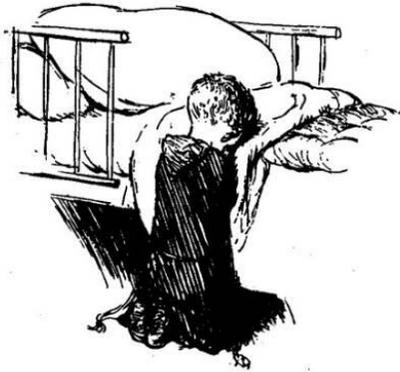


PARISH NEWSLETTER

September 2020

for the villages of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith,
Tholthorpe, Tollerton and Youlton

The Anglican ministers for the villages in the Parish of Alne are Revd. Debbie Coyne and Revd. Carmel Gittens. They can be contacted by telephone on 01423 360759 or by e-mail at rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com and 01347 833437 or carmel-gittens@live.co.uk respectively.



Too busy ^{not} to pray?

I remember reading a book with this title many years ago and it brought me up sharp! We all know how busy life becomes and how hard it is to find time to pray. Sometimes we even become very self-disciplined and decide to make time to sit and pray with great fervour and intent. But then get so easily distracted. This is nothing new as AA Milne so beautifully wrote his poem about the young Christopher Robin trying to pray, we can see ourselves and our simple distractions. But I believe that God loves us even for trying to reach out to him. But how easily do we give up once our prayers are answered?

Little Boy kneels at the foot of the bed,
Droops on the little hands little gold head.
Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.
God bless Mummy. I know that's right.
Wasn't it fun in the bath to-night?
The cold's so cold, and the hot's so hot.
Oh! God bless Daddy - I quite forgot.
If I open my fingers a little bit more,
I can see Nanny's dressing-gown on the door.
It's a beautiful blue, but it hasn't a hood.
Oh! God bless Nanny and make her good.
Mine has a hood, and I lie in bed,
And pull the hood right over my head,
And I shut my eyes, and I curl up small,
And nobody knows that I'm there at all.
Oh! Thank you, God, for a lovely day.
And what was the other I had to say?
I said, "Bless Daddy," so what can it be?
Oh! Now I remember it. God bless Me.

A.A. Milne

I wonder what kind of prayers you will offer up today. My favourites are what I call arrow prayers. Shot up to heaven quickly....God give me patience, God give me strength, God be with my family, God bless our children, Father please forgive me (usually when I have stubbed a toe and emitted a naughty word!). Father please find me a parking space. Father bless our crazy world. Father please end this pandemic.

There are our prayers in times of real adversity. When we really need divine intervention. When we fear for the health of a loved one, or when we have lost a job or home. When money is so tight, and we don't know where the next meal is coming from. I remember walking towards the checkouts in the supermarket when my children were little and praying there would be just enough money in the bank for my card not to be rejected, and praying to God, "please let there be enough", and there was just to the last penny.

I know that during WWII the King never underestimated the power of prayer and asked his leaders to call the nation to a day of prayer seven times. Each time remarkable answers were given. Is this the time for us as a nation to grasp the power of prayer once again? To speak to our Father; repent, ask for His loving forgiveness and mercy and bring the needs of our homes, families, and nations before Him?

But the important thing is not to give up and cast away this practice of praying once we have our needs met. Here is an excerpt from the Daily Express, 1944:

The launching of D-Day was delayed several times by the Supreme Commander G. Eisenhower owing to the terrible weather. At last Eisenhower had to make a final decision or miss it altogether, so on June 5th the Allied Forces launched out across the Channel. Eisenhower reported later: If there was nothing else in my life to prove the existence of an Almighty and Merciful God, the events of the next twenty-four hours did it. The greatest break in a terrible outlay of weather occurred next day and allowed that great invasion to proceed. You may say to me 'The nation prayed on this last National Day of Prayer but what did the Army do about it?' All officers were called to church services, and all ranks came to pledge themselves to God. 'But how deep did this go', you may ask, 'knowing the varied types of characters?' I can only quote to you part of the address given by the deputy chaplain general. He did not merely urge religion. He urged faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The actual services of dedication were held on the eve of D-day: The deputy chaplain-general was Canon Llewellyn Hughes "With a Prayer on Our Lips... supporting the King's call to prayer during WW2". He said:

"It is not enough for an army or a nation to have a vague faith in God. It is not enough for us to rest content that our commanders are godly, and that God's flag is publicly flown. Faith in God is useless until it governs action. What does God want done? We believe in God - as what? As a nonentity, content to be recognised, and then ignored? As a vague power, meaningless, purposeless, inarticulate and therefore unfit to command a platoon, let alone a world? No. We believe in God who wants, and means to have done, all that Christ embodied, taught, lived out.

Let an army and a people learn what God stands for, and then they will know when they are for or against His purpose, and support or oppose with confidence as His commissioned servants. That is where the solid toil of consecration comes in. The character of Christ must be known; His goodness perceived and loved; Himself accepted as Master. No special effort thrown off in an emergency will accomplish that; and there is no short cut.”

