Church Services May 2016

Sunday 1st SIXTH OF EASTER

> 8.15am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Parish Communion (CW)

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 4th 10.00am **Toddler Praise**

Thursday 5th ASCENSION DAY

> 10.30am First Thursday Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 8th SEVENTH OF EASTER

> 8.15am Holy Communion (CW)

9.30am All.together Service

Holy Communion (CW) with Healing Ministry 6.30pm

All.together

Thursday 12th 10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

PENTECOST Sunday 15th

> Holy Communion (BCP) 8.15am 9.30am Parish Communion (CW)

3.00pm Baptism Reunion with Messy Church

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Thursday 19th Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am

TRINITY SUNDAY Sunday 22nd

> 8.15am Holy Communion (CW)

9.30am Together Communion (CW) with Healing Ministry

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Thursday 26th 10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 29th FIRST AFTER TRINITY

> 8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Parish Communion (CW)

6.30pm Choral Evensong

JUNE 2016

Wednesday 1st 10.00am **Toddler Praise**

Thursday 2nd 10.30am First Thursday Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 5th SECOND AFTER TRINITY

> 8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Parish Communion (CW) with Healing Ministry

6.30pm Choral Evensong









Every Wednesday* 9.15 - 11.30 (term time only)

*1st Wed Toddler Praise



Sunday 8th May 9.30am

Also this month:

Services

A Right Royal Do

Books

Beatrix Potter News and events

.....and much more

Next Draw: 8th May 50:50 Prizerouwi **Draw**

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Priest in Charge: Rev Janice Smith Tel: 0113 203 7523 email: revjanice.smith@gmail.com www.stgilesbramhope.org.uk

St Giles Directory

Hon Assistants: Canon John Clayton & Rev David Kirby

Churchwardens: Mrs Mary Mumby

Tel 284 2439 email: mm@marymumby.plus.com

Mrs Joanne Dawdry

Tel 203 7182 email:joannedawdry@gmail.com

Reader: Mr Jonathan Slater

Tel: 284 3136 email: jslater1721@outlook.com

Parish Administrator: Mrs Mary Mumby

Tel 284 2439 email: mm@marymumby.plus.com

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29 May Wedding

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& Alan Tomkins

8 May Judy Brown Sue Henry

15 May June & John Pickles

22 May Sheila

& Bernard Williams

29 May Diane Thompson Margaret North

GRASS CUTTING ROTA

Volunteers requested to join this year's Grass Cutting Rota at St Giles. We meet on Saturday mornings, from March to September, at 9.00 am. A session usually lasts about 90 minutes. If YOU or someone you know is able to help with one or two sessions this season PLEASE contact Alan Tomkins on 2842187. Mowers are provided.

May 7th Paul Fletcher Mike Riley
May 14th Gareth Osborne Ben Williams
May 21st AlanTomkins Matthew Laird
May 28th BANK HOLIDAY

200 years ago:- on 12th May 1816 Edmund Beckett, 1st Baron Grimthorpe, British lawyer and horologist was born. Best known for designing the mechanism for the clock at the Palace of Westminster. The clock is commonly known as Big Ben, though the name refers to the clock's Great Bell.

Prayer Schedule for Bramhope

We pray weekly, in conjunction with the Methodist Church, for all people living in our area. If you know of anyone who especially needs prayer please pass the details on to Janice or any of the Lay Assistants who will arrange for them to be included on the Prayer List.

01/05/16 Eastgate, The Parade, Eastgate Close, The Cross & Old Forge Mews

08/05/16 Church Hill, Church Gate, Church Gate Court & Holland Mount

15/05/16 Manor Close, Moor Road & Moorland Road

22/05/16 Old Lane, Occupation Lane, Hilton Court, Grange & Mews

29/05/16 Those from outside the Parish who worship with us

SIDESPERSONS' ROTA

Sunday	8.15am	9.30am		6.30pm
1st	Bill Cunliffe Steve McGraw	Margaret North Philip Kendall-Smith	ı	Margaret North
2nd	Mike Brown Joyce Shepheard	John Grahame Neil Simpson	Michael Riley	Margaret North
3rd	Janet Howard	Fred Archenhold Joan Archenhold	Bob Lewis	Michael Coles
4th	John Grisdale Keith Hawkins	Janet Cunliffe Lesley Reeves	Pam Walton	Alan Woodthorpe
5th	John Grisdale Sue Gamble	Sara Leefe Audrey Harrison	Jean Snowball	Pat Gregersen

