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Dear Friends

Parish Letter March 2009

There is a story told, that in the 3rd and 4th centuries, out of the Germanic areas of Europe, came the custom of men disarming themselves before going into Church to worship. As men entered the Church they would lay their wooden clubs in a pile at the back of the knave. Eventually they developed a kind of game, by rolling stones at the pile of clubs. The more clubs they knocked over, the more sins the individual was believed to have left behind.

This contest eventually evolved into a game called "Nine pins". Apparently the game was very popular in Europe during the reformation. It eventually found its way into England at the beginning of the last century. When the game was exported to America it lost all its religious overtones. They added another pin, called it ten pin bowling and promptly exported it back to us.

Provided you had a straight eye and a strong arm it seems to be a wonderful way of shedding your sins. Although not a particularly Christian way of doing things.

Lent calls us to look at our relationship with God and to face the reality of our own human nature. We are not perfect! Therefore we need to bring our imperfections before God and ask him to forgive our wrong doings, so that our relationship with him might be made whole again.

We might consider bringing our failings before God on a Sunday morning during the general confessional, or we may wish to make our confession in private before a priest. Whichever way we choose, the important aspect is that the deed is done.

Wishing you a holy and thoughtful Lent.

David

PARISH NEWS

From the Parish Registers

<u>Baptisms</u>	

St Mary's	January 18	Clark Jacob Warrington
St Mary's	January 18	Ruby Grace Oliver

In March we remember in our Year's Mind

Frank Armitage	d.	9	March	1996
Audrey Alice Wigfield	d.	9	March	2007
Phoebe Higham	d.	15	March	2007
Donald Allen North	d.	19	March	1984
Lucy Millicent France	d.	20	March	1989
Harry Thorpe Dronfield	d.	21	March	1983
Michael FI etcher	d.	22	March	2003
Barbara Shaw	d.	25	March	2005
John Harry Lockwood	d.	28	March	2003
Barrie Couch	d.	29	March	2006

Sponsorship of the Magazine

It has been suggested that the opportunity be given for parishioners to sponsor the Parish Magazine for a specific month that may be significant to them. This could be to celebrate, say, a special wedding anniversary, a special birthday, or to remember someone special. The intention is to restrict this to one or possibly two sponsors per month.

The particular magazine would include a specific message acknowledging the sponsorship and the reason for that sponsorship. If preferred, it could be done anonymously. For 2009 it is proposed a donation of £25 to Church Funds by sponsors would be appreciated.

If you are interested in sponsoring a specific edition please contact John Dean tel 664347. Thank you.

Alison Dean

St Mary's Christmas Quiz Winners

There were 180 copies of the quiz sheet sold. Many thanks to all those who took part.

Special thanks to those who donated their winnings to St Mary's. The following answered all the questions correctly:

Anne Blount	Alison Kearns	Merran Smith
Brenda Chisem	Irene Minnett	Elizabeth Turner
Alison Dean	Valerie Purkiss	Shirley Tuner
Katy Gregory	Maureen Rooney	Joan Vevers
	Pauline and Kenneth Ellis	

Can you help?

I am trying to find out more about my father William Wood or Willie as he was known. He is remembered on a plaque on the hymn board on the north side of the nave in St Mary's Church.

He was born in January 1900 and died 19th October 1964. I was only 11 when he died. I have been told he was a member of Honley Male Voice Choir. I remember him telling me that the shed we had in the bottom garden of our house at Briar Cottage, 45 Magdale, used to be the 'look out' on top of the church. He was in the Home Guard and worked at Josiah France when I was born.

He was married before he met my mum Sheila but she died in 1973. He was a member of Brooke Lodge. He had two brothers Frank and George. Uncle Frank lived a few doors away from us and Uncle George lived at Brockholes. My name is Petula. I was christened on Mothers Day at the Church and was also confirmed there.

If anyone remembers and can help I would be so grateful as I loved him so much but wasn't old enough to find out much about his life.

