

Sunday

in the Parish of Honley with Brockholes

19 February 2017 | Sexagesima



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds

Welcome If you are a newcomer or visitor, we welcome you and want you to feel at home. Please introduce yourself and join us for refreshments after the 9.30 and 11 a.m. services.

‘WHAT has Athens to do with Jerusalem?’ The question was asked by Tertullian (c. 155 to 240), an early Christian writer from Carthage. He was asking what the philosophical world of the Greeks had to do with the theological world of the Jewish people, and so what ‘secular’ wisdom has to do with what God has revealed in Jesus Christ. The question is as pertinent as ever.

In our series of sermons in Ephesians, we have been hearing the apostle Paul explain to his readers that God, giving himself to us in Jesus Christ, has pulled down the wall that divides Jew from Gentile, and reconciled himself with humanity. One of the logical consequences of that may be that there is no longer such a thing as ‘secular’ wisdom. The whole world belongs to God in Jesus Christ, and when he returns everyone will submit to his just and gentle rule.

That has implications for our approach, as people of faith, to natural science. The ‘new atheism’ of Richard Dawkins and his disciples has persuaded many that scientific endeavour and Christian faith are incompatible, but this is not a mainstream opinion, either in the academy or in the Church. On Tuesday evening, as part of our ‘Water of Life’ project, we shall be considering the relationship of science and faith. Without wishing to second-guess the outcome, I trust we shall see that Athens has a lot to do with Jerusalem and Jerusalem has a lot to do with Athens. All truth – whether revealed by God in Scripture or discovered by our scientific friends – belongs to God, and comes from him.

Today's Worship

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (1662) – St Mary's
9.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION with Sunday Club – St Mary's
11.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION – St George's
6.00 p.m. Evening Service – St George's
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (1662) – St Mary's

Readings at 9.30 and 11 a.m.

Ephesians 3.1-13 (p. 1174)
John 17.20-26 (p. 1085)

Hymns at 9.30 a.m.

4, 269, 741, 805, 494

Hymns at 11.00 a.m.

766, 269, 451, 805

The Collect of Sexagesima

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DIARY

Monday 20th February

Tuesday 21st February 7.00 p.m. 'Water of Life' – St Mary's

Wednesday 22nd February 9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer (1662) – St Mary's
9.30 a.m. Holy Communion – St Mary's
5.00 p.m. PRAYER GATHERING – Parish Rooms

Thursday 23rd February 9.00 a.m. Let's Play – Parish Rooms
Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c. 155 12 noon Bible Study – St Mary's

Friday 24th February

Saturday 25th February

Sunday 26th February 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (1662) – St Mary's
Quinquagesima 9.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION with Sunday Club – St Mary's
11.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION – St George's
6.00 p.m. Evening Service – St George's
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (1662) – St Mary's

PRAYERS

1. Among the sick and the housebound, we pray for <deleted from on-line edition>
2. Our Parish Growth Prayer – please use this in your daily prayers:

Father, you have called us to be disciples of your Son in Honley and Brockholes. May your word be spoken and heard in our parish, and accepted by many with lasting joy. Give us the gift of growth: growth in discipleship, and growth in the number of disciples, to the praise of your glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTICES

1. Two dates for your diaries! Jenny Lockwood is organising a Picnic Concert at St Mary's. It will be in the evening of Saturday 6th May. And there will be a Lent Lunch on Thursday 30th March at 12 noon in St Mary's. Tickets (£5) must be bought in advance from Gillian Greaves.
3. The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in St Mary's on Saturday 22nd April at 10.00 a.m.
4. Water of Life: the second local meeting will be held on Tuesday in St Mary's at 7 p.m. The meeting will consider 'Where are we now?' regarding our understanding of climate change, the River Holme, and God and our faith. It will be an open forum where all views are of equal value. Tea and coffee will be provided.
5. 'The Real Easter' eggs are for sale: Fairtrade chocolate, with a booklet explaining the Bible's message about Easter. They are ideal for children, grandchildren, &c. There is more information – and a list to sign up if you want to purchase one – at the back of St Mary's.
6. The next Deanery Synod meeting on Monday 6th March (7.00 p.m.) at St Michael's Emley, is a joint Deanery meeting with Huddersfield and Kirkburton, as well as Almondbury, and is an open meeting to which all members of the congregation are welcome. The speaker is our diocesan bishop, Nick Baines, who will be talking about the diocese and the diocesan vision.
7. This year, the Women's World Day of Prayer has as its theme, 'Am I Being Unfair to You?'. It has been prepared by the Christian women of the Philippines. St Mary's has the honour of hosting this event on Friday 3rd March at 11 a.m. This thought-provoking service is open to all: women, men, and children. It would be good if as many as possible could share in this service to demonstrate our support and Christian solidarity with the women of the Philippines. Refreshments will be available after the service.