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(ex officio) Deanery Synod Reps:

Mr Jonathan Slater*

Dr John Grahame (ex officio)
Mrs Joy Smith

Ministry Leadership Team

All indicated by *
Mr Bryan Bundey
Mrs Sue Osborne

Tach month of the church year appears to have its focus and May is no exception. First there's Ascension Day, Pentecost (p13) and then there's Christian Aid Week (15th-21st May). We make no apologies for particularly flagging this up, as we have taken on the task of arranging the collection! Please do give generously. Christian Aid gives so much help to people in the world facing enormous battles to

Christian

We believe in life before death

merely stay alive. And what's more it is across all denominations.

Finally make sure you have your tickets for 'A Right Royal Do'. The Queen deserves a 'Right Royal' celebration so contact Keith asap (p23).

Gill & Marion

Contents Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity 13 Directory 2 Events and news 15 The Vicar writes 5 Books Books 19 Encore 2.1 Beatrix Potter 7 Parish Registers Christian Aid 21 Diary A Right Royal Do 23 Thank you 9 25 Ouiz Events for ITU Triathlon 25 Oueen's 90th Rotas 26

Directory

Services

11

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Getting to know...

Thy Kingdom Come

27

28

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Quiz

- 1. Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. What was the third child's name?
- 2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop, he is five feet ten inches tall and he wears size 13 sneakers. What does he weigh?
- 3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered...what was the highest mountain in the world?
- 4. How much dirt is there in a hole that measures two feet by three feet by four feet?
- 5. What word in the English Language ...is always spelled incorrectly?
- 6. Billy was born on December 28th, yet his birthday is always in the summer. How is this possible?
- 7. In California, you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. Why not?

- 8. What was the President's name in 1975?
- 9. If you were running a race and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?
- 10. Which is correct to say: "The yolk of the egg are white" or "The yolk of the egg is white"?
- 11. If a farmer has 5 haystacks in one field and 4 haystacks in the other field, how many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in another field?

ITU World Triathlon Series

Leeds will host its first ITU World Triathlon
Series on Sunday 12 June.
Some of the world's greatest endurance athletes will take part in the event. They will start with a 1500 metre swim in Roundhay Park's Waterloo Lake, followed by a 42.5 KM bike ride through Roundhay, Moortown, Meanwood, Weetwood, Headingley and Woodhouse before completing seven circuits of the city centre loop.



...er, if I could just tear you away from your mobile phones for a moment...

become one big one.

Answers:

I. Johnny, of course. 2. Meat.3. Mt. Everest; it just wasn't discovered yet. 4. There is no dirt in a hole. 5. Incorrectly. 6. Billy lives in the Southern Hemisphere. 7. You can't take pictures with a wooden leg. You need a camera to take pictures. 8. Same as is it now - Barack Obama 9. You would be in 2nd. Well, you passed the person in second place, not first. 10. Neither, the yolk of the egg is yellow. 11. One. If he combines all of his haystacks, they all

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From the Vicarage

Dear Friends

Jesus said – Let the children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it. And he took them in his arms, put his arms on them and blessed them. Mark 10 verses 13 to 16.

This month we celebrate the 6th anniversary of Messy Church. We began in May 2010 a small gathering of parents and children looking at our family and God's family. We had a lovely time with crafts, games, food and celebration. It began aimed at children and their families and has continued that way and grown as most families do. We meet nearly every month on the third Sunday of the month at 3pm.

We regularly welcome new families into our congregation through the baptism of their children. If you are considering baptism for your child or teenager or yourself as an adult the first step is to contact me. My telephone number is on the front of the magazine with my e-mail address. I don't stick to a rigid pattern for the date - we discuss that together. It's such a privilege to meet parents and their babies at such a happy (but tiring) time of their lives.

And we keep in touch with our baptism families through our emails and on, the anniversary of their baptism, the Mothers' Union send the child an anniversary card. This scheme has now operated for 25 years! Well done! My thanks go to the Mothers' Union for their faithfulness in continuing to do this for so long.

