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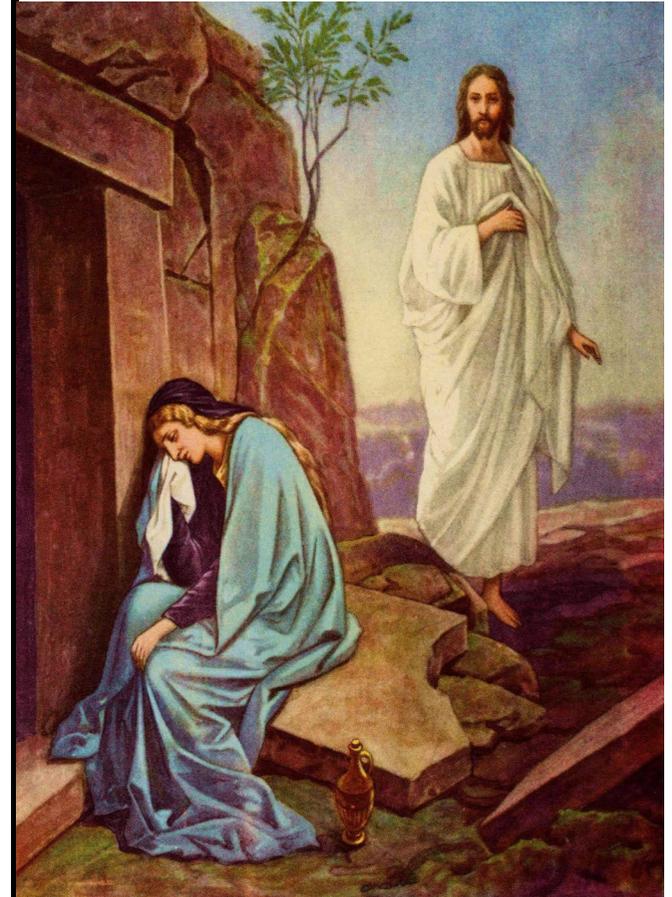
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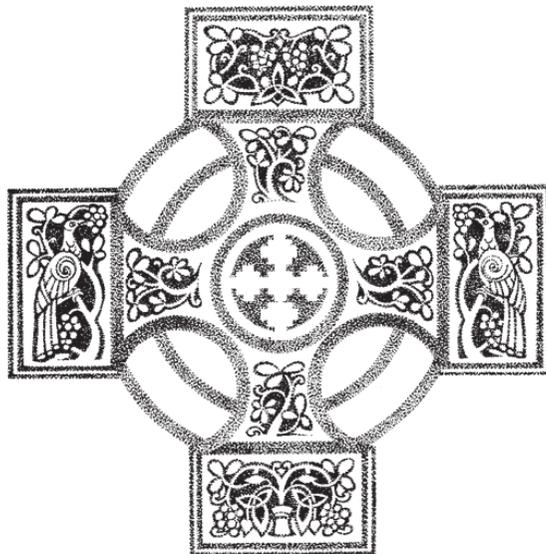
st John's and St Luke's Together

St John's Church



St Luke's Church

**April
2020
50 pence**



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ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S TOGETHER WHO'S WHO

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 For parish information including services and events
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www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3176/
www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3216/
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Thursday 30 th	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery (SJ Church Office)
MAY		
Friday 1 st	7.00-7.45pm	Open Choir Practice (SJ)
Sunday 3rd	8.00am	Holy Communion in East End (SJ)
	9.30am	Joint Forest Service in Nidd Gorge
	11.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	6-7.30pm	Junior Ignite (Youth Group) (SL)
	7-8.30pm	Ignite (Youth Group) (SL)

Looking Ahead

Saturday 9 th May	10.00am-12noon	Coffee Morning (SJ Hall)
Sunday 10 th May	evening	Tanzania evening (SJ)
Wednesday 13 th &20 th May	TBA	Everybody Welcome
Wednesday 3 rd &10 th June	TBA	Course (SJ)
Saturday 13 th June	10.00am-12noon	Coffee morning (SJ Hall)
Saturday 27 th June	TBA	Summer Fair (SJ)
Saturday 11 th July	10.00am-12noon	Coffee Morning (SJ Hall)
	TBA	Community Day (Bilton & Woodfield Library)
Saturday 25 th July	3-5pm	Songs of Praise (SJ Hall)
Sunday 27 th September	4-6.00pm	Newcomers' Welcome Tea at 20 Bilton Lane



