

ST. JOHNS CHURCH DONISTHORPE

GRAPEVINE

OCTOBER 2021



LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Over the past couple of weeks, I have had the privilege to conduct four weddings, all different in their own way but with one key element to each and that is love.

The love and commitment made by each couple in its uniqueness has been beautiful. Each couple saying their vows to each other and committing their lives together in church has been joyful especially in these difficult times.

One of my favourite verses in the bible is

A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also must love by this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

This is Jesus talking to his disciples about being called.

When love inspires creativity, the result is moving and enriching. There are those who excel at creating a relaxed, welcoming space around them in which others feel at home. I know that is our prayer in The Woodfield Team to make a warm relaxed welcoming atmosphere in our churches and outreach into our communities.

I know times will be challenging especially with Vivien having moved on and uncertainty of the Shaped by God Together process, but as a family we are here to help each other whatever happens.

We have some wonderful opportunities to showcase what we do and who we are, like the relaunch event to highlight our work with families which will take place on 2nd October in the gardens of Measham Church.

Last month we held events like Ride and Stride to raise funds for the Historic Churches Trust and our local churches. We arranged events so folk, church members and others, might have the opportunity to bid farewell to Vivien and we had the Heritage Day in Measham Church

Every year, in October/November, we have a service called 'Lights of Love' for those who want to come to remember a loved one who has died. This has proved popular for those who have been recently bereaved and those who lost someone a long time ago.

As I begin to hold together all these aspects of church life along with my colleagues and all those working to sustain the life and work of the church, remember we are a church for the community.

I was struck by a poem which really holds with the way forward by Colin Murray Parkes

'Our aim cannot be to cancel out the past,

To try to forget, but to ensure that the strength and meaning which gave beauty to the old patterns is remembered and reinterpreted in the pattern now emerging.'

Enjoy your days ahead

Blessings go with you

Revd Rick Tett Team Vicar in the Woodfield team

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS MONTH ACROSS THE WOODFIELD CHURCHES

OCTOBER SERVICES at DONISTHORPE and ELSEWHERE IN THE WOODFIELD TEAM of CHURCHES

You will notice that all our churches don't have a weekly service.

At this time we have a Team Vicar and a Curate to cover 8 churches. We have a faithful band of retired clergy and lay readers but they are retired (that must be respected) and they are not paid either. It is demanding on church wardens to have services every Sunday. So it has seemed sensible not to aim at every church having a

weekly service. Do remember that you can travel though – there is more than 1 service in the Team each Sunday. You would be very welcome at all Team churches – give it a go – the distance between churches is not great.

ALL SERVICES START AT 10am

- October 3rd:** Normanton-le-Heath (Harvest Festival); Snarestone (Harvest Festival + HC); Packington (baptism);
- October 10th:** **DONISTHORPE** and Norton Juxta Twycross (**HC**); Measham (Harvest Festival); Packington (Harvest Festival + HC); Appleby (Baptism) + 5pm Zoom Service.
- October 17th** **DONISTHORPE** (Baptism); Normanton (HC); Swepestone (MP)
- October 24th** **DONISTHORPE (MP)**; Measham and Appleby (HC) and Swepestone (Baptism) + 5pm service on Zoom
- October 31st** **DONISTHORPE** and Swepestone (**HC**); Normanton (MP); Measham (Baptism)

PRIVATE PRAYER:

St. John's Church is open **Tuesdays-Thursdays 10am – 4pm** for private prayer/meditation. Do feel free to go in and enjoy this quiet space.

TIMES OF REMEMBRANCE

October and November put thoughts of remembering into our minds and hearts. At this time of year in the church we think particularly of those whom we have loved who have died so:



TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

A Tree of Remembrance will be part of our Lights of Love service this year. It has proved very popular in past years. It will be in St John's Church at the front of church. The church is open during the day-time and please do feel free to come in. There will be tags to hang on the tree, where, if you wish, you can write the name of your loved one. The tree will be there from 31st October. Even if you can't come to the service, then do use the tree.

LIGHTS OF LOVE - SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE: Saturday 6th November at 2pm at St John's

This is a simple service of hymns, prayers and readings, during which we can remember those whom we've lost and to whom we still want to say 'We love you'. There's a chance to light a candle and say a prayer for your loved one. Feel free to come along if this would be helpful to you.

If you can't make the service at St. Johns, do come to Measham or Appleby on Saturday 23rd October at 2pm at Measham Church or Saturday 30th October at 2pm at Appleby Church respectively.



PEBBLE POOL PRAYERS.

At the front of church throughout the year, there is a prayer corner and we have a pebble pool there – drop a pebble into the pool for those people you care for or have concerns for, say a prayer and then we in turn pray for all those concerns at our Sunday services.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY: 14th November at 10am at St John's Church, Donisthorpe

The Service of Remembrance takes place in church, we will process to the Remembrance Gates in Church Road for the 2 minutes silence and another short Act of Remembrance. It's important that we remember and seek to work for peace for the future.





EVERYDAY FAITH: October 12th at 7pm

Our next Everyday Faith session is upon us again. The Zoom link is available from Rick Tett on woodfieldteamvicar@gmail.com . Give it a go!

ECO CHURCH

The churches of the Woodfield Team are registering to become Eco churches. This is not about getting on the environmental band wagon. It is about reminding all of us that care of the creation is all about loving God (who made the planet) and loving our neighbour.

For now, we are thinking about how we can be better stewards and then there will be some action – small to start with, but to get us on the journey.

Contact Rick Tett on woodfieldteamvicar@gmail.com if you want to know more and join in



Ready Steady Stick October



LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE TO TAKE THE CHILDREN
THIS HALF TERM?

JOIN US FOR FUN, CRAFTS AND GAMES AT MEASHAM
CHURCH HALL.

THE THEME IS "LIGHT"

On Tuesday 19th October from 2-4pm

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Cost £1 per child

If possible, please let us know that you are coming by contacting
Rev'd Wilma on 07766306227 or revwilmacolley@gmail.com

WOODFIELD TEAM CHILDREN'S FUN AFTERNOON

Saturday 2nd October Measham Church 2pm-4pm

Come along and have fun! Weather and Covid permitting we shall have a bouncy castle, Teddy bear parachuting, Craft activities, Fancy dress parade, Treasure hunt



'FAREWELL VIVIEN'

St Lawrence's, Measham September 12th. The church was full and all of the churches in the Woodfield Team were represented along with many other organisations that Vivien has worked with over her 15 year tenure in our Parishes. The church was full of love, support and some sadness at Vivien's retirement to the wilds of North Yorkshire.

Many of us were treated to an overview of Vivien's numerous roles and duties across the team and it was abundantly evident that her work-rate and commitment will be very difficult to replace. She has certainly earned her retirement and takes with her our respect and best wishes for the future in Skipton. She was presented with an assortment of leaving gifts ranging from book tokens through OS maps of her new home area to an assortment of garden tools and a splendid smart TV and entertainment centre. However, knowing Vivien as we all do, I doubt that she will have much time to watch the telly! (Chris & Sue Keeley)

