

FOCUS

July 2023

FREE: Please take me home.

**The monthly magazine of the Emmanuel
Benefice, Berry Brow Methodist Church,
and Netherton Methodist Church.**



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July Church Services

Sunday service for July are all United services between Anglican and Methodist Churches

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| 2 July | 10.00am Holy Communion at South Crosland |
| 9 July | 10.00am Holy Communion at Berry Brow Methodist Church |
| 16 July | 10.00am Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church. |
| 23 July | 10.00am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge |
| 30 July | 10.00am Holy Communion at Berry Brow Methodist Church |

July Mid Week Services

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|---------|--|
| 5 July | 11 Sherwood Drive, Netherton |
| 12 July | Netherleigh, Butternab Road Beaumont Park. |
| 19 July | 11 Sherwood Drive, Netherton |
| 26 July | Netherleigh, Butternab Road Beaumont Park. |

Every Wednesday at St Paul's
9.15 Morning Worship, 30 minutes of worship and prayer. All welcome.

Every Thursday at St Paul's
5.20 Christian Meditation.30 minutes of Quiet Contemplation. All welcome.

Ramblings from the Rectory

I used to love the summer holidays when I was a child; the excitement of not having to go to school, not having to sit and listen to teachers trying to teach us things we didn't want to know, staying in my PJs and just watching TV all morning! I loved the feeling that the whole of the summer lay ahead and the notion of going back to school felt like an impossible future. The beginning of the summer was much better than the end of it. The arrival of September meant that all the joy and freedom I was enjoying would be taken away and I would have to go back to sitting in badly lit rooms being talked at by adults who were being underpaid for the job they were doing.

As we begin to think about summer and what we will be doing, there is an anticipation of sunny days at the seaside with fish and chips and ice cream or happy days spent in the park with a picnic and games or memorable times spent with family and friends on long walks and family barbeques. Summer is a great time for young and old alike.

It is also a time to think about holidays and getting away from it all. I love going away on holiday and just relaxing and doing things I enjoy. A rather earnest clergy colleague of mine a few years back once confessed to me with some alarm that he had just returned from a week's holiday during which he had completely forgotten to pray the Daily Office (the set prayers for morning and evening which we are required, professionally, to pray).

I hope I hid my alarm that it hadn't occurred to me that I ought to be doing that on holiday!

One of the purposes of holiday time, it seems to me, is a change to normal routines and habits which helps us see the world differently and therefore refreshes us in body, mind and spirit. It's not that I don't pray when on holiday - just that I tend to find different, more spontaneous, less formal ways of noticing God's goodness and thanking him for it. That might be in a stunning view from the coast path, laughing with family, an abundance of good meals or a quiet moment floating on a still sea.

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After all the feasts and festivities of recent months - Holy Week, Easter, the Coronation, Baptism Celebration Service, Carnival - it's perhaps reassuring to look ahead to the long 'ordinary' weeks of the summer months, and the change in our service pattern because it will mean that those who are always so busy with church will get some rest.

From 2 July our services will all be at 10.00am and will travel around our churches (see services at front of magazine!). It will be good share the summer with our church family and get to know some of our distant relatives a little better. We will be able to share our holiday plans and recommend different places to visit and we will worship God together as a family, which I think is very exciting.

So, whatever your holiday plans are come and join us for some quality family time over the summer and experience the love of God in your life.

Julie

Coffee Morning

Holy Trinity Church holds a coffee morning on the second Saturday of each month at South Crosland Junior School, Moor Lane, Netherton. The coffee morning in June raised £140; thank you everyone.

The next coffee morning will take place on 8 July 2023 at 10.00am.

Stella

Diary Dates

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|----------|---|
| 5 July | Reminder South Crosland Woman's Society will join the 1st Wednesday group at 2.0pm at Netherton Methodist Church. This will be 1st Wednesday of every month until the end of the year.
Everyone Welcome. |
| 22 July: | Final date for copy July Focus, 12 Noon.
Items received after this time will probably miss the cut. |

CSW everyone free to believe

One of the points for prayer this month is

“Our work in international arenas”

Sometimes there are local solutions to human rights violations: courts, state, prosecutors, police, or law enforcement agencies. But in many of the countries CSW works on, the rule of law is often broken, skewed, or non-existent.

We can raise cases within multilateral arenas like the United Nations or European union. We can call round powerful decision-makers in the international community to excite exercise the pressure required for change and hold perpetrators to account. And at the UN, our accreditation means we have the ear of the people best placed to make a difference for those facing injustice for their beliefs.

While these arenas are not perfect, they do a lot of good, and we should not let the challenges overshadow what they can achieve when they work well. Pray with us for CSW's work at the United Nations, European Union and other international arenas.

Sunday 2nd July

As we are commanded in 1 Timothy 2:1-2, pray for the diplomatic and political leaders who represent their nations in international arenas: for the wisdom and integrity, and the resources they need to work effectively for human rights.

Monday 3rd July

The UN human rights Council meets three times a year, and we are in the middle of the current session. Pray to 2 Corinthians 9:8 over CSW's UN officer, as well as other advocates who will be giving evidence of the human rights violations uncovered by our research.

Tuesday 4 July

Pray for EU diplomats and other officials working on EU foreign policy - both in Brussels, and in embassies around the world - for their safety, wisdom, and courage.

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Wednesday 5 July

On this day last year, the UK government began hosting the International Ministerial Conference on Freedom of Religion or Belief. Pray that the impact of our activities there would continue to reverberate, and that we would see more national governments actively working together on freedom of religion or belief.

