



The Benefice of Upper Wensleydale 'Church in the Home'



Into



February 2023

Tel: 01969 667553 Email: office@upperwenben.org
www.upperwensleydalechurch.org

Edition Number 89

From the Vicarage

'Awaken your soul to adventure for your soul senses the world that awaits you.'

Benedictus: John O'Donohue

It's been several weeks since the last Newsletter and the busyness of the Christmas season is now long behind us. After the feasting and celebration of December came the anticipation and hope surrounding the arrival of the New Year, but now with February upon us, the Church's calendar advances into the traditional self-denial and contemplation of Lent.

The account of the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, fasting and praying and preparing for his earthly ministry amongst us, reminds us of the importance of prayer and of the giving of ourselves *to* prayer in our daily walk with the Lord. Lent creates an opportunity for us to recalibrate our thinking, to pause and look with fresh eyes upon the Lord who loves us and promises us so much in a world that is rapidly changing around us; to consider our frail humanity in the light of his glorious majesty.

The self-denial, soul searching and discipline associated with the season need not be, however, a time of self-inflicted misery and difficulty but rather an opportunity to follow the example of Jesus in gaining strength and guidance by purposefully drawing close to God to seek His will and to hear His voice in the noise and activity of our busy lives. To approach 'Prayer' for what it truly is – an awesome privilege and **joy** in which we can approach Him and receive from Him; to 'awaken' our souls to the adventure that the Lord invites us into through living our lives with Him.

Why not create some designated space and time to be still and to ponder, to meditate and to consider the greater things of our lives? It might be pulling over on a journey for a few minutes, seeking a secluded corner in a lunch break or settling into a favoured armchair for a time of stillness and prayer - *'Have a coffee with the Lord'*.

Our Archbishops have endorsed a new prayer guide for Lent called 'Dust and Glory'. Printed copies can be ordered from Church House Publishing by calling 01603 785925. Priced at £1:99. An app will be available later this month and any of you who took advantage of the **'Follow the Star'** app for Christmas will get an automatic link for the Lent update. The reflections will also be available via email and also via the Church of England's smart speaker apps – as well as on the free Daily Hope phone line (0800 804 8044).

The course **'Christianity Explored'** begins on Jan 26th, regular services of worship on a Sunday continue across the Benefice, we have a Communion service on Ash Wednesday in Hardraw and Home groups remain.

*Lord Jesus, you spent forty days in the wilderness: walk with me I pray, in the wilderness of life.
May the light of your compassion guide me each day into a closer walk with you. Amen.*

Rev Dave



(He will be)
'A Light for all Nations'

Forest Church – 'Candlemas' Sunday January 29th

Meet at St Oswald's 10:30

Snowdrops and Candles

Wrap up warm for a walk to Mill Gill (15mins) a short reflection & prayer and then back for Hot Chocolate!
Suitable for all the family

Lectio 365 Daily Bible Reflection and Prayer from the Lectio Team.

It's a wonderful way to begin and end your day. Many in the Church family are already using it and gaining a great deal from it. 2022 saw several members of the church family start reading 'The Complete Bible in One Year' using the voice of David Suchet and notes from the Rev Nicky Gumbel. Why not make 2023 the year you commit to doing the same? You can start any day of the year why not today?

Download the app or have the study guide emailed to you.
Visit www.bibleinoneyear.org to discover more and hear David Suchet read God's word to you.

Joan Paley
1943-2021

Leaving a Financial Legacy



It is always a great encouragement whenever someone leaves a financial gift in their will to bless the life of the church of which they were a member. It bears personal witness to the faithfulness, goodness and generosity of God and their thankfulness for all they have received from Him.

I write to inform you of just such a gift left by our dear sister, the late **Joan Paley** of Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge. Joan left a gift to the PCC of St Oswald's, for the benefit of the fabric of the church. With these funds the PCC are now able to consider undertaking the much needed development of the lighting within the building. It is with joy that we shall be able to ensure that this work is attributed in Joan's memory.