Thank you for taking time to read this. I can be contacted by email petmiddleton@btinternet.com or by writing to my home address: P Middleton, 20 Dowker Street, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield HD3 4JS.

Petula Middleton

ST. MARY'S CALENDAR

MARCH		
Sunday 1		1st Sunday of Lent
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Family Service
	6.30 pm	Parish Eucharist
Monday 2	6.30 pm	Slimming World
Wednesday 4	9.30 am	Holy Communion followed by
		Pastoral Care Prayer Group
	7.30 pm	Lent Transformation Course, Parish Room
		Coffee in Parish Room
11.3	0 - 12.45 pm	Lent Lunch
	1.15 pm	Baby and Toddler Group
Friday 6	2.00 pm	Women's World Day of Prayer at
-		Honley Trinity Church
Sunday 8		2nd Sunday of Lent
-	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Eucharist
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
Monday 9	6.30 pm	Slimming World
Wednesday 11	9.30 am	Holy Communion
•	7.30 pm	Lent Transformation Course, Parish Room
Thursday 12 10.00		Coffee in Parish Room
	0 - 12.45 pm	Lent Lunch
	1.15 pm	Baby and Toddler Group
	7.30 pm	Honley Civic Society
Friday 13	7.30 pm	Hand Chimes Rehearsal
Sunday 15		3rd Sunday of Lent
-	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Family Communion (+ Children's Club
	3.00 pm	Evensong and Holy Baptism
Monday 16	6.30 pm	Slimming World
Tuesday 17	7.30 pm	D C C Meeting
Wednesday 18	9.30 am	Holy Communion followed by
2		Mothers' Union Prayer Group
	7.30 pm	Lent Transformation Course, Parish Room
Thursday 19 10.00) am - 12 noon	
	0 - 12.45 pm	Lent Lunch
	1.15 pm	Baby and Toddler Group
Sunday 22	8.00 am	<i>4th Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunda</i> Holy Communion

		9.30 am 6.30 pm	Family Communion Evening Prayer
	Monday 23	6.30 pm	Slimming World
	Wednesday 25		Holy Communion
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	7.30 pm	Lent Transformation Course, Parish Room
	Thursday 26	10.00 am - 12 noon	
		.30 am - 12.45 pm	Lent Lunch
		1.15 pm	Baby and Toddler Group
_	Friday 27	7.30 pm	Hand Chimes Rehearsal
	Sunday 29		Passion Sunday
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		9.30 am	Parish Eucharist
		6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
	Monday 30	6.30 pm	Slimming World
	APRIL		
	Wednesday 1	9.30 am	Holy Communion followed by
			Pastoral Care Prayer Group
	.	7.30 pm	Lent Transformation Course, Parish Room
	Thursday 2	10.00 am - 12 noon	
		11.30 - 12.45 pm	Lent Lunch
	- · · · · ·	1.15 pm	Baby and Toddler Group
	Friday 3	2.00 pm	Infant's School Easter Service
	0	7.30 pm	Hand Chimes Rehearsal
	Sunday 5	8 00 am	Palm Sunday
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		9.30 am	Family Service
		6.30 pm	Parish Eucharist

Helpers' Rota

	Type of Service	Sidesmen	Reader	Intercessors	Serving Coffee
Mar	Family	Mary Briggs	John	Pauline Ellis	Sandra and
1	Service	Jean Cheeseman	Ambler	Bob Etherington	John Dean
Mar	Parish	Anne and	Mary	Pat and	Sarah and
8	Eucharist	Godfrey Blount	Briggs	Cliff Green	Wayne North
Mar	Family	Bill Kemp	Andrew	Jane and	Shirley Turner
15	Communion	David Wainwright	Dean	Graham Wardman	Clive Waind
Mar	Mothering	Margaret and	Dennis	Jean and	Kath Kennedy
22	Sunday	Richard Hay	Thewlis	Leslie Chadwick	Janet Sykes
Mar	Parish	Margaret Allison	Pauline	Diana and	Maureen Doran
29	Eucharist	Elaine Shaw	Ellis	Huw Griffiths	Denise Jackson

HONLEY NEWS

Prayer Corner

Please visit the new Prayer Corner in the North Aisle at St Mary's, either to pray for the people and situations listed there, or to add your own prayer requests.

