

**From:** Revd Chris Lawton <rector@lowerwensleydale.church>  
**To:** Grahame Shepherd <grahame.shepherd@btinternet.com>  
**Date:** Sep 24, 2020 2:16:58 PM  
**Subject:** Lower Wensleydale Churches News



# Church News for Sunday

## 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Trinity 16

### Worshiping With Us

We are delighted to be open for gathered worship once again. For September this will be at 10:30 on Sunday at St Mary's Hornby (except the 27th please see below). We are also continuing with PhoneChurch at 09:00

To join in simply call 03300 945 940  
then at the prompt Room number: 55017514 #

and use Guest PIN: 3885 #

We are planning to open all 6 churches for worship during October - please see below for more detailed information.

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## Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September **Trinity 16**

09:00 [BCP Holy Communion](#) - Phone Church

~~15:00 Harvest Festival in the Field!~~ - Now cancelled

### **Readings**

Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-32, Philippians 2.1-13, Matthew 21.23-32

### **BCP Collect**

O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **During the week**

09:00 [Morning Prayer](#) - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 [Holy Communion](#) - Wednesday

## Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October **St Francis**

09:00 [Morning Prayer](#) - Phone Church

10:30 Holy Communion - A Gathered service for the whole Benefice at St Mary's **Hornby**

16:30 BCP Evensong

### **Readings**

Isaiah 5.1-7, Psalm 80.9-17, Philippians 3.4b-14, Matthew 21.33-46

### **Evening Readings**

Psalm 136\*, Proverbs 2.1-11, 1 John 2.1-17,

### **Collect**

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Post Communion**

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **BCP Collect**

Lord, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **During the week**

09:00 [Morning Prayer](#) - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 [Holy Communion](#) - Wednesday -

## **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October Trinity 18**

09:00 [Morning Prayer](#) **Spennithorne** with PhoneChurch

11:00 Holy Communion **Hornby**

16:00 [Taizé](#) - **Crakehall** and via Zoom

### **Readings**

Isaiah 25.1-9, *Psalm 23*, Philippians 4.1-9, & Matthew 22.1-14

### **Evening Readings**

1 John 3.1–15

### **Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Post Communion**

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever.

### **During the week**

09:00 [Morning Prayer](#) - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 [Holy Communion](#) - Wednesday

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October Trinity 19**

09:00 [Prayer and Praise](#) - **Patrick Brompton** with PhoneChurch

11:00 Holy Communion - **Hornby**

16:00 [BCP Evensong](#) - **Finghall**

### **Readings**

Acts 16.6-12a, *Psalm 147.1-7*, 2 Timothy 4.5-17, & Luke 10.1-9

### **Evening Readings**

Psalms 142, Proverbs 4.1–18, 1 John 3.16 – 4.6

### **Collect**

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Post Communion**

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **BCP Collect**

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee; Mercifully grant, that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **During the week**

09:00 [Morning Prayer](#) - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 [Holy Communion](#) - Wednesday

PhoneChurch is working well, but please remember it is live and unless you mute the microphone on your phone everyone can hear anything that is happening at your end of the line. We are still learning how to best use this system and whilst responses during the service are working well, communal singing is causing problems - so for the moment please just listen to the music as it plays rather than singing along.

**For the liturgy/service booklet please follow the link for the relevant service.**

As above to join in simply call 03300 945 940  
then at the prompt Room number: 55017514 #  
and use Guest PIN: 3885 #



# Church Opening

Church buildings open for private prayer from 2-4 pm.

This will finish at the end of September.

Monday - Patrick Brompton

Tuesday - Spennithorne

Wednesday - Hornby

Thursday - Finghall

Friday - Crakehall

Saturday - Hauxwell

When you come

Please observe 2m social distancing at all times. Please use hand sanitiser where provided. The wearing of face-covering is required from the 8th August and no longer a matter of personal choice.

Do not enter if you feel unwell or are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19. These include:

- High temperature
- Continuous cough
- Loss of taste and smell

Please follow all directions and markers set out and avoid contact with items as far as possible, including hymn books and printed material.