Will you pray with me for our needs as a nation during these difficult and unprecedented times? Pray for healing and peace, pray for the integrity of our politicians and world leaders, pray for the safety and protection of our children. Pray for God’s creation, our beautiful world. And keep praying because we can never be too busy not to pray.....

Blessings

Revd Carmel Gittens

News from Aine Church

Church Re-opening for Private Prayer

Aine Church is now open twice weekly for private prayer: Mondays, 8.00a.m. until noon; and Thursdays, 6.30p.m. until 9.00p.m. As the nights draw in, we will bring the Thursday opening period earlier.

Our thanks are due to Jean for opening and closing the church and for Gill and all members of the team of cleaners who did a fantastic job preparing the church after such a long break.

Services

A number of weddings and funerals have already been held at our churches and the Revd. Debbie and wardens are working on plans to re-start services on a limited basis across the Benefice. The services will take into account government guidelines regarding public gatherings, including social distancing and wearing facemasks. The services are unlikely to be weekly for some time. For this reason, the Sunday morning service on Zoom will continue.

Zoom services every Sunday at 10.30a.m.

All are welcome to join this multi-church service. For access please contact Revd. Debbie or one of the wardens.

Churchyard Shed

The lean-to shed behind the tower is no longer adequate and is causing damage to the ancient stonework of the tower. We are therefore looking at the possibility of buying a larger hut sited elsewhere in the churchyard.

The following poem was read at a VJ Day service recently:

Hiroshima Child

I come and stand at every door
But none can hear my silent tread
I knock and yet remain unseen
For I am dead for I am dead

I'm only seven though I died
In Hiroshima long ago
I'm seven now as I was then
When children die they do not grow

My hair was scorched by swirling flame
My eyes grew dim my eyes grew blind
Death came and turned my bones to dust
And that was scattered by the wind

I need no fruit I need no rice
I need no sweets nor even bread
I ask for nothing for myself
For I am dead for I am dead

All that I need is that for peace
You fight today you fight today
So that the children of this world
Can live and grow and laugh and play

By Nazim Hikmet (Turkish)

Newsletter

Just a reminder – the Parish Newsletter is available in digital form on the Alne and Tollerton village websites.

www.alnevillage.co.uk

www.tollerton.net

Paper copies are available in Tollerton Post Office and in telephone boxes in the area.

Alne Coronavirus Support Group

A coronavirus support group has been set up in Alne, initiated by the enthusiastic Street Fayre Committee and backed by Alne Parish Council. David Edwards has agreed to be the overall co-ordinator and the village (including Alne Station and Forest Lane) has been split into seven zones, each with its own team leader and its own group of volunteers. Every house should have received a leaflet identifying which zone it is in and who is its team leader with the relevant contact details.

If you are over 70, pregnant, vulnerable or with underlying health conditions, these volunteers have put their hands up to be of service to you. They can do shopping, collect prescriptions, post letters or do anything else (within reason!) that you might be prevented from doing by current government regulations.

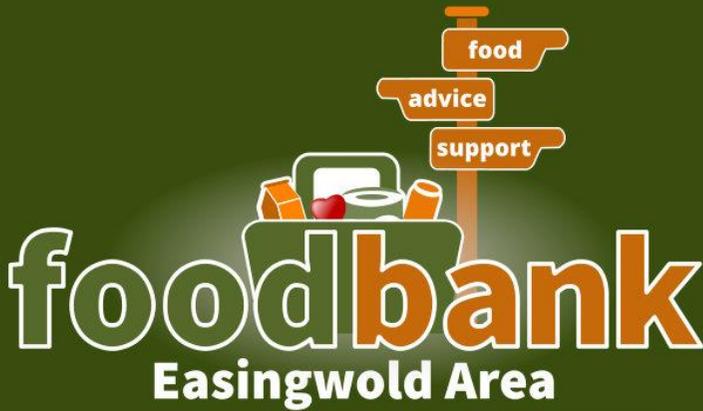
If you are in need, please contact your designated team leader. If you need to contact the overall co-ordinator, or you have not received the leaflet, contact David Edwards on 833269, 07583 377276 or daviedwards8@gmail.com.

Alne Parish Council

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Do you know what is available in Alne?

- * Everything about Alne and up-to-date news. See <https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/>
- * Daily Newspaper delivery and general stores
Tollerton Stores 838436
- * Sunday Newspaper delivery. See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/sunday_newspapers.html
- * Bakery van outside Village Hall every Saturday 08:00 – 09:00
<http://www.amosandwelsh.com>
- * Farmshop making weekly (Wednesdays) deliveries in the village.
See <https://farmgatefarmshop.com>
- * Milk delivery (and cream, eggs, yoghurts etc)
Contact Liz and Andrew Wade on 838806
- * Heating Oil purchase co-operative. See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/groups_oil.html
- * Regular buses to Easingwold and York. See <https://reliancebuses.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Timetable-30.pdf>
- * Weekly bus to Morrisons in Boroughbridge. 11:00 Mondays.
See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/buses_morrisons.html
- * Sports: Thriving tennis and cricket clubs. See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/sport_tennis.html and <https://www.alnecc.co.uk/>
- * Alne Street Fayre, raising funds for the Alne recreation ground, sports field and play park. Now in its 36th year.
The next Alne Street Fayre is on Sunday 13-June, 2021.
- * Maps. Historical maps are displayed in the Village Hall. There is an indexed map of Alne houses on the Parish Council notice board.
Other maps of Alne and Alne Station can be found at <https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/maps.html>



Call our 24/7 message service
0772 44 44 750

We will always call you back.
Confidentiality assured.

