

THE PARISH NEWS

The Newsletter of St Andrew's Church, Corbridge, with St Oswald's Halton and Newton Hall

MARCH 2019 - ISSUE 26

FROM THE VICAR



Lent – a time for renewal

It's great to discover new gifts. I don't know who planted the snowdrops in the Vicarage back garden, but looking out from the kitchen, they have brought great pleasure to myself and Janet. And the signs of the coming Spring are all around us, not least in the mild February weather we are enjoying as I write this.

Lent is a kind of spiritual spring-time. It is an annual opportunity for us to take stock of our **Christian discipleship and prepare well for our celebration of the Lord's death and resurrection in Holy Week and Easter.**

We are preparing a Lent brochure (available in Church and on the web-site) which will set out the full range of services, meetings and concerts that we are planning, but, apart from all the opportunities in the brochure, here are 10 ideas that you might like to consider to make Lent special.

1. In Church on Ash Wednesday there will be a bowl of ashes and some stones. Sign an ash cross on the stone, take it home and use it to remind you that the cross is at the centre of our faith.
2. Try to find 5 minutes a day to be still before God and listen to what God is saying to you in the silence.
3. Try going for a walk and look for the signs of Spring that speak to us of new life.
4. Choose one of your regular meals, and as you eat think carefully about the food you are eating. Thank God for every way he sustains us in life.
5. If you are giving up something, think how you could use the money you are saving to support a charity or some aspect of the Church's mission.
6. **While watching the news or reading a paper, adopt a situation in God's world that concerns you and pray for it daily throughout Lent.**
7. Think of something that brings you joy and do it – God wants us to enjoy the blessings of life.
8. Is there someone to whom you could send an Easter Card to share our joy in the Resurrection?
9. **Think how you can make Holy Week 'holy' and special.**
10. On Easter Sunday, what could you wear for Church that shows that this is our joyful day of celebration?

New Monthly All-Age Service

On Mothering Sunday, we are beginning a new monthly All-age service on the fourth Sunday of each month at 4pm. This service will be informal, lively and will last for 45 minutes followed by refreshments. We hope that a late afternoon service will be attractive for families, and that it will be an accessible type of service for those who may be new to Church. Mothering Sunday is a great Sunday on which to start, so please spread the word and come along.

May joy with peace, true repentance and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit be yours this Lent.

David Kennedy

Vicar:

Revd Canon Dr David J Kennedy tel: 633012 email: dkennedy@corbridgechurch.org.uk

Church Wardens:

Linda Hunter tel: 633742 email: lehunter@btinternet.com

Mike Collins tel: 634007 email: mikejc2415@gmail.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LENT?

On these two pages are a selection of Lent activities and events. Look out for the Lent brochure in church for full information.

Would you like to
discover more about Lent and Easter?

Why don't you come along and find out more?

Tuesday 2nd April	Preparation for Easter (part 1)
Tuesday 9th April	Preparation for Easter (part 2)

Both sessions will be led by the Vicar and held in the cottage
from 7.30pm to 9.00pm.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served.

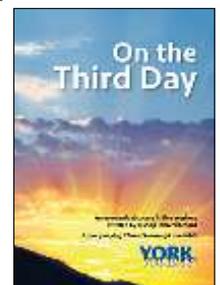


Ecumenical Home Groups

As in previous years, St Andrew's and Corbridge Methodists are running weekly home groups during Lent, and you are invited to join with other Christians in the village on Tuesday or Thursday evenings. Meetings will start at 7.30 and aim to finish by 9.30. They will run from March 12th/14th to April 9th/11th. Contact the host if you need a lift.

The Tuesday group will be at West Cheynes, Stagshaw Road – the home of Mo and Peter Lucas (634208). The Thursday group will be at 11 Crofts Avenue – the home of Monica and Max Philbrick (632707).

The groups will be using the course: *On the Third Day - 'The resurrection is the Big Story that turned a little Jewish protest movement into a world-transforming religion.'* More information on flyers and posters in church.



