


NEWSLETTER

Sunday 2 May : Easter 5

Acts 8.26-end; John 15.1-8



Today

- 8.00am Holy Communion : St Nicks, Dunnington
10—4 Scarecrow Trail : Dunnington
10.30am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton
Any time [Benefice Worship Service](#) (youtube)
with a homily from Revd Canon Nick Bird
-  No internet access? You can listen to our Sunday services anytime by phone for the cost of a local call. Just dial 899433.
- 4.00pm Family Worship : St Nicks, Dunnington

This week

Monday 3 May

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)
10—4 Scarecrow Trail : Dunnington

Tuesday 4 May

- 9.00am Morning Prayer : St Mary, Warthill

Wednesday 5 May

- 9.00am Holy Communion : St Nicholas, Dunnington
10.00am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton
7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)

Thursday 6 May

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)

Sunday 9 May : Easter 6

Acts 10.44-end; John 15.9-17

Start of Christian Aid Week



- 8.00am Holy Communion : St Nicks, Dunnington
10.30am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton
Any time [Benefice Worship Service](#) (youtube)
with a homily from Judith Hewitt

St Athanasius

Regrets, I've had a few... as the old song goes. Looking back we all have them. One of mine is the fact that I missed Brian Lara scoring his 501 at Edgbaston in 1994, even though I was only a mile away and not doing anything in particular! Jimmy White the snooker player probably has a few, having reached the World final six times, without winning it once and even David Beckham, for all his glittering success, must regret something – possibly one of those tattoos! What unites these three sportsmen – and me – is that we celebrate our birthdays this Sunday – and I'm the oldest!

Somewhat older than any of us is St Athanasius, who died on this day in 373 and whose Feast Day it is. His life spans a period of great controversy in the early Church, attending the Council of Nicaea in 325 where early versions of the creed were debated. He became Bishop of Alexandria three years later and the rest of his life oscillated between periods of influence, when he was a staunch defender of orthodoxy against the Arians who denied Jesus' divinity, and periods of exile when the Arian view held sway. He was a prolific writer, outlining what he believed the Church meant when using the word consubstantial to describe the relationship between Jesus and God the Father, and later he argued for the divinity of the Holy Spirit. Nearly 1750 years after his death, it's clear that his views came to be seen as mainstream and yet I wonder if he too had his regrets for, as in so many religious battles, countless people lost their lives.

One thing I remember many older people saying to me in my previous role with MHA was, *"the older I get, the less I believe but what I do believe I believe more strongly!"* Similarly, this week I read this: *"the task of religion is not to turn us into proper believers, it is to deepen the personal within us... so that we might see things that eyes do not normally see."* Athanasius' life underlines the importance of honest discussion and debate, the need to find ways of disagreeing well, and the value of keeping it all in proper perspective.

Keith Albans – Methodist Minister

Giving to your church

Thank you so much to all of you who support your church with regular giving.

The church locally and nationally has been hit hard by coronavirus, in a similar way to the rest of the country, and there is a concern that the repercussions of this will be very significant unless we can meet the issue with generosity and steadfast commitment. You are invited to be part of our response. Do speak with your churchwarden if you are able to increase your regular giving, or make a one-off donation.

For St Nicholas church, details of how you can give, either to the general fund or specifically towards the current Fabric Appeal, are also available at stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/outreach/giving.



Community Support Group — we are still here to help

If you would like someone to collect your shopping, or walk your dog, or if you'd like a friendly chat on the phone, please get in touch. Contact Rev Nick Bird 01904 489349 or revnickbird@gmail.com and he will put you in touch with your local contact.

Reopening our buildings for worship

Holy Trinity Stockton on the Forest is now holding a weekly 10.30am Sunday service and 10.00am Wednesday morning service in the church building. All are welcome, but places for the Sunday service must be reserved via our churchwarden Ennis Tweddle (ennisjacksonuk@yahoo.co.uk or 400364).

St Nicholas Dunnington re-starts the 8am Holy Communion service in the church building today, but NOT the 10.30am service as yet. The 9am Wednesday morning Holy Communion service will also begin again this week (5th May). It is not expected that reserving a place will be necessary for either service, as the church's capacity, using the nave, is twice that of the average congregation for these particular services. However, if it turns out that demand is greater than expected, we shall make sure that places can be reserved.

St Mary Warthill will begin to hold a service of Morning Prayer every Tuesday at 9.00am from 4th May.

