



NEWSLETTER



Sunday 13 September - Climate Sunday, Trinity 14

Genesis 50.15-21; Romans 14.1-12; Matthew 18.21-35

Online Service this Sunday

A service of worship for Climate Sunday, 13 September, including a homily from Revd Canon Terry Joyce and interviews with environment professionals within our benefice, will be shared on the **St Nicks YouTube channel** www.youtube.com/channel/UC_10sXmB7N5CKsD60_eRXjg.



Dial-a-service 899433

You can dial in and to listen to the service at any time during the week. It's the cost of a local call and very simple to do. Dial 899433. You will first hear a recorded voice with an American accent welcoming you to the service, then be asked to wait a moment. There might be a bit of a pause as the service recording uploads (15-20 seconds). Enjoy!



For worship and prayer in our church buildings and via Zoom, see details overleaf

Introducing Climate Sunday - adapted from a blog by Andy Atkins, CEO of A Rocha UK

UK churches have responded to the Covid19 crisis with compassion, courage, sacrifice and innovation, to show the love of Christ in practical ways. I've been moved and excited to see it - us - stepping up in this way. Sadly, Covid-19 is not the only or even the biggest crisis out there. The climate crisis has been creeping up on the world for decades, and time to prevent widespread chaos and loss of life is running out. That's why a broad coalition of Christian charities and denominations* has launched the Climate Sunday initiative - to make it easy for all churches to take action, together, in what will be a critical year ahead.

The Covid-19 pandemic may have led to the postponement of the UN climate conference (COP26), originally scheduled for November this year, but it has not cancelled the climate crisis. The drop in greenhouse gas emissions during the economic shut down will make no real difference long term if we return to business as usual. Two years ago the world's leading scientists of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that humanity had just over a decade to cut emissions of greenhouse gasses steeply if we were to have even a 50/50 chance of keeping global temperature rise under 1.5 degrees above the pre-industrial average. Yet by early 2020, the world remained firmly on course to overshoot this goal by several degrees. We were, and still are, heading for global climate catastrophe; and time to avoid it is exceedingly short.

Amidst the unfolding tragedy of Covid-19 there are positives we can grasp and apply to climate change: those countries that acted early on good science have suffered much less; governments and people are

capable of extraordinarily rapid and radical action if they understand the need.

For many churches, action on climate change is not new. Quietly but in growing numbers, over the last few years local churches have been responding to this moral issue with creativity and determination. More than 3,400 local churches are now registered with the main church greening schemes**. But with the climate crisis accelerating and the UK due to host the rescheduled COP26 climate talks in November 2021, the time has come for all churches across the UK to pray about and act on the climate crisis.

Our vision is to see God's love and desire for justice manifested through the church on this critical issue of our age. The need and the opportunity are great. They include bringing pastoral support to a younger generation already experiencing climate anxiety and grief; teaching of God's love for all his creation; reducing carbon emissions from church buildings, land, congregational travel and purchasing; serving the local community by taking part in practical projects to help them adapt; and witnessing to our God of Justice by joining wider calls for a fair transition to a sustainable economy.

We are calling on all churches to hold a local Climate Sunday; inviting them to do one or more of three things:

Climate service: Hold a climate-focused service, to explore the theological and scientific basis of creation care, to pray, and to commit to action

Commit: Make a commitment as a local church community to reduce its own greenhouse gas emissions.

Call: Join with other churches and wider society by adding their name to a common

call for the UK government to take much bolder action on climate change in this country in advance of COP26, and to strengthen its credibility to lead the international community to adopt a step change in action at COP26.

Two months before COP26, on Sunday 5th September 2021, we will hold a national Climate Sunday event to celebrate the commitments made by churches. We will present the UK government with the combined commitments and calls, to show our political leaders that they will have our support to act boldly, justly and compassionately on this issue.

We cannot guarantee the outcome of COP26, but whether successful or not, the current pace of climate disruption will still require individuals and whole sectors of society to act fast - out of fairness to those locked in poverty, those who need more support to face the effects of climate change, the young and all future generations, as well as to the rest of nature. Only we Christians, and our church communities, can do this for ourselves; no-one else can do it for us. As followers of a loving and Creator God, we should be the sector of society most prepared to act first, boldly, in faith and service.

Andy Atkins, CEO of A Rocha UK, Chair of the Climate Sunday Steering Group

* Climate Sunday is organised by CTBI's Environmental Issues Network (EIN). This gathers the environmental 'leads' of the major denominations, some Christian orders, and the Christian environmental and relief and development agencies.