Being Neighbourly

Now, more than ever, is a time for us as Christians to look out for neighbours and friends, especially those who are elderly, on their own or with young families, or any who have to self-isolate. If you are willing to offer help in the parish, Gill in the office is gathering names - 565129 or email see page 23 for details



March Coffee Morning

Thanks to the 'Crafty Ladies' who organised things efficiently and also to everyone in the local community who came along. In view of the current situation it was lovely to see so many people enjoying having a chat over their coffee and toasted teacakes. Thanks also to David and Jenny who set out the hall in advance. An impressive £655.80 was raised, which will be shared between Yorkshire Air Ambulance and Bilton Community Centre.

Rector's Letter



Dear friends

As I write, the world seems a scary or at best an uncertain place – for example we are facing the huge challenge of climate change, as a country we are working out what Brexit will mean, and then to top it all we are probably worrying about how the Coronavirus epidemic will affect us both individually and as a society.

But as serious as these issues are, we are not in as scary a place as the disciples were in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus had just shared the Last Supper with them, describing his body and blood in sacrificial terms; he had warned them that one of their number was going to betray him: and he had predicted that they would all fall away and that Peter, his staunchest and most loyal disciple, was going to deny him. Then, as if all this were not



bad enough, in the dark of night he leads Peter, James and John into the Garden where they see him in great anguish as he tells them that his soul *'is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death.'* And yet such is the atmosphere of spiritual oppression that they can't even stay awake and watch over him. Then, shockingly, Judas arrives and betrays him with a kiss - and to cut a very long story short, Jesus is arrested, denied by them, tried and crucified. No wonder the disciples are in the depths of despair, as made clear by the description of the mindset of Cleopas and his friend on the road to Emmaus – not even

reports that he had been raised from the dead could lift their spirits.

But the thing is that despite this dreadful catalogue of events, there is never a sense that Jesus is not in control, that he doesn't know what is happening, that he is merely a hostage to circumstance or fortune. Rather, at every turn he is explaining, reassuring, predicting, keeping calm, refusing to retaliate, staying the course, forgiving, surrendering, trusting his

heavenly Father, even at the point of death, saying, 'Fathe, into your hands I commit my spirit.

And we know, this side of the cross, that Jesus's confidence was not misplaced, that things did turn out just as he said they would, that God used the evil plans of Jesus' enemies to bring about the greatest good. And what this tells us is that whatever is happening to us, whatever calamities might be befalling us individually or collectively, we are never beyond God's care, never out of the reach of his love, never abandoned or forsaken by him. Thus we can echo the words of the Psalmist:



¹ *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

² *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,*

³ *though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.*

⁴ *There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.*

⁵ *God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.*

⁶ *Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.*

⁷ *The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

¹⁰ *He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.'*

¹¹ *The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

Psalm 46

The bottom line is that we can be absolutely confident in God because of the cross and resurrection – they tell us that he is on our side, that no problem is too great for him and we do not need to be worried or afraid. So in this Easter season, let us put our trust in him afresh. Hallelujah! Every blessing.

Simon

Easter Sunday 12th	5.45am 8.00am 10.00am 10.30am 12.15pm	Sunrise Service (SJ) Holy Communion in East End (SJ) All Age Holy Communion (SJ) All Age Holy Communion (SL) Baptisms (SJ)
Tuesday 14 th	9-9.30am 7-9.00pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Knit & Natter (SJ)
Wednesday 15 th	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am 12.00pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre Thirst Table at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 16 th	9-9.30am 1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Wellbeing Café (SL) Evening Surgery (SJ Church Office)
Sunday 19th	8.00am 10.00am 10.30am 7-8.30pm	Holy Communion in East End (SJ) Morning Worship (SJ) All Age Communion (SL) Ignite Joint games night (SL)
Monday 20 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 21 st	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 22 nd	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 23 rd	9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am 1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Wellbeing Café (SL) Evening Surgery (SJ Church Office)
Friday 24 th	6.30-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 25 th	10am-2.00pm	Sri Lanka Day (Burley-in-Wharfedale)
Sunday 26th	8.00am 10.00am 11.45am 4.00pm	SONGS OF PRAISE CANCELLED - sorry! Holy Communion in East End (SJ) JOINT Morning Worship (SJ) Annual Parish Church Meeting (SJ) followed by Bring Your Own lunch Service to Remember and Give Thanks (SJ)
Monday 27 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 28 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 29 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 29 th	10.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 30 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)

