## THE CHURCHES OF DUNNINGTON, STOCKTON ON THE FOREST, WARTHILL & HOLTBY



# **NEWSLETTER**

# **Sunday 7 June - Trinity Sunday**



Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-end; 2 Corinthians 13.11-end; Matthew 28.16-20

# **Online Benefice Service this Sunday**



A lay-led service of worship for Trinity Sunday, with music, pictures and other contributions from around the Benefice, will be shared on the **St Nicks YouTube channel** www.youtube.com/channel/UC 10sXmB7N5CKsD60 eRXjg.

Download a children's activity sheet for use during the service

Find other worship resources at stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/covid19/worship/





# Sunday Worship on television and radio

This Sunday at **8.00am on Radio York** morning worship will be led by the Sentamu family. The Archbishop of York is also to preach as part of the national online service broadcast by the Church of England at 9.00am. This will be the last day in his role as Archbishop of York. His wife, the Revd Margaret Sentamu, will lead a time of prayer in the service. The Archbishop said,

"I am pleased to have this opportunity for the second time to take part in this online service on what will be my last day in office. Like many of us, I too, am missing being able to worship alongside others. I hope that many will join us on 7th June as we continue this way of worshipping."

## **Anno Dominic** - a reflection from Revd Nick Bird

It's fair to say that a lot of people are not happy with Dominic Cummings and his trip from London to Durham – and definitely not his day out to Barnard Castle. With over a million signatures online calling for his resignation, it has caused many problems for our prime minister, who has storms yet to weather.

Reports in the editorials seem to suggest that the ire of the people rests on the fact that Cummings behaved as though the rules, which he had a hand in writing, just didn't apply to himself - and the British people seem to find that uniquely offensive. A rule for one is a rule for all. But, as Mr Johnson's Chief Adviser, he seems to have driven a coach and horses (well, probably something a little more modern) through all those tedious restrictions by which the rest of us have been studiously abiding. His words and actions don't seem to match up, is the accusation, and his integrity has been vociferously called into question. What a

very special little man does our Dominic seem to consider himself.

As a Christian, this gives me pause for thought. I have committed my life to following someone who consistently acted as though the rules didn't apply to him. Jesus lived at a time when Jewish social identity would have been conservatively observed, not least in the face of their Roman overlords. There is nothing that builds a strong common identity than having someone we can all hate together! The Scribes and the Pharisees, however, loved their rules there were rules for everything, rules that had to be applied, followed, lived within. Social cohesion often rests on common social observances.

Not for Jesus, though. He touched the dead, the leprous, the female, the bleeding, the Gentile. He spoke of himself as the presence of God, and doggedly insisted on breaking the sabbath laws — laws imposed by the very God he was

heralding. What kind of special, unique and non-compliant man did Jesus consider himself to be, that rules were just there to be ignored? Was he not simply touring Israel 'doing a Dominic', and upsetting half the general public, and being adulated by the other rest?

Come back to me with your own thoughts, but I wonder if the difference lands somewhere about here: Jesus demonstrated an absolute integrity and continuity between his words and his deeds. There was no hypocrisy between his outer and inner world – and, oh, how we can envy him that! This 'purity of heart' is where we find that which we fall in love with of our Lord. No wonder he saw God everywhere, and could promise us the same – 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God' (Matt 5.8). So, no, not doing a Dominic, but doing a Domini – our Lord and Saviour doesn't break the rules, but fulfils with love the rule of love.

Nick Bird



# Do you need practical support or a friendly chat?

If you need help/support but don't know who your local Community Support Group volunteers are, please email <a href="mailto:covid19eastyork@gmail.com">covid19eastyork@gmail.com</a>, or call Rev Nick Bird on 01904 489349 and we will link you up.

The churches are closed until further notice, both for public worship and private prayer.

## **News & Notices**

<u>Dunnington Methodist Church</u>. Our buildings are still closed and we do not as yet know when we will be able to worship together in them again. All stewards are around for a chat or if you need help or advise. Diane on 01904489495, Anne on 01904481656 or Chris on 01904481191.

