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St John's and St Luke's Together

St John's Church



**January
2023
50 pence**

St Luke's Church



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A LETTER FROM LAURA



Dear All,

Over recent months we have been working hard within church at re-establishing a designated pastoral care team. As I have been thinking more about pastoral care, I have developed an increased awareness of how much of it we do without even realising it! Just this week I have chatted with someone in a care home, visited two bereaved families, phoned a friend who was feeling low, sent a 'New Job' card, held hands with an elderly gentleman whose wife had just died, comforted my own poorly child, sent various text messages to check in with people and had coffee with someone who needed a listening ear. Not only that, but I have RECEIVED a hug from a church warden, a bouquet of flowers from a fellow curate, several cups of tea made by



my eldest son, numerous kind messages from friends, and a thank you card. I could go on....but I won't! The point is that in so many ways we are all part of one big pastoral team, constantly giving and receiving various kinds of pastoral care.



With that in mind, as we restructure our pastoral care systems within church we want to do so in a way that values the pastoral gifts of ALL members of the body of Christ, recognising and celebrating the excellent pastoral care that is already being done. We have many groups and teams within our community, including several home groups, the Green Team, Little Fishes, Wellbeing Café and much more. We recognise that for many people these small groups and teams are where relationships form and where most pastoral care takes place on a day-to-day basis. As such, each team/group within our church community now has a designated pastoral leader who will be overseeing the general pastoral care of that particular group.



We will still have a dedicated central pastoral

team (which includes the clergy), but we hope that by having pastoral leaders within all our groups - who regularly liaise with the pastoral team - our care will reach more widely and our communication will be more effective.

Of course, we recognise that for all sorts of reasons not everyone who is part of our church family is involved with a smaller group or team. That is why it is still important for us to have a dedicated central pastoral team. Our wonderful, newly-established team are here to support you in any way they can. Please do get in touch with the church office if you would appreciate a bit of extra support at the moment – we would love to hear from you! Also, we are always delighted to welcome new people to join our small groups and various teams!



Pastoral care covers a huge spectrum of care, from a kind word to a home visit, and the vast majority of it takes place ‘one to another’. With such a large parish the clergy and the pastoral team alone could never realistically achieve the level of pastoral care that we can accomplish when we all work together as the body of Christ. Every time you offer care and kindness to someone you communicate God’s love; so thank you for all that **you** have done and continue to do as together we seek to care for one another into this New Year and beyond!



Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7

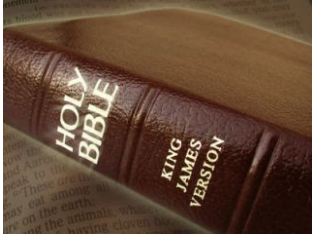
Blessings,
Laura

TOY SERVICE HELPS MARTIN HOUSE



Your generous gifts of toys and games will ensure that youngsters at Martin House can enjoy celebrating Christmas.

QUESTION CORNER



Q. The King James Bible has lovely language. When did they change it and why?

A. Yes, it has fine phrases which linger in the minds of older people (like me). The change came when the New



English Bible was published in 1961. I was at King's College London then, and it was a special event for us, as our New Testament lecturer, Professor Tasker, was responsible for translating much of St John's gospel. (As my tutor he also tried to teach me Greek.) Over the years other versions followed, such as the Living Bible, the Good News Bible etc. The one we use in this church is the New International Version of 1978.

Why? Because it's God's word, we need to read the message clearly. To pick just one of many examples, St John calls Jesus the light of mankind. The old version of John 1,5 says 'the light shineth in the darkness and the darkness COMPREHENDETH IT NOT'. By 'comprehend' we usually mean 'understand'. But another meaning is 'encompass' (in such a way as to extinguish). And that's what the original Greek text is saying. So modern translations say the darkness has not extinguished it, or 'mastered' it (NEB) and the NIV says 'has not overcome it'.

There is much darkness in the world, and perhaps darkness we have to face in our own lives. So we need to know that the light of Christ still shines for us, and it cannot be overcome.



I should add that some churches continue to use the King James Bible (still 'Authorised') alongside the 1662 Book of Common Prayer.

David

The loving, sharing, and giving of Christmas should not just be enjoyed for one day, it should never be put away.



THE GREEN PAGES



We all know that the climate is in trouble, and there is plenty of information available to help us all do our bit to help makes things better. If, like me, you like facts, here are some fascinating, if somewhat scary, facts that will make you pause for thought. They are all taken from “How to reduce your carbon footprint: practical ways to make a real difference” by Ellen Tout (ISBN 9781786786487), which also offers some great ideas.

