

Sunday

in the Parish of Honley with Brockholes

2 April 2017 | The Fifth Sunday of Lent



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.

IN the chancel at St Mary's, there is a memorial to Charles Drawbridge, who was the minister of the parish for thirty-eight years in the nineteenth century and died in 1862. He was responsible for the erection of the current building. But there is no reference to the building on the memorial. Rather, there is a verse from the Bible: 'For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.' (1 Corinthians 2.2) And that is absolutely right. At the heart of authentic Christian ministry is not buildings (helpful though they indubitably are) but the preaching of the cross.

Today, on the fifth Sunday of Lent, Lent's focus shifts slightly from our own self-denial to the self-giving of Jesus Christ. This evening at the Lent Course we are looking at the Thirty-Nine Articles, which define Anglican belief. They tell us that Christ 'truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile his Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of men.' (Article II) The Bible is clear that every single person has rejected God and deserves God's condemnation. The Bible is also clear that when Jesus died, he died so that we can be forgiven by God and adopted as God's sons and daughters. It is the best – and most important – news in the world.

At both churches this morning we shall celebrate the sacrament of Baptism. During the service, the minister will trace the sign of the cross on the child's forehead. It reminds us that when Jesus died, he died for them. We pray that they will grow up continuing to trust in Christ's death on the cross. But the Baptism service also poses a question to the rest of us: what do you think of the cross of Christ? The answer you give has consequences which will last for ever.

We preach Christ crucified. (1 Corinthians 1.23)

Today's Worship

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (1662) – St Mary's
9.30 a.m. ALL AGE MORNING PRAYER with INFANT BAPTISM – St Mary's
11.00 a.m. ALL AGE HOLY COMMUNION with INFANT BAPTISM – St George's
6.30 p.m. Lent Course – Parish Rooms

Readings at 9.30 and 11 a.m.

Romans 8.6-11 (p. 1134)
John 11.17-27 (p. 1078) *11 a.m. only*

Hymns at 11.00 a.m.

742, 628, 182, 264

The Collect of Lent 5

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DIARY

Monday 3rd April	2.00 p.m.	Funeral (Deborah Dhana) – St George’s
Tuesday 4th April	1.30 p.m.	Easter Service for Honley C.E. Junior School – St Mary’s
Wednesday 5th April	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (1662) – St Mary’s
	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion – St Mary’s
		<i>Easter Services morning and afternoon for Brockholes C.E. School – St George’s</i>
	5.00 p.m.	PRAYER GATHERING – St Mary’s
Thursday 6th April	9.00 a.m.	Let’s Play – Parish Rooms
		<i>There is no Bible study today.</i>
	6.00 p.m.	A.D. for young people – St George’s
Friday 7th April	2.00 p.m.	Easter Service for Honley C.E. Infant School – St Mary’s
Saturday 8th April		
Sunday 9th April	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (1662) – St Mary’s
<i>The Sunday next before Easter</i>	9.30 a.m.	HOLY COMMUNION – St Mary’s
	11.00 a.m.	HOLY COMMUNION – 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. Jenny Lockwood is organising a concert with a bring-your-own picnic (Glyndebourne-style) at St Mary’s. It will be in the evening of Saturday 6th May.
2. 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.
3. A notice from Richard Ashley: “The Water of Life project will hold the next meeting in St Mary’s church on Thursday 4th May 2017 at 7 p.m. Before then, we shall be asking volunteers to help to turn the beds around the Parish Hall into vegetable growing areas as part of the start of ‘Incredible Edible Honley’. We are also being assisted by the Holmfirth Transition Towns (HoTT) group.”
4. The Parochial Church Council would like to appoint someone to help the churchwardens to handle the brief for health and safety across the parish. Might you be a good person to do that? If so, please speak to Liam Beadle.
5. A notice from Jane Wardman: “The information about the annual report is now on the noticeboard at the back of both churches, including a list of vacancies and application forms for these. Please can you read this information before you go home today? Thank you.”
6. As we are approaching Easter, the Canons of the Church of England oblige me to remind you that careful devotional preparation is required before receiving the bread and wine at services of Holy Communion. If you would like me to hear your confession before Easter, I am happy to do so in the strictest confidence.