Quiet Days at Shepherds Dene

Gail Williams has booked in for three Quiet Days at Shepherds Dene on March 29th, April 5th and April 12th. The cost is £20 a day and included coffees teas and a light lunch. If you would be interested in joining her for one or more of these can they please let her know. Gail is happy to provide transport from Corbridge for anyone who needs it. You can contact her at: gailwilliams1@btinternet.com, or on 07730 456665.



St Andrew's Church
Sunday 31st March
4pm

MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

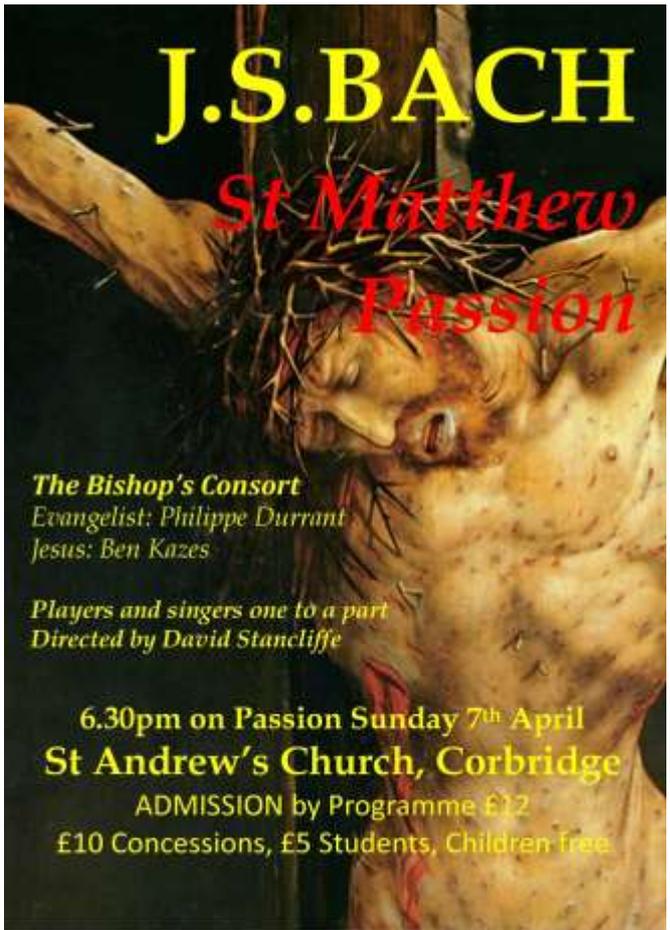
A short, lively and informal all-age
service, for anyone from age 0 to 100

All welcome

Flowers will be given out during
the service



Refreshments will be served after the service



J.S. BACH
St Matthew
Passion

The Bishop's Consort
Evangelist: Philippe Durrant
Jesus: Ben Kazes

Players and singers one to a part
Directed by David Stancliffe

6.30pm on Passion Sunday 7th April
St Andrew's Church, Corbridge
ADMISSION by Programme £12
£10 Concessions, £5 Students, Children free

Come and Sing



Fauré:
Requiem

Palm Sunday
14th April 6pm



St Andrew's Church Corbridge

St Andrew's Choir and Corbridge Camerata
invite choirs and singers to come and sing this
classic requiem on Palm Sunday evening.

Sunday 14 th April	Rehearsal 2.00pm – 3.30pm
	4.00pm – 5.15pm
	Refreshments 5.15pm
	Performance 6.00pm

Music will be provided. Cost: £5 including refreshments, payable on the day. Students and under 18's free.

Please register before 24th March by either completing the form available in St Andrew's Church, or emailing your details to Alice Bryant alsbryant@hotmail.co.uk.

CAMERATA GETS THIRD PRIZE IN DURHAM



The chamber choir Corbridge Camerata represented Northumberland in the secondary school choir competition at Durham Cathedral in early February. They won 3rd prize: so well done to all involved.

