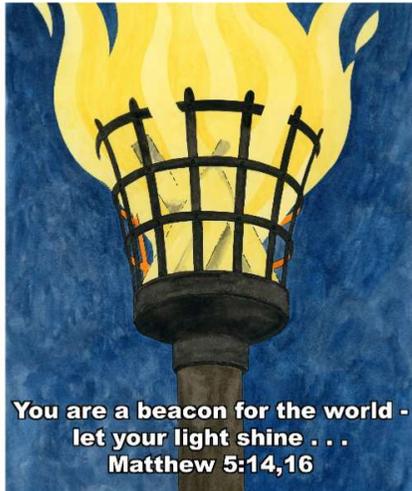


The Parishes of Aldbrough Mappleton & Goxhill with Great Hatfield & Witherwick

November 2021



From the Vicar
Dear All

Earlier this year Deaneries were invited, by the Archbishop of York, to nominate someone whom they thought had gone the extra mile during the early stages of the pandemic. Archbishop Stephen wanted to thank them personally by inviting them to a Garden Party at Bishopthorpe Palace. As most of you know the Food Bank continued to operate, in church, throughout (and still does) under the careful eyes of Mr John Phillips and Mrs Karen Huggins-Manners. We couldn't send both of them but John was able to attend and this is his report of the day.

BISHOPTHORPE GARDEN PARTY

In September, I along with about 70 others had the privilege to attend a garden Party at Bishopthorpe Palace, near York, which stands amid beautiful gardens alongside the river. The Palace is quite spectacular, its large rooms being decorated with paintings of the various Archbishops. The Chapel is truly wonderful, with its stained glass, carvings and peaceful atmosphere. Much of

the building is used during the week for the administration of various community projects, employing about 30 people. The Archbishop and his wife live in a flat at the rear of the building.

On arrival we were welcomed by Archbishop Stephen and directed to a large marquee on one of the lawns. After a period of introductions, drinks and general chat, it was time to eat, and we sat outside in glorious sunshine and enjoyed an excellent meal.

After eating, prior to our explorations of the building and gardens, Archbishop Stephen spoke for several minutes, focussing mainly on the Covid pandemic, with particular tributes to the courage dedications and expertise of the NHS frontline workers, a number of who were in attendance.

He drew positivity from the response to the pandemic, namely the return to the sense of community and with it the desire for people to 'look out' for one another.

He assured us that eventually the pandemic will end and suggested that we should consider 'what kind of world did we want to live in after Covid'? Would it be business as usual? Or should we seek to build a kinder, more tolerant and possibly more equal society?

Food for thought indeed, especially when we consider Jesus' command to 'love our neighbour as ourselves'.

[John Phillips]

Thank you, John for writing this.

As we approach Remembrance Sunday and indeed Advent, I want to echo those thoughts of the Archbishop in seeking to build community that is kinder and more tolerant. May we indeed be a beacon for the world and let our light shine in the darkest places of our communities.

With every blessing
Revd Anne

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Every Wednesday 10.00 Holy Communion at Aldbrough

*November 7th: 10.30am Parish Communion at Witherwick

*November 14th: **10.00** Parish Communion at Aldbrough followed by Service at the War Memorial
12.00 Act of Remembrance at Witherwick War Memorial

November 21st: 10.30am Parish Communion at Aldbrough

November 28th: 10.30am Parish Communion at Mappleton

7.00pm Service of Light for Advent Sunday at Aldbrough

December 5th: 10.30am Parish Communion at Aldbrough

* Please note changes because of Remembrance Sunday

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

November 6th	Bacon Butties, bring and buy etc	Withernwick Church 11.00-2.00
December 4th	Christmas Street Event	Aldbrough Village
December 11th	Christmas Fair	Withernwick Church
December 17th	Carol Service	7.00pm Goxhill
December 19th	Carol Service	7.00pm Withernwick
December 21st	Carol Service	7.00pm Aldbrough

What's next at St Alban's?

Come in and join us for a chat on Saturday 6th November. We're having a "Bring and Buy" from 11am until 2pm with bacon butties and hot or cold drinks available.

You're welcome to bring something for the stall or buy something from the stall or just bring yourself for a friendly natter - we'll be pleased to see you.

Christmas Story in a Box - your chance to be creative

Instead of Christmas Trees in Aldbrough Church, this year we are inviting people to create (using any medium they like) the Christmas Story. You might like to take one element of the story or more than one. The only stipulation is that it must fit inside a shoe box which should be used as the backdrop – they should arrive at church no later than Friday 3rd December. Please do be as creative as possible – there will be a prize for the best one – judging will be on the night of the Christmas Event (December 4th). Please do join in and have some creative fun

Poem for Advent by Mary Hanrahan

We must prepare a way.

Try to straighten paths made crooked by our selfishness and compulsions.

We have forgotten the grace-filled room, the angel's message, 'do not fear'. We fear the very joy he promised.

We are afraid of the journey., the hard road, the bitter cold and the doors slammed in our faces.

We are terrified of giving birth.

Yet within us there is such a thirst for innocence.

We must enter our heart's dark stable, clear away the dirty straw of resentment and pride, soil our hands and make some effort to find a fresher, sweeter hay of welcome, light a candle of hope, as we humbly await the birth of wonder.



*...it's perhaps not the most dynamic of mission statements...
but at least it received the unanimous approval of the Church Council!*

Items for next newsletter to Paul soltydog@yahoo.com by 20th November please