

February 2013

Sunday 3rd February
9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Candlemas
Swilland
Otley

Sunday 10th February
9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Sunday before Lent
Clopton
Ashbocking

Wednesday 13th February
7.30 pm Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday
Otley

Sunday 17th February
9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Lent 1
Otley
Swilland

Sunday 24th February
9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service
4.00 pm Evening Prayer

Lent 2
Ashbocking
Clopton
Otley

Sunday 3rd March
9.15 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Lent 3
Swilland
Otley

HOUSE GROUPS: Our two house groups will not meet during Lent. Instead please come to the Carlford Group Lent course, "Journeying in the footsteps of those who trod the way before". This will take place weekly on Mondays at Otley Hall from 2.00pm – 3.30pm and on Wednesdays at Grundisburgh Parish Room from 7.30 – 9.00pm, commencing on Monday 18th February.

Sunday Bible Readings

3rd February : Candlemas

Mal.3:1-5 Heb.2:14-end Luke 2:22-40

10th February : Sunday before Lent

Ex.34:29-end 2 Cor.3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-36

17th February : Lent 1

Deut.26:1-11 Rom. 10:8b-13 Luke 43:1-13

24th February : Lent 2

Gen. 15:1-12,17-18 Phil. 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-end

3rd March : Lent 3

Is.55:1-9 1 Cor.10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9

Prayer for the month

My dearest Lord,
Be thou a bright flame before me,
Be thou a guiding star above me,
Be thou a smooth path beneath me,
Be thou a kindly shepherd behind me,
Today and for evermore.

St. Columba (521 – 597)

FROM JANE HALL

What Ordained Ministry means to me – in a minute!!

At the Epiphany benefice service we celebrated our ministries in this community and James, Fred, Catherine and I shared what ministry means to each of us, while Graham spoke about what being the priest in charge for the last three years has involved for him. However, we only had a minute each so it had to be concise. This is what I intended to say, though it came out differently!

“Ordained ministry here is a joy and a privilege, and like the 7 years of training, it is also demanding! I love being part of the community of parishes which make up the benefice, creating and leading worship in its churches, listening to people’s stories and worries, and travelling with companions on our pilgrim journeys. It is wonderful to find myself in places or situations where the air feels thin, God seems close and where heaven

and earth touch. Being alongside people at particular moments (perhaps through baptisms, weddings, or funerals) talking with them and praying for others are particular joys.

Priestly ministry is a three-way experience for me because it connects God, those present, and me. I try to be a conduit through which God's love flows and His presence can be felt so that, as God's people, we can draw close to Him; this is particularly true when I preside at Communion. Within that relationship I can feel the spiritual power of Father, Son and Holy Spirit flowing both to and from the congregation. For example, if, as I am saying the blessing, I look up and see someone smiling at me, I feel blessed too.

I am indeed blessed to be here, to be with you and with the God who loves us just as we. I am also grateful for the support of fellow pilgrims. This may reflect the three-way call to love God and to love others as we love ourselves. God values us and calls each of us; He wants us to accept ourselves and feel loved, warts and all – I am still Jane! The last 7 years have increased my confidence in leading worship, sharing my faith and trusting God.

Ordination hasn't made me feel particularly different, but I do feel enabled by my training, my self-acceptance, by all of you who have supported me, and by the Holy Spirit."

Rev'd Jane Hall

FROM THE RECTORY

If February were a colour, I feel it would be a palette of soft to dark greys, with gold filtering through. I'm no artist, but sometimes colours help me to enter into some of the deeper things of life. The gold is a reflection of the longer days, the earlier dawns and the drawing out of the evenings once again. In our faith story, it represents the light that Jesus brings into the darkness of the world, in the story we celebrate at Candlemas.

Our Carlford Group Lent Course, "Journeying in the footsteps of those who trod the way before us", starts on February 18th, and will take place weekly during Lent on Mondays at Otley Hall from 2.00pm– 3.30pm and on Wednesdays at Grundisburgh Parish Room from 7.30pm - 9pm.