APRIL'S CALENDAR

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CUP OR MUG TO ANY EVENTS
WHERE WE MAY BE SERVING DRINKS

Wednesday 1 st	9-9.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion with Richard Taylor School (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 2 nd	7.00pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am	Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
	1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7.30pm	Wellbeing Café (SL) Surgery (SJ Church Office) Men's Group at The Knox
Friday 3 rd	10.00am	Richard Taylor School Easter Service (SJ)
	7-7.45pm	Open Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 4 th	9.30am-4.00pm	Growing Leaders Awayday in Hampsthwaite
Sunday 5 th	8.00am 9.30am 10.30am 11.00am	Holy Communion (SJ East End) All Age Service (SJ) All Age Service (SL) Holy Communion (SJ)
Monday 6 th	9.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Reflective Service (SL)
Tuesday 7 th	9.00am 7.00pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Prayer Walk (SJ)
Wednesday 8 th	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer Holy Communion ((SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.15pm	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
	7.00pm	Alpha Course (SJ)
Maundy Thursday 9 th	1-3.00pm	NO Morning Prayer (SJ) Wellbeing Café (SL) NO Evening Surgery
	8.00pm 11.30am	Reflective Service (SL) Walk of Witness at The Cenotaph
Good Friday 10 th	1.30-3.00pm 5.00pm 7.00pm	At the foot of the cross (SL) Choir Practice (SJ) Music & Words for Good Friday (SJ)
Saturday 11 th		COFFEE MORNING CANCELLED - SORRY!

Welcome to our new Young People's Worker, Emma James

We're very excited that our new young people's worker, Emma James, starts work on Sunday 19th April, when we will be commissioning her at the 10am service at St John's.



Please keep her in your prayers as she prepares to leave her present post as a teacher at Follifoot Primary School, and gets ready to join us. Please also pray that her ministry here in Bilton will bear much fruit over the coming years.

She is very excited about joining us, and hopefully we share that excitement and will seek to make her very welcome at St John's and St Luke's.

SONGS OF PRAISE is not a group meeting for Senior Citizens who enjoy singing! People of all ages are welcome. However, in practice a lot of our 'regulars' are over 70. Because of Coronavirus the advice of the government is that those over 70 and vulnerable people should self-isolate if possible. Sadly this means that we must cancel our gathering on Saturday 25th April. Sorry about this; we do need to act responsibly.



David and Linda Williams

We take this opportunity to thank David and Linda Williams, who have master-minded Songs of Praise almost since they arrived in Harrogate. Those who come appreciate David's lively accompaniment of the hymns and songs we have chosen - and sometimes his leading the worship. And Linda co-ordinates everything, and is always very welcoming to us all.

Thanks too to Enid, Jane and Diana, who prepare the delicious tea for us.

And thanks to those who choose a hymn or song, and share their thoughts and feelings and Christian experience.

Ed.



Eco Church Tips

With ideas taken from 1001 little ways to save our planet by E Floyd



April – Family Life

Junk rescue

The 5 R's – Refuse: No thank you to single-use plastic
Reduce: only buy what you need to
Reuse: Ditch disposable & use stuff again
Repurpose: find another use if it's broken or
Recycle: Don't chuck it in the landfill bin

**R R R
R R**

Share a school run

If you drive your children to school or a club, try and arrange to share with another family to save petrol



This Photo by

In the bag



Instead of packing a separate crisp bag into a lunch everyday, buy a large bag and add portions to lunchboxes.

Don't picnic on plastic

Don't take plastic utensils on picnics. Instead, use old mugs & plates from your own home or buy a set from a charity shop.



St John's has achieved a bronze award as an eco-church, but it is important to keep trying to find ways of being more environmentally friendly.