On the first Wednesday of each month, following the 9.30 am service, a group of people meet together to pray and will include these requests in their prayers.

The Book of Remembrance is also now sited in this corner, as is the new Book Shelf. If you borrow a book and enjoy reading it, or are challenged or inspired by it, you might like to write a short review for publication in the Parish Magazine, so as to encourage others to read it.



Anne Blount

Christian care for families

Snow you can walk on, but an icy pavement is a different matter, so it was with regret that I cancelled the February meeting. How awful it would have been if anyone had fallen getting to, or from the Parish Room. Perhaps Clive will come and speak to us another time.

On March 4th we will take part in the Lent Course which is going to take place every Wednesday in Lent. I do hope that as many members as possible will attend the course. It is important that we are "in the picture" about any changes that may be planned for our Church and our parish.

I expect that everyone has been receiving their Families Worldwide magazines. I am most grateful to Beth, Jennie and those members who help to get them all distributed.

We are going to attend the Lady Day Celebrations on Wednesday, March 25th at 7.30 pm at Newsome Church, so put that in your diaries, please. Pat Green has lovely Easter cards for sale. Do see her if you would like to order some.

The snow is still around as I write so let's hope it is warmer by the time you read this. Have you noticed that bed socks are now a fashion item? Hooray! 6

Brenda Wildman

Have a Seat

On behalf of all those of us who left the transformation of the church from pews to chairs to others I wish to place my thanks on record to all those who took part.

I went into church on Saturday 31st January, the sun was shining and the vision of such a pristine church made me almost weep.

Sincere thanks to all that John Dean and his team did to dispose of the pews, repair the floor and as much as possible, to treat the floor and be at church to receive the chairs and put them in place. It was such a tremendous task. God Bless you all.

Doreen Maude



Christingle

Many thanks for all your help and support at the Christingle Service. We sent £210 to the Children's Society – all very helpful for the valuable work which the society does for young people. It was a lovely service and it was pleasing to have many different people contributing. Thanks.

John Ambler

Men's Society

Thanks to Billy Richardson for his interesting talk about his time in the army. He gave us an insight into the codes of practice, the discipline and also the enjoyment which he gained from his time serving in the armed forces. We had an enjoyable and informative evening. Many thanks again to Billy.

John Ambler



Report on the DCC Meeting 20th January

Twelve members of St Mary's DCC were present when the Vicar opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated and were unanimously accepted as a correct record.

Under Matters Arising, progress reports were received on the chairs (due to arrive on Friday, January 30th), the Dais (in hand) and the tuning of the organ. Progress with the new notice board for outside church is slow with no decision yet as to its design or where to locate it for maximum effect.

Treasurer Ian Walter circulated figures for the financial year 2008 with forecasts for the current year. 2008 had ended with a deficit over the year of $\pounds 2,293$ which was much less than expected due to a very successful Street Market and a legacy of $\pounds 5,000$.

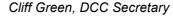
The forecast for 2009 however is rather bleak, with a predicted deficit of £10,000, largely due the increase in Parish Share once again. The view was expressed that the financial situation should be more widely publicised and lan, together with Pauline Adams, agreed to prepare a letter for circulation to all on the Electoral Roll explaining the financial situation.

The Vicar's Report with its information relating to the "Investing in Faith" Initiative, took up a considerable amount of the time. Next month's meeting of the PCC will be visited by the Rural Dean and representatives of the Deanery Consultative Committee to consider our reply to the questionnaire relating to our Parish and its future considered at our December meeting. Because of this visit it has been necessary to change the date of the PCC meeting to Monday, February 23rd in church.

