

Thurstonland Parish News March—April 2024





Genesis 17:1-2 *When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous."*

Mark 8:31-33 *Then Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this*

quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The two main characters appearing above present quite a conundrum. Abram (Abraham) is 99 years old "He is as good as dead" as someone, commented. However, as he looks at his ancient decaying body, he believes in God's promise of life. On the other hand looking into Peter's mind shows us his dreams of being the King's right hand man. This is a barrier to new life because he cannot accept Jesus' calling. 'That he (Jesus) must suffer and die, in order to rise again.' [Lk24:46].

Lent can be a disturbing time for Jesus followers, it should however offer in equal measure both challenge and opportunity, beyond a month abstinence from chocolate. Challenge to the status quo and the comfortable rhythms of life that we can all fall into and an opportunity to grow through reframing our faith in today's world. For many of us that might feel like a bridge too far. Actually coming to church is step away from the daily grind of life and is an opportunity to step into the familiar and safe. Church for the faithful remnant is like home but "the times are changing" and many Church goers see their homeward stretch coming into focus on the horizon. The God who fills believers with hope and promise is moving ever closer. Just as Jesus inevitably faces the cross, we too during Lent stand face to face with our own morality. 'From dust you came and to dust you will return, repent of your sin and follow Christ,' is the Ash Wednesday call to faithfulness and the observance of Lent.

The Ashes are a sign to the world that we belong to Jesus. The gravity of the clock tick-ticking is calling to us as we learn to accommodate the compromises ages presents, as we watch the nest slowly empty and fill like the turning of an egg timer. There are many comings and goings these days making us more even aware of the dust, from which we come, is the same dust to which we will slowly return.

Abraham's faith is his badge of office. The God of Abraham is our God too. God has kept his promises. Abraham is the father (even in old age) of many nations and he is the father of all who believe from whichever ethnic background one might come. The Apostle Paul too affirmed that faith is open to all. Galatians 3:²⁸ reads, "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." God gives life to the dead and calls non-existent things into being such is the faithfulness of our creator God: that same life appears in the Gospels as the man Jesus Christ.

Peter lacked faith. He was only able to see the world, as he wanted it to be. He was unable to accept the costly, grace ridden way of the cross, which is the way of faith, the way to new life. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to be called the children of God." [Jh1:12] whatever ones preclusions might be, whoever you are. Faith is a joy, and a way of life available to all people.



Easter Eggcitement!



St Thomas Church Thurstonland

Good Friday 29th March

10am till 1200noon

Families & Children's Workshop

**Hot Cross Buns, Crafts,
Storytelling, Singing and Easter
Egg Hunt.**



All Welcome



VILLAGE DIARY March 2024

Sun 3 March	Lent 3 Family Service	10am
Weds 6 March	Following Mark into Easter Lent Course Week 4 @ Christ Church	7pm
Thurs 7 March	Coffee Morning Choir Practice	10.30 – 12 noon 7.30-9pm
Sun 10 March	 Mothering Sunday Family Service with the distribution of flowers and refreshments in the church room	10am
Weds 13 March	Please note no WI meeting @SVH Lent Course Week 5 @ Christ Church	7pm
Thurs 14 March	Community Cards Group Choir Practice	2-4pm 7.30-9pm
Sun 17 March	Family Holy Communion	9.30am
Tues 19 March	Annual Parochial Church Meeting in the church room All welcome – refreshments will be served	7pm
Weds 20 March	WI meeting @ SVH Fashion Show by Chain Reaxtion, Honley See notice in Parish News Lent Course Week 6 @ Christ Church	Doors open 6.45pm 7.30pm 7pm
Thurs 21 March	Choir Practice	7.30 – 9pm
Fri 22 March	Community Lunch Please note change of date	12noon
Sun 24 March	Palm Sunday – please note the time No service at St T's - Joint Service at New Mill with the distribution of Palm Crosses	11am
Weds 27 March	Mothers' Union Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 28 March	Maundy Thursday Seder Supper @ Christ Church (booking Essential – Tel Ailsa 01484 883278 or Email ailsabrooke@tinyworld.co.uk) Choir Practice	7pm 7.30-9pm
Fri 29 March	Good Friday Meditation in Music hosted by New Mill Choir @ Christ Church	7.30pm

