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Visit our website for everything you need to know about the Tadcaster Benefice

www.tadcasterbenefice.org

Or find us on Facebook as Tadcaster Benefice. Each of our four churches also have individual Facebook pages where you can find the latest information on services and other events.

Focus is published digitally and in print for the Tadcaster Benefice. The deadline for submissions to be included in the next bi-monthly magazine is **Sunday 15th October 2023.** Please send all submissions to *stmarysfocus@gmail.com*

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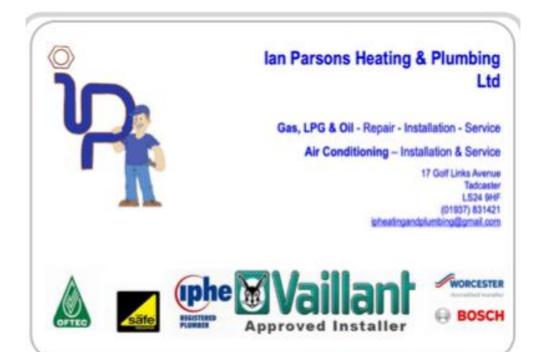
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OPENING LETTER

Do you remember the heatwave we experienced last summer? I'm sure you do; it was an event that will probably live in our memories for a long time. Unlike most British summers, we were complaining about the heat, rather than the rain! And our moans were not just about the temperature, they were also about the impact that the heat had on other issues:

- We grumbled at the closure of rail services and the suspension of airport flights.
- We felt hard done by because chocolate melted in shops and stocks of ice -cream were exhausted.
- The lack of rain caused drought conditions and wildfires started in various areas around the country. Sadly, some of these resulted in homes being destroyed.
- And Yorkshire Water imposed a hosepipe ban from the middle of August.



Prior to last year, if people wanted to make comparisons with previous droughts, they would refer to the long, hot summer of 1976. That year was my first year at work after leaving school and I was fortunate enough to be working on the south coast in the construction of the new Marina at Brighton (handy for a quick dip in the sea at lunchtime!)

This year, the highest temperatures have been affecting many European countries during July with temperatures of over 40°C in Spain, Italy and Greece.

Of course, we can't just talk about the heat of last summer without recalling the winter storms on 2021/22. Many people in the north-east were seriously affected by Storm Arwen in November 2021 which brought down an estimated 8 million trees in Scotland.

We are warned that climate change will continue to affect our weather and we should expect warmer and wetter winters, hotter and drier summers and more frequent and intense weather extremes.

Our climate has been in a state of flux over millions of years due to the effects of nature; but the most recent changes are not caused by nature but by human activities which make their impact upon nature.

God placed humanity on this earth to tend it and look after it; with such a responsibility, it would be sensible to take due recognition of what the Creator says about his creation. Unfortunately, partly through ignorance but also because of greed, we have ignored God's instructions and made up our own rules which haven't worked.

Over the coming weeks, the churches of the Benefice will be holding services at which we will celebrate God's creation and give thanks for the provision of all the resources which contribute towards our wellbeing. I hope you will find time to join us in worship and to reflect upon



what our response to the climate crisis should be.

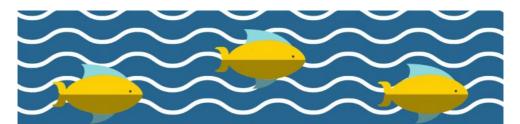
There are two answers to the problem of climate change: we can ignore it and hope it goes away (which it won't) or we can make changes to minimize its impact on our world. Climate change is a hot topic (sorry!) in which we should all take an interest as it has repercussions for us and for future generations.

The words from Psalm 1 are helpful in providing us with some guidelines for how we should live:

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers, but their delight is in the law of the LORD, They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

Steve West LLM (Reader), Tadcaster Benefice You will find all information on services and events in our weekly notices.