A wide-ranging discussion evolved from the Vicar's suggestion that we are a "future sustainable church". The payment of Parish Share, involvement in the planned transformation of the Deanery and Diocese and issues of Parish Management, involving 'Collaborative Ministry', all received attention. The Vicar's view that we are honour bound to pay our Parish Share as long as we are able and that we need to be involved in the planned transformation of the Deanery, which can have very positive outcomes, gave rise to many questions and comments from the floor.

Under A.O.B. Alison Dean suggested that individuals or groups might be interested in sponsoring a particular month's issue of the Parish Magazine which was of special significance to them. This received full support and a minimum fee of £25 was suggested. Kenneth Ellis reported that the church clock had been serviced.

St Mary's Annual Meeting was arranged for Sunday, April 19th after morning service and the Parish Annual Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 21st at 7.30 pm.







My Lady Spring

My Lady Spring is dressed in green, She wears a primrose crown, And little baby buds and twigs Are clinging to her gown; The sun shines if she laughs at all, But if she weeps the raindrops fall.

Ancient English Spring Song

ST. GEORGE'S CALENDAR

Sunday 1		1st Sunday of Lent
•••••• • ••	11.00 am	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	(Refreshments after service) Compline
Wednesday 4	•	Lent Study Group at Honley
Friday 6		Women's World Day of Prayer Service
		at Honley Trinity Church
Saturday 7 10.15 am	- 12.15 pm	5
		46 Riverholme View
Sunday 8		2nd Sunday of Lent
, -	11.00 am	Parish Communion
	6.00 pm	Sung Evensong
Tuesday 10		D C C Meeting at 8 Crodingley
Wednesday 11		Lent Study Group at Honley
Thursday 12	6.30 pm	A D Meets
Sunday 15		3rd Sunday of Lent
-	11.00 am	Parish Communion
	•	Compline
Wednesday 18		Lent Study Group at Honley
Saturday 21	7.00 pm	Wesley Singers in Concert at
		Brockholes Methodist Church
Sunday 22		Mothering Sunday
-		Family Service
		Compline
Wadnaaday 25	7.30 pm	Lent Study Group at Honley
Wednesday 25	•	
Sunday 29	•	
	11.00 am	<i>5th Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday</i> Parish Communion followed by
Sunday 29	11.00 am	5th Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday
Sunday 29 APRIL	11.00 am 12.15 pm	5th Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday Parish Communion followed by Faith Lunch + Annual General Meeting
Sunday 29	11.00 am 12.15 pm	<i>5th Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday</i> Parish Communion followed by
Sunday 29 APRIL	11.00 am 12.15 pm	5th Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday Parish Communion followed by Faith Lunch + Annual General Meeting
Sunday 29 APRIL Wednesday 1	11.00 am 12.15 pm 7.30 pm 11.00 am	5th Sunday of Lent - Passion Sunday Parish Communion followed by Faith Lunch + Annual General Meeting Lent Study Group at Honley

BROCKHOLES NEWS

St George's Annual General Meeting

This important date has now been fixed for Sunday 29th March following the Service and a Faith lunch. Churchwardens, PCC and DCC members will be elected. Nomination forms will be available at the back of Church. We shall receive the Financial Report and reports from the Churchwardens and from organisations within the Church. Please make a note in your diary and be there if at all possible.

Suzanne Dufton, DCC Secretary



Christian Aid Week 2009: May 10th-17th

Our loyal band of collectors from both churches covered the whole of Brockholes in 2008 and collected £877, which was a creditable total. If anyone else would like to help with this worthwhile task they would be most welcome. The areas which we most need help with are: Scar Wood /Scar End and Neiley.

Please make contact if you are interested and we can no doubt do some swapping. Please telephone Elizabeth 661580 or Robert 665528. Many thanks.