Another introduction from the Mothers' Union was a Baptism Reunion party each year for those who have been baptised at our church. We



have now incorporated this into our Messy Church activities but the principle is the same. We invite all the families who have had a baptism with us to come and celebrate the baptism of their child into the family of God. Those celebrations take place this year on 15 May at 3pm.

For full details of all our child friendly services and events please look at our web site

www.stgilesbramhope.org.uk

Our door and our arms are always open to welcome both children and adults to our fellowship here at St Giles.

God Bless you

Tanice





Saturday 14 May 7.30 pm

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Grass Cutting Rota

DATE	NAMES
May 7th	Paul Fletcher
	Mike Riley
May 14th	Gareth Osborne
	Ben Williams
May 21st	AlanTomkins
	Matthew Laird
May 28th	BANK HOLIDAY
June 4th	Andrew Rollett
	Stephen Giles
June 11th	Stephen Giles
	Jim Robertson
June 18th	Alan Tomkins
	Mike Riley
June 25th	TBA
July 2nd	Ben Williams
	Gareth Osborne
July 9th	Matthew Laird
	TBA
July 16th	Ron McTaggart
	Andrew Rollett
July 23rd	Martin Lee
	James Young
July 30th	Martin Dixon
	TBA
Aug 6th	Tom Jones
	Ian Skirrow
Aug 13th	WEEK OFF
Aug 20th	Bernard Williams
	Martin Lee
Aug 27th	BANK HOLIDAY
Sept 3rd	Neil Simpson
	TBA

Sept 10th WEEK OFF

Sept 17th TBA

90th Celebrations

A 'Right Royal Do' over the weekend of 11th - 12th June 2016 at St Giles.

Saturday 11th June Black Tie Dinner

John Howard as Master of Ceremonies and Dr Simon Newell will be the speaker.

Tickets £17.50 to include a Prosecco Reception 7.00 for 7.30pm, and a three course meal with wine, with a choice for each course.

Sunday 12th June

from 2pm Afternoon Tea

Tickets £7.50 to include a glass of Prosecco followed by a Celebration Service with flag waving in Church.

If a ticket is bought for both events the price is a reduced £22.00.

Tickets available from Keith, tel 07920139172

The Menu

Starters

Mackerel Pate with Melba Toast Melody of Melon Goats Cheese Tartlets



Mains

Beef Wellington with Red Wine Jus Salmon Fillets with Herbs and Red Peppers Spinach and Ricotta Cannelloni Aubergine Cheesecake

Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes

Desserts

Chocolate Roulade with Black Cherries Eton Mess Semifreddo- lemon and lime mousse with Ameretti Biscuits

Coffee and after Dinner Chocolates

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Announcements

Parish Registers

Baptisms

20th March Frederick Samuel Jones and

Florence Mary Jones

Funeral

23rd March Wendy Fudge

Baptism Anniversaries

Charlotte Emily Brownless Scarlett Elizabeth Anne Kitching

Daisy Sophia Lavery Phoebe Florence Lavery Mia Olivia McColl Isaac William Rollett Connie Iris Rollett Annabel Rose Siddle Amelia Lily Sowden Ewan George Taylor

Enquiries regarding baptisms, weddings and funerals should be made to: Rev Janice Smith 0113 203 7523 or revjanice.smith@gmail.com

Diary for May 2016

- 3 Tues Circle Dancing 7.45 pm
- 4 Wed Toddler Praise 10 11 am
- 4 Wed Luncheon Club 12.15 pm
- Wed Mothers' Union 2.00 pm
 An update on the Yorkshire Air Ambulance
- 10 Tues Women's Fellowship 8.00 pm

 Jackie Shuman "Creative Dance"
- 11 Wed CATS 9.15 11.30 am
- 12 Thurs Men's Supper Club

Ladies Invitation Meeting 6.00 for 6.30 pm Sir Thomas Ingilby "Castle Life in the 21st century"

- 14 Sat Men's Supper Club
- Second Hand Book Sale 10.00- 12 noon
- 15 Sun Second Hand Book Sale 10.30-11.30 am
- 15 Sun Fair Trade Stall 10.30 am
- 15 Sun Messy Church 3.00 5.00 pm
- 15 -21 Christian Aid Week
- 17 Tues Circle Dancing 7.45 pm
- 18 Wed CATS 9.15 11.30 am
- 18 Wed Open House 2.00 4.00 pm
- 22 Sun Activities for under 7's during Service
- 25 Wed CATS 9.15 11.30 am
- 31 Tues Circle Dancing 7.45 pm



