven years in Sheffield, Yorkshire is a region very close to my heart and I am most thankful to God for calling me to this role in the Diocese of Leeds. I feel especially blessed to have the joy of ministry in both South and West Yorkshire as the Bishop of Wakefield!"

Lessons learnt and new ways ahead at our Synod



Safeguarding, Barnabas and lessons learnt from legal actions were on the agenda for the 30th Diocesan Synod which met online recently.

In a presentation which tied in with recent discussions at General Synod, the diocese's Head of Safeguarding Juliette McLellan told of the substantial work done in the last six months to heighten the functionality of her team and also to increase engagement with parishes in this most important area.

She explained the diocesan safeguarding structures and how there are plans for a new quarterly newsletter to be sent to Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs) which will contain the latest offers of support and training opportunities.

Juliette said how there was already support for those working with the Parish Dashboards and that another new step would be PSO forums both in person and online.

General Synod member Joyce Hill then presented her report on the latest national church gathering, which she described as "a convoluted and complicated synod in parts" and noted that her report gave the precise wording of the amended Model 3 option regarding safeguarding reform and that representatives from Leeds had been "very, very active."

The new chair of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Andrew Hall spoke of its work helping parishes with church building matters and said: "I want people to have confidence in a committee which is rooted in experience and commonsense and where everything is done with transparency."

Barnabas: Encouraging Confidence news and progress was delivered by the Revd Canon Jude Smith, our Director of Mission and Revitalisation and she shared data which showed the trajectory of engagement by parishes with its different offers.

Jude also highlighted the new Compass tool to help churches assess where they are now, where they want to be, and how to get there.

Diocesan Secretary Jonathan Wood led Synod through a detailed explanation of the legal matters surrounding the case of the disgraced former solicitor Linda Box, who defrauded monies from both the former Diocese of Wakefield and its then bishop while she served as their registrar.

Jonathan told how monies had been recouped following extensive legal arguments in the High Court and Court of Appeal and stressed that the learning from this experience meant that financial procedures in the Diocese of Leeds were very robust and secure, with actions to strengthen financial oversight, enhance independent auditing procedures and have strong invoicing and payment controls in place all having been achieved.

Christ Church Upper Armley celebrate 150 years of ministry

One of our Leeds area churches have recently celebrated their 150th anniversary.

Christ Church Upper Armley marked the occasion on the weekend of Saturday, March 1 and Sunday, March 2.

On Saturday, March 1, the church held a fair, displaying work from local primary schools and the secondary school inspired by the church, along with clothing exchanges, the production of a mural, and a bouncy castle and free cake and drinks.

On Sunday, March 2, the Rt Revd Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds, preached at a multicultural, all-age service, followed by a lunchtime banquet.

Over the weekend the church saw some 500 people at all the festivities.

The Revd Phil Arnold, Vicar at the church, said: "Christ Church has been serving the community of Upper Armley in ways that have evolved to adapt to the local community.

"It's an exciting time to be here!"



New Bishop of Wakefield enjoys first day in diocese



Our new Bishop of Wakefield enjoyed a grand tour of the varied area where he will serve everyone, following the Downing Street announcement of his appointment.

The Ven Malcolm Chamberlain, currently Archdeacon of Sheffield and Rotherham was introduced to clergy, civic and faith leaders at Wakefield Cathedral, where he spoke of his excitement at joining the diocese and taking on the role of bishop for the Wakefield Episcopal Area.

First stop after the cathedral was Royston St John CE Primary School, where he was greeted by new headteacher Rachel Steele and Year 5 pupils Reggie and Eden, who presented him with a bouquet.

Enthusiasm for learning in a Christian environment was evident in all the classrooms which Malcolm visited and where he chatted with children of all ages.

"We are here to make a difference to children's lives every day," said Headteacher Rachel.



It was then on to meet Revd Phil Maries in a tough corner of Barnsley. St George's church sits on the edge of challenged estate, physically cut off from the town centre by the busy ring road.

Malcolm has great understanding of work in estates churches having served in Toxteth and Wavertree in Liverpool and thanked Revd Phil and his volunteers for all they do.

"The Brassed Off church" is how Fr Robert Hart introduces St Helen's, Hemsworth, where worship is firmly rooted in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England.



St Helen's interior was used in the famous film about social hardship, friendship and brass bands which was set in nearby Grimethorpe (Grimley in the film).

Looking to the future, St Helen's is striving for church growth and runs different courses based on Alpha and also the Roman Catholic Sycamore course.

Malcolm said how he was committed to the flourishing of all forms of Church of England worship traditions.