- *Do we recycle as much as we can? As well as the council's recycling boxes and bags, both churches have boxes for biscuit and cake wrappers, for batteries and for ink cartridges - you can bring yours from home as well.*

PEOPLE



FUNERALS/ MEMORIALS

We extend our sympathy to the families of those who have recently died:

Jean Black



Congratulations

**Rachel Demain will be
50 years young this month!**

SUNDAY 12th APRIL

is Copy Date for the
May 2020
edition of Focus.

Items for inclusion to:
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or leave them in the
drawer at the back of St
John's Church

St John's & St Luke's CHURCH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

MONDAY to WEDNESDAY 9.30am
to 1.00pm

THURSDAY CLOSED

FRIDAY 9.30am to 1.00pm

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(+ Answerphone)

email -

church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

Easter Holidays

**The church office will be closed from
Wednesday 8th April till Monday 20th April.
Emails and phone calls will be monitored but not regularly.**

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EASTER

AT ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S

MONDAY 6TH APRIL

Reflective Service: 'Unless a grain of wheat...' | 7.30pm at St Luke's

TUESDAY 7TH APRIL

Prayer Walking: 'When I am lifted up...' | starting at 7pm at St John's, and finishing at the Vicarage at 8.15pm

THURSDAY 9TH APRIL

All Age Passover Meal | 5.30pm at St Luke's
(Adults - £6, Children - Free)

Reflective Service with Footwashing | 8pm at St Luke's

FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

Good Friday Walk of Witness | 11.30am at the Cenotaph

'At the Foot of the Cross': All-Age Prayer Stations for Good Friday | 1.30pm at St Luke's (Drop in anytime between 1.30 - 3pm and stay for as long or little as you wish)

Music and Words for Good Friday | 7pm at St John's

SUNDAY 12TH APRIL

Easter Day Sunrise Service | 5.45am at St John's (meeting at the Vicarage garden)

Easter Day All-Age Communion | 10am at St John's

Easter Day All-Age Communion | 10.30am at St Luke's

<https://www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk>



Our Young People's Worker, Emma James, talks to the Editor about herself and how she has arrived at this point

Ed We are looking forward to your joining us as our Children's and Young People's Worker. It will be quite a change for you from teaching. What made you decide on this move?

Emma It has been quite a long process! I have been a volunteer youth worker at St Mark's for some years. After taking a group of young people to 'Soul Survivor' (Youth Festival a bit like New Wine) in 2018, I began to feel unsettled in my job; that God was nudging me, but wasn't sure in which direction. So I spent lots of time, (15 months!) praying, asking God for guidance, reading the Bible and talking to Guy, my vicar. I began to pray that a job in a church working with young people would become available in or near Harrogate. (I didn't want to disrupt my family's lives by moving away.)



Meanwhile, unbeknown to me, Bilton churches were moving towards the decision to employ someone to work with children and young people. When I saw your advert I actually couldn't believe it at first! A job in a church with young people in Harrogate! I continued to ask God if this was the right decision and then one evening at a Youth Ministry Training weekend in Birmingham, a stranger approached and said that God had just given him a picture for me: I was a well-nourished frog (bear with me!) sitting on a big, green and well-nourished lily pad. All around me were the things that had fed me as a Christian over the last 15 years: prayer, God's words, teaching, leaders, Christian friends. And in the next picture I had moved to a lily-pad that needed to grow and be nourished but all around me, the things that were nurturing me were the same. This is the first time that God has spoken to me through a picture and I'm certain that He was saying that I was well-prepared to move to a place where I could share the knowledge and experience and faith that I had been gaining at St Mark's and in my prayer life. So I applied for the job...and here we are!

Ed How do you feel now that you are committed to this new venture?

Emma Hugely excited, but also a little bit nervous. But I know that it's



Church Membership

Everyone who worships at St John's or St Luke's or joins in our activities is a member, but only those whose names are on the church electoral roll are allowed to vote at the Annual General Meeting. If you signed up last year you are included; otherwise you need to complete an application form – available at the door of both churches or by email from the church office – by Sunday 12th April. A copy of the roll is available to check in the church office or from the wardens after services.



Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting

AGMs can be dry and boring, but St John's and St Luke's leaders manage to keep the dry part short, and allow time for celebration of the progress we have made at fulfilling our mission to 'make disciples who make Jesus known' looking ahead at our next steps in becoming a church family which is following God's will.

There will also be some time for your comments and questions. Please join us at St John's Church on Sunday 26th April at 11.30am, after a shortened joint morning service, for the 2020 AGM, and afterwards to have lunch together (Bring your own - and your own cup or mug!)

Church Music

For most of us music is a very important part of worship. Hymns and songs give an added dimension to the words given us in the Bible and prayer books. Background music aids our meditation and prayers. We appreciate those who lead our music in both churches.

Music is included in the parish budget, but we would like to be able to replace some of the older books which are showing signs of wear and tear, and perhaps buy some new music. The plan is to raise money for this at the 9th May coffee morning - if it happens! More details next month.

We are sorry

April's

Coffee Morning

for Water Aid

is cancelled

- Thank you to everyone who has supported our coffee mornings over the years
- the very loyal dedicated team who provide refreshments, man the stalls, and make cakes, biscuits, home preserves and greeting cards for selling
- the generous donors of raffle and tombola prizes
- those who come to enjoy meeting friends and acquaintances over coffee and to buy from the stalls.



We have supported many different charities, local, national and international, Christian and social.
Hopefully the mornings will soon be able to resume

in that nervousness, that God will meet me and equip me. I will have to rely on God, not on myself which is a good lesson to learn.

Ed What will you do first when you start working here?

Emma Well, I won't rush in and make sweeping changes! I think my first job is to get to know the wonderful team of volunteers you have at both churches and also the young people of course. I'll visit each group and get to know them and how they work. I also plan to make contact with local schools and youth clubs.

One thing I know about myself, is that I can get excited about possibilities and set off at 100mph! However, I'm determined that whatever I/we do must be underpinned by prayer so I will try to bring everything back to God and keep asking Him for guidance.

Ed You and your family worship and volunteer at St Mark's at the moment. Are you going to be torn between the two churches?

Emma No. I think it's really important that I fully join St John's and St Luke's and make it my home in every respect. I'm very much looking forward to doing that and getting to know everyone. However, my children will stay at St Mark's because that's where they feel settled and their friends are etc. They are involved in the children and youth work there as well as the worship band. I'm trusting that God has got them now and they don't need me as much!

Ed What will you miss?

Emma Well, I'll miss my colleagues and of course the children in my class. And I love teaching maths and music so maybe I might miss that a little! However, the thing I love most about teaching is the relationships, and I'll still have that in this new job. Of course it's a big change, but I feel confident that this is what God wants, and so I'm trusting that it's the right decision! I am looking forward to getting to know you all, worshipping with you, learning with you and working together to serve the young people at both churches.

I look forward to meeting lots of you in action.

Sri Lanka Day, Saturday 25th April 2020

A team of 6 members of the Sri Lanka Task Group led by the Bishop Paul Slater paid a visit to Sri Lanka in February this year to consolidate the existing link between the dioceses of Leeds and Sri Lanka. The team visited a number of churches and schools and has come back with fresh enthusiasm and having established firm links with clergy, heads of schools and orphanages.



Barbara Belsham, 3rd from left, was head teacher at Richard Taylor School

Leeds Diocese is holding a Sri Lanka Day on Saturday, 25th April 2020 at St Mary's Church Parish Hall, 43 Station Road, Burley-in-Wharfedale, LS29 7NE, from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. The main purpose of this event is to offer solidarity with Sri Lanka following the first anniversary of the Easter Bombings on 21st April 1919 and to generate new interest in the Link.

There will be a video presentation and a continuous slide show of the team's visit which included 600 miles of travel, church services, visits to schools, social gatherings, visits to historical sites, other religious centres and cultural places and a cricket match between the visiting team and the local children and clergy. Copies of recipes, leaflets of tourist places and items of special interest will be on display. Demonstrations of some local food preparations are eagerly expected.