Please ask your friends or relations to let us know if you wish for someone to pray with you and/or bring Holy Communion whilst you are ill or in hospital and unable to get to Sunday Worship. In the first instance they should contact:

the Vicar, Rev Janice Smith 203 7523 or Bryan Bundey 267 8534

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Beatrix Potter and the National Trust

his summer, the National Trust is celebrating Beatrix Potter's 150th birthday, and her beloved Lake District will be a hive of activity. March saw the first National Trust Children's Book Festival at Wray Castle. A host of places that inspired Beatrix will hold special events and activities. On the 28th July, we'll celebrate Beatrix's birthday with picnics at places across the Lakes, including Hill Top, where she created many of her most famous books. It is also from here that she worked tirelessly to protect the landscape she found so inspiring.

She was closely involved with the formation of the National Trust, which has strong roots in the Lake District.

Through her writing income and sound management of her estate, she accumulated more than 4.000 acres of land that she bequeathed to the Trust. Beatrix recognized that farming was a vital part of life in the Lake District.

When she left farms to the Trust, it was on the

condition that it would retain a certain number of Herdwick sheep, a hardy little breed that has been grazing here for centuries. Some of the current flocks are descendants of Beatrix's own prize-winning sheep.

Beatrix remained one of the most significant supporters of the Trust and the Lake District, even in later life. In 1930, she helped the Trust buy the vast 4,000 acre Monk Coniston Estate. which was under threat from developers. Beatrix wrote to John Bailey, Chairman of the National Trust:' It seems we have done a big thing....it will be a happy consummation if the Trust is

able to turn this quixotic venture into a splendid reality.

Happily for them, and for all of us, the wild beauty of the Lake District is, and remains, a splendid reality.

Try Wray Castle, wonderful at all times of the year, Hill Top, Derwentwater, Wordsworth House, which will be displaying some of Beatrix's original artworks, Troutbeck Park, Monk Coniston, Tarn Howes, Allan Bank and many more for a visit.

Extracts from National Trust Magazine.

Christian Aid 15 – 21 May

'We believe in life before death'

A prayer from Bangladesh

O Saviour Christ.

In whose way of life lies the secret of all life, and the hopes of all the people,

we pray for quiet courage to meet this hour.

We did not choose to be born to live in such an sge.

But let its problems challenge us,

its discoveries exhilarate us,

its injustice anger us,

its possibilities inspire us,

and its vigour renew us, for your Kingdom's sake.

John Carden (WCC)

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Thank You!

Ouring Lent St Giles collected food and other goods for the East Leeds food bank. We had a very good response and Bernard has been taking the donations throughout Lent.

Thank you! To all for your donations.

Thank you! Bernard for taking the goods to the food bank warehouse in South Leeds.

Thank you! to Waitrose for the loan of a trolley to collect the goods in. It was an invaluable piece of equipment.

Appeal for Photos

As you will be aware we are going to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday and her

being Supreme Governor of the Church of England at the week end of the 11th and 12th of June 2016. We are calling it a 'Right Royal Do'. What we would like you to do as well as attending the celebrations and our special service is to look through your photo albums and see if you have any

- Photos of the Queen over the last 90 years; you may have met her, seen her at a garden party or presentation.
- Photos of our church over the last 90 years of services, events, garden parties, flower festivals, either inside or outside the church; the older the better (photos that is).
- And of course the stories to go with your photos.

Photos and stories to go with them to Angela Smith 0113 203 7757 in the first instance.

The photos will be used on our big screen in church and at our Sunday events; see web site for details www.stgilesbramhope.org.uk

Events to mark The Queen's 90th birthday

Thursday 12 - Sunday 15 May: The Queen and Members of the Royal Family will attend a pageant celebrating The Queen's life to be held at Home Park in Windsor Castle.

Friday 10th June: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a National Service of Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Saturday 11th June: Her Majesty accompanied by Members of the Royal Family will attend The Queen's Birthday Parade on Horse Guards Parade.