Elizabeth Mosley

OTHER ITEMS

Iona Pilgrimage

A five day pilgrimage to Iona is offered this autumn led by Thought for the Day presenter Revd Rob Marshall. The five day pilgrimage leaves York on Monday 5th October, returning on the Friday 9th October. Using a fast train to Glasgow and then a train to Oban, pilgrims take ferries to the Isle of Mull and then on to the Island of Iona itself where for three days the programme includes reflection, worship and enjoying the unique peace which is Iona. Everything, apart from lunch, is included and accommodation is in comfortable rooms. Meetings and services are in Iona library. More details tel: 01482 662721 or by post: UKLTG Ltd Pilgrimages Holidays Conferences, 5 Brampton Court, Brough, East Yorkshire HU15 1DZ

UKLTG

My Prayer

Dear God

When I am happy don't let me forget those who are sad.

When I have lots of friends around me don't let me forget those who have none.

When my life is bountiful don't let me forget those who have nothing.

When I have my family around me don't let me forget those who live alone.

If I have a roof over my head don't let me forget the homeless.

When I have plenty to eat don't let me forget the starving and the dying.

When I am fit and well and happy don't let me forget those who are ill and suffering and dying.

It could have been me.

Let me satisfied with what I have and not always wishing for more. Never let me boast.

When I feel too proud help me to deflate my ego and to remember I am no better than anyone else.

Forgive us dear Lord for all our sins.

We are all sinners to a greater or lesser degree.

Above all may we never forget you, the source of all things.

We could do nothing without you.

Who gave us life.

Lent Reflection: Finding God in Each Moment of the Day

Do you know the popular series of books entitled 'Where's Wally'? These books are filled with very detailed cartoon drawings in each of which is hidden Wally. He is dressed in a red and white striped ski cap and glasses and the challenge is to find Wally. You have to search for some time to pick him out of the crowd, but Wally is always there!

In many ways, like finding Wally, we need to develop the skill of identifying God's presence in our daily lives. One approach that can help us to find God throughout the day is to do a daily review of our day with God. It can provide us with a means of seeing where God has been at work during our day. It's an opportunity of remembering how God has been at work and how we have responded to him. As the psalmist says, 'On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night' (Psalms 63:6).

What does this look like in practice? Here is a step by step guide:

- 1. Be still for a moment, and quiet your mind.
- 2. Acknowledge that Jesus is present. Invite him to guide you.
- 3. Recall the beginning of the day, when you first woke up. Watch that scene, as if on film. What is your reaction to what you see? Talk to God about it.
- 4. Continue through the film of your day, going from scene to scene. As you reflect on each one, some scenes may fill you with gratitude, others with regret. Speak directly to God about this. You may also want to pray for those you encountered in the day.
- 5. End your review with a prayer of thanksgiving for God's mercy and love. Ask him to refresh you as you sleep.

As you begin reviewing your day with God regularly, you can expect to see two things beginning to happen: firstly, you will become more aware of recurring negative patterns in your life, which will challenge these wrong attitudes and habits and increase your desire to grow and change. Secondly, you will become more aware of God's presence in the ordinary moments of your life.

When you start experiencing the reality of God's presence with you every day, it's not ordinary any more!

Reverend Paul Hardingham Parish Pump

'Love Life Live Lent'



The Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Dr Rowan Williams and Dr John Sentamu, are encouraging individuals and families to share in simple acts of kindness together during this Lent.

Suggested acts of kindness in the third instalment of the Church of England's Love Life Live Lent programme include having a clear out of unwanted clothes and toys and donating them to a charity shop, producing simple home-made gifts for Mothering Sunday, creating a prayer space in the understairs cupboard, making a bird cake or learning some basic first aid skills.

The campaign promotes the idea that doing something positive for friends, neighbours or the wider local community can be as transforming and spiritually beneficial as 'giving something up' for Lent. The Archbishops say in their joint introduction: "With God's help we can change the world for good a little bit every day. Together we can build better and more generous communities. Together we can lighten the load on our planet. We show God's love when we do these things."

The multi-media campaign has captured the imagination of more than a quarter of a million people who have got involved in the past two years.

This year, Love Life Live Lent returns with two pocket-sized booklets published by Church House Publishing, based on the 'best of' the previous series - one for children, and one for young people and adults - and, new for 2009, the family book packed with extra hints, tips and advice on completing a Lent's worth of actions as a family. This resource book includes all the actions from the booklets, plus extra activities, recipes (for pancakes and hot cross buns) and prayers.