To receive them by email each week please contact Tricia on stmarystadcaster@gmail.com



Little Fishes

Stay and Play Group For parents, carers and pre-school children

> Boys' Sunday School, Kirkgate, Tadcaster Tuesdays from 9.30am

SEE WHAT'S ON IN THE TADCASTER BENEFICE

THURSDAY

COFFEE

MORNING

ST MARY'S CHURCH, TADCASTER

10 - 11.30 AM

FOLLOWED BY A SHORT COMMUNION SERVICE

HOLY COMMUNION AT POPPLEWELL SPRINGS

1 1 AM IN THE LOUNGE SERVICES ON 4TH SEPTEMBER & 2ND OCTOBER

WE LOOK FORWARD TO JOINING WITH THE RESIDENTS ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME





Friday September 8th, 7-30pm

St Mary's Church

A fun event for the Tadmaster Pop Quiz Cup Teams of up to six, tickets £5 per person, from Devine Meats (Bridge Street) or on the door Drinks and nibbles available

Eco Tips

Why not decide to give one of these national or international 'days' a go?

Secondhand September – 1st September to 30th September 2023

Led by <u>Oxfam</u>, Secondhand September is a campaign where we are encouraged to buy second-hand throughout the month. Sharing your second-hand purchases on social media using the hashtag #SecondhandSeptember is a great way to spread the word and show off your preloved items.

The Great British Beach Clean – 15th September to 24th September 2023

This annual event helps the <u>Marine Conservation Society</u> to raise awareness and brings attention to their important conservation work. It's a great way to get little ones involved in caring about the environment, they can see they're making a difference and who doesn't want some fresh air?





World Car Free Day – 22nd September 2023

Led by <u>Living Streets</u>, this day promotes and encourages us to leave the car at home and allow people to experience the roads traffic free.

No Disposable Cup day – 4th October 2023

This annual campaign encourages us to refuse a disposable cup and instead use a reusable cup. We don't need to use any disposable cups ever. It is very simple to carry a reusable cup with you

Recycle Week – 16th October – 22nd October 2023

This is <u>Recycle Now</u>'s Flagship event held every year to promote and encourage recycling up and down the country. Each year there is a theme and this year's is 'The Big Recycling Hunt – focuses on "missed capture": the items that can be recycled but are commonly missed in the home. '

International Walk to School Month – 1st October to 31st October 2023

A campaign to encourage parents and children to walk to school. Promoting travel habits that are better for the environment, awareness for road safety and the joy of exercise, there are many ways to get involved.



The Old Sunday School St Mary's Church

Tadcaster Men's Forum

Monday Mornings

If you have some spare time, why not come, and join us? We meet every Monday morning and hold talks on a wide variety of subjects by guest speakers

Doors open 10am for tea and coffee Talks start 10.30am and finish around 11.30am

> Meetings held from early September to early May

8 of 28



Stutton and Tadcaster WI

Calcaria House Windmill Rise Tadcaster

If you would like to be involved with or know more about the WI please contact **01937 530952** for more information



Hidden Treasures are always looking for more helpers. We have a cheerful and welcoming group of volunteers but we have room for more! If you are able to offer a few hours a week on a regular basis we would love to hear from you. Just drop in to the shop and leave your details and someone will contact you.

Tadcaster Benefice Weekly Online Worship

Please join us for Night Prayer On Zoom Every Sunday at 8.30pm

> Meeting ID: 9861012744 Password: 377646

> > And...

you can watch the midweek Holy Communion service

Livestreamed from St Mary's, Tadcaster On Thursdays at 11.30am (or catch up later) Go to the Tadcaster Benefice Facebook page to find

> A change to services at St Mary's, Church Fenton

> > From July

1st Sunday—Family Service 2nd Sunday—Holy Communion 3rd Sunday—Morning Worship 4th Sunday—All Age Holy Communion

All at 10am

Sunday services in church in the Tadcaster Benefice September & October 2023

Services may sometimes change. You can keep up to date by getting our weekly notice sheet, checking the website, or following us on Facebook

