

PARISH NEWSLETTER

March 2014

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

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Your Parish Newsletter lets you know what is happening in your local churches and villages. So, please have a look inside – and if there is something going on that YOU would like to publicise, then please send it in.

Mother's Day Celebrations



Celebrate Mother's Day with your mums and grandmas –

**Saturday 29th March St Peter's church Brafferton –
Messy Church 2pm – 3.30pm**

Sunday 30th March 10.30am All Age Services at:

**St Mary's Church Alne
St Mary's Church Myton
St Michael's Church Tollerton**

A Lenten Reflection

Lent is a season in which we prepare ourselves to celebrate Easter. Lent is a season of reflection, re-evaluation, repentance and reconciliation. Lent is a time of profound grace; and we are invited to let that grace sink in, take root and change us. Through our observance of these days, by listening to the Scripture from the Lenten liturgies and by participating in the traditional practices of the Church, we are invited; in this holy season, to be stripped down, and cleansed from all the obstacles that keep us from seeing our true selves clearly, stripped down so that we may come to understand more powerfully the Love of God who embraces all of who we are.



There are many ways to enter into the spirit of the season and to "observe" these days. It is not so important what we do as it is important that we do something to make these days different from all the rest. One great way to enter into this season is by following the traditional practices of the Church which are: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. What is great about these practices is that they give us a way to enter into this season of healing with body and soul; physically and spiritually.

Almsgiving, which is more than just giving away money but also giving of our time through serving the needs of those around us, is a practice which encourages us to let go of things (money, possessions, our valuable time) which may have taken on too high a priority in our lives. Almsgiving encourages us to strip away those "things" which can cause us to be separated from one another. It also challenges us to take a serious look at distinguishing between what we need and what we want.

In the same spirit of examining our needs and wants, fasting, (which is a practice of rearranging our eating habits either by cutting down on consumption or by abstaining all together), helps us to be reminded of our need for God to fill us. Fasting allows us to feel physically the on going spiritual needs of the soul and can help us to feel the truth that only God can truly satisfy our deepest longings. Almsgiving and fasting help us to do, to feel, to tangibly experience the season of Lent. Prayer is the other traditional practice in the Church, and through prayer we are able to experience Lent on a spiritual level. Prayer slows us down, allows us to be focused, and enables us to be stripped away from our obsession with this world and moves us to a higher consciousness. Prayer allows us to "see" our life and our works with the eyes of faith that opens the heart to seeing God in the midst of it all.

As we approach the season of Lent, with its message of hope, rebirth and new beginnings, let us take time to reflect on our lives, especially the spiritual side. Is the Lord calling you to come to know him better? Can you make a little time to make that journey with Him? Blessings to you all, Carmel.

Family Time
Fun, Faith, Food
Sunday 23 March 2014
4 – 6pm
Alne Cricket Club
Everyone Welcome
Contact: 01347 838122

POVERTY - IN TOLLERTON, ALNE & HELPERBY?
HAMBLETON FOODSHARE

It may surprise you, that despite the image that all is well in and around Easingwold and its surrounding villages, sadly for some, this is far from reality. We are a relatively affluent area, but the bitter truth for some of our neighbours is of a never ending and grinding struggle to feed and warm their families - and it's getting harder all the time.

Whatever your politics - forget the hype that you see on TV's Benefit Street, most of those in need are already in employment of some kind - the reality is that the vast majority of people who find themselves in need are genuine honest people who require urgent help.

The problem is that when you live on the bread line, year on year, it does not take much to push you under - a period of time without work because of illness (not everyone gets sick pay) or sudden emergencies at home can mean disaster for those with only pennies left at the end of each week.

There isn't always a safety net. Benefits are harder and harder to obtain and payment to those entitled is often delayed. And poverty is harder in rural areas like Easingwold & Villages, where agencies are based far away and travel is expensive and infrequent.

It is also our direct experience that most local people in need do not want to accept "help", or "benefits". Many Yorkshire folk are too proud for that, and see a need for help as their own failure, or are worried about being called a "scrounger". Which is why you won't see or hear about them. You may not be aware that those living next door to you are not coping financially. Would you tell your next door neighbour or friends that you had no money to feed your children or pay the electricity bill?

Christ told us that one day he would remind each of us of how we responded to Christ's own hunger, even though we did not recognise his hunger at the time in

those around us living in need. Christ also commands us to love our neighbour as we love ourselves, and it is with this in mind that a group of local Christians have launched a facility to help just those very neighbours in our area who are in need.

We have joined up with the Hambleton Foodshare (a Foodbank project in Northallerton) to offer help to people and families in need who live among us here in Easingwold and surrounding villages – and we have quietly been doing this for a few months now. Our local community donates food items - and we see to it that they go to those in hardship. We believe "Foodshare" is a great term for what we are doing.

