

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 29 August : Trinity 13

Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9; James 1.17-end;
Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23

10.30am Benefice Service of Holy Communion
at St Nicholas, Dunnington
Revd Peter Moorhouse and Mrs Judith Hewitt

This week

Monday 30 August

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

Tuesday 31 August

9.00am Morning Prayer : St Mary, Warthill

Wednesday 1 September

9.00am Holy Communion : St Nicholas, Dunnington

10.00am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton

7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)

Thursday 2 September

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

Saturday 4 September

10.00am Community Café : St Nicholas, Dunnington

Song of Solomon 2.8-13

God seeking God in us

A reflection by Revd Canon Nick Bird

We don't read from the Song of Solomon (or Song of Songs) very often, but in the middle of the bible we find 8 chapters of erotically charged poetry, and here, too, we meet The Lover and the Beloved. As one of the readings set for today (29th August), it has a tendency to catch us off guard. Middle class, middle England, middle religion doesn't really know what to do with this kind of fruity language, or the double entendre-laden language that we find here. It's intense, saucy and deeply passionate, and a long way from tea, biscuits and let's sing Jerusalem again!

But the Song of Solomon has long been understood on a number of levels. Firstly, the wholesomeness of physical relationships (he knew her in the biblical way!), and the necessity for intimacy between people. Passion is good, as is knowledge of our own bodies. Secondly, it has been interpreted as a metaphor for the relationship between Christ and his bride, the church. This can feel a little prissy, and necessitates reading the scriptures backwards, but perhaps we can let that one run a while. Thirdly, and this is where I really get on board, it can be read as an allegory for the soul's relationship with the Divine. Passionate, intimate, knowing, vulnerable, earthy. If we are open to the adventure, then there is the possibility of the deep, mutual knowing between myself and God, and the I/Thou becoming one. The Song of Solomon invites us to allow God to seek the god-image that dwells within each of us.

Sunday 5 September : Trinity 14 *Reader Sunday*

Isaiah 35.4-7a; James 2.1-10; Mark 7. 24-end

8.00am Holy Communion : St Nicks, Dunnington
Revd Canon Nick Bird

9.00am Holy Communion : St Mary, Warthill
Revd Mark Poole

10.30am Holy Communion : St Nicks, Dunnington
Revd Canon Nick Bird & Mrs Judith Hewitt

10.30am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton
Revd Mark Poole



[Benefice Worship Service](#) (youtube)
with a homily from Revd Mark Poole



Dial 899433 anytime to listen to our online Sunday service for the cost of a local call.

4.00pm Family Worship : St Nicks, Dunnington

6.00pm Evensong: Holy Trinity, Holtby
Revd Mark Poole

This week

Monday 6 September

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

Tuesday 7 September

9.00am Morning Prayer : St Mary, Warthill

Wednesday 8 September

9.00am Holy Communion : St Nicholas, Dunnington

9.45am Wednesday Coffee Time : St Nicholas, Dunnington

10.00am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton

7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)

Thursday 9 September

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

Saturday 11 September

10.00am Community Café : St Nicholas, Dunnington

Sunday 12 September : Trinity 15

Isaiah 50.4-9a; James 3.1-12; Mark 8. 27-end

8.00am Holy Communion : St Nicks, Dunnington

9.00am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Holtby

10.30am Morning Worship : St Nicks, Dunnington

10.30am Holy Communion : Holy Trinity, Stockton

10.30am All Age Worship : St Mary, Warthill



[Benefice Worship Service](#) (youtube)

Parish Churches News & Events

No online Benefice service this week due to holidays. If you wish, you can watch the [Church of England online service](#).

Coffee @ St Nicholas. If you are willing to serve coffee after the 10.30am Sunday service, please add your name to a date or two on the list on the rota board in the Tower Room. If you are not sure what it involves, please ask Judith Hewitt. Coffee will also be served after each Wednesday 9.00am Service, starting 8th September.



See also the notice about coffee on Saturday mornings. →

Lockdown Recipes. If you made cakes or biscuits during lockdown please consider making them again to serve with coffee or to buy to take home on Saturday 2nd October at St Nicholas Church. Thanks.



St Nicholas Church volunteer vacancy announcements.

We have been notified of two very important and interesting vacancies coming up from the beginning of 2022 due to the present volunteers stepping back.