- Energy production, mainly through burning fossil fuels, accounts for $\frac{3}{4}$ of global greenhouse gas emissions.
- If everyone in the UK increased their loft insulation to 270 mm (10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in), the energy saving would pay the fuel bills of over 640,000 households.
- Uninsulated curtains can cut heat loss through windows by a third, and insulated curtains can reduce it by half.
- At the beginning of the 1970s, the average temperature inside a house was 14°C. By the early 21st century, this had risen to almost 20°C.
- Every degree by which you turn down your thermostat will cut your heating bill by about 10% and shave 300kg of CO₂ from the average home’s emissions.
- Moving a large piece of furniture away from a radiator could increase the radiator’s efficiency by up to 20%.
- Lighting makes up 15% of the average UK household electricity consumption.
- By switching to LED lightbulbs, the average UK household could save up to £7 per bulb per year.
- Electronic appliances left in standby mode account for 8% of all domestic power consumption in the UK.
- Turn your microwave off at the mains when not in use. If not, the digital clock could use almost as much energy over the course of a year as the microwave itself.

- If everyone in the UK washed their clothes at 30°C, each year they would save enough energy to power the country's streetlamps for 10 months.
- Around 60% of the average UK household's rubbish consists of biodegradable food, garden and paper waste.
- If food waste was removed from landfill, the level of greenhouse gas reduction would be equivalent to removing a fifth of all cars from UK roads.
- The average cow expels around 200g of methane each day, a gas more potent than CO₂.
- Every tonne of paper reused or recycled avoids the emission of over a tonne of CO₂, keeps 3 cubic metres of waste out of landfill, saves enough energy to light the average home for six months and leaves 17 trees standing, busy absorbing CO₂.
- Recycling just one glass bottle saves enough energy to power a television for 90 minutes.
- Recycling just one aluminium can saves enough energy to run a computer for three hours.
- A laptop uses up to 90% less energy than a desktop computer.
- If every adult in the UK sent one less "thank you" email, it could save 16 433 tonnes of carbon a year – the equivalent of taking over 3000 diesel cars off the road.
- In the UK, 2 million tonnes of CO₂ are emitted from transporting flowers just for Valentine's Day.
- Driving at 50mph uses 30% less fuel than driving at 70mph.
- Only 14% of plastic *ever* produced has been collected for recycling and just 5% has been successfully recycled.





BROWNIE NEWS

At 2nd Bilton Brownies all the girls are looking forward to earning lots more badges in 2023. Over the past 12 months, as well as the Skills Builders that we complete during our weekly meetings, many Brownies have spent their own time working on Interest Badges at home.

Evelyn, pictured here with Bonnie the Brownie Badge bear, has just finished her sixth Interest Badge and is already working on her next ones. So far she has earned the



following: Mindfulness, Painting, Baking, Grow Your Own, Aviation and Performing. She has also just got her Bronze Award – well done Evelyn!



Also pictured is Libby, our newest Brownie, soon after making her promise at our last meeting before the Christmas holidays; as you can see, at her Promise Celebration, Libby received a Badge Book which gives details of all the badges.

Welcome to 2nd Bilton Brownies, Libby!

AN EXCITING YOUTH VENTURE



We have begun a new venture: a monthly Harrogate Youth Service for young people from any church in Harrogate. We had our first evening on 4th December at Starling Cafe-Bar in the town centre. The evening consisted of worship, a short talk, prayer time and chips!

The long-term vision for this is for it to be a monthly service led by young people, for young people, and we are hoping it will grow organically from here. We had

very positive feedback from the young people who came, and are looking forward to starting in earnest after Christmas.

Please do keep this new initiative in your prayers: that the young people start to feel like a community, that they enjoy coming and that they meet Jesus in the worship, the talk and the prayer time. Thank you!



SMALL GROUPS



Often the New Year is a time when we re-assess our priorities and think about what we would like to lay down or pick up. If you have been thinking about joining one of our home groups then this is a great time to do so! We have several friendly, small groups that meet on various days/evenings that you would be welcome to join. These groups are small communities of learning, journeying

together and supporting each other. They each reflect the 'up, in, out' model (looking **up** towards God, **in** towards each other and **out** towards our community) and use the 'bible discovery' method as a way of learning together.



We also enjoy eating together!