Whilst preparing, I found myself imagining the colours that would represent the characters we will be studying. Mary in particular is so often depicted in blue, but the story of Mary that we have at the beginning of February, the story of Candlemas, when she is told that a sword will pierce her heart, to me has reds and blacks rather than a pacific blue. Her life was to know such passion and anguish, that soft gentle colours do not always depict her well for me.

The other characters we will explore are Abraham, Elijah, Jonah and the disciples on the Emmaus Road – I wonder how you picture them? What colours spring to mind? Reading the stories of these characters in advance might be helpful to you, but there is no absolute requirement to do so.

What is true of each of these characters is that, although distant from us in time, they are closer to us than we might suppose at first glance, in their faith experience. They had, like us, to make the choice to listen to God, to follow and respond to his call, to be prepared to be disturbed, to be open to issues of human suffering and injustice, to respond and to share their faith with others in words and deeds. It wasn't always easy and in some cases the opportunity to run away was all too real and seemingly more comfortable.

During Lent we have the opportunity to explore our faith journey as individuals and a community of churches across the Carlford Group. We also have the chance to renew our membership of our church's electoral roll, to make a commitment to living out our faith as members of the local church and to nail our colours to the mast.

Every six years the Church of England carries out a complete revision of its electoral roll. This is the a register of all those eligible who wish to play a part in the decision-making processes of our church and support it in its ministry and mission, through active involvement and prayerful upholding. Those who are already enrolled will receive a letter inviting them to apply to be enrolled again; please don't ignore it, as enrolment is not renewed automatically. If you are not on the roll already, do ask one of the ministry team or a churchwarden for an application form and an explanation of the qualifications and responsibilities.

Revd. Clare Sanders

Thank you

Sue and I would like to thank all those who contributed towards the many gifts we received at the special lunch in January to mark the end of my time as Priest in Charge. The set of splendid pen and ink sketches of the four churches by Richard Treloar has been hung so that they can be admired by all our visitors. How well you captured our interests, with other gifts reflecting baking, the theatre, and real ale. Thank you to the social committee for organising the lunch and to all of those who have offered us their good wishes.

Rev'd Graham Hedger

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

CLOPTON

The talk by Tim and Sheila Holmes of Campsea Ashe about starting a local history group was very well attended and several people showed an interest in helping to research the history of Clopton. If anyone has any information, or if you used to live in Clopton and would like to share some stories, we would love to hear from you. Call me on 737602.

The Ladies Group will meet on **Thursday 7th February** at 8pm in Clopton Village Hall to hear a talk about the Lyn Berwick Trust.

The monthly coffee-morning will be held between 10am and noon in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 20th February**. Come and join us and meet your neighbours.

At last the work on our new bell-frame will start this month. The dismantling of the bells will commence on the 25th and will take between three and four days. The work will be done by one man from the bell foundry and a group of local volunteers. This volunteer work will save us about £6000! If you would like to see the bells when they are on the ground please phone me on 737602 for an exact day. The new frame will be installed in May and the bells rehung, (exact dates in the April Church Times). The final work will be carried out during the week beginning 3rd

June. Thank you to everyone who has helped our fundraising and to those who will be helping with the work. Celebrations later!

Doris Main

Church flowers February
Cleaning for February

Beryl Birchmore
Audrey Barker

OTLEY

Firstly, thank you to the bell-ringers for ringing out the old year and ringing in the new on New Year's Eve, which was appreciated by those who heard them. They did have a break for refreshments at the home of Phil and Tig Sweet.

The benefice service on Epiphany Sunday was a celebration of ministry, and also Graham's farewell. All of the ministry team took part and representatives from each of the parishes. It was followed by lunch at the village hall when Graham was thanked for his leadership over the last three years, for bringing in new initiatives, and for advising Jane and Catherine during their training. Each parish gave him a leaving present. We wish Graham well in his new administrative post at the diocesan office, but he will be returning here to take occasional services in the future and we look forward to welcoming him and Sue then. Our four churches, with Grundisburgh, Hasketon, Burgh and Boulge, are now the Carlford benefice, and it was very good to see Clare (our rector) and Mark Sanders with their son Tom, at the lunch.