Lead bishops for racial justice have been appointed by the Church of England



The Bishop of Kirkstall, Arun Arora of our diocese, and the Bishop of Croydon, Rosemarie Mallett, have been appointed by the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of London as joint lead bishops for the Church of England on racial justice.

Their role will involve acting as advocates on racial justice throughout the Church of England, including promoting implementation of the recommendations of From Lament to Action, the landmark report from the Church of England's Anti-Racism Taskforce.

Bishop Arun and Bishop Rosemarie will also serve as joint deputy chairs of the newly created Racial Justice Board, a committee of the Archbishops' Council that will oversee its work on racial justice.

Their appointment comes after the General Synod voted to back the findings of the final report of the Archbishops' Commission on Racial Justice ensuring crucial resources remain available for racial justice including a Racial Justice Board, Panel, and Lead Bishop.

The work of the Mothers' Union

Julia Tum
Diocesan Mothers' Union
President

Since January, the Mothers' Union has been focusing on aspects of life which have 'mothering' as their central tenet. In early January we held our "Wave of Prayer" and prayed for those Members in our link dioceses in Nigeria, Rwanda, Solomon Islands and Lesotho. Lesotho has one of the world's highest rates of HIV-Aids infection and this has resulted in a large number of child-headed households because both parents have died. These desperate children are the new mothers in our world.

On Saturday, March 15 we held a Commissioning Service at Wakefield Cathedral. +Nick led the Service and +Smitha, Bishop of Huddersfield, gave an emboldening sermon encouraging all MU Members to sing out to everyone about MU and raise its profile.

On Tuesday, March 25, MU across the globe celebrated the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary; more commonly known as Lady Day. Churches across Leeds Diocese held services to give thanks for Mary's courage to say "YES". The services encouraged us all to step out



with open and fearless hearts.

At Halifax Minster's Festival of Women on Saturday, March 29, MU had a stall alongside Women's Aid and Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership. MU raises awareness of domestic abuse and collects items for the Refuges. Initiatives in Leeds Diocese include volunteering in New Hall Prison, feeding the homeless in Leeds, donations to Baby Banks, knitting mittens for young children arriving at school with hands too cold to hold a pencil and much more. Mothers' Day celebrates all mothers.

How can we continue Jesus' work on earth, as His hands and feet?

We can pray for MU Members across the world, we can let the joy of Jesus fill our hearts, we can continue to support and progress the many MU initiatives undertaken across this diocese, and in the same way that Mary said "YES" to Angel Gabriel we can say "YES" to where God is leading.

Join us, join in...we are changing lives.

St Mark's Harrogate become third church in diocese to get Eco Church Gold Award

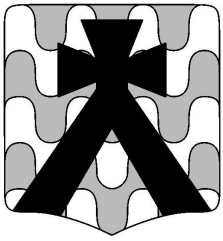


St Mark's Harrogate have become the third church in the Diocese of Leeds to achieve their A Rocha Eco Church Gold Award.

The church has a dedicated environmental team with 14 members including clergy and leaders from across the church, which has meant the ethos of 'care for creation' has gradually been embraced by the entire congregation.

Eco Church commended St Mark's for its commitment to sustainability, including the provision of cycle racks for 32 bikes and encouragement of car-free travel, its efforts to share the net-zero journey with the local community via social media, the Clothes Bank supporting local refugees, its thoughtfully designed land use, and the installation of solar panels with well-thought-out future heating plans.

The Revd Mike Resch, Vicar of St Mark's, said: "Caring for creation and working towards its flourishing is central to the work of Christ on the cross."



From the

Funeral

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------|-------------|
| 18 March | Susan Isabel Fussey (Betty) | 97yrs | P C |
| 28 March | Christine Turner | | St B |
| | William Thomas Bastow | 70 yrs | H C |
| 8 April | Mary Hall Edith Beech | 63 yrs | St B P C |
| 10 April | Anita Louise Hossack | | P C |

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

When At Your Heart Should Be Sad

PC Pontefract Crematorium
St B St Botolph's Church
H C Holy Cross, Airedale

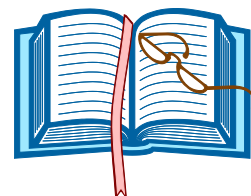
When at heart you should be sad,
Pondering the joys we had,
Listen and keep very still.
If the lowing from the hill
Or the toiling of a bell
Do not serve to break the spell,
Listen: you may be allowed
To hear my laughter from a cloud.