Other Parish Churches News & Events

Scarecrow Trail 1-3 May. There are 50 scarecrows in various gardens around Dunnington. Trail maps and take away refreshments are available from St Nicholas Church. Thank you to everyone who has made a Scarecrow, provided a cake or helped in anyway. All funds raised will go into the Big Build Fund towards keeping those who use the Church and Tower Room warm and dry.



Christian Aid Week. If you have offered to deliver envelopes in Dunnington, they will be to collect from St Nicholas Church over this weekend, but please do not deliver them until week beginning 9th May.



Children's Society House Boxes – Dunnington.

I have now been given the go ahead by the Society to open and count boxes. If you have one please can you drop off to me at 1 Greenside Walk or alternatively I can collect if you contact me on 07746 765274, 489008 or eve_scoreby@hotmail.co.uk. New box holders very welcome – contact me for more information. Thank you. Eve Scoreby, Box Co-ordinator, Dunnington.



Benefice Weekend at Wydale. It is now time to book your place for the weekend, 17th to 19th September. Booking forms are available on the [St Nicholas Church website](#), from Benefice Churches when they are open, or from Judith Hewitt.

The Grapevine May issue is now available, with the [church news](#) free to view on the St Nicks website.



St Nicholas' Annual Meetings – Vacancies.

At the APCM on Sunday 16th May at 3.00 pm (via Zoom), there will be four vacancies for PCC members to serve for up to 3 years. The meeting for election of Churchwardens for the next year will take place at the same time. There are two vacancies to be filled (Carole White is eligible for re-election). A volunteer is also wanted to take over the role of PCC secretary. If you would like to discuss any of the above please speak to Nick, Eve or Carole. Forms available from Eve Scoreby (PCC Secretary) tel. 489008 or 07746 765274 or email eve_scoreby@hotmail.co.uk

The [Agenda and Report for the ACPM](#) are available online.

Dunnington Methodist Church

Dear Friends. The next service at the chapel will take place on **23rd May** at 10.00am when Revd Dr John Schofield will lead us in worship. Please leave a message with one of the stewards by Monday 17th May if you intend to come. We will only contact you and reply if there are no spaces left. Unless there are any unforeseen circumstances, guidelines remain the same as those for the Church Council meeting: please arrive no earlier than 9.55am, be prepared to wear a face covering in the building, maintain social distancing, and use hand sanitizer on entry and exit. Be aware that doors will be left open during the meeting so dress for the weather. The toilets will be available, but we will not be using the kitchen so bring a drink or refreshments from home if you wish. We look forward to seeing you then.

If there is anything else we might be able to help you with, do not hesitate to call one of the stewards: Anne Castle 01904 481656, Diane Conway 01904 489495 or Chris Spedding 01904 481867.

(If you are out and about in search of Scarecrows this weekend, don't forget to come past the Chapel!)

News from the Methodist Circuit this week

Worship. Online worship produced by the Circuit can be found on the [Circuit YouTube channel](#) and a [list of online worship services around the Circuit](#) is available.

Join us for Quizian Aid! The Children, Youth & Families team, and some of their crew, have put together a quiz to be launched live on Youtube on **Friday 21st May** at 7pm to raise money for Christian Aid. There's a section on General Knowledge, Sports, Arts and Music, 2020 and another mystery round! If any young people want to contribute a question, please contact [Lorraine](#). Answers will be revealed at the end of May. The Quiz will be loaded on the [Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church YouTube Channel](#) the day before. Donate via the group's [just giving page](#).

Run to the Philippines for Christian Aid! A group of HWMC church park runners and friends are planning to run from York to the Philippines (virtually!) during the month of May, a distance of 6550 miles/10541 km, to raise money for Christian Aid. Do look at their [Just Giving Page](#) to read more about the challenge and donate. Also, we would love it if you would like to to join in and add some kms of your own! Please email localpastor@hwmc for details of how to add in your distances. Many thanks, Liz Spain

Recycling storage. Our Syrian friend is an accomplished carpenter and has been making storage for recycling containers. These are made to a high standard from treated wood, and cost £95. If you'd be interested in purchasing one, or in another bespoke wooden product, please contact [Steph and Rob Cooper](#) 07762 103082 and we will put you in touch.

Praying for our Circuit. The church on the Circuit Prayer Rota for 2nd May is **Alne**. 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 at this time.

Lectionary Corner

4th May: English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era

8th May: Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer c. 1417

[This week's full lectionary info.](#)

To receive this newsletter by email, [email Victoria](#). It is also available to download from the [St Nicholas Church website](#).

To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please [email the Circuit office](#) or phone 07984 019995.

Next newsletter on **Sunday 9 May** [Email items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com](mailto:Email%20items%20to%20grapevine.rey@gmail.com) by **9.00 am on 6 May**