Since starting the project we have moved from a communal drop-in centre to a telephone based system - one where you leave a message or send a text with your contact details and we then call you back to discuss your needs and how we can help. The number to call is **0772 44 44 750** - and we promise that we will get back to you as soon as we can, normally the same day. Please call or text us if you need help - or indeed if you know anybody else who does. You can be assured that all calls will be confidential and your details will not be passed on to any other agency without your consent.

Poverty is real and here in Easingwold & Villages - we have seen it all too often. Please pray and help us to be effective at helping those around us in need.

Frank Johnston-Banks, Member of the Steering group of Hambleton Foodshare (Easingwold): easingwoldfoodshare@gmail.com. Message line **0772 44 44 750**.

ALNE HALL

LEONARD CHESHIRE DISABILITY

Friends Of Alne Hall are holding a Coffee Morning courtesy of the George Hotel, Easingwold on Wednesday 19 March 2014. Tombola and cakes. All welcome.

TOLLERTON CHRISTMAS PARTY - THANK YOU

Many thanks to all those children that came to the party again this year, 50 Tollerton children enjoyed a fab disco donated and run by John Ward, Tollerton. A raffle was held to support the party next year with thanks to Tollerton Shop, Burn Hall, Tag North-Burn Hall, Jaipur Spice, Olive Branch, Sugar Mouse, x 2 Easingwold Co-ops, Easingwold Costcutter, M & S, Tesco. Thank you to the Parish Council, Village Hall and all those parents that helped out during the party. Kind Regards Ann Morrison 833129.

ALNE GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club will meet in the Village Hall on Wednesday 26 March at 7.30pm. The Speaker will be Mr D Slade, and the subject "Flowers of South Africa".

ALNE PRE SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

KIDDY KIT SALE - Saturday 15 March 10am - 12 noon

Always a popular event, so get there early to bag a bargain. The Kiddy Kit has nearly new clothes, maternity wear, toys, jigsaws, games, books, dvds, nursery and outdoor play equipment. It is a great opportunity to re-use, recycle and buy good quality seconds at great prices! If you have something to sell please bring to Alne Village Hall on Friday 14 March between 2.30pm and 3.30pm or 7pm and 8pm or Saturday 15 March between 8.30am and 9.30am. Please label your item with the sale price and your details so we can give you 50% of the sale proceeds. For further details please contact Alne Preschool Playgroup on 01347 830011/07710 571110.

ALNE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP.

Our first meeting of the new year was kindly hosted by Rosemary Fox at her home in Easingwold. It was lovely to meet with everyone again and have a good chat, and also to have Margaret Allison back with us, who kindly opened the meeting with prayer. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 4 March at 2pm and will be held at the home of Sheila Newton. Olive Davey will entertain us at this meeting, talking about 'Giving'. As usual I will be in touch nearer the time to arrange lifts. Looking forward to seeing you all in March, until then keep safe and well. Sue Hufton

FRIENDS OF ALNE SCHOOL

Burns Supper

Burns Night was celebrated in style recently at the Friends of Alne School Burns Supper. Tickets sold out in hours in anticipation of the traditional hilarious, witty speeches and enthusiastic dancing. We weren't disappointed. All three speakers entertained us brilliantly and the dancefloor was full all night. Many thanks to all who helped to organise the event and to Aldwark Arms, The Cedar Court Hotel (York) and The Activities Group (Huby) for generously donating raffle prizes. All of this support gave us a great night out and raised over £1,100 for Friends of Alne School.

ALNE WI

Our December meeting was a great start to Christmas, a lovely meal at beautifully decorated tables, with amusing poems and songs to sing. There were presents from "Secret Santa" and an exchange of Christmas cards. Our January meeting was on a more serious note. Our speaker was Sally Ann Waudby who lives nearby in Flawith. Not long ago, when she was in her thirties, she suffered a catastrophic cerebral bleed resulting in a stroke. She was given a very small chance to live. An amazingly positive person she explained, that the worst result was loss of short term memory, and her sadness when she found that she couldn't care for her children herself. After a while in a residential rehabilitation centre she had made progress and returned home and back to family life. Though a serious subject Sally Ann gave us a very heartening and sometimes amusing account of her experiences, about which she has now published a book. We felt a warm glow that such a lovely person

had not just survived but had made such a good recovery.

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month in Alne Village Hall at 7.30pm. Visitors are always made very welcome and our talks this year include Alpacas , John Lewis, Furniture and the Ministry of Chocolate. Added to this there are all the classes and events organised by our North Yorkshire East Federation. If you are new to the neighbourhood or just want to meet more people, WI is a great way to do it.