The PCC's have a Legacy Policy confirming that, however large or small, your gift will be used in accordance with your wishes to make a real difference to the life of the church both now and for the generations to come. It is simple enough to insert such a request into a will and there is information to help answer questions you may have both on our website

<http://upperwensleydalechurch.org/leaving-a-legacy/> and the Church Of England's National website: www.churchofengland.org

Starting on Thursday January 26th – Sycamore Hall



‘Christianity Explored’



You will have heard me speaking about this course at services across the Benefice for many months. It's an exciting step forward for the **New Year** and creates the opportunity for us to explore the key principles of the Christian Faith through the events recorded in **Mark's Gospel**.

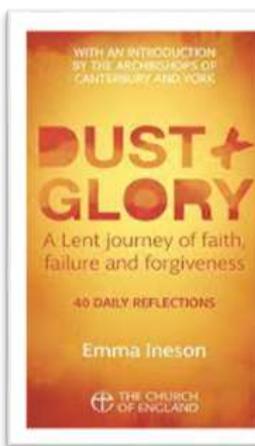
It begins on Thursday January 26th in the Dining Room Lounge of Sycamore Hall, Sycamore Close in Bainbridge. It's informal and relaxed and follows a pattern of questions, discussion and watching a short DVD presentation. Our aim is to begin each meeting with a shared meal at 6:30 and the sessions will begin at 7:15 and finish at 8:30pm.

If you're attending for the meal then please let us know at the Vicarage Office in order that we can make the necessary arrangements. It will be wonderful to welcome you there and any friends that you might bring with you.

January 26th, February 2nd, February 9th, February 23rd, March 2nd, March 9th & March 16th

Dave

Tel: 01969 667553 Email: office@upperwenben.org



‘Dust and Glory’ 40 days of reflections for Lent

I've had a preview of this already and it looks a great way to walk through the 40 days of Lent. Our Archbishop's have prepared the introduction and each day has a short piece of scripture, a reflection, a challenge and a prayer.

Visit the Church of England's website www.churchofengland.org and click on the search icon – then select Lent Resources. You will find the information you need and have the opportunity to sign up to email reflections in your inbox as well



The next **'Gathering'** will be on Sunday Feb 5th
10:30am at St Margaret's in Hawes



It was wonderful to welcome so many to St Oswald's in Askrigg on New Year's Day for our January 'Gathering', but February sees us back in our usual venue of St Margaret's enabling our younger members the opportunity to use the NASH for their time together. Gathering together as a wider church across the Benefice is important for us all. Please do all you can to be there. We often underestimate the power that our physical presence has upon others, but the reality is that we all have an important part to play in encouraging and building one another up as church, sharing in our worship together and growing in fellowship and faith. We have been blessed with some very special times with the Lord.

'How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity' Psalm 133

Be a Blessing – Be Encouraged – Be Church

The Late John Webster of Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge

The family of the late **John Webster** warmly invite you to a 'Service of Thanksgiving' for his life on Friday 3rd February at noon in St Oswald's Church, Askrigg. There will be a light buffet lunch afterwards at Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge after the service. It would be lovely to welcome you there



Drop in Community Café – Committee Room Hawes Market Hall, first Monday of the Month – next meeting 6th Feb. Open Pantry available and the opportunity to access funding towards rising energy costs. Come and join us for a cuppa and a chat in a warm



We are hoping to be able to open up the market hall room 3 times a week as a warm space through the winter months. The idea is to offer tea, coffee etc but also a hot soup lunch for those who call in to stay warm and enjoy some company. If you think that you might be able to offer a few hours to help enable this to happen then please let Karen or Dave know at the office on 667553. Thank You.

OPEN

PANTRY

Now at Dalesplay

As we are now stocking Open Pantry at DalesPlay, donations of nappies, baby-wipes and smaller tins of spaghetti hoops/beans etc would be useful for parents with small children. Donations can be brought to the Vicarage, Community Office or St Margaret's Church, Hawes.

A dramatic
date for
the Diary!

The Gospel of Mark



Thursday March 30th 2023

St Oswald's Church: Askrigg – 7pm

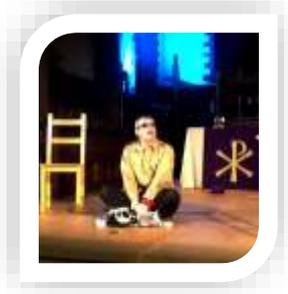
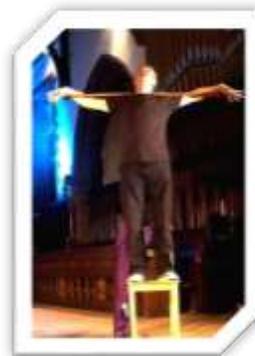
Ian and Peter Birkinshaw

A wonderful opportunity to see the full gospel of Mark dramatically and powerfully presented in this one man performance accompanied by live music.

