

THE GRAPEVINE



MARCH 2021

40p

Edition 102

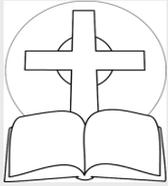


Long-tailed tit
Derek Bailey

The Birds and the Bees (bees on p.12 and birds on back cover)

PARISH MAGAZINE

serving the Parishes of
Dunnington, Stockton on the Forest
Warthill & Holtby



Readings for March 2021

7 March - Lent 3

Exodus 20.1-7; 1 Corinthians 1.18-25;
John 2.13-22

14 March - Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2.1-10; Luke 2.33-35

21 March - Lent 5

Jeremiah 31.31-34; Hebrews 5.5-10;
John 12.20-33

28 March - Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50.4-9a; Philippians 2.5-11; Mark
14.1 -15. end



From the Registers

Dunnington, Holtby
Warthill, & Stockton
on the Forest

Baptisms

none

Weddings

none

Funerals

We commit to God's loving care:

Pauline Hebdith
15 January, Stockton

Margaret Warrillow
19 January, Stockton

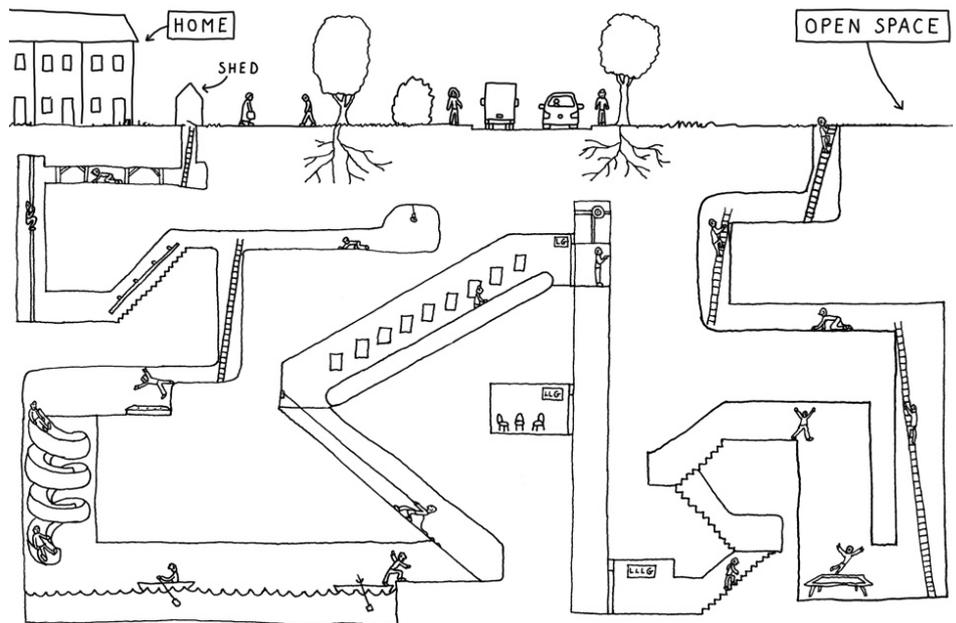
Rev. Mary Willetts
28 January, Warthill

Doug Willis
28 January, Stockton (crem)



EXERCISE

HOW TO AVOID EVERYONE ELSE



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

Table of Saints

Even though we might just be turning a corner and glimpsing a light at the end of the traumatic tunnel of the pandemic, it can feel like it is still a distant light. Lockdown blues linger, cabin fever is intense and a phased release from the restrictions on our freedom threatens to suck the very last drops of patience and perseverance from our weary and exhausted lives.

Enduring the pandemic has been hard for us all and for some it has been heart breaking and devastating. It is no wonder that many of us have experienced anxiety, depression, loneliness, a loss of control, and feelings of being overwhelmed, helpless and fearful in varying degrees of severity. I would be rather suspect of anyone who denies they have not felt at least one of these emotions over the last twelve months. Admitting to feeling any of these is not weak. Honesty and openness about our vulnerability demonstrates strength of character and can unite us. The tsunami of COVID-19 has wreaked chaos and havoc and the debris flung across the beaches of our lives is plain to see. Gentleness and tenderness with ourselves as we seek to heal the wounds have never been more important.