VILLAGE DIARY—March / April / May 2024

	Good Friday Messy Church Easter Eggcitement	10-12am
Sat 30 March	British Summer Time begins tomorrow Remember to put your clock forward by 1 hour tonight	
Sun 31 March 	Easter Sunday Easter Eucharist and Dedication of Flowers followed by refreshments in the church room	10am
Thurs 4 April	Coffee Morning Choir Practice	10.30am- 12 noon 7.30 – 9pm
Sun 7 April	Family Service	10am
Weds 10 April	WI meeting @SVH The Bee Man – Sean Downey	7.30pm
Thurs 11 April	Community Cards Choir practice	2-4pm 7.30-9pm
Sun 14 April	BCP Holy Communion	9.30am
Thurs 18 April	No Choir Practice	
Sun 21 April	Family Holy Communion	9.30am
Tues 23 April	St George's Day	
Thurs 25 April	Community Cards Group Choir Practice	2-4pm 7.30 – 9pm
Fri 26 April	Community Lunch	12noon
Sun 28 April	Family Holy Communion	9.30am
Advance Notice - Thurs 2 May	Election Day The Church is in use as a Polling Station so no Coffee Morning or Choir Practice.	7am-10pm
Sun 5 May	Family Service	10am
Mon 6 May	Bank Holiday	
Sat 11 May	Coffee morning - proceeds to go to Christian Aid	10.30am – 12 noon

Community Lunches - Can you help?

We have been running monthly lunches in the Church for up to 30 people, for several years now. We are a small group and would really appreciate any help. This year's lunches will be held as follows:

- ◆ **Friday 22nd March**
- ◆ **Friday 26th April**
- ◆ **Friday 31st May**
- ◆ **Friday 30th August**
- ◆ **Friday 27th September**
- ◆ **Friday 25th October**
- ◆ **Friday 29th November**
- ◆ **December date TBC**

We provide a hot main course, choice of 3 desserts, cheese & biscuits, tea & coffee, served from 12 noon (except Aug & Dec which are afternoon teas from 2pm.)

If you can help on any of the dates, providing food, helping with preparation, serving, washing up or would like more information, please contact Janet Wiltshire 07710 588275 or Lynda Booth 07742 730591.

Any support would be very gratefully received. Thank You

FUNDRAISING FASHION SHOW WITH CHAINREACTION - HONLEY IN AID OF STOCKSMOOR WI

Join us for an evening of Fun and
Fashion
on Wednesday 20th March 2024
at Stocksmoor Village Hall, Station
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HD4 6XN.

Doors open at 6.45pm and Fashion
Show starts at 7.30pm

Tickets £5
Call for tickets Lynne Kershaw
07958217177



Thurstonland Community Choir News

The Choir welcomed in January with a convivial meal at the Rose & Crown which was well attended. Many thanks to Richard and his staff for making us so welcome. Following that we started singing again, working on some good arrangements of Frank Sinatra favourites. These, together with several other songs of the Second World War period will take us up to the D Day Celebrations on 6th June up at the Rose and Crown.

The choir committee met in early February and laid out our plans and approach for not just the remainder of 2024, but also going forward into the future. As always, we are on the look out for new members and different activities that we can take part in as a choir. February also saw us have our first cancelled rehearsal of the year due to snow, something we only rarely do!

It is a great pleasure to see so many coming villagers along each week and leaving with a smile on their faces. Indeed, a large proportion of the choir have stayed members from when we started back in 2012!



ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Meeting to elect Churchwardens and PCC members for the coming year will be held in the church room on **Tuesday 19th March 2024 at 7pm.** **We would like to extend an open invitation to anyone who would like to hear more about the workings of the church over the past year.** All those people who are on the Kirklees Electoral Register for our ward are eligible to vote for the Churchwardens, and those on the Church Electoral Roll are eligible to vote for PCC members. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

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THURSTONLAND CRICKET CLUB

Indoor practice sessions are about to start at Shelley HS. The first one is scheduled for Thursday February 22 with junior players attending from 6.00 to 7.00 followed by seniors, both male and female, from 7.00 to 8.00. A seven -week programme has been booked and by the time of the last gathering the new season will be just around the corner. Any interested newcomers are welcome to join us.

I recently completed a questionnaire sent by the region's governing body for cricket. It requested information about the number of teams the club ran and details about general club facilities. The aim was to enable the collation of information about cricket clubs throughout the county and to assess both general and local needs. Amongst all the details it was good to be able to focus on our provision for junior players and the thriving female section of Thurstonland CC which has gone from strength to strength since its formation two or three years ago.

Plans continue to be made for various celebratory events linked to our 150th anniversary in 2024. Every two years we invite former players to attend a first team fixture and it is hoped for a good attendance this year so they can be part of the plans as we would not be here today without their contributions in times gone by.

Acknowledgement must also be given to everyone who has helped the club both on and off the field since its foundation. Matters on the field of play are often a defining point of the varying fortunes of sports clubs but at decent grassroots level the contributions of those working behind the scenes must never be forgotten.

Andrew Pearson

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

This year Christian Aid Week runs from Sunday 12th May - Saturday 18th May 2024. It is unlikely that a house to house collection will be made, but we will hold the coffee morning on Saturday 11th May 2024 to raise funds and collection envelopes will be available in church.





