

Newsletter

22nd March 2020

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCHES:

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:

OUR CLERGY:



@ parishoflowerwharfe



@ stmarybostonspa

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bramhambenefice@outlook.com

Priest in Charge—Rev. Nick Morgan

revnjmorgan@gmail.com

Rev. Trish Anslow, Assistant Priest

Parish Office: 01937 844402

Mon-Thurs 9.30am-12.30pm

Fr. Ken Gabbadon Priest in Charge

St Luke's, Clifford e-mail: kqabba7036@aol.com

Due to the Coronavirus
(COVID-19)
churches must
SUSPEND ALL SERVICES
and
MEETINGS
until further notice



Worship will continue in our villages but in a
different way.

Please contact the Parish Office, giving your phone
number and email address if you wish to arrange for
newsletters to be emailed to you, or delivered to your
home.

An order of service for Sunday Worship at Home will
be available from next week. This can be downloaded
from www.bramhambenefice.org from Monday 23rd
March onwards. Sunday services will appear in video
form on the website every week.

Please send weekly prayer requests via the Parish
Office and clergy will remember them each
Wednesday when they celebrate Holy Communion.

Services across the Benefice

SERVICES SUSPENDED

Please see www.bramhambenefice.org for Sunday Worship

Readings for Sunday 22nd March 2020

Ephesians 5.8–14 ⁸For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.' [NRSV]

John 9.1–41 As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' ³Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' ⁹Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' ¹⁰But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' ¹¹He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' ¹²They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.' ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.' ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' ²⁰His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' ²⁵He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' ²⁶They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' ²⁷He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' ³⁰The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' ³⁴They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' ³⁶He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' ³⁷Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' ³⁸He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him. ³⁹Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?' ⁴¹Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.'

PLEASE HELP US PRAY FOR:

St. Mary's Email Prayer Group
If you would like to include someone
on the Prayer list please contact Niki on:
stmarysprayer18@gmail.com

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Barry Calvert, Peter Davey, Anne
Cummings and Pauline Hardy

OCCASIONAL OFFICES:

WEDDINGS:

Daniel Henzell and AnnMarie Sharpe

Saturday 2nd May 2020
10.30am at St. Mary's Church

BAPTISMS:

FUNERALS:

Pauline Hardy

Tuesday 24th March 2020
11.00am at Stonefall Crematorium,
Harrogate

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

**ALL YOUTH WORK IS
SUSPENDED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

**ALL ROOM BOOKINGS
ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

St. Luke's Church, Clifford

SERVICES SUSPENDED

Compline Worship
A series of prayers for the day of prayer



Daily Prayer

March 18th 2020



Dear Friends,

In response to the government's advice in response to the spread of COVID-19, The Church of England has changed how it goes about its business. We are not shutting shop – far from it. But our public worship has been suspended until further notice. This means that our churches will not hold public services. At the time of writing there is still a lot of detail to sort out, but Morning Prayer will continue to be said daily by our clergy and there will be an act of worship available every Sunday online via the church website and Facebook page, and through orders of service which can be printed off at home (or phone the parish office to ask for one if you can't do this).

This week, a video made at rather short notice by myself and Rev'd Trish will be available on the home page of the church website: bramhambenefice.org and on our Facebook page. We hope this enables us to continue to come together in worship on Sundays, even if we cannot do this physically. St Mary's, Boston Spa and All Saints', Bramham will continue to be open during the day. If you are self-isolating, remember that a walk outside on your own is a good thing, so do pop into church – the chances of there being a crowd there are slim, and you are most welcome. If you do have any needs, or worries, or simply want to hear a friendly voice, do call the Parish Office and someone from our pastoral team will be in touch.

Above all, I encourage you to live as people of hope. Lent is a penitential season, though little did we realise quite how much we might be asked to give up during this season when it started! However, we live as Easter people, with a living hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. As we ponder how to do that in challenging times, we do so knowing that Jesus is with us wherever we are, and the Holy Spirit is here to comfort, encourage and equip us for the work of God. Be strong and of good courage. Bless you all,

The Reverend Nick Morgan
Priest in Charge