I therefore humbly offer the following that may help. It is a little exercise to try when overwhelmed with worry and 'what ifs' and it is called 'The Table of Saints.' So, here goes. Sit comfortably, play some soft music if this helps and imagine a table you have prepared for dinner. Before a sumptuous meal is served, you have time to join your very special guests at the table. Each guest is a person from the past or present, someone you respect and admire, even love. Each guest is eager to hear what is troubling you. All is peaceful and relaxed, and you can see each guest gazing upon you with compassion and love. They want to hear from you more than tasting the delights of this meal itself. You share your worries one at a time and asking each, 'what would you advise?' You then imagine exactly what each guest would say to you knowing the essence of what makes each guest the person they are and the reasons why you admire them. Listen carefully, and if it helps, write down images, words or sentences that come to mind. Then feast, and enjoy your meal.



Rev. Mark Poole, Curate

Death and new birth

'My whole body and soul just unclenched'

Tweet – 20 January 2021

Friends,

For some it was a moment when the sadness of defeat was finally faced; but for others the inauguration of President Biden on 20th January came as a great relief, and with the hope of a brighter, safer future. The great 'unclenching' of a nation (and this tweet made me laugh out loud) must have been nigh audible in some communities.

On this side of the Pond, life continues to be an exhausting groundhog-day of routine without end – eat, sleep, repeat. For many of us, it is not that we are doing more or working harder, but that purpose, rhythm and familiarity has been somewhat neutered. One of the long term effects of the covid pandemic that I can foresee is that so many of us will have spent so long hunched over their computers at home, working in less than ideal surroundings, whilst trying to fend off children, domestic distractions and the biscuit tin (the term 'covid-pounds' was quick to enter the lexicon), that we can feel the tension in our shoulders, back and hips. And those who are not constrained by work, and would usually be enjoying the freedom of retirement, are being similarly confined. Across our country I sense there is a weariness that is the result of an ongoing 'clenching'.

Do we need a national breakout, a day of mourning and lament, a concerted purpose of will, a celebration of some kind? Our war on this virus is, for most of us, marked by inactivity. We don't go out and do battle, we are not being called to arms, but we are being enlisted to stay at home. Instead of a fight or flight response, we are being asked to freeze. There is a pandemic of anxiety, and society can experience 'emotional volcanoes' every so often when the underlying pressure is released and relieved in chaotic ways. Perhaps every community needs some kind of corporate, cathartic lament; a place to pour grief and disappointment, anger and frustration. The cycle of death and new birth, Good Friday and Easter, is written into all life and it is a bigger story that we live. Our dreams and plans have been crucified and we may feel as though we inhabit the tomb of purposelessness. But a grain of wheat must first fall into the ground and die before it can rise again and bear much fruit.

So I invite you to observe the clenching, experience and name the tension, articulate the anxieties, own the feelings, lament the loss and celebrate any small victories or achievements. We are currently inaugurating our own term of office, and when we look back on this time in years to come, we may yet find reason to be grateful for many things. Gifts and graces do not always come to us wrapped in pretty packages, but when the storm has passed, look for the rainbow.

*Nick Bird
Your Rector*



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The Grapevine is produced by the Church of England Benefice of Rural East York, comprising the parishes of Dunnington, Stockton on the Forest, Warthill and Holtby.

The Editor is Victoria Beale

DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All items for the **APRIL 2021** edition of the magazine must be received by the Editor no later than **WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH**

Email grapevine.rey@gmail.com or place in the tray in the Tower Room at St Nicholas Church, together with your name and contact details.

For all other enquiries, please call Victoria on 01904 489817 or e-mail as above.

The Magazine Editorial Policy can found on Page 9

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

World Day of Prayer

Friday 5th March

BUILD ON A STRONG FOUNDATION

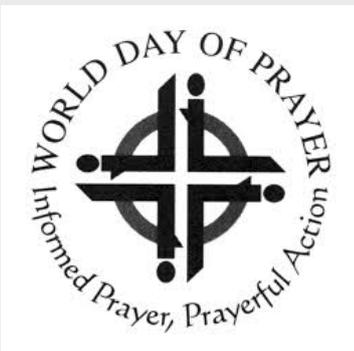
The Women of the Republic of Vanuatu (located in the South Pacific Ocean) have prepared this year's service.

The black and white sandy beaches, coral reefs with coloured fishes, lovely birds, fruits and nuts in the forest, all make the islands a pristine environment but they are vulnerable to frequent tropical storms, earthquakes, cyclones, tsunamis and active volcanoes. Women, men and children of all ages are called to 'Build on a strong foundation' and live in unity, love and peace in the context of ethnic and cultural diversity like Vanuatu and so many other places around the world.

The World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa, and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 39 hours later.