Sunday 12th June: The Queen will attend the Patron's Lunch, a celebration of Her Majesty's patronage of over 600 organisations in the UK and around the Commonwealth since 1952.



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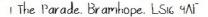
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BOOKS

() was looking through my **J** bookcase the other day, as I am sure many of you were doing also, to find some books to donate to the Men's Supper Club Book Sale on 14 May. And how difficult it was. All these special books which I will never read again (or perhaps never did in the first place) which I cannot throw away. One in particular is entitled 'Eminent Engineers', awarded to my grandfather in July 1908 (he would have been about 12 years old) by the Peace Society. It was a prize for an essay he had written with the title 'Peace between Nations'. How poignant.

One book I did find which I can part with (in fact it will be coming to a church library near you!) is called 'Reformation - the dangerous birth of the modern world' by Harry Reid. Published by St Andrew's Press in 2009. It is a history of the Reformation in Europe, with particular reference to England and Scotland, whose experience of the reformation of the church was very different. Reid is a journalist and former editor of The Herald newspaper (formerly the Glasgow Herald) and he

Books for Everyone at St Giles! Men's Supper Club Second Hand **Book Sale**

Saturday 14 May - 10 to 12 noon Sunday 15 May - 10.30 to 11.30 St Giles Church Hall, With Tea & Coffee Too!



writes easily and fluidly, and his book is therefore not as turgid as some historical 'tomes' I would recommend it to you all.

Reid finishes with 'three contentious matters' which always come up in discussion of the Reformation. Firstly, the destruction and despoliation caused by the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII and Thomas Cromwell. which Reid describes as 'legalised vandalism and theft'. He uses the example of Jervaulx Abbey as one example, though there are many similar cases throughout Europe. Secondly, he asks the question was the Reformation good for women, although the jury appears to be out on that one. And finally he discusses the relationship between the Protestant churches, particularly Calvinist ones, and the

emergence of capitalism. All good stuff.

Here are a few radical quotations from the beginning of the book:

'What seems to me white I will believe black if the hierarchical Church so defines' St Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits.

'To promote a woman to bear rule, superiority, dominion, or empire..... is repugnant to nature.....a thing most contrary to God's received will.....' John Knox, leader of the Scottish Reformation.

'The Good Samaritan, when he came upon the man who had fallen among thieves, did not ask him to what denomination he belonged.' Katherine Zell of Strasbourg.

Jenni Hall

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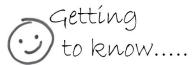


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Tom Pridmore

om, born in 1923 in Bradford was named Tom Knighton after his Grandfather, a Bradford fireman in the 1st World War who was killed in the Low Moor Explosion.

A very keen cyclist, Tom would set off for Blackpool on his bike when the rest of the family went by train. He was a member of St Andrews Church which is where he met Marian, whom he married in 1948. The church Youth Group used to cycle extensively on Sunday afternoons, sometimes visiting the Lido at Ilkley or Otley Chevin. Hollins Hill was always a challenge but there was a Sarsaparilla stall at the top!

When the 2nd World War was declared his school was evacuated but Tom was determined NOT to go, so he left school and went to work in Burnley's mill, Gomersal with his father. It wasn't long before he enlisted in the Home Guard and then into the Signals Regiment. He was attached to the Canadian Division and was in the first wave of soldiers to land on the

Normandy beaches on D Day. His job was to send messages back to the War Office. From Normandy he moved through France to Holland and then volunteered to go the Far East (because he said 'He'd never been!'). The war was almost over by the time he got there but he stayed for a couple of years, learned how to play Badminton and topped up his tan.

Once home he married Marian and they bought a grocers shop and post office just outside Wakefield. The business grew and expanded to running a mobile shop 3 times a week to the nearby council estate. As the Supermarkets began to establish themselves they sold out and Tom went to work for the Post Office, eventually retiring from their HR department in 1988.

Never known to sit still Marian and he were always busy. They played tennis in the summer, badminton in the winter, were members of Wakefield Motor Club and had DIY jobs forever on the



go. Latterly they were picture framers, very keen caravanners and travelled all over the UK.

Eventually in 2002 they moved to Bramhope and when Marian sadly died in 2008, Tom threw himself into the Bramhope community, joining the Bowls Club, The National Trust, the British Legion, Probus and of course, St Giles, where he has gamely run a bar or taken entry on the door many times.

