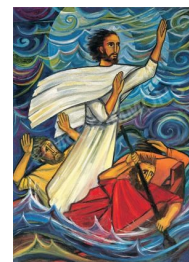


# NEWSLETTER

## Sunday 20 February: 2nd Sunday before Lent

Readings: Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end; Revelation 4; Luke 8.22-25



### Today

- 8.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington  
*Revd Canon Nick Bird*
- 10.30am Holy Communion: St Mary, Warthill  
*Revd Canon John Harrison*
- 10.30am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington  
*Revd Canon Nick Bird and Judith Hewitt*
- 10.30am Morning Worship: Holy Trinity, Stockton  
*Revd Mark Poole*

 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

### This week

#### Monday 21 February

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)
- 1.30pm Sewing & Art Group: St Nicholas Tower Room

#### Tuesday 22 February

- 9.00am Morning Prayer: St Mary, Warthill
- 1.45pm Little People, Play and Praise: St Nicholas Tower Room
- 2.30pm Silver Service Afternoon Tea: Holy Trinity, Stockton

#### Wednesday 23 February

- 9.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 9.45am Bereavement Café: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 10.00am Holy Communion: Holy Trinity, Stockton
- 7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)
- 7.30pm Meditation Group: St Nicholas Tower Room

#### Thursday 24 February

- 9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)
- 7.00pm Benefice Prayer meeting (zoom)

#### Saturday 26 February

- 10.00 am Community Café: St Nicholas Tower Room

### Sunday 27 February: Sunday before Lent

- Readings: Exodus 34.29-end; 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2; Luke 9.28-36
- 10.30am Benefice Service: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 4.00pm Evening Prayer: Holy Trinity, Holtby

 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

### A reflection from Revd Mark Poole - Storms

As I write, storm Dudley and Eunice are on the horizon, and by the time you are reading this the wind may already be howling in the trees and the rain lashing against your windows. So, this Sunday's Gospel reading could not be more apt: Luke's account of Jesus calming a storm.

With a brief gap in his schedule, Jesus suggests to his disciples they take a sojourn in a boat for a bit of rest and relaxation. Within minutes, Jesus nods off. The brewing storm then bursts, tossing the little vessel over the crashing waves. While the boat begins to sink and the disciples struggle to save their lives, Jesus is seemingly still asleep. I wonder, are we meant to think that Jesus is so exhausted that he could sleep through anything and is therefore unaware? Or are we meant to think Jesus is rather unconcerned as he and his disciples find themselves in peril on the sea? The story continues and, filled with terror, the disciples rouse Jesus who immediately 'rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.'

I like to think that Jesus' apparent lack of concern comes not from indifference, or weariness, but from an absolute trust and confidence in the power of God to rescue and save. Such was his intimacy with God that he never doubted his Father's love for him.

As a Church and as individuals, we face many storms; many things can threaten to overwhelm us. As a Church, we are facing problems over the falling numbers in our parishes, the lack of consensus on many moral and doctrinal issues, and a lack of confidence in the Church's relevance in the modern world. As individuals, we can feel swamped by depression, anger, hurts, resentments, failed relationships, jealousy, and hopelessness. You can add to the list.

Perhaps a message in this Gospel reading is not that we should meet these 'storms' with weariness, complacency or indifference, but with a confidence that, anchored in the unconditional love of God, we have a Saviour who has the power to rescue us and to save us. The storms of life may threaten to overwhelm us, but the only thing that truly overwhelms us is the love of God.

Back to Dudley and Eunice. I hope he isn't too fierce. I need to get my campervan over the A66 on Sunday!



### Covid Guidance updates

As of 27th January, the wearing of masks is no longer legally required. However, we will still be **strongly encouraging** people to wear masks in church, especially since social distancing may be difficult. The Church of England's official guidance has been updated in light of this, and can be read in full either by [clicking here](#), or by visiting [tinyurl.com/updatedcovidguidance](https://tinyurl.com/updatedcovidguidance). We will be following these guidelines closely as we strive to ensure that everyone feels that attending church is as safe an activity as possible.

## Parish Churches News & Events

**Bereavement Café:** Our next café is on 23rd February from 9.45. Do consider inviting someone who has lost a loved one to come, or come yourself.

**Ash Wednesday (this week!):** There will be a Service at 7.00pm at St Nicholas Church. Everyone very welcome as we begin our Lenten journey.

**Concert and Choral Evensong:** The Stamford Bridge Singers are giving a 'Concert for Children', (of all ages) at St Nicholas Church on Sunday 20th March at 3.00pm. Tickets are £5.00 each from Eve or Joan, or payable on the door. Accompanied children under 16, free. Tea and cake will be served before Choral Evensong at 5.00pm.

**Sunday 27th February:** Today we worship together, as a Benefice, at St Nicholas Church at 10.30am. There will be no other morning services on that day but there will be Evensong at Holtby at 4.00pm.

**Sunday Coffee at St Nicholas:** We are now currently asking for volunteers to make and serve coffee after the 10.30 service, only. If you can help, please sign the list on the Tower Room rota board.

**Messy Pancake Party:** We will be making and serving pancakes on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March, from 3.30 until 5.30. Put the date in your diary now!

**World Day Of Prayer:** After the service on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00, we would like to serve cake. The service this year is prepared by the women (although everyone is welcome at the Service) of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Included in the planning notes are recipes for Soda Faris and Welsh Cakes. If you are willing to make batch of either, please speak to Judith who will give you the recipe. Thank you.

**Silver Service Afternoon Tea:** Holy Trinity Church, Stockton on the Forest, are holding their regular Silver Service Afternoon Tea on Tuesday 22nd Feb. Join us for an afternoon of friendship, tea, and cakes, plus a quiz!

**From the Deanery:** Theology @4: Revd Dr Greg Hoyland is leading a new set of these studies at Thorganby Church at 4.00pm on Saturday afternoons, always the first Saturday of the month. Everyone is welcome, it is an open invitation to attend this Derwent Ings Church, part of our Deanery.

On 5 March it will be Led by the Spirit and on 2 April it will be The Dignity of Difference. Greg is an excellent speaker and will keep us all up to date with these thought-provoking addresses.



**Everyday Faith:** The Church of England have an excellent set of resources which you can sign up to online at:

[www.churchofengland.org/resources/everyday-faith-portal](http://www.churchofengland.org/resources/everyday-faith-portal). Here you'll find a huge selection of prayers, reflections, podcasts, blogs and more, to help equip you on your daily journey with God and with others.

A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE NOW GOING  
BACK TO CHURCH ONCE AGAIN



THIS IS USUALLY BECAUSE THEY  
HAVE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING LIKE  
THEIR KEYS OR JACKET OR GLASSES

CartoonChurch.com

## Lectionary Corner at St Nicholas

**23 February:** Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr c.155

Further information about the above can be found by visiting the newsletter page on the website.

To receive newsletters by email, contact [grapevine.rey@gmail.com](mailto:grapevine.rey@gmail.com). Also available on the [St Nicholas Church website](http://St Nicholas Church website) and in St Nicholas Church.

To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please contact the office by email [yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com](mailto:yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com) or phone 07984 019995.

Next newsletter on **Sunday 27th February** [Email items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com](mailto:grapevine.rey@gmail.com) by 9.00 am on **Thursday 24th February**