**The Benefice Of The Lower Swale**

**United Parish of Ainderby Steeple with Yafforth**

**and Kirby Wiske with Maunby**

**www.lowerswalechurches.org.uk**



**Newsletter for March 2017**

***Letter from The Rectory***

**01609 773346**

**Vision 2030**

Following on from last month’s letter on Learning to be Disciples of Jesus I would like to share a little of the Diocesan Vision which the Clergy of the Diocese have been grappling with lately. We all know how the Church cannot simply continue as it is today. With changes to our cultural norms, with an ever increasingly elderly population, and a continued reduction in younger members of our church community, we need to re-evaluate where the Church will be by 2030 and seek to make changes now to help it become a vibrant and exciting faith filled community.

Another element we must take into consideration is Clergy themselves, over the next 6 years or so 40% of all clergy in the Church of England will retire and we do not have any new young clergy to replace them, those offering for ordination now will only fill those vacancies which would occur naturally with clergy moving on from position to position, or with normal levels of retirement.

This huge gap in Clergy will therefore not be filled and the Church must plan and prepare for that. However, I don’t see this as a problem but rather a great opportunity because we all should start doing something today as Disciples of Jesus to secure the growth of the Church for the future.

Our Vision is to change the very structure of our Church life, to concentrate on building up faithful communities and to recognize that local Lay Leadership of small faith communities will become the norm with the Deanery of Wensley which currently has 8 Stipendiary Clergy likely to have to manage with only 5 by 2030 and only 3 by 2040.

We need therefore to begin to decide where we are to concentrate the Christian witness in our communities, to recognize that in small rural communities we need to encourage local leaders to come forward to help to keep the Christian presence in our villages alive and vibrant and growing in their love of the Lord. The Mission and Ministry Forum of the Benefice has begun to look at this and it will be on the agenda of every PCC and LCC for the foreseeable future. Once introduced and discussed I hope to spend a full Saturday with everyone from all our Churches looking at how we can begin to envision where we will be and how this great opportunity will release us and enable us to engage more effectively and creatively with mission.

The Church is changing and the time is now right no longer to talk about change but to seek to implement it. For that we believe is what God is calling us to do for the sake of the glorious proclamation of the Gospel.

So look out for Vision 2030 events, get involved and share your thoughts for the future, and let us all plan effectively and strategically for the exciting future which lies head.

With my prayers and best wishes Clive

**Parish News**

**Benefice Evensong -  Sunday 12th March -**come and join us for this wonderful service at St Michael & All Angels Church Maunby at 6.30pm

**Parochial Church Council -**the PCC will meet in St Helen's Church at Ainderby Steeple at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15th March 2017

**Deanery Synod Representatives:**

Our Parish can elect two members to represent the Parish on the Wensley Deanery Synod.  For several years, these two positions have been filled by Derek Sharpe and Noel Quinn.  Both Derek and Noel have given notice that they will not be seeking re-election at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Tuesday 25th April 2017.

Therefore, one of the items on the Agenda at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be the election of two new members to serve on the Deanery Synod.  It is important that our Parish has a voice on Deanery Synod and nominations will be welcomed to fill the two positions from 1st June 2017 for a three-year period.  For further information please contact the Rector or Derek (01609 771031).

**Friday 3rd March**

**Women’s World Day of Prayer**

Everyone is invited to a service at Romanby Methodist Church, 7pm entitled ‘Am I being unfair to you? Praying for the Philippines.’

**From the Registers:** Funerals

William Cooper Ainderby 30th January

Joseph Britton Yafforth 31st January

Ruth Richardson Yafforth 3rd February

Tony Roddy Ainderby 9th February

**Morton on Swale News**

**Events at the Village Hall:**

The AGM for Morton on Swale Village Hall will take place on Wednesday March 22nd at 7.30pm at the Hall. All welcome.

If you would like to become a committee member, please come to the AGM and find out what it is all about. You will be most welcome.

