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this month includes...

March 2025

Rector's Journal

CrossTalk in Lent

Healing update

James Montgomery
by Robin

plus
Help needed, please!
World Day of Prayer
St. Joseph's Day

Locked out, or welcomed in?

Monday: I have reached home, and my key turns uselessly in the lock. It is broken, and the door moves only the slightest amount inwards. My experience of DIY mainly involves applying hammers to things, so I take the tiny movement as a hint for robust action, and I **shoulder-charge the door**. It doesn't move so much as a millimetre, but I bounce off into a flower bed. I am now still **locked out**, and have a broken rib or two. I call a locksmith, and he advises me (after stopping laughing) not to do that ever again, as these security doors don't budge at all.

DON'T...



...use your shoulder.

Saturday: We are having a church away day today, but it is only as far away as the church hall, and involves the Church Council members, and their plus ones. We are talking about how to become a church **better at**

welcoming new people. I have planned five sessions, we actually complete only two and a half, because people keep talking, and offering suggestions. This democratic process is very irritating when I have all the answers.



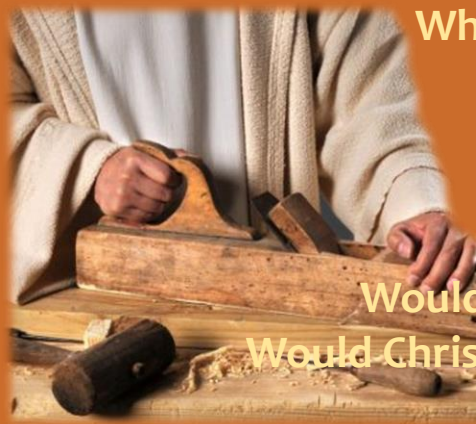
Sunday: With all our differences, and all our

mistakes, we have **come together** to worship. My plans (not fulfilled) and my errors (it hurts when I sing) all join in with the same sorts of errors and hopes and failures as make up most of our lives. But we are a **community** and we **support** each other, and **share** the holy meal together. I feel ... *see overleaf*

... a warm glow right up until the point when I finally get to the hall for coffee, and find my fellow believers have swallowed all the chocolate biscuits (again!).

Mark

19th March: St Joseph's Day *This anonymous poem reminds us of the role of Joseph in the Christian story; like him, we each have our own part to play, faithfully.*



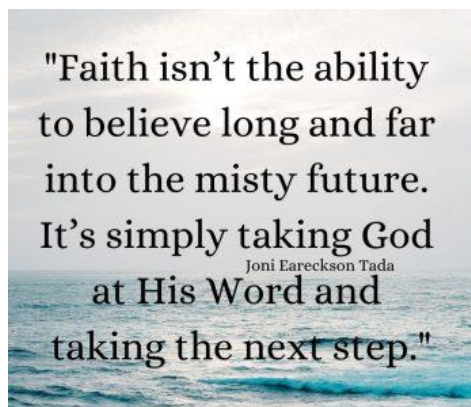
Who has not carolled Mary? and who her praise would dim?
But what of humble Joseph: is there no song for him?
If Joseph had not driven straight nails in honest wood;
If Joseph had not cherished his Mary as he should;
If Joseph had not proved him a man both kind and wise,
Would he have drawn with favour the Child's all-probing eyes?
Would Christ have prayed "Our Father", or cried that name in death,
Unless he first had honoured Joseph of Nazareth?

Help needed, please!

Do you have a friendly smile? Could you volunteer to be a **sidesperson**, **greeting** people at the back of church, lending a **helping** hand and helping the service run smoothly? If this sounds like you, **your help is requested!** Please have a word as soon as possible with Margaret W 839826 margaretwidd3@btinternet.com **Thanks!**



Book the date
Thurs 10th April, 7.30pm
Church Flowers
for everyone
workshop with Heidi
watch for details



Messy Church

Sun 16th Mar, 4pm

activities, fun, music, a meal - a different way to meet with God, especially for families. Come and join in!

Healing ministry at St. Peter's

Not everyone can come out in the evening for our monthly Healing service, so on some Sundays we will also be offering simple healing prayers during the 10am Parish Communion service. If you want to request prayer for yourself or someone you're concerned about, stop at the altar rail in the side chapel on your way back from Communion at the main altar, to share the name of whoever is in need of healing prayer.