3 rd Sept	9am	Newton Kyme	Holy Communion
	10am	Church Fenton	Family Service
	10.30am	Kirkby Wharfe	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Tadcaster	Holy Communion
10 th Sept	10am	Church Fenton	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Tadcaster	Morning Worship
	4pm	Tadcaster	Evensong & Communion
17 th Sept	8am	Tadcaster	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Church Fenton	Morning Worship
	10am	Newton Kyme	Harvest All Age Service
	10.30am	Kirkby Wharfe	Holy Communion & baptism
	10.30am	Tadcaster	Morning Prayer
24 th Sept	10am	Church Fenton	Harvest All Age Communion
	10.30am	Tadcaster	Holy Communion
1 st October	9am 10.30am 10.30am <i>11am</i> 4pm	Newton Kyme Kirkby Wharfe Tadcaster <i>Church Fenton</i> Tadcaster	Harvest All Age HC
8 th October	10am	Church Fenton	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Tadcaster	Morning Worship
	4pm	Tadcaster	Evensong & Communion
15 th October	8am	Tadcaster	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Church Fenton	Morning Worship
	10am	Newton Kyme	All Age Worship
	10.30am	Tadcaster	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Kirkby Wharfe	Holy Communion
22 nd October	10am	Church Fenton	All Age Holy Communion
	10.30am	Tadcaster	Holy Communion
29 th October	10am	Church Fenton	Benefice Holy Communion
	4pm	Tadcaster	Remembering & Thanksgiving



Harvest services across the Benefice:

17th September 10am Newton Kyme - Harvest All Age Service

24th September 10am Church Fenton - Harvest All Age Communion

1st October 10.30am Kirkby Wharfe - Harvest Service

1st October 10.30am Tadcaster - Harvest All Age Communion

1st October 11am Church Fenton - Joint Harvest Service & lunch at Methodist Chapel

1st October 4pm Tadcaster - Harvest Hymns & Pimms



Friday 27th October 7pm St Mary's, Tadcaster

A talk by local author Tony Morgan about Guy Fawkes



Celebration of Lay Ministries

On Saturday 23rd September at 10.30am in York Minster, there will be as special service led by the Archbishop of York to celebrate all who serve in a variety of lay ministries across the Diocese. Bishop Sophie Jelley, the national episcopal lead for Lay Ministries in the Church of England will be preaching.

All are very welcome to attend this service and support the roles that our lay ministers - Steve & Tricia West, Val Simpson & Jane McGuinness carry out across our Benefice, asking God's blessing on them.

On Sunday 24th September, the Celebration of Lay Ministries continues with Lay Ministers preaching at both our services that day - Tricia at Church Fenton and Val at Tadcaster.

A SERVICE OF REMEMBERING & THANKSGIVING

for Tadcaster, Church Fenton, Kirkby Wharfe, Ulleskelf & Newton Kyme



at St Mary's Church, Tadcaster on Sunday 29th October at 4pm

This simple service is a chance to remember those we love who have died, to give thanks for all they meant to us and all they mean still. We send an invitation to all the families we have been involved with following the death of someone close to them in the past year.

All these names are read out and there is the opportunity to light a candle.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to have a name of someone else who has recently died included, and come to light a candle in memory of them, please contact the Benefice Administrator, Tricia West, on 07545 516949 or email: stmarystadcaster@gmail.com

The end of Focus

After a lot of thought and discussion and with the full agreement of the Tadcaster PCC who have always funded it, it has been agreed that the *Focus* magazine will not be published after the end of this year. This means that the November/December issue will be the last one.

We recognise that *Focus* has been a popular publication for many, many years but it has been running at an unsustainable financial loss for some time now and circulation numbers are half what they were pre-COVID, even taking into account the numbers receiving the digital version.

It also has been noted that, because of the deadlines for printing, some information is out-of-date before the magazine even reaches people's homes! During recent years, the weekly Benefice notice sheet and social media have provided a fuller and more up-to-date reflection of what is happening across our churches and what appears in *Focus* is often a duplication of that information.

It has also been near-impossible to encourage articles from anyone other than the ministry team, which means that in recent times the magazine has not been representative of the whole church community.

But we are not stopping providing the essential information contained in the magazine! At the end of each month, there will be a NEW *Benefice Gazette* produced, to be sent out with the weekly notice sheet, containing the details of baptisms, weddings & funerals held the previous month, service details for the coming month and any reports or notices of events that we receive that do not appear in the weekly sheet. This A4 sheet will be FREE for all.