** Eco Church (England and Wales); Eco Congregation Scotland 500 and Ireland; and Live Simply (Catholic Churches in England and Wales).

Services and private prayer in our church buildings

Holtby

Morning Prayer (service) Monday 9.00am
Open for private prayer Thurs 10am - 1pm, Sun 1pm - 4pm

Warthill

Morning Prayer (service) Tuesday 9.00am
Open for private prayer Thurs 1 - 4pm, Sun 1pm - 4pm

Stockton

Morning Prayer (service) Wednesday 9.00am
Open for private prayer Wed 1pm - 4pm, Sun 1pm - 4pm

Dunnington

Morning Prayer (service) Thursday 9.00am
Open for private prayer Thurs 10am - 12pm, Sun 3pm - 5pm

Compline (online)



You are very welcome to (virtually) join Revd Nick Bird and others for a quiet service of Compline every Wednesday evening at 7.00pm. This is held online using Zoom. You can either download the free Zoom app or just join us through your web browser at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86707839332>. The Meeting ID is 867 0783 9332.

Parish Churches News & Events

Mark Poole will be ordained at York Minster on **Friday 25 September** at 7pm by Archbishop Stephen. Only a small number of invited guests are allowed to attend due to Covid19 restrictions. However, the service will be live-streamed, and, presumably, recorded, so that people can join in at home. A link to the service will be circulated nearer the time. Please pray for Mark as he prepares to be ordained deacon.

Mr Malcolm Smith has decided to retire from Reader Ministry from 22 August 2020. Malcolm has been a Reader in these parishes for many years, and in Wheldrake previously. We are very grateful to Malcolm for his faithful ministry to us, especially his gift for preaching, and we wish him well in his retirement.

APCMs. The Benefice churches are having their APCMs this autumn. Warthill has already had theirs. Stockton APCM will be on **Tuesday 17 November**, 7pm, in Holy Trinity Church. The APCM for St Nicholas Church will take place on **Sunday 22 November** (time tbc) in St. Nicholas Church. The number of attendees may have to be limited. More details to follow.

Carecent Harvest Appeal. Carecent have had to adapt to a different way of providing food during the pandemic and, as a result, this year they are asking for donations of money rather than goods at Harvest. This will enable them to buy food and other necessary items for the packed lunches they currently provide, and will also give them the flexibility to respond to changing needs. The parish churches hope to gather financial donations from parishioners together, so that each church can make a single donation. We will let you know in coming weeks how this will be done.



Dunnington Methodist Church

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT A CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING IS PLANNED FOR MONDAY 28th SEPTEMBER, 7pm. The meeting will be held at the Chapel, (subject to Covid restrictions). Details will be given nearer the time to those who wish to attend.

Vera Braithwaite. With regret, we inform you that Vera Braithwaite passed away last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and close friends.



News from the Methodist Circuit

The Government has issued updated guidance against gathering in groups of more than 6 people. We are awaiting clarification on how this will affect church meetings or events and will issue further guidance when we have it.

Worship resources. See <https://www.yorkmethodist.org.uk/coronavirus-information.html>.

District Prayer diary. This year's prayer diary is now available. please email yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com and ask to be put on the mailing list for the Circuit News

Social media. Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/yorkmethodistcircuit/>, Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/267605153386046/>. YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZlI3vykFEonZ-EQbbhuQ>

Praying for our Circuit. The church on the Circuit Prayer Rota for **13 September is Acomb**. Let us thank God for the work of God in that place, and pray for the church as they consider how best to respond to God's call in this time.

Education Sunday

God who said "let the children come to me"

We pray for schools and places of learning.

For pupils and students,

May schools be places of laughter as well as learning

Places of safety as well as achievement.

For teachers and leaders,

That they may have the gifts to encourage each learner to achieve,

That they may be strengthened and encouraged in turn.

We recognise the additional difficulties facing schools this year, both practical and pastoral,

Grant wisdom, patience and kindness to all in the coming months.

Lord who knows what it is to be a child, hear our prayers.

Amen.



Lectionary Corner

14 Sept: Holy Cross Day

15 Sept: Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr 258

16 Sept: Ninian, Bishop of Galloway,
Apostle of the Picts, c.432

17 Sept: Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179

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

Next newsletter on **Sunday 20 September**. Items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com by **9.00 am on Thursday 17 September**.