BENEFICE OF THE LOWER SWALE

United Parish of Kirkby Fleetham with Langton and Scruton

NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 2018

**SERVICES**

**4th MARCH Lent 3 (purple)**

10.30 am LANGTON United Holy Communion

**11th MARCH lent 4 (purple)**

**11.00 am AINDERBY STEEPLE Confirmation** with Bishop Helen-Ann All invited 6.30 pm KIRKBY FLEETHAM Benefice Evensong

**18th MARCH (Lent 5 purple)**

9.30 am SCRUTON Holy Communion *Mrs Lawther and Mr Wood*

11.00 am KIRKBY FLEETHAM Holy Communion *Mrs Garner*

**25th MARCH Palm Sunday**

9.30 am SCRUTON Holy Communion *Dr and Mrs Ewart*

11.00 am KIRKBY FLEETHAM Holy Communion *Mr Peirson*

**29th MARCH Maundy Thursday**

7.00 pm SCRUTON Holy Communion *Mrs Lawther*

**30th MARCH Good Friday**

11.00 am KIRKBY FLEETHAM Walk of Witness

2.00 pm SCRUTON Meditation

**1st APRIL Easter Day**

9.30 am SCRUTON Holy Communion *Mr and Mrs Clarke*

11.00 am KIRKBY FLEETHAM Holy Communion *Mr Garner*

11.00 am LANGTON reserved Holy Communion

FROM THE RECTORY 773346

Preparing for Easter!

As I write this letter Lent has begun! Yes it’s that time of year once more when we think about giving something up which will be of benefit to us once Lent is over. We all have things which we can deprive ourselves of, chocolate is a favourite, or sweets and crisps etc. Fasting for six weeks can be a bit of a challenge to us today, because we have so much choice and the availability of so many things which are naughty but nice is at times rather overwhelming. It takes quite a bit of determination to give up something which we enjoy even if it is only for a relatively short period of time, but the rewards of doing so can be quite dramatic.

We can become lighter, fitter, healthier, and feel so much better about ourselves mentally if we take our Lenten Fast seriously and maintain it throughout the 40 days. The challenge however is not so much about keeping a change of lifestyle going throughout the season of Lent, but rather continuing that change for the rest of our lives. Fasting is not so much about giving things up temporarily but about ensuring that we upon reaching our goal then strive to go even further.

This can be said about our spiritual lives just as much as it can about our diets. Lent is a time for creating a change, a chance to make a difference and what better way of seeking to address this change than in seeking to use our fast as a means to something else. Jesus was famished when he was in the wilderness and yet he refrained from temptation because he filled the void of physical food with spiritual nourishment. This is what kept Jesus going and the same thing can apply to us. However it is not as easy as it sounds. Devoting ourselves to God, resting in his presence and seeking to be fed by him is always it seems an ideal which often alludes us, and yet in reality if we can only seek to improve our quality time with God just a tiny amount, the change to the rest of our lives will be phenomenal.

So this Lent, as you strive to maintain your fast, remember the reason for a little self-denial is to create a better you, a more vibrant personality, a healthier body and a healthier mind, a mind set on God more fully so that we can truly be fed by him, and in so doing be enabled to live out our lives freed from the temptations of the world.

Have a happy Lent for through a little self-denial you will find yourself truly prepared for Easter.

God bless ***Clive***

**NOTICES**

Wednesday, March 21st at 7.30 pm **PCC meeting** in Acre House

KIRKBY FLEETHAM *£333 was collected from the boxes for the Children’s Society* Saturday, 3rd March 10-11.30 am in the Village Hall **Coffee morning** in aid of Parkinson’s UK.,

Thursday 8th March -at 7.15pm in the Village Hall, Kirkby Fleetham WI .The Speaker is Marco Taylor of Circus Marco, who will talk about the circus, demonstrate some skills and there will be a chance to have a go.