St. Andrew's Church, Corbridge.
NE45 5AA

Wedding Fair



Sunday 28th April 2019

12noon to 4.00pm

This event will bring together, in the impressive St. Andrew's Church, a range of exhibitors displaying and explaining their wedding products and services.

Further details
www.corbridgechurch.org.uk or email
admin@corbridgechurch.org.uk

MORE MUSICAL EVENTS

We are trying to establish a regular programme of music in St Andrew's. In addition to the events mentioned elsewhere in this edition of the Parish News the following are already planned:

Saturday 4th May, 7.30pm
Ryton Choral Society Concert

Saturday 18th May, 7.30pm
Brampton Consort

Friday 12th July, 12.30pm
Lunchtime Summer Music. Our annual series of lunchtime recitals and concerts begins. These continue every Friday (except 26th July) until 6th September.

Friday-Sunday 26th-28th July
Corbridge Chamber Music Festival



As further information is available it will appear on church noticeboards and our website.

OUR *most local* CHARITY GIVING

This is the third in our series looking at the charities we support as a church by giving a proportion of our income each year. Stopgap Supported Housing is by far the most local, being based in Hexham, and focussing on Homelessness in Tynedale.



January 2019 marked the twentieth anniversary of StopGaps's registration as a charity, providing accommodation and support for homeless and vulnerable people in Tynedale. Many cases of homelessness in rural areas go undetected, but even so there has been a rise of 52% from 2010-2016. Last year StopGap received nearly 70 requests for help from people either homeless or threatened with homelessness. With limited resources they were able to help just 40%.

StopGap currently provides accommodation for 7 people in its Dean Street, Hexham project, where staff and volunteers work with these vulnerable people, helping them address their problems and develop simple skills, access training, or deal with the complexities of the benefit and housing system - to enable them to move on. There is no time limit for this, different people have differing problems and for some this can be a more lengthy process. Here's just one example:-

James is a man in his late 50s. he had a career, and was settled in his own home. In fact he was only two years from owning it outright. Then he was made redundant. Demoralised and feeling a failure for his unemployment, he found it difficult to get a new job. His redundancy payment was not large, and he had an overdraft which his bank withdrew on finding no salary was coming into his account. Before long he fell into arrears on his mortgage, and lost his home. He spent two nights on the streets of Newcastle, horrified at the thought of being in a hostel, before StopGap were able to help him.

James told StopGap. "From the moment I walked through the door I felt things would be better, I felt safe and above all as if someone cared for me."

James was given the support he needed for the physical and mental health difficulties that this experience had caused. When he felt ready he was supported to apply for housing and he is now living in his own flat.

Loss of funding from the Northern Rock Foundation and more recent council budget cuts have reduced the scope of StopGap's work over the last few years. However a recently awarded grant from the Big Lottery will bring



£46,600 for each of the next five years and allow StopGap to develop new services for more people. Working with a social housing provider, StopGap plans to bring an empty property in Hexham into use as a core accommodation service. This will increase the number of people that can be supported in accommodation by over 50%. But providing someone with a roof over their head is the only the first step in a longer process of helping them find a more secure independent future. Extra day-time support, social activities, housing advice, and living skills training - for example around budgeting and basic cooking, and building self-confidence - will need additional staff and funding.

And there is an on-going need when someone moves into their own home - with setting up of utilities, decoration, furniture and regular weekly visits as they settle in and develop confidence. This is where individual donations, and those of St Andrew's, can be so useful.

StopGap would also like to restart their newsletter, and to build a new website (their previous site has closed) and develop some promotional material.