Rev Keith Albans is now back 'with' us following his time away on sabbatical. He can be contacted on 01904 491761 or ring Circuit office 07984019995 who will take a message.

Bible Month study group. As well as various groups run by churches, Keith will be running a zoom discussion group for anyone from around the circuit who wish to join. This will be on Monday mornings at 10am. Contact Keith or Circuit office for log in details. The zoom will allow log in from 9.45am for people to get logged in and chat, with the study starting at 10am and ending at 11.30am.

Thank you from the IRC. The International Rescue Committee has written to St Nicholas Church to thank us for our recent donation of £3,650. Read their letter, and information about their work at <a href="http://stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/irc.php">http://stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/irc.php</a>



**The Grapevine**. The <u>June issue</u> is now available online.

<u>Buses</u>. Significant improvements to the number 10 bus service have been in place since 31 May. Buses are running Stamford Bridge—Poppleton every 30 minutes Monday to Saturday, with a Dunnington—York service



every 15 mins Mondays to Fridays between 0715 and 1815. First are also implementing social distance plans and introducing safe capacities on their fleet. Read more and see the new timetable at <a href="strickolasdunnington.org.uk/news/bus.php">strickolasdunnington.org.uk/news/bus.php</a>). Many thanks to Tony Walmsley for sharing this information.

York Mystery Plays. Listen to the York Mystery Plays on BBC Radio York every Sunday at 6am, beginning on 7 June, or catch up on BBC Sounds. The York Mystery Plays, which are a selection of biblical stories drawn together into a piece of theatre, date back to the 1300s. They have now been adapted for radio and feature a cast of community and professional actors.

#### A prayer to accompany the Bible studies on Ruth

Loving God,

As we begin our study of Ruth, many of us may be feeling, like Naomi, that our lives are bitter,

That those we loved are lost to us or far away.

Help us to see you at work even when it is hard,

To trust that you have not abandoned us,

And to wait for your redemption of the situation.

With Ruth, help us to declare that we will follow you, in the bad times and the good.

Help us to see the part we play in your plan for the world,

And fill us with your Spirit so that we may be strengthened to follow you.

Amen

# **Lectionary Corner**

7 June: Trinity Sunday

8 June: Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells,

nonjuror, hymn writer 1711

9 June: Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary 59711 June: Corpus Christi. Day of Thanksgiving for the

Institution of Holy Communion

12 June: Barnabas, Apostle (transferred from 11 June)

#### **Trinity Sunday**

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us, your servants, grace, by the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



© The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England

#### Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary 597

Almighty God, who filled the heart of Columba with the joy of the Holy Spirit and with deep love for those in his care: may your pilgrim people follow him, strong in faith, sustained by hope, and one in the love that binds us to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



© The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England

Born a son of the royal house of Ulster at Kilcrennan in Donegal in about the year 521, Colum, whose name means 'dove', had such a devotion to the things of God as a child that he was nicknamed 'Columcille' – dove of the Church. Columba was trained as a monk by Finnian and then founded several monasteries himself, including probably that of Kells, before leaving Ireland to settle on Iona, off the coast of Scotland. He was accompanied by twelve companions and the number grew as the monastic life became more established and wellknown. Columba seems to have been an austere and, at times, a harsh man who reputedly mellowed with age. He was concerned with building up both the monastery and its life and of enabling them to be instruments of mission in a heathen land. He converted Kings and built churches, Iona becoming a starting point for the expansion of Christianity throughout Scotland. In the last four years of his life, when his health had failed, he spent the time transcribing books of the gospels for them to be taken out and used. He died on this day in the year 597.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'



Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Contact Victoria on <a href="mailto:grapevine.rey@gmail.com">grapevine.rey@gmail.com</a>. It is also available to download from the St Nicholas Church website at <a href="mailto:www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/">www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/</a>