Our own local initiative with Sri Lanka in the form of our association 'Dignity Through Education' will hold a stall explaining our interest in helping the children of poor parents from the tea plantations in Sri Lanka by providing a small bursary towards their university education. Anyone who has any special interest in Sri Lanka whether through our association or purely as

dignity
through education

for 3,500 pupils where class sizes are 150+ and children set off at 6am to walk five kms or more each morning with no breakfast blew our minds. This against a backdrop of an earlier visit to a fee-paying church primary school, better resourced but still very poor, where numbers are falling and the budget is seriously affected because parents have removed their children since the government introduced a ban on the switch as a discipline measure. SEN is unheard of – or heard of but uncatered for as there is no money – and amongst the hundreds of children we saw in schools and classes, I only encountered one wearing glasses. Make of that what you will.

A visit to Bunda Girls Secondary School was high on my list as this is the school I have been raising sponsorship monies for over the past two years or so. The vision is to get girls from poor, remote and deprived communities through secondary school education and on to university.



The school is doing well – although still needs to increase its numbers – and currently scores highly in the schools' performance criteria across Tanzania. Great news! We met some of the girls being sponsored which was very powerful – they are doing so well, are happy and safe. But attending BGSS challenged us too: the school is fenced in on a compound with an armed guard, in the middle of nowhere. School terms run from January to May and July to December with June the only month when the girls get to go home. Parents are allowed one visit per term but transport links are sparse, distances vast and most cannot afford the cost of the journey.

Look out for the final instalment of Jane's exciting visit in May's magazine.

Latest News:

***I shall also be hosting an evening on Sunday, 10th May at St John's with lots more photos and videos - oh, and wine! More to follow but all monies raised will go directly to sponsorship at Bunda Girls' Secondary School. Thank you
Jane Reichert 07773144410***

Diocesan Links Visit, Mara Tanzania, February 2020

So, February 6th 2020 finally arrived – hurrah! The sixteen of us – four clergy and twelve laity – had no problems locating each other at Manchester and we were off! Our excitement was palpable! Despite a mere one hour transfer time at Doha – and one member of our team going astray on disembarking! – Qatar Airways did us proud and before we knew it, we were at Dar Es Salaam airport after a brief stop-off at Kilimanjaro – like you do! - for those travellers more intrepid than us!



A late evening flight to Mwanza saw us then properly arrived in Mara, Tanzania, where Arthur, our diocesan link officer, was eagerly awaiting us with Daniel, our driver, and the diocesan “fun bus” recently resurrected from a state of major disrepair especially for our visit!

A night in the Midland Hotel overlooking Lake Victoria, and awakening to the buzz from the neighbouring market heralded an early start, and before we knew it we were all aboard for the five-hour drive to our destination for the next four nights: the Afrilux hotel in Musoma. From there a non-stop two weeks visiting churches, schools, the Bible College, water harvesting projects and Safe House – all supported in some shape or form by the Diocese of Leeds through this very strong link cemented now for over three decades. And of course, our participation in the most joyous, exuberant – and noisy! - church services I had ever attended!



Some of what we saw and heard was hard to process: primary school education is now compulsory in Tanzania. Progress you would think. But Tanzania is a very poor country so there are next to no resources; not even pens and paper to write with in some schools. Our visit to a state primary school with 24 teachers

a country of tourist interest is most welcome.

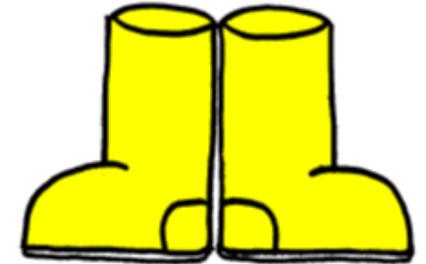
The format of the day will be an initial period of worship and reflection followed by a short talk about the work of the Church of Ceylon. There will be time to find out more about how you could become involved and also to sample some Sri Lankan food. This cycle will be repeated each hour, beginning on the hour, four times during the day.

Please contact Theva for further information:

Theva Thevarokiam **01423 886230/theva1@outlook.com**

Smelly Yellow Welly Club

As you will have already heard we have had to take the unfortunate and difficult decision to cancel Smelly Yellow Welly Club this Easter in light of the recent coronavirus outbreak. We did not take this decision lightly and feel the risks in these uncertain times were potentially too great.