Dealing with money has always been his expertise!

He now lives in Grove Park Care Home, has lots of visitors and is renowned for being someone who never complains. "What's the point of moaning" he says "It makes you miserable!"

Finally he got a great shock in March this year when he was awarded the French 'Legion d'Honneur' medal in recognition of his duty on D Day.

Thy Kingdom Come - a week of prayer is called for May

Churches across the country have been invited by the Archbishops, to spend the week before Pentecost, 8th to 15th May, in praying together.

"Christ's love compels us" to offer ... hope, joy and salvation to others, that the world maybe transformed by God's love. In prayer we are reminded that the "God of mission has a Church, not the Church of Mission has a God". In prayer we are reminded that when we pray for new and renewed life in others, so it must first be sparked and kindled in us."

The focus for our prayer during this time will be for "all Christians to deepen their relationship with Jesus, so that we may have confidence to share our faith, that all may respond to the call of Jesus Christ to follow Him."

The week of prayer will be different in every context. For some places it might be a focused single event, perhaps adapting or building on an existing group or meeting, or holding something special. The hope is that in many places Christians across

denominations and streams can pray together, as the unity of the whole Body of Christ is a powerful reality and symbol to the world.

Beacon Events are to be held in five or six cathedrals (or neighbouring venues) over the Pentecost weekend, celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and praying for the renewal of the Spirit, and for Christians to deepen their relationship with Jesus and to have the confidence to share their faith. The hope is to inspire worship and

intercession for a generation to rise up with a fresh passion and confidence for the proclamation of the Gospel.

The locations for 'beacon events' are to be Canterbury, St. Paul's, York, Durham, Winchester, and Coventry (in the final stages of confirmation), with Canterbury, York, Durham and St Paul's being intentionally aimed at the younger generation.



Prayer for peace in Syria

How long oh Lord? How long?

We have been crying to you for peace in Syria; for an end to killing and despair, an end to hostilities on all sides. We thank you for the current cessation of hostilities and pray it may turn into a long lasting peace.

We cry to you for humanitarian aid to reach those most in need. We beseech you for the rebuilding of ruined homes, businesses and communities.

We long for the repairing of the breach and the restoration of streets where your children may dwell in harmony.

We cry out that justice, truth and love may prevail for all the people of Syria.

We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Events Group News Notices.... Events....

church are appreciated and help in our worship at different seasons.
But I should like a few more people to be on the list for one week in the year because of losing some of our volunteers. The monthly guild member will help new arrangers and it is a chance to do larger arrangements than you might do at home. So please contact me if you would like to help.

Sara Leefe 0113 2674188

Traidcraft Stall

In its tenth year the Traidcraft stall raised just under £400. My thanks goes to everyone who has purchased during the year and also to Pam for her help. Please continue to support us during 2016/17

Sue Ball

Children's Society

The committee held the AGM on Monday March 21st. We sent a total of £5625.39 to the society this year, an increase of nearly £800 on last years total. The fundraising accounts are displayed on our notice board.

Sue and I attended an event at Leeds City Museum on

Tuesday March 22nd and heard about the current work of the Society (article to follow in a later magazine). Be assured that the money you raise helps to fund some much needed projects in our Diocese.

Please support our Summer coffee morning to be held at the home of Jo and Neil Simpson on Friday May 20th 10am to 12noon. Tickets cost £2 and are on sale now.

A future date for the bridge lover's diaries: an evening bridge drive at the Craven Institute on Saturday July 16th.

Anne Marshall

Circle Dancing

Do you get upset when you read about yet another conflict or human tragedy in the world? Or when you hear of another friend struggling with their health or loss of a partner? I do.

It's the feeling of helplessness which makes me despair and feel sad that we seem unable to prevent awful things happening, when all that most people want is a simple and safe life. Then I remember that there is a great deal of kindness all around us, which isn't broadcast or mentioned in the newspapers. On the Saturday Live programme on Radio 4, every week they tell a story of someone who wishes to say thankyou to an unknown person who once did something really kind, but were never able to tell them how grateful they were.

