

Dear All

As many of you will be aware Rev Nigel stepped down as Vicar of St Edmund's on 31st December 2023. Many people in St Edmund's and the wider community were touched by Nigel's ministry and kindness and we are very grateful for all Nigel brought to St Edmund's. If you wish to contribute to Nigel's collection please let us have your contributions before the end of February We are now in vacancy and as you will see in Anne's letter below we have started the process of seeking a new appointment which will take some months.

Warden's Wool-gathering

(the definition of Wool-gathering is indulging in aimless thought – hopefully this won't be aimless, but I did so want a word beginning with 'W'!)

I hope this new bi-monthly newsletter will continue to inform our old readership and also find some new friends. It's a great way of being able to go into a bit more depth about all the things that go on in our church.

Our Prayer Breakfast on the 4th of February was a great success; it brought together so many different opinions of things we do well at St Eds, as well as lots of ideas on what we want in a new vicar. The first thing we need to do with all these views is analyse them for the Parish Profile - the document we have to submit as part of the recruitment process; but people have so many different experiences in our church, be it on a Sunday or during the week, be it at a religious service or at one of the many community events we host, that we want to make sure you all know as much as possible about the church you all love. People's thoughts and experiences will be gathered and published in a number of ways – maybe even in the next edition of this newsletter, so keep your eyes peeled!

That breakfast was the second time we have tried something like a 'cafe church'. We held one on the Sunday after the Summer Fayre and that too was a great success. We'll hopefully keep on having such services – maybe something like twice a year. Let us know if you liked that style of worship. The offering of different types of service, from traditional Morning and Evening Prayer services right through to Contemporary Praise, is something that clergy here have always tried to offer, and we will certainly try and further that aim. A broad spectrum of worship leads to a healthy mix of worshippers, showing others just what following Christ can mean in our community. You don't have to know psalms and prayers off by heart, but for those who do, that is the way they meet with God. You don't have to raise your hands or clap during a joyful song, but for those who do, that is the way they meet with God. It's the same God, and as a loving Father he wants to hear from us all, from the 'sensible' adult to the 'rowdy' teenager. Let's hear from you too – we'd love you to share your love of God with us.

Until the next time, Your warden Anne

> Welcome to St Edmund's Tea Sunday March 17th at 4.30pm in church

For newcomers and not so new people who would like to connect to the church better, make some friends, volunteer.

Services for February

8am Holy Communion; 10am Parish Communion; 6.30pm Evening Prayer February 11

11am Midweek Communion with Imposition of Ashes February 14 Ash Wednesday

7.30pm Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

8am Holy Communion; 10am Parish Communion and Baptisms; 6.30pm Iona February 18 Lent 1 February 25 Lent 2 8am Holy Communion (BCP); 10am Parish Communion; 6.30pm Evening Prayer

A Mid-Week Communion is held weekly on Wednesdays at 11am followed by a Soup Lunch.

Each Thursday Morning Prayer is said at 8.30am in the Chancel

Services for March

March 3 Lent 3 8am Holy Communion and Healing; 10am Parish Communion and Healing

6.30pm Taizé Service

March 10 *Mothering Sunday*

March 17 Lent 5 Passiontide begins

8am Holy Communion; 10am Holy Communion and Parade Service

8am Holy Communion; 10am Parish Communion with Baptisms; 6.30pm Iona

6.30pm Evensong

HOLY WEEK

March 24 Palm Sunday 8am Holy Communion (BCP); 10am Parish Communion; 6.30pm Evening Prayer

March 28 Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Ecumenical Holy Communion Service at St Edmund's

March 29 Good Friday 10am Ecumenical Walk of Witness starting from St Andrew's URC

2.30pm Waiting at the Cross

March 31 **EASTER SUNDAY**

> 6.30am Ecumenical Sunrise Service at the Bandstand, Roundhay Park 8am Easter Holy Communion 10am Easter Celebration Communion

A Mid-Week Communion is held weekly each Wednesday at 11am followed by a Soup Lunch Each Thursday Morning Prayer is said at 8.30am in the Chancel



Praying for our new Vicar

Heavenly Father, as we seek a new Vicar, we ask that at every stage your will may be done.