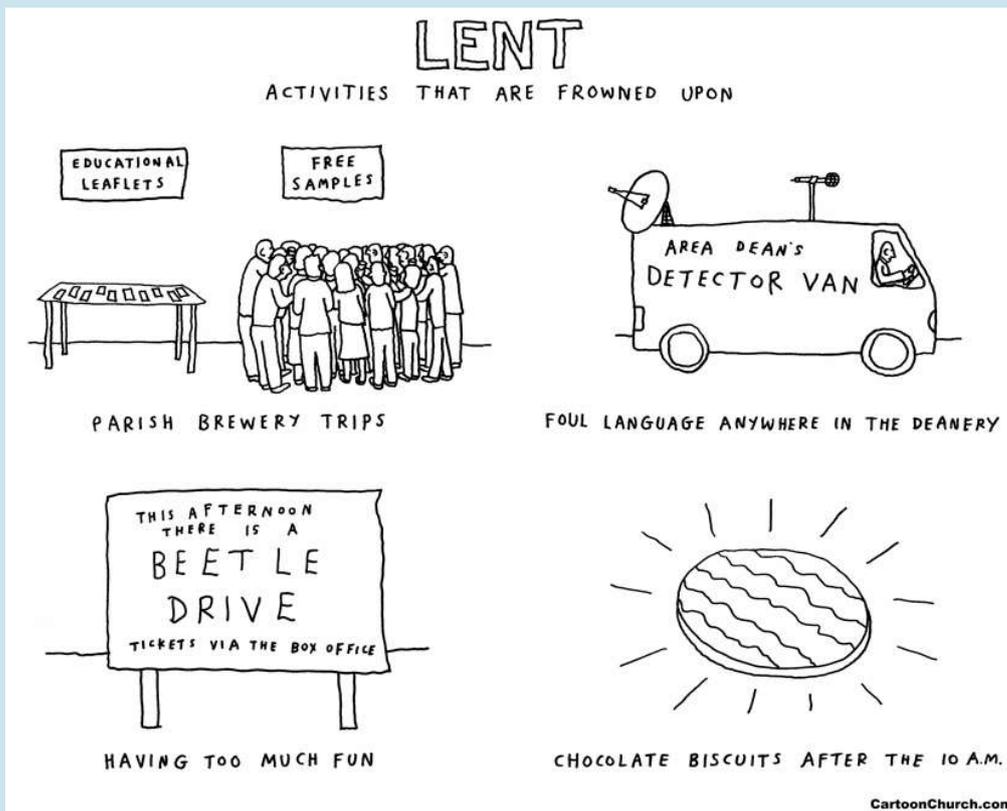
Monica Philbrick

SPRING IS COMING!



Brenda Ford and her husband were walking to Aydon Castle in mid-February and saw snowdrops carpeting the slope down towards the Cor Burn. What a delight!

NOT IN LENT?



This CartoonChurch.com cartoon © Dave Walker originally appeared in the Church Times.

Church Calendar *continued from page 8*

APRIL			
Tuesday	2 nd	7.30pm	The Vicar's Seminars: Preparing for Easter (1)
Wednesday	3 rd	10.00am	Holy Communion
		10.00am	Julian Group at Helga's, 30 Crofts Avenue
		12.15-1.00pm	Lent Lunch in the cottage
		1.15pm	Reflection in the cottage
		7.30pm	Standing Committee
Friday	5 th	1.30pm	First School Easter service in church
Sunday	7th	9.15am	Halton Holy Communion (BCP)
		9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)
		6.30pm	St. Matthew's Passion sung by Bishop's Consort
Tuesday	9 th	5.30pm	Traders Meeting
		7.30pm	The Vicar's Seminars: Preparing for Easter (2)
Wednesday	10 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		12.15-1.00pm	Lent Lunch in the cottage
		1.15pm	Reflection in the cottage
Sunday Palm Sunday	14th	8.00am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Procession and All Age Communion with dramatic reading of the Passion
		11.00am	AGM after Morning Service
		6.00pm	Fauré Requiem
Monday	15 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		8.00pm	Holy Week Worship led by Women's Fellowship
Tuesday	16 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		7.30pm	Address and Compline (Night prayer)
Wednesday	17 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		10.00am	Julian Group at Barbara's (address on p8)
		2.30pm	Burn Brae Lodge Holy Communion
		7.30pm	Address and Compline (Night Prayer)
Thursday	18 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		11.00am	Blessing of the Oils at the Cathedral
		7.30pm	Communion of the Last Supper with Foot-washing and Stripping of the Sanctuary
Good Friday	19 th	8.50am	Morning Prayer with Litany
		11.00am-1.00pm	Messy Church. Activities for families and children to learn about Good Friday
		1.30pm	Prayers at the Market Cross
		2.00pm	Good Friday Joint service at Methodist Church
		3.30pm	Evening Prayer of the Burial of the Lord
		7.30pm	Compline (Night Prayer)
Saturday	20 th	From 9.15am	Preparing Church for Easter – help needed
		7.30pm	Compline (Night Prayer) with preparation for Easter Communion
Easter Sunday	21st	5.30pm	Service of Light and Dawn Communion followed by bacon sandwiches in the cottage
		8.00am	Holy Communion
		9.15am	Holy Communion at Halton
		9.30am	All Age Easter Communion
		6.00pm	Easter Praise – joint service with the Methodists at St Andrew's
Sunday	28th	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)
		12.00noon-4.00pm	Wedding Fair
		6.00pm	Evening prayer (said)