This will be the first time in 27 years we have not held Welly Club and there is sadness from the whole team as it is such a wonderful uplifting time in our Church year. However be assured all our planning will not be in vain and we will be back next year.

We must say a huge thank you to all those who offered to help this year. We really appreciate your support and Welly club couldn't happen without you all. Hoping and praying this difficult time will pass and you and your families are kept safe.

Yours in wellies

Helen, Niki, Carol, Jane, Sam and Andy xxxxx

GIVE 2020 – Resourcing the work of the church in 2020 and beyond

SETTING THE SCENE...

Like any other organisation, St John's & St Luke's need to be properly financed. Everything that happens at St John's and St Luke's is only possible thanks to all of you who pray, serve and give to the work of the church. We could not do what we do without you. We don't receive funding for the running of the churches from anywhere else – No central government grants. No local council funding. No rich patron or oligarch to bankroll us! St John's and St Luke's rely on the generosity of our congregations.

If we are to pay our parish share in full, the cost of running St John's and St Luke's in 2020 is **£230,940**

Our projected (budgeted) income for 2020 is **£208,470**

Which leaves us with a shortfall of **£22,470**

In our budget for 2020 we've capped our contribution to the costs of the Diocese (Parish Share) to £120,000 meaning that our projected budget deficit is **£3434**. However, if we are not able to pay our share going forward then ultimately we will not get what we are not paying for. In other words, this means we are being subsidised - a situation which can't continue indefinitely.

WHAT WE DO...

Our vision is 'Making Disciples Who Make Jesus Known' – we long that the people of Bilton and North Harrogate might know the good news of Jesus. St John's and St Luke's exist to be a presence in our community that points to Jesus - we seek to serve the 18,000 people of our Parish, through being an active worshipping community filled with, and sharing, the love of God.

As the expressions of our vision, some of the things we do include:

Sunday Worship - Happiness Lab - Ignite (Youth Group) - Home Groups - Community Lunch - Midweek Communion - Weddings - Funerals - Baptisms & Thanksgiving Services - Children's Groups (Crèche / Little Sparks / Bright Sparks / Café Logos / St Luke's Kids) - Pastoral Care and Visiting - Bereavement Support - Memorial Services - Wellbeing Café - Alpha and Explorers Groups - Growing Leaders - Thirst (Community Café at Dene Park

on Wednesdays) - Little Fishes (Toddler Group) - JAM (Toddler Praise) - Choir - Saturday Coffee Morning - Church Fairs - Uniform Groups - Café Church - Mission Support (including CMS and Tearfund) - Schools Ministry - Green Team - and much more!

All of these need resourcing. They do not happen without gifts of time, energy, and money. All that you give goes towards this.

YOUR GIVING IS SPENT ON...

- Our Parish Share – the money we pay to the Diocese of Leeds Parish Share is the sum of money contributed by each parish to fund ministry and mission, both at a local parish level and throughout the Diocese. This is means tested and based on number of clergy (not including curates), size of the congregation, and deprivation factor (We're 7437 out of 12425 on the Indices of Deprivation, with 1 being the most deprived parish and 12425 being least deprived).
- Our Buildings – our church buildings are a great resource for our worship and mission. They are a physical presence in our community, and are well used. We want to ensure that they are warm and welcoming places, well maintained, and improved to serve the needs of those inside and outside the Church.
- Our Admin, Office, and Staff Costs – the practical running of the churches require financial resourcing. Without these our activities would be severely limited.
- Our Support of Local and Global Mission Partners. We are privileged to be able to resource projects and organisations which are sharing the good news of Jesus, alleviating poverty, campaigning for the oppressed, and seeking healing for broken lives. Those we support include CMS, Tearfund, and YWAM Uganda.
- Our Groups & Ministries – we run many groups and initiatives (as already detailed) that help to further the mission and ministry of our churches.

Please pray about your response and consider how God is challenging you to give from the resources he has given you. There are different ways we can respond and different resources we can give - time, talents/gifts and money. For more details on how you can give please contact the church office on 01423 565129 or email church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

AND FINALLY... Thank you! ... for your generosity in joining in with what God is doing in and through St John's and St Luke's - we really appreciate it.