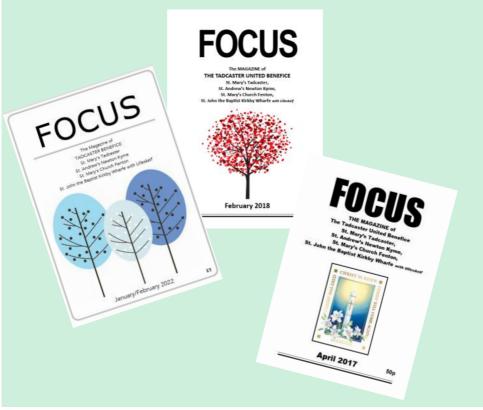
If you do not yet receive the weekly notice sheet (which will contain information about most forthcoming events) please sign up for it by emailing the Administrator on <u>stmarystadcaster@gmail.com</u>. Current digital *Focus* subscribers will **not** be automatically transferred over unless you give us specific permission to do so. If you already receive the weekly notice sheet digitally you need do nothing.

In addition, paper copies of the Gazette will be placed in St Mary's church,

Tadcaster, for anyone to collect one if they do not use email. We will carefully monitor numbers required as, now that we are an Eco-church, we do not print on paper unless absolutely necessary. Please do not take a paper copy if you can receive it by email. If you are a current subscriber to the paper copy of Focus but are unable to leave your home, please speak to your distributor if you would like them to collect a paper copy of the *Gazette* to drop through your door. This, too, will be free of charge.

It would be great to send *Focus* off in style! Do you have thoughts of what the magazine has meant to you? Or do you have historic copies that we could take excerpts from to show how the magazine has changed over the years? Are you our longest-serving distributor? Or have you been part of the editorial team?

We would love to hear from you so that we can include your memories in our final issue – please email the editor at stmarysfocus@gmail.com or drop a written copy into the church administrator at 28 Golf Links Crescent, Tadcaster.



News from the Tower

Back in January, there was a national campaign to train more bellringers to ring for the coronation. We put out posts on Facebook and were overwhelmed by the response. Radio York also responded and broadcast their live show from the tower.



We started to teach several people, children and adults, to handle a bell, but unfortunately they dropped out one by one until we only had 3 new recruits on the big day.

On Coronation day, 14 ringers rang at 9.45 including our 3 new recruits. Since then, one of the learners has decided that ringing is not for him and has dropped out.

The **good news** is that we have welcomed two new ringers to the tower; one returning after a 30 year break, having learned to ring at Kirby Malzeard, and the other a brand new ringer from the town.



Both are 'doing well'.

Our youngest ringer, Matthew, aged 8, rang by himself for the first time on coronation day. His brother, Elliot aged 11, has been ringing for some time, but we couldn't leave him out could we?

The photo shows Charles, Angela, Elliott and Matthew with their '**Ring for the King'** certificates

Sue Webb, tower captain

RAINBOW THROUGH THE RAIN



Finding friendship in bereavement

'Rainbow Through the Rain' meets each third Tuesday in the month at the Tadcaster Sunday School between 2.00 and 3.30pm. It is a time to drop in and have a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits in friendly surroundings with others who have been bereaved; some recently, others maybe a little longer, but feel the need to be amongst understanding friends. It is sometimes an opportunity just to have a change from staying at home.

We are not counsellors, there is no-one to preach, to tell you how you should be feeling. If you want to talk there are people who will listen, two members are trained in bereavement listening and a member of our clergy sometimes attends. It is somewhere just to relax and to be with others who will understand and are in a similar situation.

There is a quiet area for prayer and to light a candle. We also have a wide range of books for loan and prayer cards.

If you think this would help you through a painful and sometimes lonely time, or if you know someone who you think this could help, please come along or telephone 01937 530735 for more information.