Through your Spirit at work in us, may we all play our part; constant in prayer and using our skills to support those carrying responsibility on our behalf.

Speak to those seeking the next step in their ministry. Grant to them and to our representatives wisdom, discernment and a common mind.

We also pray for your blessing on us all during this vacancy, both as individuals and as a church. May we grow together in faith as we continue to share God's generous love.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Ecumenical Lent Bible Study Series

The ecumenical Lent Bible Study series will be hosted by Lidgett Park Methodist Church this year on Tuesdays at 7.30 pm for 5 weeks from 20 February to 19 March inclusive. The course will follow the book *Spot the Difference* by Nick Fawcett. All welcome. What difference does being a Christian make in your life and what difference should it make?

St Ed's Coffee Mornings



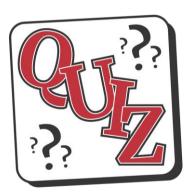
Saturday February 24th 2024 featuring Fair Trade Easter cards and eggs

And Saturday 23rd March 2024

10am till 12 noon

Second hand books, Cakes, Fair trade stall

Do pop in and have a chat and a cuppa



Yes, it's that time of year again! The St Eds Curry and Quiz Night is back

FRIDAY 8th MARCH in church

Food from 6.30pm. Quiz starts 7.30pm Tickets £10 with food (2 courses)

£5 quiz only (but why would you??)

BYOB, soft drinks on sale

There will be veggie versions and non-curry options for those (like me) who wimp out at the thought of curry

Contact Anne Seller on 07545 225101 for tickets

Concerts in St Edmund's in March

Saturday March 2nd at 7.30pm Phoenix Concert Band

America Coast to Coast (including West Side Story, Oklahoma, Cajun Folk

Songs)

Tickets £10, Concessions £8, Under 16s free

Saturday March 16that 7.30pm **Leeds Philharmonic Chorus**

An Evening of Classical Festive Music by Bach and Handel

Tickets £20; OAPs £15 £10 Students

Saturday March 23rd at 7.30pm Sinfonia of Leeds

Haydn – Symphony No 90; Bartok – Duke Bluebeard's Castle

Conductor- Anthony Kraus Tickets £17, Over 65s £14

Rambling in February and March

Saturday February 17th. 5½ miles around Pannal. Pub lunch at the end of the walk.

Tuesday February 20th 3 miles around Golden Acre and Paul's Pond

Tuesday March 5th 3½ miles Linton to Wetherby

Saturday March 16th 6 miles starting from Great Preston and walking mostly along the disused railway

(The Linesway). Pub lunch at the end.

Tuesday March 26th 3½ miles circuit of Temple Newsam starting from Colton.

We meet in the Church park at 9.30am. All welcome

Easy Eco Tips from A Rocha (arocha.org.uk)

Go Green(er) for Lent. The weeks leading up to Easter are a great time to start or give something up that benefits nature and helps address climate change. Is there a change you can make to better care for creation and improve our lives and the lives of others through healthy, eco-friendly and sustainable living?



World Day of Prayer Friday March 1st at 11am in St Edmund's Church

"I beg you, bear with one another in love!" This text is the theme of this year's World Day of Prayer, a women led, global, ecumenical movement. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women in Palestine (planned and written about 3 years ago). Churches in Leeds take it in turn to host the service and this

year St Edmund's is the host in our area with the help of friends at Lidgett Park Methodist Church and St Andrew's URC. All are invited to attend not just women. Refreshments will be served at the end of the service.

Tea Cosy+ Memory Café for those living with dementia will be on Thursday March 7th at 11-1.30 at The Highwood Building, Brackenwood Drive For more information please contact Susie Broome on 2666476.