I have reviewed the visitor's book and found that forty people signed it during 2012. These included Sophia Storr, the great, great, great granddaughter of Paul Storr (who wrote that she was very pleased to see his memorial, but would also have liked to see the silver chalice and paten which he made), two members of the Gosnold family visiting their father's grave, one of the judges of the 'village of the year' competition, visitors to the Diamond Jubilee flower festival, and some admiring the new record of memorials and saying how invaluable it is for family research. So there have been a variety of different reasons for visiting our church.

The Quiz Evening will take place on Saturday, **16th March** and will follow the same format as in previous years.

Teams of eight will compete (with David Chittock as the quizmaster, so sharpen your wits!) and a supper of jacket potatoes with various fillings will be provided. This is always a popular event.

Junior TOPS will present "Summer Holiday" on **8th and 9th February**, with performances at 7.15pm on both days, and a matinee at 2.15pm on the Saturday. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2.50 for children, available from Lorraine Sutcliffe (735398). For the first time there will be a band on stage, there will be lots of well-known Cliff Richard songs, and the summer theme will brighten up the winter month.

The next meeting of the Gardening Club will take place on **11th February** when Ric Staines will be speaking about "Holistic Gardening", which will include aspects of sustainable gardening and how to plant in conjunction with the phases of the moon. The next drop-in coffee-morning will be held on Thursday, **14th February** at Betula House in Chapel Road, the home of Audrey Farley.

Rose Rogerson

From the PCC Treasurer

You may recall that last October you, and every householder in the village, received a letter asking you to consider your financial support for the church. Thank you very much to all those who responded. You should have received an individual thank you letter by now. If you have not yet completed the standing order or the Gift Aid form that you requested, please do so as soon as possible.

Approximately 10% of recipients of the letter responded, raising much-needed additional funds for the Church. However, there is no let-up in the pressure on our financial resources. For example, our contribution to the diocese has increased this year to £18,191. Therefore, if anyone would still like to reply to the October letter and offer something, however large or small and whether by regular donation or a one-off contribution, please contact me via email (theliddells@tiscali.co.uk) or telephone (892008).

As with many organisations and institutions the church is part of what makes Otley such a thriving village. However, they all need your support.

Thank you very much.

Ian Liddell - PCC Treasurer

Pauline Partridge

Geoff Partridge and family would like to thank the church and friends for their sympathy and kind thoughts shown at Pauline's passing, and we would like to thank all who braved the bitterly icy wind to help celebrate her life at the church. Many thanks - it was a great comfort to myself and the family.

Geoff Partridge

BAG IT AND BIN IT!!

As any responsible dog owner knows, it's important to scoop the poop. Did you know that the average dog eliminates between half and three quarters of a pound per day and that dog poop is toxic. Your pet's waste is also teeming with E.Coli and other harmful bacteria (there are 23 million faecal coliform bacteria in a single gram of pet waste), which causes serious kidney disorders, intestinal illness, cramps and diarrhoea in humans. Dog poop doesn't just wash away or disappear, so please be considerate to others as you take your dog for a walk around Otley - scoop the poop and dispose of in the appropriate bins.

These are located at the footpath adjacent to Fenners Cottage (opposite Otley Hall), at Pig Muck Lane adjacent to Homeleigh, and outside the entrance to Hubbards (opposite the village store). The parish council recently requested a dog-waste bin to be installed at the entrance of the path to the electricity sub-station in Newlands and will ask for one at the entrance to the footpath along Ipswich Road, opposite Walnut Tree Farm.

Vanessa Osborne - Parish Clerk

Village diary

8th/9th February "Summer Holiday" - Junior TOPS

Church Flowers
Church cleaning
Brasses

Joan Parish/Sue Courteney
Phil and Tig Sweet
Betty David

Otley Church Sidesmen's Rota

3rd February 11.00am Candlemas
13th February 7.30pm Ash Wednesday

Mrs P Crowley
Mr D Papworth

17th February	9.15am Holy Communion	Mr R Treloar
24th February	4.00pm Evensong	Mrs B David

Otley Hall Quiet Days

Tuesday 12th March – Rev'd Fred Woods

Finding inspiration in musical settings of the Mass/Eucharist.