* Before 1810, a visit to church probably meant a six mile round trip to Kirkburton. In that year, a Chapel of Ease was built on "School Lane". This was used by several denominations - the Church of England, Wesleyan Methodists, Independents and Quakers. After 24 years, the C of E having a majority of trustees, excluded the other preachers from the pulpit and put the chapel under the patronage of the Vicar of Kirkburton. (This was not done peacefully!) The Methodists built their own chapel in 1837. You can see the position of the Chapel of Ease as a small square to the south on the more detailed map of 1893, and it is now part of the graveyard of St Thomas's, consecrated in 1870.

* The advertised talk on February 13th, given by Mark Eastwood, the MP for the Dewsbury constituency, gave informative details of the boundary changes which will affect the whole village in the next election. It was followed by a question and answer session.

* The village will be celebrating D-day on June 6th with a performance from the village choir (and fish and chips) at the Rose & Crown, as well as the lighting of our beacon.

* Don't forget the Monday Meetings at the Cricket Club on the second and fourth Monday of the month!

Next TVA Meeting: **7.30pm Monday, March 4th at the Cricket Club.**
All villagers welcome



@ThurstonlandVillageAssociation
Phone: 660661 or 07989 650398



**St Thomas Parish Church
Thurstonland**

THURSTONLAND MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in St Thomas' Church Room

Jenni Wohlman writes:

Sadly, not as many members as usual were able to meet to actively participate in the Wave of Prayer in January but it still felt special. Let's hope more of us will gather next year. Our Party, later in the month, was good fun. We taxed our memories and our wits in various games and quizzes before enjoying the food and drink everyone contributed - a sumptuous feast as usual.

In February each of us will recount a memory of 'A Very Happy Day' and pass round a photograph so we can all share the joy.

Instead of indulging in our traditional Secret Santa, this year we collected numerous items to donate to the Departure Lounge at HMP New Hall. This facility, which was opened in 2022 by Tracy Brabin, Mayor of West Yorkshire, is designed to provide practical advice and support to prisoners on their day of release. Prisoners can use a phone to facilitate a meeting with probation, housing, benefits or drug services ahead of their journey back to their local area. They can also access clothing and toiletries. Taxis can be booked to Wakefield Westgate Train Station, free of charge. Family/friends are welcome to wait there and use the facilities. The Lounge offers an opportunity to get warm drinks and a snack and just have someone to chat with before the long-awaited return to society.



In March we shall hand over the donations to Rev Lesley Greenwood-Haigh, who is the Managing Chaplain at HMP New Hall. Lesley is an inspirational speaker and we would encourage anyone in Thurstonland who would like to **learn more about the prison on our doorstep** to join us at 7.30, Wednesday 27th March in the Church Room.

April brings around our ever-popular 'Meal Out'. We shall return to the Golden Cock in Farnley Tyas where we are always assured of a good night out.

I wish you all a peaceful and happy Easter.

DEDICATION OF FLOWERS AT EASTER

We are holding the Dedication of Flowers again on Easter Sunday which falls on 31st March this year. We will have both roses and lilies, but will keep to the practice of not having individual dedication cards. However, the framed plaque showing the name of the individuals to whom the flowers are dedicated will be prepared as usual, and will remain in church throughout the year.

The roses (yellow or white) will cost £4 each and the lilies £5 each. I should be grateful if those of you wishing to take part would let me have a note of the type of flower, the numbers required and the names to whom they are dedicated (together with the appropriate payment) **no later than Friday 22nd March 2023, please.**

If you would like to make a dedication or require more information, my contact details are

email – mrswilts@yahoo.co.uk text 07710588275 tel 663123
or through my letterbox at 52 The Village, Thurstonland.

If you prefer to pay by BACS the church details are
HSBC Sort Code 40-25-10 Account no 81425234
please use the reference "Easter Flowers"

Thank you for your support. Best wishes, Janet Wiltshire

COMMUNITY CARDS GROUP supporting THE WELCOME CENTRE

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who bought our cards last year in support of the Welcome Centre. We appreciate your support and welcome donations of used cards throughout the year, as well as any help you can give. Please note that we will not be able to use any further Christmas Cards to recycle this year but would be pleased to receive birthday/anniversary etc cards.

We continue to meet in the church room on the afternoons of the 2nd & 4th Thursday in the month, and used greetings cards can be left in the box in the church porch.

Eileen & Graham Nicholson, Brenda Wayne, Bea Horsfall, Val Wilkinson, Elaine Adler & Marlene Parr

COFFEE MORNINGS AND COMMUNITY LUNCH CLUB

The coffee mornings will continue to be held on the first Thursday in the month – 10.30am to 12noon. The March & April dates are 7th March and 4th April 2024. Unfortunately, the local elections will be held on 2nd May and the church will be in use as a Polling Station so that date will change. The new date will be Saturday 11th May 2024. The money raised from the normal coffee mornings goes into general church funds but, as this is the start of Christian Aid week, all proceeds from this one will be given to Christian Aid. If you would be interested in hosting a coffee morning we would be very glad to hear from you, so please do let me know.

