

Newsletter

Sunday 17th July: Trinity 5

Readings: Genesis 18.1-10a; Colossians 1.15-28; Luke 10.38-end

Today

- 8.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
Revd Mark Poole
- 10.30am Holy Communion: Holy Trinity, Stockton
Revd Mark Poole
- 10.30am Morning Worship: St Nicholas, Dunnington
Revd John Trevenna
- 10.30am Morning Worship: St Mary, Warthill
The Wilsons
[Online Benefice Worship \(YouTube\)](#)



This week

Monday 18th July

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

Tuesday 19th July

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

Wednesday 20th July

- 9.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 9.45am Coffee: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 10.00am Holy Communion: Holy Trinity, Stockton
- 7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)

Thursday 21st July

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

Saturday 23rd July

- 10.00am Community Café: St Nicholas Tower Room

Sunday 24th July: Trinity 5

Readings: Genesis 18.20-32, Colossians 2.6-15,
Luke 11.1-13

- 8.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 10.30am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
- 10.30am Morning Worship: Holy Trinity, Stockton
- 6.00pm Evensong: Holy Trinity, Holtby



[Online Benefice Worship \(YouTube\)](#)

Reflection on Luke 10.38-end by Revd Mark Poole



The reading from Luke's gospel tells the familiar story of when Jesus visits the home of Martha and Mary. Martha is running around like a headless chicken presumably preparing food, washing up, laying the table, sweeping the floor and goodness knows what else. In the meantime, her sister, Mary, chills at the feet of Jesus seemingly mesmerised by all that he has to say. This story is often viewed as a lesson in the importance of 'being' rather than 'doing'. Jesus says to a disgruntled Martha, 'Martha, Martha, you are distracted by many things, there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.' Jesus seems to value adulation over action, devotion over duty.

I feel sorry for Martha! If we weren't blessed by the dedicated service of the Marthas of this world, then little would get done. Yet on the other hand, unless we take time to 'be still and know that I am God' then we are in danger of never knowing the fullness of life God intends for us.

But Jesus' response to Martha is rather enigmatic. 'Being' rather than 'doing' can only be inferred. I wonder whether Jesus' response to Martha has something more profound to reveal.

Mary took a big risk choosing to sit at the feet of Jesus. Custom and tradition meant that men gathered in the central courtyard of a Middle Eastern home whilst the women, toiled away hidden behind the scenes with the aim of serving the men and meeting their needs. Mary should not have been there. Mary deviated from cultural norms. Mary let go and surrendered herself to Jesus. Maybe this act of letting go is the 'only one thing' that matters.

For Mary to sit at Jesus' feet was countercultural, and the notion of surrender and letting go is also countercultural in contemporary society. Letting go sounds like losing. But it is in this act of surrender to God that we access our true inner selves and discover an abundance of life that is already there. And that abundance of life is Love itself. John the Baptist describes letting go like this: 'I must grow smaller so he can grow greater.' (John 3:30) I believe this is the 'better part' that Mary chose. And Jesus invites us to choose it too.

Parish news & events

Thank you from Nick, Diane and boys: Friends, we were overwhelmed with your kindness last Sunday, and to be able to worship with so many of you at my final service. Thank you so much for the generous gifts and many cards which were so appreciated by us. On Monday we had an offer accepted on a house in Fulford, and hopefully that will all move forward smoothly, so it was quite a couple of days! You will all be hugely missed. Thank you for your love, support and encouragement over many years. Nick, Diane, Zach, Reuben and Jude.

Face coverings in church: As the rate of Covid infections are rising at the moment, people may wish to consider resuming wearing a face covering when attending church services.

The Benefice Prayer Meeting is to take place Monday July 25th at the usual time of 7pm. It will take place live at Fair View, Warthill YO19 5XW rather than on Zoom and all are very welcome.

Jubilee High Tea, Weds 20th July, 1pm: Year 8 would like to invite you to a free community event as part of their Young Leaders Award. The event will take place at Archbishop Holgate's School and will include musical entertainment, free refreshments, bingo and a raffle. If you have any questions please email khollinger@ahs.pmat.academy or call the school on 01904 411341.

Tetley's Smooth Ale: After an enjoyable Beer N'Hymns evening we have a box of 12 Tetley Smooth Ale left. To help Church funds we are wondering if anyone would like a can, or two, for a donation of a £1 each. Please speak to Judith if you are interested.

Receiving Communion: We are now offering several ways to receive Communion in our Benefice Churches. You can either receive the wafer, which is to receive Communion in all its fullness, you can also receive from the Common Cup, as many churches are now. We are also offering a wafer, intincted, in a separate chalice, by the priest. If you wish to receive an intincted wafer, please take an orange card (at St Nicholas) from the chancel steps and take it when you receive Communion. The practice may vary slightly depending on the celebrant.

Bee-Friendly Trail: Thank you to all who supported the pre-trail event. Just over £270 was raised. If you can help serve refreshments over the trail weekend, 23rd/24th July, please sign the list in the Tower Room.

Bee-Friendly Trail: If you can help serve refreshments, and/or provide a cake, over the weekend 23rd and 24th July, please sign the list in the Tower Room. This event will raise funds for the DEC and St Nicholas Church Building Fund.

31st July: Today will be a Benefice Service at St Mary, Warthill, at 10.30. There will be no other services in the Benefice that day.

Coffee at St Nicholas: Coffee after services offers a time of fellowship. If you can set up and serve coffee please sign the list on the rota board in the Tower Room. Not sure what is involved, then speak to someone on the rota already.

School Services: The schools in our benefice will be gathering in our Churches during this next week for their end of school year services. Please pray for the all the staff and children as they enter this last week of term. Bereavement Café. Our next café is on Wednesday 27th July. Do invite or encourage anyone you know who has suffered a bereavement either recently or a while ago to come.

Reading Rota at St Nicholas: It will soon be time to prepare the next rota to take us to the end of the year. If you would like to be included in the new rota, please let Judith know by 7th August. We will assume you wish to stay on the rota unless you say otherwise. If you are interested in leading intercessions, please speak to Mark or Judith.

Derwent Deanery is holding its annual social afternoon at Dam End Farm, Kelfield Lane, Riccall, YO19 6PQ on the afternoon of 17 July by kind invitation of Mrs Anne Saunders. We will start at 2.30pm and finish at 5.00pm with a short open-air service. All are welcome. Please bring with you your picnic, and maybe a little extra to share, (Anne has chairs), any musical instruments to join in with our worship and any lawn games you may have. We look forward to seeing you there to chat, play games and share worship. The farm at the edge of Riccall village on the left as you leave Riccall heading for Kelfield. For further details please contact Alison on 01904 489148.

Lectionary Corner at St Nicholas

19 July: Gregory and Macrina. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa and his sister Macrina, Deaconess.

Teachers of the Faith c. 394 and c.379

22 July: Mary Magdalen

To receive newsletters by email, contact grapevine.rey@gmail.com. Also available on the St Nicholas Church website and in St Nicholas Church.

To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please contact the office by email yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com or phone 07984 019995.

Next newsletter on **Sunday 24th July** - please email items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com by 9.00 am on **Thursday 23rd July**