Wednesday 10th April – Gordon Melvin

The ordinary and the divine: Exploring the symbolism of the vertical and horizontal lines of the cross. A day of deep silence.

Friday 19th April – Magdalen Houlihan

Resting in God – A day for those who are seeking an uncomplicated way to pray.

All days are from 10am – 4pm and cost £20 per person to include refreshment and lunch. Please contact Karen Gwynne-Vince on 890264 or events@otleyhall.co.uk

Movember and London Marathon

Thank you to everyone who supported “Movember”, which resulted in a grand total of £143.99. It was great to see so many people ditch their razor in an attempt to raise money, no matter how idiotic we all looked!

I have decided to keep my moustache for a few extra months as I shall once again be running the London Marathon. In an attempt to create further awareness I have promised that I will not shave off my horrendous moustache until I have crossed the finishing line!

This year, I shall be running for ORCHID, a charity that exists to save men's lives from testicular, prostate and penile cancers through a range of support services, pioneering research and promoting awareness. Unfortunately, through a friend, I have seen that such cancers can affect men of all ages.

Once again, I would appreciate your continued support. The London Marathon takes place on Sunday 21st April and I am already in training, so look out for a rather hairy man running around Otley!

George Chilvers

SWILLAND

As I write, we are looking forward to welcoming Wendy Gourlay to Swilland. She is taking our Christingle Service on 20th January.

Thank you to all who have helped us with the flowers, church-opening and maintaining the churchyard in 2012; any help, however small, is greatly appreciated.

The number of people who do flowers has diminished, with only 4 of us now. If anyone would like to come on the rota, even if it is only once or twice a year, do please let me know.

Before Christmas we had a brass-cleaning day. Brian Williams brought an electric polisher, with which he worked wonders, while others polished manually. The brasses now shine better than they have for a long time. With regular polishing we should be able to keep them that way.

If ever anyone has something they would like to be included in these notes in future, please let me know.

Ann Kent

Church Flowers

3rd - 10th February

17th - 24th February

3rd - 10th March

Ann Kent

Gill Reidy

Jackie Williams

Rainfall – January 2013

In terms of the weather, I don't think anyone will regret the passing of 2012. The total rainfall for the year came to 29.15 inches, which was nearly 3 inches less than the record year of 2001. However, the rainfall in 2001 during the first three months amounted to 10 inches, compared to 3.10 inches in the same period in 2012; we will remember 2012's weather.

Russell Ling

A 6 year olds summary of the Bible

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one', but I think He must be a lot older than that.

Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden.....Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel.

Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some roast beef. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people.

These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, and bowels.

To be continued



ASH WEDNESDAY 13th February

The date of Ash Wednesday changes each year according to the date of Easter. The earliest possible date for Ash Wednesday is 4 February and the latest possible date is 10 March. So this year it is quite early.

It is called Ash Wednesday because of the church service where palm crosses kept from last year are burnt and their ashes mixed with water to make a paste. This paste is used to make the sign of the cross on peoples' foreheads.

For Christians these ashes are a symbol of being sorry for things that they have done which make God sad. It is also a reminder that we are all mortal.



The mark of the ashes on the forehead shows as a sign of our commitment to Jesus Christ and God. And it reminds us that we are saved through Christ's death and resurrection.

FIRE & ASHES



All of these Bible questions have answers to do with fire or ashes... answers at the bottom of the page

1. Who saw a burning bush in the desert? (Exodus, chapter 3)
2. According to Isaiah chapter 58, what should you wear with ashes when you fast?
3. In the second letter of Peter, what cities does he say were turned to ashes?
4. How did an angel cook a cake for Elijah? (I Kings, chapter 19)
5. In what year did the seraph touch Isaiah on the mouth with a live coal? (Isaiah, chapter 6)
6. Where was Peter when he heard the cock crow? (Luke, chapter 22)

Which English King invented the fireplace?

Alfred the Grate.

- 1.Moses 2.sackcloth 3.Sodom and Gomorrah
4.he baked it on hot stones 5.in the year that King Uzziah died 6.While sitting by a fire in the courtyard of the house of the High Priest

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