Sat. March 10th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall **Northallerton Methodist Church Choir in Concert.** Our guests return to entertain us with a wide range of songs from the shows, old favourites and more!! Tickets £5.00 (to include buffet supper) from KF Village Shop / Sheila (748066). Friday 16th March in the Village Hall; To celebrate St Patrick's Day, the Feast are holding a family friendly **St Patrick's Quiz Night.** Tickets are £5 for adults and £2.50 for children to include supper and are available from the village shop or on the door.  The bar will be open from 7pm, the quiz starts at 7.30pm. Get your teams together, up to 6 members and gen up on all things Irish.
Saturday 17th March, 10 - 4pm.  In the Village Hall **Wirework artist, Carol Sterritt,** will be back leading a workshop The projects this time will be a Wall-hung flower made out of chicken wire, suitable for inside or outside and two, three stemmed, sprays of small beaded flowers, made out of jewellery wire, snowdrops and/or daisies, suitable for a small posy vase. The cost will be £50, coffee, tea and homemade refreshments will be provided, but please bring your own packed lunch. Carol also suggests that you wear jeans and closed toe shoes as a protection against the wire and that you may like to bring a pair of protective gloves. All tools and materials will be provided. Have a look at some pictures on her website:[www.wireworkgardensculpture.co.uk](http://www.wireworkgardensculpture.co.uk)
Contact Margaret Wilson on 748730/ mwilson1952@live.co.uk, to reserve a place. There will be a maximum of 10 places. Her next workshop will be 9th June when the project will be a chicken wire duck.

**Village Hall events** Thurs. Mar. 1st Gardening Club at 7.00pm: **‘*Wack’s Wicked Plants!’*** A talk about carnivorous plants. Everyone welcome – no experience needed, just enthusiasm! Visitors £2.00 Sat. Mar. 3rd: **Dominoes at 7.0pm** £2.00 to include light refreshments. Tues. Mar. 6th**: Booklovers’ Group at 7.00pm:** Everyone welcome to bring along a book they have enjoyed and can recommend. Tues. Mar. 27th at 7.00pm**: ‘*Scotch Corner – A Sight of World Importance’.*** Dr Jonathan Shipley, Senior Archaeology & History consultant tells the fascinating story of the recent archaeological discoveries made during the upgrading of the A1. Tickets £6.50 (to include canapés & a glass of wine) from KF Village Shop / Sheila (748066). **Thurs. Mar. 29th Lunchbunch at 12.00 noon:** This month it’sMargaret O’s Chicken, Ham& Leek Pie, with new potatoes & broccoli, Sheila’s Easter Bread & Butter Pudding, tea / coffee. Tickets £5.00 from KF Village Shop / Sheila (748066).

SCRUTON

*A delegation from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) are to come in early May to discuss our proposals for the re-ordering of St Radegund's. There will be a vestry meeting after the service on March 19th  to give everyone the opportunity to hear and comment on the proposals before the visit.*

Scruton WW1 Centenary Poppy Appeal:- If you are able to knit and/or crochet, please help us to make poppies to display around the village and in & around the church. **'Knit & Natter'** sessions in the village hall on the following Thursdays from 2 - 4pm :- 1st March, 5th April, 3rd May and 7th June. Further details from Joyce Williams - 748670, or djoycewillams@gmail.com

Friday  March 9th  **Lent Lunch** in the Coore Memorial Hall. Everyone welcome. No tickets needed, no charge. Elizabeth, Marilyn, Judi and Bridget will be serving their homemade soup with bread. Arrive anytime between 12.00noon and 1.30pm.

Friday March 16th  **Newcomers’ Welcome Evening** in the Coore Memorial Hall,  7.00pm The Village Hall Committee and Church Council will be hosting an informal social gathering to welcome recently arrived residents. There will be a buffet supper and drinks.

Saturday, 17th March 10—12.30 pm in the Coore Memorial Hall **Coffee morning** for Marie Curie Saturday, 17th March 7.30 pm in the Coore Memorial Hall **Dominoes** £2 at the door

LANGTON Wednesday, March 28th 9.00 - 1.00 pm in Northallerton Town Hall Coffee morning and mini fair in aid of St Wilfrid’s Church; stalls, raffle bacon butties etc. All donations of cakes, bric a brac raffle prizes gratefully received. Please contact Gillian (07849 720906) or June (01609 748397)

**FOR YOUR DIARIES** Friday, 13th April to Sunday 15th April from 10.00 –4.00 pm at All Saints Church Northallerton, there will be an Art Exhibition by the Morton on Swale Art Group—which includes members of Scruton Saturday Painting Group

 *If you have any notices for the newsletter, please contact Katherine Lawther (74287), or on rjlawther@btinternet.com - I usually start typing during the third week of the month*