> UPCOMING DATES: 19TH SEPTEMBER & 17TH OCTOBER

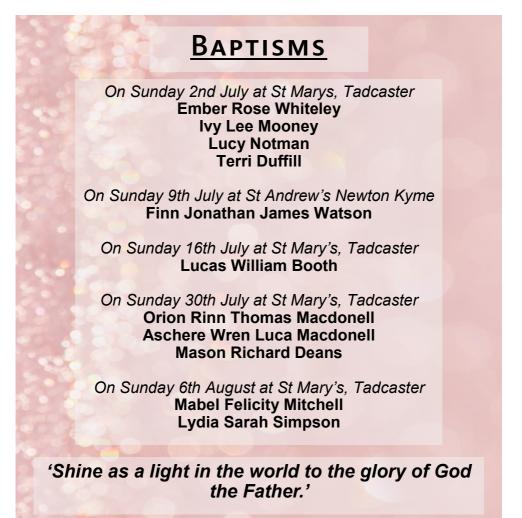
FUNERALS

Maurice Elwyn JENNISON aged 86 of Hilltop Manor Care Home. Funeral at St Mary's Tadcaster on 13th July 2023.

Maurice was born to Gladys and Harold in Fraisthorpe, near Bridlington in East Yorkshire, the sixth of seven children. His parents were tenant farmers and this meant that the family moved quite regularly about in the area, including time at Wetwang and at Fangfoss. His early years were during the war and with farming being a reserved occupation, mum and dad were busy on the farm; and being the second youngest of the brood, it was often his elder siblings who looked after Maurice. Maurice, of course, learnt to drive a tractor at an early age, although he would usually need to stand up to see over the steering-wheel! He and Ray would earn some extra pocket-money by breeding rabbits and selling the meat and pelts. He was called up for National Service in 1956, initially training in Aldershot but then serving in Suez at the time of the Suez Crisis. On returning home, he took a driving job, driving for Page's while he lived with Ray. It was at Page's that he met his wife, Mary, who worked in the offices. They were married in 1963 at All Saints church in Saxton moving to a house on Wighill Lane in 1964. Maurice was a man who was able to turn his hand to any number of skilled jobs and always paid the closest attention to detail in all he did. Amongst his other jobs, he drove for Redfearn National Glass, and then as a forklift driver. When he was made redundant, he retook his HGV Class 1 test and started work for Richard Rooke at Islington; He retired from Rooke's in 1998 to look after Mary but still continued doing some odd pieces of work there until 2014. Maurice was always interested in anything agricultural and frequently attended Agricultural shows and ploughing matches. After Mary died in 2012, he bought an ex-Army Land-Rover Defender and he would take it to show at many places, as well as joining Carnival Parades in Tadcaster.

CAROLINE ANNE BRAHAM aged 61 of Calcaria Crescent. Funeral at St Mary's Tadcaster on 17th July 2023

Caroline was born on the 25th April 1962 in Coatbridge Scotland. Her dad was a miner and the family moved to Rossington, Doncaster, where Caroline's sister Marcie was born in 1964. Caroline and Marcie spent a happy childhood in Rossington, learning to play the piano together and visiting their relatives up in Scotland. But much of their childhood was spent playing tricks on each other and taunting one another as they shared a bedroom. They were brought up as regular church-goers and this love for the church community stayed with Caroline throughout her life. At 18 Caroline took on the role of House Matron at Queen Ethelburga's school in Harrogate, looking after 50 girls as "mum" to them all. It was at this time that Caroline met Tom, her husband to be, at a wine bar in Harrogate. They began to date, with Caroline always being impressed by Tom's swish cars! Caroline and Tom were married in November 1986, with neither of them telling their parents and quickly marrying at Harrogate Registry office with only a handful of people present. Tom and Caroline welcomed Thomas into the world in 1988 and Lydia in 1996. Caroline said that "Lydia and Thomas weren't just wanted, they were wished into this world."Caroline worked in different roles such as managing a play group in Wetherby but more prominently as a house-keeper for various families around Harrogate. She forged close friendships with many of these families. She only ever worked in caring roles and it was always evident that she was made for looking after people and only ever wanted to spread love and generosity to anyone she met. She supported Tom throughout his illness until his passing in March last year. She was lost without her beloved Tom but continued to throw herself into her duties as grandmother to her (and Tom's) five grandchildren.



If you're interested in booking a baptism or wedding in any of our four churches across the Benefice, please contact our administrator. Contact details can be found on the inside cover of this magazine.

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