



The Benefice of Upper Wensleydale

News Sheet: Dec 20th – 31st



Trust and Obedience

I wonder what you're like with 'Obedience'? How well do you respond to requests made of you from figures of authority? This year has seen us as a nation respond to instructions from authority on an enormous scale; perhaps the greatest post war demonstration of such a collective response. The key responses of obedience and honour in our readings today come from an understanding and a deep trust that has been formed through a long standing experience and personal relationship with God. The passion and trust King David has for God is one that has been forged through many personal trials. Experience has taught him to trust God. Mary's youth means that her personal experience of God's work in her life may be limited, but her response of obedience and honour is based upon generations of testimony as to the goodness and faithfulness of God in the story of her people. It is this that despite understanding the personal implications of what the future might hold for her, leads her to the world and time changing response 'Yes' – 'Let it be to me as you have said'. I wonder if heaven held its breath at that moment. How many times I wonder has heaven held its breath over decisions that we are drawn to make; those occasions where we must decide where we place our honour and obedience.

We're told that Mary had found 'favour' with God. What a wonderful position to be in. Pleasing God should be our personal goal. How different would our lives be, would the *world* be, I wonder, if we trusted and obeyed God more and the world less?

Per Dave.



This Sunday Dec 20th
St Margaret's Church, Hawes: 4pm



'A Candlelight Celebration of Christmas'

Come and enjoy the Christmas story told through readings and music both traditional & contemporary. Let's cheer ourselves with something 'Christmassie' *Limited numbers available*

Adults: please wear a face covering but perhaps you might want to make it festive!

Head to our website to view the *Christingle* video we made for Schools this year as we were unable to hold our usual services in Church <http://upperwensleydalechurch.org/services/>

St Oswald's Silent Art Auction

Thank you to all of our artists who so generously donated their work to the auction and to everyone who submitted a bid. We can tell you that at the moment we have raised just under £6,000 which is a wonderful result.





Services & events over the Christmas Holiday



Christmas Eve

Askrigg: 5-5:30pm Carols around the Christmas tree
If you can ... please bring a lantern

Hawes: 6-6:30 Carols in the Market Place
If you can ... please bring a lantern

Stalling Busk: 8pm Communion Service

Hardraw: 10:00pm Communion Service

Askrigg: 11:30pm Communion Service

Christmas Day

Askrigg: 9.00am Christmas Day Communion Service

Hawes: 10:30am Family Christmas Day Communion Service

Sunday December 27th

Askrigg: 8:30am Communion Service

Hawes: 10.00am* Communion Service

Sunday January 3rd

Hardraw: 9am Morning Prayer

Askrigg: 10:30am Morning Prayer

Hawes: 10:30am Communion Service



A Happy Christmas to you all

May the joy, love, peace and presence of the Christ child
be in your heart and in your home

The next News Sheet will be in the New Year – Information on services, events and the
work of the church can be found at the website:

www.upperwensleydalechurch.org or our Facebook page Upper Wensleydale Church – CofE