Groups are a great way to feel part of a community and they welcome people at **any** stage of their faith journey. For more information contact the church office or one of the clergy – we look forward to hearing from you.

THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY

Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss?

A six-session weekly course will be running at Ripon Cathedral from

January 25th at 7pm

For more information or to register an interest in attending please contact:

fionapearman@riponcathedral.org.uk or ring the cathedral office: 01765 603462



St JOHN'S BILTON
COFFEE MORNING

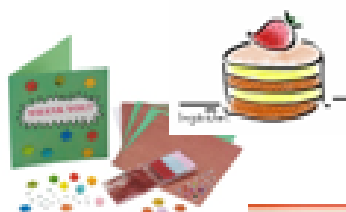
SATURDAY 14TH JANUARY

Entrance £1

10 – 12 noon



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- Home preserves
- Hand-made cards
- Refreshments included in entry fee - drinks and biscuits



- Large choice of books
- Raffle
- Tombola
- A warm welcome



**For RIPON CATHEDRAL
PROJECT**



RIPON CATHDRAL - OUR CATHEDRAL



If you've visited Ripon Cathedral, you know that it has been a place of worship and pilgrimage for over 1000 years. The atmosphere reflects the presence of God. But it is sadly lacking in the comfort and convenience we expect today. So the Dean and Chapter launched ambitious plans for an extension, which has been amended:

Proposals involve a standalone two-storey development to the north of the iconic building on an area of land that also houses the [Old Courthouse Museum](#) and the Royal British Legion Garden of Remembrance.

The new building would incorporate indoor toilets, including a [Changing Places](#) toilet for disabled people, a café/refreshment area, improved shop, meeting room, new facilities for the choir school and additional storage capacity to take the pressure off use of space in the cathedral.

The Ripon Cathedral [Renewed Project](#), which aims to provide 21st century facilities for the cathedral's parishioners, choristers, the wider community and an ever-increasing number of visitors, already has £4 million in pledges.

But it needs to secure a further £2 million if ambitions are to be achieved.

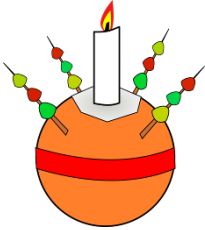
Our January coffee morning will be supporting the appeal; do please come along and help us raise a fitting contribution to our Cathedral.

(See facing page for details)

HELPING TROUBLED YOUNGSTERS



It was wonderful to be making Christingles at our December coffee morning again. The kitchen team were very busy serving drinks, teacakes and mince pies to the many folk who came to enjoy the chatting as well as browsing the books, cards, cakes, preserves, and special home-grown spring bulbs, and having a 'flutter' on the raffle and tombola. A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who manned the stalls and the kitchen, donated mouth-watering cakes, cards, books etc, and to all of you who came to support. We raised £640 which the Children's Society will use to help troubled youngsters.



The Christingle services were well-attended by lots of youngsters with their adults. We all joined in the singing with gusto, especially 'Show me the way to shine for Jesus'. As always we were moved by the moment when the Christingles shone in the darkness, and we sang 'Silent Night', and also by Katie's story. We are so privileged to be able to support young people in need.

Over the weekend we raised £841 for the Children's Society. Thank you for your generosity.



ALPHA COURSE starts in January at St John's, Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm. Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe and everyone's welcome. No two Alphas look the same but generally they have three key things in common: food, a talk and good conversation. If you are interested in coming along to the taster session on 18th January contact the office or speak to Simon. To find out more information about the Alpha course, click [here](#)

Thank You Volunteers

DO YOU KNOW.....

how many people regularly give their time to our churches - cleaning, fund-raising, catering, visiting, greeting, maintaining, and lots more?

If you are one of them, you are invited to a **'THANK YOU' EVENT** at St Luke's on Saturday 28th January at 7.30pm

Your generosity with time is very much appreciated

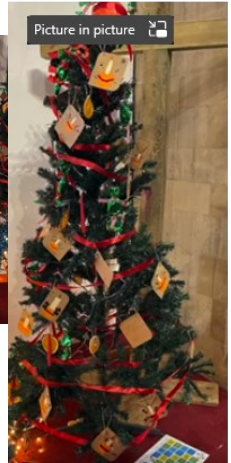
CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our church family came together at the Fair held at St Luke's, providing a wide range of goodies as well as refreshments and good company, and we raised over £1440 towards our parish expenses. Thank you everyone!