THE NEXT PARISH NEWS

Could you send something in for the next Parish News? It could be 'your own work' or an extract from something you've read and enjoyed. A book review? A piece of local or family history? A favourite hymn or Bible verse?

Or perhaps, as on page 6, you have taken a photograph of a local place that you love?

Please give any contributions to Max Philbrick before 20th April, or send them to: max.philbrick@gmx.co.uk

Thank you!



this month is a special Good Friday morning event

Church Calendar

MARCH			
Saturday	2 nd	10.00am	Ecumenical Prayer Group in the Methodist Church New Room
		7.30pm	Concert: Durham University Gospel Choir & Camerata Choir
Sunday before Lent	3 rd	9.15am	Holy Communion (BCP) Halton
		9.30am	Parish Communion
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer (said)
Tuesday	5 th	6.30pm	Pancakes and Quiz in the cottage
Ash Wednesday	6 th	10.00am	Holy Communion with Ashing
		10.00am	Julian Group at Helga's, 30 Crofts Avenue
		7.30pm	Holy Communion with Ashing
Friday	8 th	10.00am-3.00pm	Flower Festival Viewing Day for prospective flower arrangers.
Sunday Lent 1	10 th	9.30am	Parish Communion
		3.00pm	Messy Church
		6.00pm	Holy Communion with hymns
Monday	11 th	10.00am-3.00pm	Flower Festival Viewing Day for prospective flower arrangers.
Tuesday	12 th	7.30pm	Standing Committee
Wednesday	13 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		12.15-1.00pm	Lent Lunch in the cottage
		1.15pm	Reflection in the cottage
		7.30pm	Messy Church Planning Meeting
Sunday Lent 2	17 th	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9.30am	Parish Communion
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer (said)
Wednesday	20 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		10.00am	Julian Group at Barbara's, The Butler's Cottage, Howden Dene
		12.15-1.00pm	Lent Lunch in the cottage
		1.15pm	Reflection in the cottage
		2.30pm	Burn Brae Lodge Communion
Sunday Lent 3	24 th	9.30am	Parish Communion
		6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Monday	25 th	8.00pm	Women's Fellowship in the First School
Tuesday	26 th	7.30pm	PCC in the cottage
Wednesday	27 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
		12.15-1pm	Lent Lunch in the cottage
		1.15pm	Reflection in the cottage
Sunday	31 st	9.30am	Parish Communion
		4.00pm	All Age Worship for Mothering Sunday
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer (said)



Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals since our January edition

Baptisms
None

Weddings
None

Funerals
John Davies
Sharon Wilkins
Joyce Bissett
Maurice Bennett
Jim Beale
Tony Nicholson
David Wood



Weekly Groups not shown in the Calendar
 Thursday 10.00am, North Transept - Prayer Group
 Thursday 7.30pm, 11 Crofts Ave - Home Group (*weekly through Lent - see flyer in church; check Bulletin or with Monica and Max Philbrick 632707*)

BCP = Book of Common Prayer; otherwise Common Worship

The April calendar is on page 7 of this Parish News