Within all the horrors and destruction in the world. there still is love and warmth and hope and optimism. Every time we meet for our dancing together, we are reminded of this, and reassured. I hold on to these precious times, and the squeeze of the hand next to mine, and our connection that crosses cultures, religions, languages, differences of all kinds, and which comes through the music and dance and sharing. And then I know that what we do and share is something very precious and symbolic.

May the hand you need always be there at just the right moment.

Joan Peart



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Ascension Day

Gurely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records "When Jesus had led them [the Disciples] out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands - and blessed them."

Luke goes on: "they worshipped Him - and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God." (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.

Pentecost - The Day the Church was born

In one small room in Jerusalem a group of people who had followed Jesus were praying. There was nothing else for them to do: Jesus had died, he had risen, and he had ascended, promising to send them 'a Comforter'. They were left alone, to wait. They were not disappointed: for that morning the Holy Spirit fell upon that small room, and transformed those believers into the Church, Christ's body here on earth. Now his Spirit would use a new instrument: not just isolated prophets, but the Church, his body on earth.

Within 30 years the gospel had spread throughout the northern Mediterranean: Syria, Turkey, Greece, Malta... to the very heart of the Roman Empire: Rome. The Church was on the move – God was on the move! He was calling people from every nation to repent, turn to Jesus for forgiveness of their sins, and to follow him.

Three in One and One in Three

n Trinity Sunday later this month, you may well hear the preacher trying to explain the riddle of The Trini-



ty. Yes, it is complicated, but not incredible. Over the last century scientists have discovered that almost everything is more 'complicated' than we had thought. It seems, for instance, that pretty well nothing we know is a simple unity.

Think atoms, and then protons and neutrons. Energy and activity flow from dynamic relationships. So doesn't it make sense that the Creator God is a Relationship – the source of all energy and activity – rather than a simple 'unity'? Thought of like that, a God who is 'Father' (Source), Son (Action) and Spirit (Application) makes good sense. The Father made us, the Son loves us and the Spirit 'sheds that love abroad in our hearts'. Makes sense to me.

David Winter

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Events Group News Notices.... Events....

Lost Property

In the cloakroom off the hall is a box labelled 'Lost Property'. PLEASE will everybody have a look in here and reclaim items belonging to them. What remains unclaimed will be given to charity. Thank you.

Krystyna Novak

Mothers' Union

Helen Mumby gave us a very entertaining talk about her trip to Namibia, when she took a group of school children to help out in a school. St Giles MU provided her with knitted hats, elephants and teddies to take with her and we understand they were very well received.

We are looking forward to hearing, on 4th May at 2pm, an update about the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Once again, visitors are more than welcome.

Gill Pinches

Men's Supper Club

We are looking forward to two events in May. The 'Ladies Invitation Meeting' will be held in the Church Hall at 6.00 for 6.30 pm on Thursday 12th May. You should by now have received a booking form for this new venture. As there is a choice of menu, please ensure that your booking form and cheque are returned to Bryan Bundey (0113 267 8534) by Saturday 30th April. Our guest and speaker will be Sir Thomas Ingilby of Ripley Castle whose topic is 'Castle life in the 21st century'.

The annual second-hand Book Sale will be held on Saturday 14th May in the Church Hall from 10 am to 12 noon. The organiser is Steve Bates (0113 267 2965). Cups of tea/coffee will be available and Miranda Reynard has offered to read to children in the book corner Items for sale can be brought to the Hall on Friday afternoon between 2 and 4 pm – please do not bring them on the morning of the Sale.

Fred Archenhold

Women's Fellowship

In March we had another very interesting demonstration in painting by Roy Johanson.

We look forward to a talk on

Creative Dance by Jackie Shuman in May.

Janet Cunliffe

Women's World Day of Prayer

A huge thank you to those who contributed to the Women's World Day of Prayer, despite having to cancel the service itself. The Total sent to the WWDP headquarters was about £150 (including Gift Aid)

Gill Pinches

The Flower Guild

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Easter flower fund. This money is used to pay for flowers at Easter, Harvest Festival and other extras such as the Queen's birthday service. Thank you for the team of arrangers who already do so much The flower ladies team are organised so that one lady is in charge for each month of the year.

For each week of that month I ask one person to do one arrangement and this is printed in the magazine monthly. It is a system which works very well because no one is overwhelmed with the task. I know that flowers in