*God of healing and peace, we give thanks for this place in which to worship you. Guide each of us as we enter and leave to keep it safe, as we seek protection for all from the coronavirus; in the name of him who gave his life for us all, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*

For the latest update from the Church of England please visit

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

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## Weddings Baptisms & Funerals

Once again the number have changed

Weddings can have a maximum of 15 present

Funerals 30 people present.

However, the guidance for other 'Life Events' such as Baptism and Confirmation is unclear and the Bishop of London is working with the government to achieve clarity!

There continue to be complex restrictions and procedures in place and these services will look and feel very different to what you might be used to so please do talk with Rev'd Chris at the earliest opportunity to avoid disappointment.

Please see link above or contact Rev'd Chris if you would like further clarification.

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# Meetings

We continue to hold phone discussions for Churchwardens, PCC Secretaries, & worship leaders every other Wednesday. Our next meetings are at **16:15** - on 07/10/2020 and 21/10/20 on the PhoneChurch number.

Rev'd Chris will be taking Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> and as his rest days.

## 2020 APCM Dates

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 19:00 Hauxwell

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 17:00 Patrick Brompton

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 19:00 Hornby

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 19:00 Finghall

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 19:00 Spennithorne

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 19:00 Crakehall

With continuing uncertainty around physical meetings the above will take place via Zoom - please email Rev'd Chris for login information or for the telephone number to join by phone.

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Please consider donating the following items

- Hot dogs
- Tinned Carrots or mixed veg
- Instant potato
- Tinned pies
- Small sugar (500g)
- Sponge puddings
- Creamed Rice
- Custard
- Biscuits
- Shower gel
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste

Thank you - all donations are gratefully received.

[www.hambletonfoodshare.org.uk](http://www.hambletonfoodshare.org.uk)

if you need a food parcel

E mail - [info@hambletonfoodshare.org.uk](mailto:info@hambletonfoodshare.org.uk) or ring 07514 244158

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## Centering Prayer Introductory Course Online

**St Oswald's Church, Sowerby & Hambleton Centering Prayer Meeting**

Centering Prayer is both a method and a relationship which prepares us to awaken to the gift of contemplation and to rest in God. It is a discipline of intentional silence, and a way of surrender to the Divine Presence.

It is complementary to other forms of prayer. *Be still and know that I am God.*

*Ps.46:10*

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This course will take place online (via Zoom) on two mornings.

Each morning consists of two talks, an opportunity to practice Centering Prayer, and times for discussion.

Materials will be provided. For Zoom instructions contact the organiser

Part 1: Saturday 26th September 2020, 10:30- 13:00

Part 2: Saturday 3rd October 2020, 10:30-13:00

Presenters: Rev'd Mel King and Carole O'Reilly

Course Fee: £25.00 (+ Eventbrite booking fee.)

To Book: Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/centering-prayerintroductory-course-online-tickets-116995321155>

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Centering Prayer was originally developed in the mid-1970's by Fr Thomas Keating OCSO and other Trappist monks of St Joseph's Abbey, Massachussetts. Firmly rooted in the Christian tradition, and the teachings of Jesus (Matthew 6:6), it is inspired by the 14th century anonymous English spiritual classic, The Cloud of Unknowing. This introductory course is both for those who are drawn to silent prayer and would like to explore further, and also for those who may already have a practice of silent prayer, and want to explore further. Participants will be provided with both the tools to practice Centering Prayer and some of the conceptual background.

**Introductory Followup Series:** A six-eight week Introductory follow-up Series of 90 minute meetings (via Zoom) will also take place, for those who wish to continue, hosted and led by the Hambleton Centering Prayer Meeting, Sowerby. It will include time to practice within a supportive group setting, and to explore concepts in more depth. Details to follow. All welcome. For further information contact:

Mel King: revmelking@gmail.com or Penny Johnson:  
pennyj.johnson5@gmail.com

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Mel King is an Anglican priest in the Diocese of York. She is a registered presenter for Contemplative Outreach in Britain and the Regional Co-ordinator for the North-East. Carole O'Reilly is a spiritual director and presenter for Contemplative Outreach in Britain. She facilitates Centering Prayer groups and Quiet Days in London.

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## Leeds Diocese News



Ordinations of [Deacons and Priests](#) will be taking place in the Diocese of Leeds at the beginning of October.