PARISH EXCHANGE

WANTED: *Wing back chair. Any condition. Please call Sue 838664.*

FREE: *Double bed base and headboard (no mattress) good condition. Contact Jean Teasdale 838431.*

Superfast Broadband is Coming to Our Villages

Residents of Alne, Tholthorpe and Tollerton will soon benefit from BT's Superfast Broadband, and can contact the internet service provider of their choice to upgrade to a superfast broadband service. But people in the outlying parishes will not be able to get this as it is uneconomical for BT to upgrade the local telephone lines and bring optical fibre to these villages. Aldwark Area Parish Council thought this was unfair and through Superfast North Yorkshire, arranged a public meeting in January to consider alternative options. This was attended by over 50 residents and as a result, L N Communications, also trading as 'I Love Broadband', is now being supported to provide a Superfast High Quality Broadband for Flawith, Youlton Aldwark and Myton on Swale using modern radio technology. They currently operate this service to residents of Ouseburn and Dunsforth.

Prices are similar to that of other superfast broadband service providers, but customers will need to pay for a small receiver about the size of a carton of milk, mounted on a high point on the house in line of sight of one of the repeaters that have recently been erected in the villages. The cost of a receiver and a new router, if required, should not exceed £140. The receiver will be connected by a cable to a router and you will have a superfast broadband service that can satisfy the most discerning people working from home and teenagers playing games or streaming films and music. So it must be fast! For more information, phone I Love Broadband (L N Communications) on 0845 643 5811 or see <http://www.ilovebroadband.co.uk/contact-us/>

St Stephen's Aldwark Flower Rota

March 2014 – Vivienne Bird (No flowers in Lent)

Easter Day – Vivienne Bird

METHODIST SERVICES

The Rev Elizabeth Cushion is the Methodist Minister for Easingwold and the surrounding villages. Elizabeth can be contacted on 01347 821460. All welcome.			
2 Mar	10.30 am	Huby	Rev E Cushion, Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion, Holy Communion
9 Mar	10.30 am	Husthwaite	Rev Elizabeth Cushion
	3.00 pm	Alne Hall, Alne	Rev Elizabeth Cushion
	6.30 pm	Stillington	Mrs Lydia Harrison
16 Mar	10.30 am	St Peter's, Brafferton	Rev Graham Kidman
	3.00 pm	Tholthorpe	Mr Vic Paylor, Café Service
	6.30 pm	Stillington	Rev Elizabeth Cushion Holy Communion
23 Mar	10.30 am	Husthwaite	Rev Elizabeth Cushion Holy Communion
	4.00 pm	Huby	Rev Elizabeth Cushion, Café Service
	6.30 pm	Lidgett Grove, York	Circuit Service
30 Mar	10.30 am	Husthwaite	Rev E Cushion, Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	Alne Hall, Alne	Rev Elizabeth Cushion
	6.30 pm	Stillington	Rev E Cushion, Holy Communion

PRAYER

Prayer is a vital part of the life of the church whichever denomination. You are warmly invited to join us at our regular prayer meetings. These take place at:

Alne: every Tuesday Morning at 9am in the vicarage with Chris Park 838122.

Tholthorpe: every Wednesday Morning at 8.45 – 9.15 am at the Methodist Chapel - with Pam and John Lancaster 838266.

MIDWEEK COMMUNIONS

Ash Wednesday, 5 March, Holy Communion at St Peter's Brafferton.

In addition to the services in the Churches there are also midweek communion services on the last Monday and Tuesday of each month in Oak Trees, Alne and Alne Hall. This month the dates for these are: Oak Trees Monday 24 March at 2 pm and Alne Hall Tuesday 25 March at 11 am.

“Tuesday Group” at Alne Hall now alternates fortnightly between Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In March this will be Wednesday 12 and Tuesday 25 March, at 2.30pm in each case.

!!Please note the change of service order for Brafferton and Myton which will allow an Anglican Remembrance day service in Brafferton in November!!

ANGLICAN SERVICES- MARCH 2014

Sunday 2 March

Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Hawthorn
Myton	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Charlotte Cranfield
Tollerton	10.30 am	Morning Worship	J Rhodes/Carmel Gittens

Ash Wednesday 5 March

Brafferton	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
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Sunday 9 March

Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	All Age Worship	Rev Chris Park

Sunday 16 March

Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Brafferton	10.30 am	Methodist	Rev Graham Kidman
Thormanby	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park/Tricia Little

Sunday 23 March

Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Myton	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Tollerton	4.00 pm	Family Time	Team

Sunday 30 March Mothering Sunday

Alne	10.30 am	All Age Mothers Day	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Myton	10.30 am	All Age Mothers Day	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	10.30 am	All Age Mothers Day	Tricia Little

COPY DATE for April 2014 issue: 16 March please. Thank you.
E:mail news@abchurches.org.uk. Church Office : 01347 838122