Thursday 6 July

We met politicians from around the world at the Ministerial. Pray that they would remember the powerful testimonies they heard at our side events and to be moved to action. We know that change does not happen overnight, so it is important that we continue praying in the years following events like this.

Friday 7 July

In Daniel 1:9 we read that God had given the king's chief official, both 'favour and compassion' for Daniel. Pray for CSW advocates working in international arenas, that are cause would find favour and respect in the eyes of authorities.

Saturday 8 July

Lord, thank you for everyone working to promote and protect the right to freedom of religion or belief in international arenas. Give them courage and strength, and bless the work of their hands to bring about justice. Amen.

Jeremy

Foundation Governor at South Crosland Junior School.

At South Crosland CofE (A) Junior School we are still in need of more foundation governors. These are governors who are regular worshippers and would serve on the governing body supporting the school and upholding the school's Christian ethos and values. This is a voluntary position, but it is very rewarding. If anyone from any of our churches is interested or would like to find out more about what is involved, please contact me through school and I will happily have a chat with you. (01484 667075)

Janice Dorrington

Support your local community and visit
the

Together

Pop Up Shop

Newsome Scout Hut

Saturday 1st July

10am – 1 pm

Following the success
Of the previous 3 events
Newsome Charity Shop
are hosting another

Pop Up Shop!

Newsome Explorer Scouts
raising funds offering
light refreshments.



**Save
money!**



Grab some Bargains!

Free Entry

Local churches working together



Contact 07740425093

Celebration and Thanksgiving

Robin Bowles, a talented local musician, holds ‘open mike’ folk evenings in the Liberal Club at Berry Brow, from time to time. At the last one the topic of conversation turned to ‘well dressing’ and someone remembered the last one we had in Armitage Bridge was in the mid- 80s.

When Robin asked me about it, I did vaguely remember Rev Ian Jackson Had just arrived as our new incumbent in 1984. We had a very active village association, and someone contacted Bishop David Hope of Wakefield and invited him to perform the ceremony, which he did.



Robin was encouraged by his folk group to ‘just go for it’ not knowing what the response would be. We met at St Paul’s at 5.00pm. Ann had made a wreath off May blossom, someone produced a plaque, others arrived with bunches of wildflowers and herbs and a variety of musical instruments.

Robin and Ann played their

accordions and led us to the stream; there were about 25 of us by the time we arrived, gathering others along the way. The well was ‘dressed’ and Rev Debby delivered a very powerful and thought provoking prayer and thanksgiving for the precious gift of water; emphasising how important it is for all creation and life. We then adjourned to the Monkey Club for Al fresco Folk music, beer, pakoras and chat, a very pleasant evening.

I wonder if we will have to wait another 40 years for the next one? This spring has been a busy time for Rev Debby, our deanery environmental champion, and our church teams working towards Bronze and Silver awards for Eco church.

It started with a litter pick and then the rogation service on 14 May, held at Stirley Hill farm. Rogation Sunday is an ancient church festival; a day to remind us that we are all part of God's creation and depend on nature and our fellow humans for the necessities of life.

Debby's service was a celebration and thanksgiving for all living things; with music, singing, readings and prayers, as we visited the cow sheds, beehives, fruit, and vegetable gardens. We gave thanks for all in a wonderful setting, with superb views and good weather.

The name rogation comes from the latin rogare which means to ask, and the service started in France in 470 after a series of natural disasters, causing great suffering.

Archbishop Mamertus proclaimed a fast and ordered special liturgies and prayers to be said as the people processed around the fields asking for God's protection and blessings on the crops, just as they were beginning to grow. The idea was taken up quickly and spread widely across Europe and has become a special date in the Church year to celebrate the arrival of spring.

Other significant dates are:

Environmental Sunday 4 June

World Environment Day 5 June

Creation tide All of September ending on 4 October which is St Francis day.

I'm sure that during Creation tide we will have a special service, reminding us that we are the guardians and stewards off God's creation and its resources for only a short time. And it is our responsibility to look after it and pass it on to our future generations.

Catherine Day.



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Many thanks to Simon Mooney for the photographs that accompany Catherine's article.



Armitage Bridge Ringers



Yorkshire Association

On Tuesday, 13 June 2023 in 50m

Huddersfield, West Yorkshire

St Peter

Tenor: 23–1–2 in D

1280 London Surprise Major
Composition Library

- 1 Lorraine M Treble
- 2 Carole Kirby
- 3 Peter C Kirby
- 4 Andrea P L Wain
- 5 Alan M Treble
- 6 Rebecca Kirby
- 7 Neil J Murray
- 8 Oliver M Austin (C)

1st London 2 and 3

Completes Standard 8 (after 40 years) 3

Belated Birthday Compliments To Sally Austin

Lorraine and Alan Treble

July 2023 Readings and prayers

Sunday 2nd July – Trinity 4 – Romans 6: 12-end and Matthew 10: 40-end

Prayer for the Day - Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sunday 9th July – Trinity 5 – Romans 7: 15-25a and Matthew 11: 16-19 & 25-end

Prayer for the Day - Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 16th July – Trinity 6 – Romans 8: 1-11 and Matthew 13: 1-9 & 18-23

Prayer for the Day - Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Sunday 23rd July – Trinity 7 – Romans 8: 12-25 and Matthew 13: 24-30 & 36-43

Prayer for the Day - Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 30th July – Trinity 8 – Romans 8: 26-end and Matthew 13: 31-33 & 44-52

Prayer for the Day - Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven, and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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This magazine may be read in full colour on our webpage!

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THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD

“Offering love and service to our communities in Christ’s name.”