We cannot gather as a community this year, but if you would like a copy of the service please contact Jocelyn, 488044. There are also resources, including some for children, available at <https://www.wwdp.org.uk>



Lent Course

Thursdays at 7.00pm

Our Lent course started on Thursday 25th February but it's not too late to join in!

Each session lasts one hour. It begins with a short prayer and a 10 min introduction to the topic. This is followed, for those who wish to stay, by the opportunity to explore the week's theme in more depth in small groups. The themes are:

- 25 Feb - Suffering
- 4 March - Wilderness
- 11 March - Judas
- 18 March - Sin
- 25 March - Forgiveness

More information on the St Nicks website at stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/outreach/lent/



Scarecrows are coming!

1st to 3rd May 2021

We are planning to have the Dunnington Scarecrow Trail this year.

Please start your planning now! We are looking forward to seeing your scarecrow enjoying a celebration of your choice.

We will be delivering information about registering your scarecrow through every letter box soon.

Judith Hewitt

One of the many wonderful creations in the 2013 Scarecrow Trail.



Community Support Group

We are still here to help



If you would like someone to collect your shopping, or to walk your dog, or if you'd like a friendly chat on the phone

Contact Rev. Nick Bird
01904 489349 : revnickbird@gmail.com
who will put you in touch with your local contact

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

Sundays online

Our weekly online Sunday worship is continuing, with a service of the Word, with songs and prayers, posted on our YouTube channel each Sunday and remaining available thereafter.



The services are normally shared on the channel the day beforehand. Many of us worship 'together' at 10.30am on a Sunday morning, using the video service prepared for that day, but you can watch them anytime!

<https://tinyurl.com/y28h5aec> (or search YouTube for 'St Nicholas Church').

To be added to the list of people who receive a weekly email invitation to the service when it goes live, please email Nick Bird on revnickbird@gmail.com



Phone

Know someone without internet access? They can listen to the audio version of the weekly service by phone at any point during the week. It's the cost of a local call and very simple to do - just dial 899433.



Coffee and chat

Do join us for a catch up over Zoom at 11.30 each Sunday, once people have had a chance to participate in the service

<https://tinyurl.com/y2h1hgvs>

Weekday Worship via Zoom

During the period of lockdown we are not having any services in our church buildings, but there is live worship over zoom:

Morning Prayer

Every morning Monday - Thursday at 9.00am

LIVE worship via Zoom <https://tinyurl.com/y2whk8c9>

Compline (Night Prayer)

Every Wednesday at 7.00pm

LIVE via Zoom <https://tinyurl.com/y3upjx3k>

Both Morning Prayer and Compline are short services (c. 15 minutes). You are welcome to leave as soon as the service is over or stay for a chat.



Benefice Family Worship

Sunday 7th March 4.00pm via Zoom

'STRONG FOUNDATIONS'



Contact Lisa Horton

horton2517@sky.com, Rev Mark Poole

revmarkpoole20@gmail.com or Judith

Hewitt judithmhewitt@btinternet.com

for more information and the link.

Monthly Prayer Meeting

Tuesday 15th March via Zoom

Revd Mark Poole invites you to join him for an informal time of prayer .

zoom | **PRAYER MEETING**

Each session lasts about an hour, commencing at 7:00pm, and is an opportunity to pray for the needs of our communities, our nation and our world especially during these difficult times. It is also an opportunity for us to pray for God's mission in our villages as we seek to serve in His Kingdom.

You, and anyone you know, are very welcome to join us. The Zoom invitations are sent out a few days prior to each evening. Email Revd Mark Poole revmarkpoole20@gmail.com to receive an invitation.

If you do not wish to join us, but would like prayer, then let Mark know, including whether you are happy for this to be prayed for during the meeting.

STAY UP-TO-DATE »

For up to date information on Benefice Services, in case plans need to change or services are cancelled, please refer to the St. Nicholas Church website stnicholasdunnington.org.uk or contact Rev Nick Bird 489349.



CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS



THANK YOU STEPHEN...

RAY's work goes on through lockdown and fundraising is especially important, every £ makes a difference!

He's already raised £1,520! Stephen Burke is cycling the distance from York to Homs, in Syria, to raise funds for RAY - that's 2,250 miles. *"My bottom bones were killing me during the first week, but now I'm feeling good"*, Stephen reported (suspect he's being polite!).

You can help Stephen reach his target of £2,250 by donating here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stephen-burke25>

THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT, PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND LET'S SEE IF WE CAN REACH STEPHEN'S TARGET BEFORE HE GETS TO 2,250 MILES!!