Sir Walter Raleigh



Parish Registers

IN MEMORIAM



On these days of May please pray for the repose of the souls of:

| | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|------|----|-----------------------|------|
| 1 | John Edward Gosling | 1967 | 17 | Annie Vause | 1992 |
| | Frederick Middleton | 1981 | | Malcolm Carrington | 2013 |
| | Margaret Woodall | 2021 | 16 | Michael Frederick | |
| 3 | Charles Blackburne | 1980 | | Sutcliffe | 2001 |
| 4 | Harry Day | 1976 | 19 | Hannah Rhodes | 2007 |
| | Maurice Downing | 1976 | | Edith Mary Spence | 2012 |
| | Ethel Maud Austin | 1985 | | Betty Hobman | 2022 |
| | Harry Sykes | 1995 | 20 | Muriel Sharp | 1990 |
| 5 | Eric Rhodes | 2004 | 21 | Leslie Millward | 1980 |
| 6 | Margaret McManus | 1985 | | Frances Elizabeth | |
| | Dorothy Hodgson | 1997 | | Underwood | 1986 |
| | Henry Walker | 1936 | | Mark Richard Nelson | |
| | Annie Elizabeth Draper | | | (Priest) | 1999 |
| | | 2002 | | Emily Renshaw | 2001 |
| 8 | Ada Cawthorne | 1971 | 22 | Albert Ellis | 1976 |
| | John Edward | | | Ellis Crabtree | 1992 |
| | Underwood | 1981 | | Harriet Ann Juniper | 2007 |
| 9 | John Joseph Brown | 1970 | 24 | William Henry Birkitt | 1979 |
| | Leslie Maer | 2019 | | Sheila Furniss Clegg | 1992 |
| 11 | Ernest Ellerington | 1918 | | Marjorie Whitaker | 1997 |
| | Kathleen Woodhead | 1988 | | Harry Lancaster | 1978 |
| | Elsie Marian Probert | 1997 | 25 | George William | |
| 12 | Eric Fox | 1999 | | Hodgson | 1997 |
| | Lilian Shay | 2009 | | David Hobman | 2015 |
| | Janet Ward | 2012 | 27 | Edwin Brookes | 1988 |
| 13 | Phyllis England | 2003 | | Leonard Lifsey | 1945 |
| | Hannah Mary Sheard | | 28 | Brian John Reeves | 2004 |
| | | 2008 | 29 | Lily Ann Richardson | 1985 |
| | Lucy Wilcox | 2014 | | Bernard Teal | 2011 |
| 14 | Olive White | 2013 | 30 | Emily Smith | 1996 |
| 15 | George Lightfoot | 1979 | | Hastings Swales | 2000 |
| | Mary Brown | 1980 | 31 | Samuel Cartwright | 1980 |

Holy Days and Commemorations

May

- 1 Philip and James, Apostles
- 2
- 3 Henry Vaughan, poet, 1695
- 4 **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**
- 5 May Day Bank Holiday
- 6 John the Evangelist
- 7
- 8 VE Day 80th anniversary
- 9
- 10
- 11 **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**
- 12
- 13
- 14 Matthias the Apostle
- 15
- 16 Mary Seacole, nurse, 1881
- 17
- 18 **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**
- 19
- 20 Ethelbert, king and martyr, 794
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24 John and Charles Wesley
- 25 **FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**
- 26 John Calvin, reformer, 1564
- 27 The Venerable Bede, 755
- 28
- 29 ASCENSION DAY
- 30
- 31 **THE VISITATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH**
(can be celebrated 2 July)

Eucharist Readings

4 May

EASTER 3

Acts 9: 1-6 or
Zephaniah 3: 14-20
Revelation 5: 11-14

John 10: 11-16

11 May

EASTER 4

Acts 9: 36-43 or
Genesis 7: 1-5, 11-18
Revelation 7: 9-17

John 16: 16-22

18 May

EASTER 5

Acts 11: 1-18 or
Genesis 22: 1-18
Revelation 21: 1- 6

John 13: 31-35

25 May

EASTER 6

Acts 16: 9-15 or
Ezekiel 37: 1-14
Revelation 21:10, 22-22 5

John 14:23-39 or 5:1-9

1 June

EASTER 7

SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

Acts 16:16-34 or
Ezekiel 36:24-28
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

8 June

PENTECOST

What's On?

The Aire Benefice

3 May Plant Sale, St Botolph's Parish Room, 10am - 12 noon

Coffee Morning, St Martin's Womersley, 10.30am - 12 noon

10 May Plant Sale, St Edmund's Kellington, 11am – 3pm

15 May Friends of St Botolph's, Parish Room, 1 - 3.30pm

25 May Sunday Social, Brotherton Parish Hall, 1 - 3pm

29 May Lunch Club, St Botolph's Parish Room, 12 noon - 3pm

14 June Summer Fayre, St Botolph's Parish Room 11am - 2pm

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**