An exciting new post is being advertised - [Director of Church Revitalisation](#)

For more information please follow the links above.

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## Liberia News



***Simon and Grace Stretton-Downes***

Simon is a dentist leading a team at a clinic at the Eternal Love Winning All (ELWA) Hospital in Monrovia. Grace is a nurse and will support Simon as well as seeking God's direction for her role in the mission field. The couple are sent by St Gregory's Church, Crakehall and are working for Serving In Mission (SIM)

***Rosemary Gaven*** is our local contact and keeps us update with the news they send. Simon and Grace had a lovely time away over Simon's birthday last week and had a good rest.

Eddie has finished his exams but they do not know when the results are due. The Clinic has promoted their dental cleaner to learn to work at the dental chairside as an assistant. She is thrilled! They will be advertising within ELWA for a new cleaner and a second dental assistant in the coming weeks. The dental budget for next year is almost complete thanks to Loranzo.

Poverty here is so evident and people come to the hospital and dental clinic without enough money to pay for the services. Please ask God to help them use their resources wisely as they try to help where they can. Please pray for Melvina, their close friend and Simon's Swiss colleague whose baby is due at

the end of October.

Home seems very far away, and with the resurgence of Covid-19 in UK, our chances of seeing family, even in January seem slim, which is so sad for us. Grace is compiling the nurse and doctor intervention audit which has turned out to be complicated. She would like to be a good tool for identifying where change must happen first. She is still seeing needy mothers of malnourished children and sharing God's love whenever possible.

Thank you for praying!

## And Finally

*From Rev'd Chris*



I think it would be fair to say that this character from St Marys Hornby sums up how many of us feel about 2020. At the moment it seems that it is one disappointment after another. Plans are made only to be put on hold or abandoned altogether. This is defiantly how I was feeling last week when we took the hard decision to postpone the Drive-in Harvest Festival that we were so looking forward to this Sunday. It would be all to easy to fall into the 'Why Bother' trap but I have to keep reminding myself- and let others around me re-remind me as well that at our core or should I say cœur we are a people of Hope. That Hope is rooted and grounded in Jesus who has already won the battle for us.

And so for the moment, we keep on plodding on. Planing for the next few weeks. Drafting what might be for the following few. And daring to dream about next year. All this, however, comes with the reality - as we have experienced this week - that everything can change at the drop of a hat, or should I say at the podium of the PM.

I feel that it would be helpful if I lay out some of the thinking behind our decisions around worship and our church buildings. Firstly can I once again thank all who have been involved in opening and supervising our churches. In October we have arranged a rota of services that will see gathered worship return to each of our church buildings at least once a month. Hornby will continue to offer worship each week as it has the largest capacity. Patrick Brompton and Spennithorne will alternate with a 09:00 service from which we will also broadcast PhoneChurch as both receive enough signal to combine their services. Finghall and Hauxwell will each have an evensong at 16:00 during the month and Crakehall will have a Taizé and a Revive service at 16:00 which we hope to be able to Zoom as well. I recognise that it is disappointing not to have a eucharist in some of our buildings, however, the size and layout pose significant limitations on the numbers we can accommodate within the government legislation. With the colder weather drawing in (and on the whole low visitor numbers) we have also taken the decision to suspend the 2hr weekly opening for private prayer in each church.

We had planned the Drive-In Harvest festival with the concept that people would be primarily in their own 'Car Bubble' however with the introduction of the new 'Rule of 6' it would only take two groups to get out at the same time to find us in breach of the law. As you may be aware Churches have an exemption from this maximum number of 6 people however that only applies when we are gathered on church ground.

In the longer term, we have plans in place for Remembrance Sunday and are starting to approach Advent and Christmas preparations.

You may have seen some flippant comments that are flying around about Christmas being cancelled - Can I assure you that it most definitely isn't - we will still celebrate Christ's birth no matter what the virus may do, it will just be a little different this year, and I wonder if that in it's self isn't a bad thing. A chance to re-engage with the Christmas Story, to look at what and how we Celebrate. I wonder if we are brave enough to be able to risk being surprised by Hope as we work together to bring Comfort & Joy!

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