Dunnington Methodist Church

Dear Friends

I hope that as Spring approaches, and hope increases, we will all begin to feel more optimistic about the future and begin to look forward to better days ahead!! Despite the building being closed, do keep in contact via zoom, email, letter or phone call and if there is anything we might be able to help you with, do not hesitate to call one of the stewards. Anne Castle 01904 481656, Diane Conway 01904 489495, Chris Spedding 01904 481867

Worship

Online worship produced by the Circuit can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZlI3vyksFEonZ-EQbbhuQ> and a list of online worship services around the Circuit is available at: <https://www.yorkmethodist.org.uk/coronavirus-information/online-services.html>

Sleep out for homelessness

On 23rd January young people from around the York Methodist District slept out to raise money for projects working with those who are homeless. (SASH www.sash-uk.org.uk who help to prevent homelessness with young people and Carecent www.carecent.org.uk a breakfast centre for anyone in our community who is homeless, unemployed or socially excluded)

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone in our villages who generously made donations. As of 31/1/21 the just giving page total is an amazing £5,599!

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sleepout-forhomelessness



Funeral Address for Rev Mary Willetts

28 January 2021, St Mary's Warthill, Rev. Dr. Gwynne Wright

Today we are gathered here together to celebrate the life of Rev Mary Willetts, teacher, friend and priest to many.

We celebrate but we also mourn. Dear Mary has gone before us and we miss her. Jesus says "Let not your hearts be troubled"... these are words of comfort, words of assurance... Words of faith and hope. Our faith assures us that we do not carry the burden of sorrow alone, that Jesus bears our grief and shares our sorrow.

Though we cannot deny the sorrow which surrounds our hearts now, our faith in the resurrection gives us strength as we try to make our way through the pain of loss. We find meaning in our faith in the resurrection. Jesus was raised victorious from the dead. As Christians we believe that we too shall be raised into everlasting life.

So, as strange as it seems, even in the midst of our grief, we are called to rejoice because one whom we love has entered into the nearer presence of God in heaven where there is a place for each one of us. We say 'she is in a better place' – indeed, she is in the very presence of the Living God.

Today we are reminded of God's love and desire for us, a love so profound that it names us as God's own and brings us home to God's loving embrace (1 John 3:1-2) The love of God is both our starting point and our resting point, and eternal love that carries us through our earthly journey, until that time when we meet God face to face in the life to come. That time has come now for Mary .

Mary's life journey has had many companions along the way. That is those of you who are here today, but there are also those whom she touched as a teacher and priest. She was a friend to many.

Mary taught Religious Education at York College for Girls. She influenced many young women in that time as students and as friends. It was there that her friendship with Rosemary took root, a friendship that would last their lifetimes. It seems to me that at that time Mary was already performing her priest ministry in her teaching and mentoring, although her ordination would be some time later.

In the words at the ordination of a priest, Mary promised to be a "faithful pastor to those who she was called to serve, to pattern her life on the teachings of Christ, to persevere in prayer, asking God's grace and offering all your labours to God. "

It seems to me that Mary certainly did all these things. She served as curate in charge of Stockton on the Forest, Holtby, and here at Warthill. She preached from her heart and her love of God was evident. Even as she became frail, she arranged to have a table so that she could celebrate the Eucharist. Aelred of Rievaulx speaks of friendship: "In human life nothing holier can be desired, nothing more useful sought after, nothing is harder to find, nothing sweeter to experience, nothing more fruitful to possess than friendship". Mary lived and exemplified that sweet friendship to each of you and particularly to Rosemary. Mary was a true friend.

When God calls one of his children home, we cannot hang on or refuse to let go, because human beings do not belong to each other, they belong to God and it is by sheer grace and God's goodness that we are together for a time, for just a little while. So we receive God's gift of another person in our lives with love, appreciation and thanksgiving.

No, I don't know the full story of Mary's life and I only came to know her in recent years through the Tertiaries of the Order of the Holy Paraclete, but I do know that her story connects with other stories and they are all woven into an even greater story, that of God's love for each of God's children.

Today as we celebrate the gift of Mary's friendship in our lives, we can look back on her life and be grateful. We can find joy in memories and give thanks to God for sharing her with us.

Mary's death, as saddened as we are by it, is not the end of the story. Her gentleness and her prayer life was vibrant through the end of her life, and now she's in that better heavenly place. Mary's earthly struggle is over.