Bulbs and plants arriving by tractor for the fair at St Luke's

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



SHARE YOUR CHRISTMAS MEAL WITH SOMEONE IN NEED

Thank you to those who followed our tradition of setting a place for an unexpected guest (who might be Jesus). Rather than turkey with all the trimmings, we put onto the plate what the meal would have cost. it's not too late to add your donation. All received by the end of January will go through Resurrected Bites to help local people who are struggling to feed their families, see <https://resurrectedbites.co.uk>



PEOPLE

BAPTISMS / BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVINGS

*We welcome into the church family
Isobelle Ann Coutts
Macie Angela Heeles*



FUNERALS/ MEMORIALS

We extend our sympathy to the families of those who have recently died:

*Catherine 'Peggy' Edmunds
Brenda Morley*



Please pray for Bishop Helen-Ann as she prepares to move further north to become Bishop of Newcastle after nearly five years as Bishop of Ripon.

SUNDAY 8th January

is Copy Date for

February 2023 Focus

Items for inclusion to:

SJSLFocus@gmail.com

or Editor, 6 Old Trough Way,

HG1 3DE

or leave them in the drawer at the back of St John's Church

St John's & St Luke's

CHURCH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

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JANUARY'S CALENDAR

Sunday 1st	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ) JOINT All Age Holy Communion (SL)
Tuesday 3 rd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 4 th	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 5 th	9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 6 th	1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Wellbeing Café (SL) Open Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Open Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Sunday 8th	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 12.30pm 6-7.45pm	Holy Communion (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Parade Service (SL) Baptisms (SJ) Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 9 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 10 th	9-9.30am 10.00am 2-3.30pm 4-5.30pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Walking Group (SJ) Comfort Café (SJ) 4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
Wednesday 11 th	7.30pm 9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am 12.15pm	Time to Pray (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
Thursday 12 th	9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 13 th	6.30-7.15pm 1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ) Wellbeing Café (SL) Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 14 th	10.00am-12noon	Coffee Morning in Church Hall (SJ)
Sunday 15th	9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ) Morning Worship (SJ)

	10.30am	Morning Worship (SL)
	3.30pm	Farewell Service for Bishop Helen-Ann at Ripon Cathedral
Monday 16 th	6-7.30pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Tuesday 17 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	4-5.30pm	4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
Wednesday 18 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.00noon	Thirst Table at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 19 th	7.00pm	Alpha Course (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 20 th	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ)
	7-7.45pm	Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Sunday 22nd	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Morning Worship (SL)
	3.15-5.15pm	Teddy Bear's Picnic (SL)
Monday 23 rd	6-7.30pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Tuesday 24 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	4-5.30pm	4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
Wednesday 25 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 26 th	7.00pm	Alpha Course (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 27 th	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ)
	7-7.45pm	Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 28 th	7.30pm	Volunteer Thank You Event (SL)
Sunday 29th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	JOINT Holy Communion (SJ)
	2-3.00pm	Cryptic Chase at Ripley Castle (Youth Activity)
Monday 30 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)

	7.30pm	Finance & Buildings Committee Meeting (SJ)
Tuesday 31 st	9-9.30am 4-5.30pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) 4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
<u>FEBRUARY</u>		
Wednesday 1 st	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 2 nd	7.00pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am	Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 3 rd	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
Saturday 4 th	9.30am-12.30pm	PCC Vision Meeting (SJ)

LOOKING AHEAD

Coffee Morning for projector
 Family Walk
 Coffee Morning for CMS
 Ceilidh
 Smelly Yellow Welly Club
 Summer Fair

Saturday 11th February (SJ hall)
 Saturday 4th March (tbc)
 Saturday 11th March (SJ hall)
 Saturday 11th March (SL) (tbc)
 Wednesday 5th – Friday 7th April (SJ)
 Saturday 24th June (SJ)



ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S TOGETHER WHO'S WHO

Parish Office Phone No: 01423 565129

Parish Office email: church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

For parish information including services and events

visit Parish Websites: www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

www.stlukesharrogate.org.uk

www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsandstlukes.harrogate

www.facebook.com/stlukesharrogate

www.facebook.com/stjohnsandstlukes - for livestreaming

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Team Vicar

Vacant

Laura Martin—Curate

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Sandie Fagan 07824 458725 for more information



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Friday	9.30am - 1.00pm
Saturday	9.30am - 1.00pm
Sunday	CLOSED

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St John's Church Hall and St Luke's Church
can be hired for single occasions
or for regular events.

Contact Church Office for more information.
See page 19 for contact details

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Jean Clay GTCL LTCL CTABRSM

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