There will be a 'Young at Heart' social afternoon on the 4th Thursday in the month 2-4pm, next one 23rd February. Dominoes, board games, cards, etc. or just a chat and refreshments. £2 including tea/coffee and biscuits.

Details of all regular groups/classes on the notice boards at the Village Hall and ‘ex-Post Office’ and on the website [www.lowerswalechurches.co.uk](http://www.lowerswalechurches.co.uk)

**Kirby Wiske News**

**Coffee and Chat in January.**  Thanks very much to all those who baked, served, sold and came to support us at these events. You enabled us to raise a further£660. 90 towards church repair funds.

**Village Hall News**.  Renovations have been taking place at the village hall with new windows, ceiling tiles and wall heaters. We should now have a smarter, warmer venue.

**Local History Group** will meet in the village hall at 7 pm on Tuesday ,14th March. Jonny Hackett will be coming to explain and discuss the implications of the proposed Heritage Lottery bid to maintain the church. We shall also be looking at the recently acquired letters relating to Danotty Hall.

**Parish Council** will meet on Tuesday, 7th March at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

**Rotas**:  Sidesmen:   5th March 9.30 am, Mrs M Dale

Flowers:  Mrs S. Rodgers     Cleaning:  Mrs M. Dale & Mrs G. Green

19th March 9.30 am, Mrs M Dale

**Maunby News**

**Sidesmen:** 12th March 9.30 am Mr Noel Quinn

**Methodist Rota**:  5th March: Rev. A Powers HC, 12th: Mrs R Webster, 19th: Mr B Oliver, 26th: Miss L Bustard

**Youth Groups**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date**  | **Little Acorns** | **Busy Bees** | **Groovers and Shakers** | **Trendy Teens** |
| 02/03/17 |  |  |  | 6.30-8.30pm |
| 09/03/17 |  | 4-5pm | 6.15-8pm |  |
| 16/03/17 |  |  |  | 6.30-8.30pm |
| 23/03/17 |  | 4-5pm | 6.15-8pm |  |
| 30/03/17 |  |  |  | 6.30-8.30pm |
| 06/04/17 |  | 4-5pm | 6.15-8pm |  |

**Services for March 2017**

**Wednesday 1st March Ash Wednesday Purple**

Ainderby Steeple (Ann) 7.00pm Holy Communion

Readings Isaiah ch58 v1-12; John ch8 v1-11

**Sunday 5th March Lent 1 Purple**

Kirby Wiske (Paul) 9.30am BCP Morning Prayer

Ainderby Steeple (Clive) 11.00am Holy Communion

Readings Genesis ch2 v15-17, ch3 v1-7; Matthew ch4 v 1-11

**Sunday 12th March Lent 2 Purple**

Maunby (Clive)9.30am Holy Communion

Ainderby Steeple (Joan)11.00am Morning Prayer

Readings  Genesis ch12 v1-4a, John ch3 v1-17

Maunby 6.30pm **BCP Benefice Evensong**

**Sunday 19th March Lent 3 Purple**

Kirby Wiske (Clive)9.30am Holy Communion

Ainderby Steeple (Clive) 11.00am All Age Worship

Readings Exodus ch17 v1-7, John ch4 v5-42

**Sunday 26th March Mothering Sunday Purple**

Yafforth (Paul) 9.30am BCP Morning Prayer

Ainderby Steeple (Clive) 11.00am Holy Communion

Readings Exodus ch2 v1-10, Luke ch2 v33-35

**Sunday 2nd April Lent 5 Passion Sunday Purple**

Kirby Wiske (Paul) 9.30am Morning Prayer

Ainderby Steeple (Clive) 11.00am Holy Communion

Readings Ezekial ch37 v1-14, John ch11 v1-45

**\*\*\* Copy date for April 2017 \*\*\***

**Deadline 5pm 17th March to the newsletter team**

Mrs Dawn Statham **(01845 587143)** for **KW & MBY**; Mr Chris Riley **(01609 773767)** for **Yafforth**;for **Ainderby Steeple, Morton on Swale, Warlaby and Thrintoft** please send directly to the editor on juliabarker@riponcathedral.org.uk