



# NEWSLETTER

## Sunday 27 September - Trinity 16

Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-end; Philippians 2.1-13; Matthew 21.23-32



### Online Service this Sunday

A service of worship, including a homily from Revd Nick Bird, will be shared on the **St Nicks** YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_10sXmB7N5CKsD60\\_eRXig](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_10sXmB7N5CKsD60_eRXig).

### Post-service coffee & chat

Make yourself a cuppa and join us at 11.30am over Zoom for a catch up. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87423794155>

### 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. There might be a bit of a pause as the service recording uploads (15-20 seconds). Enjoy!



### Risk-taking - a reflection from Revd Canon Terry Joyce

One of the most fascinating conversations I had in my previous role a few years ago was with a senior member of staff at a prestigious University who was a Director of Risk Management. The ultimate responsibility of her department was to assess, explore and seek to minimise the implications of all the foreseen and unforeseen risks that could happen within the University context. The role was deemed so important it gave her open access to the Vice Chancellor and all the Senior Managers 24/7. I was fascinated. I had never met such a person. I didn't know you can get a degree in it. You need a good constitution for it, or you might never get out of bed in the morning. Bet she's been busy recently?

There was a time, a good few years ago, when the 18 biggest Hospital A & E Depts (then called Casualty) kept meticulous records of the cause of domestic accidents. I was given an annual report from one and was surprised by some of the items listed. I actually framed an All Age Service around it, dressing up in overalls, with industrial gloves, eye protection, a hard hat and slowly and from a bag with danger symbols on it, carefully revealing, one by one, slippers, socks, cheese, sandwiches, pens and

pencils. Surprisingly, things that you would regard as dangerous, sharp things or bleach, were way down the list.

Since then, I've discovered that it's several times less risky for your child to walk to school than it is to take them in a car. In fact, the biggest danger to children walking to school is people in cars taking their kids to school. It's well known that you are more likely to be knocked over on the way to buying your lottery ticket than to win the jackpot. The classic comedian, Dave Allen, used to say that since one third of accidents were caused by drunk drivers, this led to the conclusion that two-thirds of accidents were caused by the sober who should get off the road and leave the drunks in peace! It does get crazy.

Risk assessment is currently a hot topic. In current circumstances, they have had to be done by each church in our benefice in anticipation of every proposed service or meeting. We ask questions such as 'How likely is the risk to happen? How serious would the consequences be? We all embrace a certain level of risk in our lives, but we have to avoid any possibility of risks with serious consequences and think about how to reduce minor risks. All of

this is now a part of our lives. It's not always easy. It took ages for the experts to decide that wearing masks was beneficial.

In contrast, living as a Christian is a risk! The Bible is a book of risk. If a risk assessment were done on it, there would have to be loads redacted. It would end up being more of a pamphlet! There's been many occasions when, leading a service, I've read a Collect (the Church's special prayer for the day) and I've been tempted to add before the Amen, "Are you sure you want to say Amen to that?" How about "mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts" or "O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us and with great might succour us". Are we sure? And what about hymns - 'Come down O love divine' - the desire that God would visit his people in person. Are we really ready for that?

Think about what we are saying and doing in worship. Faith is a risk - it's part of its definition. We're called to be risk takers - Jesus taught us that!

*Terry Joyce*



### St Nicholas Church Dunnington needs YOU!

We have several vacancies to be filled at the Annual Meeting on 22 November:

#### Churchwarden (from early 2021)

It is time now to identify a successor to Peter Helm, who is stepping down, to fill this immensely important, fulfilling and rewarding role. Please do consider if you can take this on and speak with Peter, Carole, or Nick for more information.

#### PCC Members

Four to serve until the APCM in 2023 and four to serve until the APCM in 2022. Anyone interested speak to Rev Nick Bird, a churchwarden (Peter Helm and Carole White) or any current member of PCC

#### Representatives on Deanery Synod

Anyone interested please speak to Judith Hewitt, Joan Verrier, Alison Gilmour or Rev Nick Bird.

Nomination forms for all the above are available from Eve Scoreby or the churchwardens.

## Services and private prayer in our church buildings this week

### 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  
**NEW!** Sunday Worship Sunday 4 October 10.30am  
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

### Revd Mark Poole.

Congratulations to our curate Revd Mark Poole, who was ordained deacon at York Minster on Friday by Archbishop Stephen!



### Stockton Sunday service

Stockton PCC have decided to resume Sunday services in the church building. On Sunday 4 October there will be a service at Holy Trinity starting at 10.30am. Places are limited to 40 people, and must be reserved ahead of time (on a first come, first served basis) by contacting Ennis Tweddle (Churchwarden) 400364/[ennisjacksonuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ennisjacksonuk@yahoo.co.uk).

It is mandatory by law for face coverings to be worn, unless one is exempt. Please only sit in designated seats and take your service sheet home afterwards. The service will be about 30 minutes long, and, sadly, no singing or hanging around afterwards to chat is permitted. We shall, however, gather to worship God, to pray for our parish and benefice, and to celebrate Harvest. Revd. Nick Bird

### Other Parish Churches' decisions on opening

Warthill and Dunnington PCCs have postponed reopening for Sunday services. Dunnington will review this mid-October. Warthill will review in January. Holtby PCC have yet to meet to make a decision.

### 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 are gathering financial donations from parishioners together, so that each church can make a single donation. If you would like to contribute, please do so by **Monday 12th October**. Money can be given in cash or a cheque payable to your parish church. Give it to your churchwarden or treasurer, or put it through Nick Bird's letterbox. Thank you very much! More information in the [October issue of The Grapevine](#).

**The Grapevine.** Read the October issue at

[www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/oct-20-grapevine/](http://www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/oct-20-grapevine/)



### Children's Harvest Scarecrow Trail & Competition

Saturday 3rd October 2pm-5pm at both St Nicholas's Church, Dunnington and Holy Trinity Church, Stockton on the Forest. Join us in the churchyard for a fun scarecrow word trail, with prizes. Pick up your scarecrow making craft kit and enter our competition. Please remember social distancing rules.



**APCMs.** The Benefice churches are having their ACPMs 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 and location tbc). The number of attendees may have to be limited. More details to follow.

## Dunnington Methodist Church

This week we have been saddened to learn of the death of one of our members, Joan Neish, on Tuesday 22 September. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

It seems so long now since the Spring and the last time we were able to meet together at the Chapel. We look forward to seeing those of you who can come to the Church Council Meeting this Monday, 28th September 7pm at the Chapel.

## News from the Methodist Circuit

**Worship resources.** See <https://www.yorkmethodist.org.uk/coronavirus-information.html>. This week's Circuit-led Traditional service is a Harvest service using the 'All We Can' service material. It will be available from our Circuit YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZl3vyksFEonZ-EQbbhuQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZl3vyksFEonZ-EQbbhuQ)

**Carecent Harvest Appeal.** This year Carecent are asking for donations of money rather than goods.

**Praying for our Circuit.** The church on the Circuit Prayer Rota for **27 September** is **Bishopthorpe**. 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.

## Lectionary Corner

29 Sept: Michael and All Angels

Read about Michael and All Angels and access a prayer on: [www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/newsletter-27920.php](http://www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/newsletter-27920.php)

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

Next newsletter on **Sunday 4 October**. Items to [grapevine.rey@gmail.com](mailto:grapevine.rey@gmail.com) by **9.00 am on Thursday 1 October**