God gave Mary to the world to be a teacher, a priest and a loving, devoted friend to many.

God gave Mary to the world to be a friend and to bring that love of God and family to her family and friends.

We give thanks for the life and friendship of Mary. Amen.

Benefice Weekend at Wydale Hall

17th to 19th September 2021

We are hoping and praying this weekend will still be happening.

Bookings will need to be made by May 31st.

More details next month.



Phone Tree

We realise that, as this pandemic continues, and with the colder weather, many people are feeling lonely and perhaps would appreciate a friendly phone call.

If you live in Dunnington, and would like someone to ring you, occasionally, please ring Judith Hewitt, 488331, and she will put you in touch with someone.



Do you want someone to pray for you?



Every week in our intercessions at Church we offer prayers for the sick, bereaved or those in any kind of need.

Please let Judith Hewitt have any names. Call Judith on 488331 (we have call guardian so you will need to say who you are!) or email her at judithmhewitt@btinternet.com

Lockdown Crafts.

During the lockdowns many of us have taken up new crafts or returned to crafts we enjoyed but not the time to do them.

We, at St Nicholas Church, would like to give you the opportunity to 'show them off' over the weekend of 1st to 3rd October as part of our Harvest Celebrations.

If you are willing to share your craft, please contact Judith Hewitt, 488331 or judithhewitt@btinternet.com by 1st June.



Children's Society House Boxes – Dunnington.

FYI if you have one of these boxes - I have been informed by the Society that opening and counting should be delayed until later this year due to the current lockdown/restrictions. Please watch for future updates or you can contact me on 07746765274 or eve_scoreby@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you. Eve Scoreby, Box Co-ordinator, Dunnington



What is it?

- RELAXED, FRIENDLY, INTERACTIVE CHURCH FOR FAMILIES
- JOIN US VIA ZOOM FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME
- BIBLE STORIES, CRAFTS, BAKING, GAMES, INTERACTIVE PRAYER, SONGS, DISCUSSION IN BREAKOUT ROOMS
- OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO KNOW OTHER FAMILIES

Who is it for?

THE WHOLE FAMILY, PARTICULARLY THOSE WITH CHILDREN AGED 5-11
(CHILDREN SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT WHO IS VISIBLE ON SCREEN)

When is it?

2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH STARTING ON 13TH OCTOBER
5PM - 6PM

ALSO AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



Please contact Lorraine, Lydia or Heather for more information
lorraine.jones@methodistyouth.org.uk
lydia.harrison@methodistyouth.org.uk
heather.lewis@methodistyouth.org.uk

“The Fallen” - Remembered

Addendum to the story of Pioneer William Arthur Oates of Warhill in the Grapevine, Aug 2019.

News cuttings about William's death mention his widow Edith with their four children as living at Warhill. As with other such families, I did wonder how they fared afterwards. Recently I found on-line a typescript attached to a family tree by a relative, and a pension record card for Edith with the children's names – Alice (1904), Ida Ethel (1905), Winnifred Lilian (1912), and Harold (1916).

In 1901 William was with his parents in Thornhill Lees, Wetherby. He married Edith Whitehead at Wighill in 1903, but they did not appear in the 1911 census. William had in 1908 taken his wife and two children to Western Australia, settling at Kellerberrin about 125 miles east of Perth. Early in 1914, ill-health and a desire to see his elderly parents led him back to England, with now three children.

In 1916 William enlisted in the East Yorkshire Regiment as a Pioneer, but died in 1918 following a gas attack. Edith returned to Australia in 1922, taking their four children, to join her sister at Kellerberrin. She met and married David Albert Shaw in 1925 and lived in Fremantle until she died in 1943.

Winnifred, who had been born at Kellerberrin, died in 1967. Alice also remained in Western Australia. Harold volunteered in 1939 for the Australian Army Citizen Forces. He married, and lived with his wife Dorothy Eileen in the Fremantle/Perth/Kalgoorlie areas until at least 1980.

Ida Ethel married Richard Hector Gundry Keegan in 1928 in Fremantle, and lived there till her death in 1980. Their son Richard Arthur and his wife Lily Emily lived in Carey Park, Bunbury, till he died in 1999. It was Ida and Hector's daughter Mrs Marie Donovan, born in 1936, who typed out a brief account of her family background. Kellerberrin's local history will always include the Post Office built by Marie's stonemason grandfather William Arthur Oates for the town which welcomed him with his family when he arrived there in 1908.

Fr Val Hollands (faithirV@googlemail.com / 01904 489 283)