There was no lunch in January or February and, after discussion with the Lunch Club Team, it has been decided that for this year, the dates of the next few Community Lunches are – 22nd March (please note the change of date as the last Friday in March will be Good Friday); 26th April and 22nd May, 2024. There will be no lunches in June & July as the ladies will be taking their holidays, but we will be back in August for the Afternoon Tea. September, October & November will run as normal, as will the Festive Afternoon Tea in December. It is always necessary to book, as places are limited. Thanks to everyone who supports this venture, but particularly the ladies who work hard in the kitchen and produce such fabulous food. If you would like to join the Team, please do let us know as we are always looking for new helpers.

All profits from the lunches will go into the fund for the renovation of the kitchen and toilet facilities.

Many thanks, Janet
Tel 663123 or 07710588275

Mothers Union Invitation

The Rev Lesley Greenwood-Haigh, who is the Managing Chaplain at HMP New Hall is an inspirational speaker and we would encourage anyone who would like to **learn more about the prison on our doorstep** to join us at 7.30, Wednesday 27th March in the Church Room.

ST THOMAS' CHURCH SERVICES

www.thurstonland.org or www.newmillpc.org.uk

March 2024

Date	Service & Time	Saying Hello	Intercessor	Reader	Reading	Coffee
3	Family Service 10am	Jenni	Mari- anne	Mari- anne	John 2. 13-22	Sue
10	Family Service Mothering Sunday 10am	Vernon	-	Vernon	Ephe- sians 2 1-10	Lynda
17	Holy Com- munion 9.30am	Brian S	Jenni	Brian S	Jeremi- ah 31 31-34	Carole
24	Joint Ser- vice Palm Sun- day 11am	Held at New Mill	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
31	Easter Eu- charist 10am	Lynda	Michelle	Michelle	Acts 10: 34-43	Jo

Brass cleaning in April : Jo Haigh

April 2024

Date	Service & Time	Saying Hello	Intercessor	Reader	Reading	Coffee
7	Family Service 10am	Brian L	Lynda	Lynda	Acts 4 32 - 35	Jo
14	BCP Communion 9.30am	Jenni	Marianne	Mari- anne	Acts 3 12 - 19	Sue
21	Holy Communion 9.30am	Vernon	Michelle	Michelle	Acts 4 5 - 12	Gilly
28	Holy Communion 9.30am	Lynda	Jenni	Jenni	Acts 8 26 - 40	Richard

Praying for our neighbours

During March:

Norton Terrace, Stocksmoor Rd, Station Rd.

During April:

West View, Browns Knoll Rd, Broad Lane, Butts, Ing Head Lane

A Prayer for Lent

O Christ, the Master Carpenter, you at the last,
through wood and nails, crafted our whole
salvation. All Wield well your tools in the
workshop of your world, so that we who come
rough-hewn to your bench may here be
fashioned to a truer beauty of your hand.
Amen.



From the Iona Community, Scotland

BRAINTEASERS

Can you find words to fit the clues; all the words end in the same 3 letters, what are they?

- (8 letters) Pleasantly fragranced
----- (7 letters) A synthetic material
----- (8 letters) Enormous

I am peacefulness. Change one letter and I am part of your hand. Change another letter and I am light in colour. Change a further letter and I am a strong wind. Change one final letter and I am a celebration. What was I and what did I become?

Answers below...

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*The Parish of Thurstonland in the
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in the Anglican Diocese of Leeds*

Ministers

Rev Canon J. Sean Robertshaw	683375
Rev Dr Steve Dixon	687376
Rev Ailsa Brooke	681155

Churchwardens

Janet Wiltshire, 52, The Village, Thurstonland	663123
Richard Wood, 11, Moor Top Avenue Thurstonland	662752

PCC Secretary

Janet Wiltshire, 52, The Village, Thurstonland	663123
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PCC Treasurer

Lynda Booth, 3, Moor Top Avenue, Thurstonland	662202
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Parish Giving Officer

Brian Lightowler, 1, Norton Terrace, Stocksmoor	605526
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Mothers' Union

Jenni Wohlman 'Hudd Royd' 4 Top of the Hill, Thurstonland	663996
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Children's Ministry and Mustard Seeds contact Sean or Ailsa

Usual times of Church Services

10.00am	1st Sunday each month	A Service of the Word.
9.30am	2nd Sunday each month	Sung Holy Communion BCP
9.30am	3rd Sunday each month	Sung Family Eucharist
11.00am	4th Sunday each month	Eucharist @ Christ Church
10.00am	5th Sunday each month	Team Eucharist (see mag for info)

(See website, magazine and the church notice board for more detail)