The campaign website - www.livelent.net - also includes extra resources, including a colourful wall chart to help families chart their journey through Lent together. The products are available from Christian bookshops, or at www.chpublishing.co.uk/livelent.

Parish Pump

Fairtrade Fortnight 23 February - 8 March

Go bananas this fairtrade fortnight.

Brilliant facts about bananas.



- The banana is the most popular fruit in the world people spend over £10 billion a year on the fruit globally.
- Banana plants are the largest plants on earth without a woody stem. They are actually giant herbs of the same family as lilies, orchids and palms.
- Wild bananas originated in Asia and have been cultivated for more than 4,000 years.
- Bananas are one of the few fruits that ripen best off the plant. Even in tropical growing areas, bananas for domestic consumption are cut green and stored in moist shady places to ripen slowly.
- Bananas are available all year-round. They are harvested every day of the year.
- While banana sales and demand soar, prices have plummeted, having a devastating effect on banana producers. In November 1997, bananas cost an average of £1.08/kg in UK supermarkets. In June 2008 that price was as low as 50p/kg.
- The majority of banana plantation workers do not earn enough to live and support their families some earn less than £1 per day.
- Bananas contain tryptophan and vitamin B6, known to help make you feel happy.
- Banana diseases are a major problem for growers, threatening production and export.
- There are 57 certified producer groups in ten countries of Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa supplying Fairtrade bananas to twenty countries in Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific.
- Fairtrade minimum prices are calculated to at least cover average local costs of production this price can be over double what producers would normally receive.
- Fairtrade bananas were launched in 1994, and now one in four bananas sold in the UK is Fairtrade.

www.fairtrade.org.uk



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READER	Jean Barnes The Vicarage, St Mary's Road, Honley	661178		
PCC SECRETARY	Cliff Green, 24 Marsh Gardens, Honley	664277		
PCC TREASURER	Ian Walter, 32 River Park, Honley	666202		
THE PARIS	H CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, HONLE	(
SUNDAY SERVICE	 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30 am Family Service (1st Sunday) Family Community Sung Eucharist (other Sundays) 6.30 pm Sung Eucharist (1st Sunday) Evening Prayer (other Sundays) 	nunion (3 rd Su		
WEEKDAY SERVICES	9.30 am Wednesdays, Holy Communion See weekly list on Church Gate Notice Board			
CHURCHWARDENS	Clive Waind, 1 Derwent Road, Honley John Ambler, 19 Brownroyd Road, Honley	661320 664368		
DCC SECRETARY	Cliff Green, 24 Marsh Gardens, Honley	664277		
DCC TREASURER	Pauline Adams, 6 Spring Dale, Honley	663510		
CHOIR SECRETARY	Shirley Turner, 3 The Terrace, Honley	661481		
VERGER	Kenneth Ellis, 6 Springfield Avenue, Honley	662646		
MU BRANCH LEADER	Brenda Wildman, 17 Brownroyd Road, Honley	664357		
WEB SITE	www.honleystmary.org.uk POSTCODE	HD9 6AH		
THE PARISH CH	URCH OF ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, BROCKH	IOLES		
SUNDAY SERVICES	11.00 am Parish Communion (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th 9 Family Service with Communion (1st Se			
	6.00 pm Compline (1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sundays) Sung Evensong (2nd Sunday)			
CHURCHWARDENS	Margaret Kenworthy, 8 Crodingley, Thongsbridge Rosalind Watt, 7 Smithy Place, Brockholes	687169 663783		

	Rosaling Wall, / Smithy Place, Brockholes	603/83
DCC SECRETARY	Suzanne Dufton, 43 Holmebank Mews, Brockholes	661214
DCC TREASURER	Roger Kenworthy, 8 Crodingley, Thongsbridge	687169
ORGANIST & CHOIRMISTRESS	Verena Wood, 85 Brockholes Lane, Brockholes	664406