(These Sunday prayers are in addition to the quiet and gentle Healing service, which continues on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm.)



James Montgomery (1771-1854)

A **Radical** and **newspaper proprietor**, twice imprisoned for sedition, was an unusual background for a writer of popular hymns such as *'Angels from the realms of glory'* and *'Hail to the Lord's anointed'* (and three others in our hymn book), but such was the early life of James Montgomery.

Born in Scotland, he was raised in the **Moravian** tradition so was educated at Fulneck, the Moravian community near **Pudsey**. As a **prolific writer** and poet he covered issues such as the abolition of *slavery* and child *chimney sweeps*.

In 1792 he joined a local **Sheffield** newspaper, taking it over in 1794 when its proprietor fled abroad to escape political prosecution. Next year Montgomery himself was **imprisoned** for printing a poem celebrating the *fall of the Bastille* in Paris (this had effectively began the French Revolution, and unnerved the English ruling class), then again in 1796 for criticising a magistrate for dispersing a political protest.

In later life he sold the newspaper so he could concentrate on writing **poetry** and, in collaboration with the vicar of St Paul's Sheffield (a chapel-of-ease to the only parish church) he wrote many **hymns**, publishing collections in the 1820s with approval from the Archbishop of York. He was fully involved with the religious and **philanthropic** life of Sheffield, helping to found the Sheffield **Sunday School** Union; a statue, paid for by public subscription, was raised over his grave (it is now beside Sheffield Cathedral) and several local streets were named after him.



*Peace doesn't come from finding a lake with no storms
It comes from having Jesus in the boat* *John Ortberg*

A man looked at the pain and injustice in the world, and railed against God.

"God," he shouted, "look at all the suffering, the anguish and distress in the world. Why don't you send help?"

**God replied
"I have sent help.
I've sent you."**



after David Wolpe
image Needpix

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025
Friday 7 March
A service for everyone!

Join this "wave of prayer" around the globe, at Addingham Methodist Chapel at 2pm, with refreshments afterwards. The service has been prepared by Christian women of the Cook Islands in the Pacific Ocean, and is based on Psalm 139. Come and share in this special event.

Wulpherans

Our AGM was well attended, with delicious refreshments as usual. New members (and visitors) are always welcome at friendly Wulpherans meetings, held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. Our varied and interesting programme has something for everyone, including talks, a Tenebrae service before Easter, afternoon tea, a garden visit, a buffet in summer, pie and pea supper with quiz and our annual dinner. Come and join us!

Our next meeting is

Tues 4th March

7.30pm

with

Kay Bainbridge



**WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

FRAUD

PROTECTION

Peace point

Pacifism : the belief that violence of any kind is unjustifiable, and that international disputes can be settled by arbitration rather than war

Family

**Communion for
MOTHERING
SUNDAY**

30th March 10am

*come and join in
the special day!*



Contacts

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St Peters Church Addingham

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For up-to-date details of all services and activities, please look at our website, follow us on Facebook or pick up a "What's On" leaflet.

Everyone is welcome and you can also join with St. Peter's online; we livestream many of our services to our Facebook page, so take a look.

You can also follow **C.a.f.e** – **children and family events** at St. Peter's Addingham

Watch all **St. Peter's Podcasts** via the church website – click **Online**, scroll down to **Podcasts**, then click **Watch on Vimeo**

From the Registers

Funerals

5th February Derek Law

7th February Shirley Wilson

"Lent is a time of truth, a time to drop the masks we put on each day to appear perfect in the eyes of the world." (Pope Francis)

This year there's a series of 4 friendly and insightful meetings to help us with this, every **Thursday** afternoon at **2pm** in St. Peter's hall, starting **March 13th**. Led by Mark, we'll be looking at what **John's Gospel** tells us about

the **crucifixion** and asking what this means for us here in Addingham today. Last year's Lent course on Joy was really good – **come and share in Crosstalk!**

come and
share some...

CROSSTALK

Lent Learning with St. John

Thursdays 2pm

led by Mark

13th, 20th, 27th March, 10th April

@ St. Peter's hall



and
coffee!

for more info, phone 01943 830306