Linda Newman is going to be relinquishing her role as **Tower Room booking administrator** and Sandra Broadbent is stepping down as **Gift Aid administrator**. We thank them hugely for their much-appreciated service.

Both roles are hugely valued and contribute massively to the efficient running and work of St Nicholas Church. Please do consider whether you could help in either capacity. Neither role requires set hours; they can be fitted into spare moments. If you can help, or want to know more, please get in touch with Peter Helm or myself. We can then discuss what is required. With suitable volunteers identified early on there is plenty of time to enable a smooth take-over of roles. Carole White – 07508 834565 (carolewhite333@hotmail.com)

Deanery Quiet Day 13 September 2021 10am - 4pm at Thicket Priory, Thorganby. Theme: *A Quiet Place*. Led by Revd Canon Nick Bird. Please bring your own lunch, and we suggest a £5 donation to the community from each person attending if possible. There will be opportunity to pray with the community, and also for personal prayer, reading and reflection. All are welcome. For more information contact revnickbird@gmail.com

ENCOUNTER Theology@4. 'What is Theology?'. The Derwent Ings Benefice presents an informal monthly preaching series with Rev Dr. Greg Hoyland. Café-style refreshments with relaxed discussion and Q&A. **Saturday 4th September** 4pm at St Helen Church, Thorganby YO19 6DB. All welcome.

Dunnington Methodist Church

Dear Friends, as we, the current Stewards stand down on August 31st this will be the last time that items from the Methodist Circuit News will be copied to the weekly newsletter or the Grapevine, unless members wish to highlight any events as individuals. Please do contact Lois Cross, (details in the box below) so that you can continue to receive news from the circuit. It will also be the last week that deliveries of paper copies of Methodist Services will be distributed, which is another good reason to keep in touch with the circuit personally. It has been a strange and disturbing time since the

beginning of 2020 for all Church Members, including ourselves, but we continue to keep you all in our prayers as we move forward into this new era. With Love, Anne Castle, Diane Conway and Chris Spedding

Don't forget there is a "Tea and Share" planned for Thursday 30th September 2.30pm

Saturday Community Coffee Morning. This event, which formerly happened at the Methodist Chapel will now take place in the Tower Room at St. Nicholas Church, starting Saturday 4th September 10.00 - 11.30. A warm welcome awaits old and new friends. If anyone who would like to attend has a problem getting up the hill please contact Jocelyn Auton, who will be able to organise transport. Tel. 01904 488044.



News from the Methodist Circuit this week

Circuit Welcome Service. The Welcome Service for our new staff will take place at Central on **5th September**, 10am. It will also be [livestreamed on our YouTube channel](#).

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.

Praying for our Circuit. The church on the Circuit Prayer Rota for 29th August is **Heslington**. Let us thank God for the work of God in these places, and pray for the churches as they consider how best to respond to God's call at this time.

We pray for all children, young people, and those who work in education as they prepare for the start of term. We pray especially for those starting a new school or college or university, and those leaving home for the first time.

Lectionary Corner

30 August: John Bunyan, spiritual writer 1688

31 August: Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary 651

3 September: Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith 604

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

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Communications Officer for St Nicholas Church

Do you have a passion for supporting our village church and community? Do you have good communication skills and experience with Microsoft Office, web editing and social media? We are seeking a communications officer to work 7-10 hours a week to produce printed communications (including the village magazine 'The Grapevine') and manage the church's online presence. IT equipment and office space is provided at the church, but partial homeworking, and flexibility of hours, are possible. £13.26 per hour. We are seeking someone who is sympathetic to the Christian faith. For a full role description and other enquiries, please contact the Rector Nick Bird on 489349 or revnickbird@gmail.com, or Revd Mark Poole on 426522 or revmarkpoole20@gmail.com.

Deadline for applications is 9:00am on Monday 13th September. Interviews to take place on Monday 20th September at 10:00am. This can be flexible if necessary.

To receive newsletters by email, contact grapevine.rey@gmail.com. They are also available on the [St Nicholas Church website](#). To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please contact the office by email yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com or phone 07984 019995.

Next newsletter on **Sunday 12 September**. [Email items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com](mailto:grapevine.rey@gmail.com) by **9.00 am on Thursday 9 September**