Our service:

- We deliver to Easingwold and surrounding villages.
- If you wish, we can discuss further help and offer confidential support over a cuppa in your home.
- Our food packages contain tinned and dry goods with milk, bread and spread as well as toiletries. We can't supply fresh fruit and vegetables.

**Run by volunteers for
local people in need**





PRESS RELEASE

AUGUST 2020

Rotary Face Mask project breaks 4,000 barrier

YORK Ainsty Rotarians and their supporters are celebrating after completing their target of supplying more than 4,000 face masks to vulnerable people in city communities during the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

Using the experience and sewing skills developed by the Yorkkits initiative, many of the volunteer team would normally spend their time producing washable, re-useable, feminine hygiene kits for girls in developing countries, thus keeping the girls in education. Yorkkits is one of the 'flagship' projects of Rotary York Ainsty (RYA).

3,200 masks produced by members of the Rotary team and 70+ York-based associates, were bulk distributed to more than eleven York-based charities, including The Salvation Army, Home-Start, Tang Hall Community Centre, City of York Housing Services, Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust, Changing Lives, refugees in the City of Sanctuary scheme, IDAS, York Foodbank and other church sponsored food banks.

In addition, more than 800 masks have been made available to the public at pop-up stalls in Poppleton, Askham Richard, Bishopthorpe, Copmanthorpe and Huntington.

The tri-layered, eco-friendly fabric pleated masks are washable (but not of medical grade), reusable and are designed with full-mouth/nose/chin coverage to prevent individual wearers from spreading breath/cough/sneeze droplets when outside eg. in shops or in crowds. Equally, the masks offer some protection for the wearer's face from other people's 'droplets'. They were made available in three sizes in packs of two.

The masks were distributed free of charge at the point of delivery - all RYA asked was that people considered giving a donation through the JustGiving portal - www.justgiving.com/Rotary-Ainsty - or donating directly.

This initiative is just the latest in a long line of community-based projects undertaken by RYA in the area. Others include help and support for Door 84, SpecSort, York Cancer Care Garden and many, many more. Details of any of these projects can be obtained from the contact details below or by accessing the RYA web pages... www.tinyurl.com/RotaryYorkAinsty

"This face mask project illustrates everything good at the heart of Rotary. We are harnessing the talents of Rotarians and our volunteer partners to provide a valuable service that benefits the whole community - and we have had fun doing it," said Rotary York Ainsty president Martin Simpson.

For further information, quotes, comments regarding this initiative, RYA in general or information as to how to join Rotary York Ainsty, contact Rotary York Ainsty project coordinator Andrew Wordie on 07764 226624, club secretary Dick Powell on 01904 870443 / 07870 544448 or e-mail: rlrotary@outlook.com. Full details of the project can be found on the club's web-site: www.tinyurl.com/RotaryYorkAinsty

Tollerton Coronavirus Support

A Tollerton support group, in conjunction with the Parish Council, Doctors' Surgery and the Church, has been set up by local villagers to offer support to anyone who is affected by coronavirus. If you are self-isolating or needing support we can help you with:

Food shopping

Prescription collections & requests

Posting letters

Collecting deliveries

Connecting you to other services

Dog walking

Having a chat

We can assure you that we will respect your privacy and your health security. If you would like our help then please call or text either of the following numbers and we will put you in touch with a neighbour who will help.

07831 306795

07835 532918

If you need any help at all please do get in touch, we are here to help.

Contact Details:

The Anglican ministers for the villages in the Parish of Alne are Revd. Debbie Coyne and Revd. Carmel Gittens. Their contact details are:

Revd. Debbie Coyne 01423 360759 e-mail: rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com

Revd. Carmel Gittens 01347 833437 e-mail: carmel-gittens@live.co.uk

The Methodist Minister for the villages around Easingwold is The Rev Elizabeth Cushion.

Elizabeth Cushion 01347 821460

Church Wardens

St Mary's Alne

Peter Cove 01347 838346 e-mail: alnescove@btopenworld.com

Carol Glen 01347 838016

St. Stephen's Aldwark

Vivienne Bird e-mail: viviennebird@hotmail.co.uk

St. Michael's Tollerton

Arthur Harland 01347 823575 e-mail: janeatwoodyedge@yahoo.co.uk

Alison Dowson 01347 838138 e-mail: amcd2350@gmail.com

#YorkCofEPrayers



Please pray for our community partners and for a new five-year project, working with the grant-giving charity Henry Smith, which will support the neediest in our parish as we seek to share the love of Jesus.

COPY DATE for October 2020 issue: 22nd September 2020 please.

e-mail: news@abchurches.org.uk