Ian is Rector of All Saints and St Andrew's Church, Huntington, York and was chaplain to Riding Lights Theatre Company 2002-2015. Peter is currently training for ordained ministry and has been composing, recording and playing music for many years.

The Gospel of Mark began life ten years ago when Ian and Peter collaborated on a version of Mark's account of Christ's passion for Good Friday 2012. Ian took a sabbatical from parish ministry later that year and together they developed their performance of the whole gospel which has now been seen by 1000s of people. The performance will make a very fitting conclusion to Lent and is most definitely an opportunity not to be missed.

Seating will be limited and the performance is to be advertised across the Deanery and the Diocese so if you would like to ensure that you have a ticket, please let us know by contacting the office in the usual way: 01969 667553 or email: office@upperwenben.org



Shrove Tuesday

Feb 21st 12 – 1:30pm

Come and enjoy food and conversation
at the hands of the acclaimed

St Matthew's Pancake chefs!

St Matthew's Church: Stalling Busk





The Filling Station Thornborough Hall, Leyburn

Friday 10th February 2023 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Speaker: **Graham Emerson**

Graham was born in Northern Ireland and moved to Penrith at the age of 10. He is married to Clare and they have four children. He has been the Pastor of the 'Church in the Barn' near Penrith for 21 years.

<https://churchinthebarn.org.uk/>

Askrigg and Aysgarth

Ring for the King!



We are recruiting bell ringers to strengthen our band at Askrigg and Aysgarth. In Coronation year why not learn an addictively enjoyable new skill, make new friends and engage in a satisfying activity? All ages 12+

Learn about Bell Ringing !



[Join a free introductory course to bell ringing run by the Two Dales bell ringers](#)

The Wensleydale and Swaledale bell ringers are offering a series of interactive on-line presentations on the joy, techniques, and benefits of bell ringing. Combined with practical hands-on training in the bell tower, this course is ideal for those interested in whether bell ringing is for them. The course is to start in late February 2022.

Please contact us via Facebook at [Wensleydale Ringers](#) or email David Scrutton at wensleydaleringers@gmail.com.

Or contact David Liddell on 07581 105378



Upper Wensleydale Benefice Services

February 2023



	St Mary & St John's, Hardraw 9.00am	St Margaret's, Hawes 10.30am	St Oswald's, Askrigg 10.30am	St Matthew's, Stalling Busk	Evening Prayer
Fri 3 rd Feb	Sycamore Hall – Communion Service in the long Lounge – 10am				
Feb 5th	The Gathering - Benefice Family Communion				4pm Evening prayer by telephone
Feb 12th	Morning Prayer	Ecumenical Morning Prayer 10.30	Holy Communion	Soup Lunch from 12.30-1.15pm 1.30pm Holy Communion	4pm Evening prayer by telephone
Feb 19th	Holy Communion	Praise in the Pen	Morning Prayer		4pm Evening prayer by telephone
Feb 21 Shrove Tues				Pancakes 12-1.30pm	
Feb 22 Ash Wed	7pm Ash Wed service				
Feb 26th	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Outreach café Style	2.30 Afternoon Prayer 3.15 Pathfinders	4pm Evening prayer by telephone



Come and join us from the comfort of your own home

Evening Prayer on Sundays at 4pm

As 4pm approaches call this number: **03330 164757** you will then be asked to enter the Room Number: **893 277 00#** and the PIN: **2772#** And then you're in ... say 'Hello' or sit quietly and enter into a short service of prayer and reflection

Missed a Service?

If you've been unable to attend a particular Sunday service and would like to know what the teaching and reflection was on that particular day, then audio recordings are available by visiting <http://upperwensleydalechurch.org/services/> . Transcripts are also available by visiting http://upperwensleydalechurch.org/from_the_rev/

Rev Dave Clark: The Vicarage, Burtsett Road, Hawes. DL8 3NP, 01969 667553, office@upperwenben.org



Upper Wensleydale Church – CofE

www.upperwensleydalechurch.org

