



photo John Holdsworth

this  
month  
includes...

**March  
2026**

**Rector's Journal**

**Hello from  
Bethany**

**Eleanor Farjeon  
by Robin**

**Pilgrim Places**

*plus*  
**Lent Meeting  
Mothering Sunday**

## The Judgement...

**Tuesday:** I sit as one of the judges of *Addingham's Got Talent* at the school. My main concern is not to reduce a tot to tears, and I am relieved when three other judges turn up to dilute my impact, and we all settle down to watch the six acts.

I note my neighbouring judge is using the pen and paper provided to mark the first act. Unfortunately, this is a dance put on by some of the teachers, and is definitely not the first pupils' entry. The judge tells me that they can't tell the difference between the teachers and the kids. (We are a long way from the stage).



After watching six acts, we judges retire to a small room. We deliberate for a long time, but don't award the dancing teachers the top prize.

**Sunday:** the reading talks of **God as our final judge**. I'm relaxed about this provided that the Lord pays more attention, and is more discriminating than my fellow judges at school. I'd hope also that He doesn't make a hasty judgement, and someone can speak on my behalf. And this is exactly what

scripture says, don't panic, **we will each have an advocate**, Jesus Himself. I feel warmed by this, surrounded by others in church. We probably get a lot of things wrong, and we often don't see the way ahead too clearly, but we have each other, and we have our own Comforter at the end.

*Mark*





***“Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you”***

Are you following the Lent Course this year? It's not too late to **join in**, either by downloading the free *“Everyday Faith”* app on your phone, or pick up a **booklet** from church –

then spend a few minutes with the reflections each day. **We'll meet to share our experiences of Lent on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 10am, over coffee.**

The opportunity for sowing will not last forever; it is slipping through our fingers moment by moment; and the future can only reveal the harvest of the seed sown now.

*D.L. Moody*

## **A Message from Bethany**



Hello  I'm Bethany

Many of you will know me as the person who runs Children's Church at St Peter's on Sunday mornings. I'm delighted to share that I've recently been invited to take on the role of Children, Teens and Families Coordinator. It sounds rather grand, doesn't it? But my goal is simple: to open the doors of church to children, teens, and families, helping them discover the good news of Jesus and live it out together in our local community.

So, who am I? I live in the village with my husband Jack and our three children — Arthur, Catherine, and Thomas. Our youngest, Thomas, has a very rare genetic disorder and complex needs, and we've spent many hours in hospital over the years, facing some challenging conversations about his future. We're incredibly grateful for the support of Martin House Children's Hospice, and my faith has been a constant source of strength. Quite simply, my life would be a whole lot harder without Jesus in it.

In my role, I hope to bring warmth, friendship, smiles, and fun, and I've got lots of exciting things planned for the coming months. Please do come and say hello when you see me — I'm often out and about in the village with Thomas — or better still, pop down to St Peter's on a Sunday morning and bring the whole family along. We'd love to welcome you.

Until then, take care.

*Bethany*

07803 175080 [bethanyharrison.stpeters@gmail.com](mailto:bethanyharrison.stpeters@gmail.com)

**Thank you, Bethany,** for taking on this important role at St. Peter's, and all our good wishes to you, Jack, Arthur, Catherine and Thomas.

The next **Messy Church** is on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm - this is your invitation to come and be part of it (and to enjoy a simple meal together!)

## Eleanor Farjeon (1881 – 1965)

Spring is here and what better way to celebrate than with the ever-popular hymn '*Morning has broken*', written by Eleanor Farjeon in 1931 and made popular world-wide by the pop and folk singer Cat Stevens (born 1948) in 1971-2.

Eleanor was born into an established literary family in London and as a **poet** (often published under a pseudonym), **journalist and broadcaster** enjoyed its literary, theatrical and socialist circles throughout her life, although the family's move to Sussex in 1917 influenced her later work. Encouraged by her Jewish father she had begun writing at five; her extensive *oeuvre* included history, biography, satire and poetry - she was perhaps the most accomplished socialist poet of the 1920s and 30s - but it was her **children's books** - stories, poems and plays - which really made her reputation.



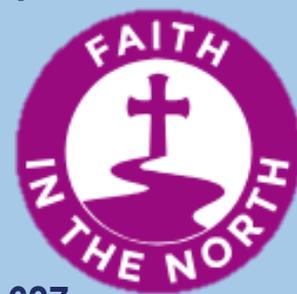
In 1930-31 Rev. Percy Dearmer needed a **hymn to give thanks for each day** so asked Eleanor Farjeon, as a renowned poet and children's writer, to write one which could be set to the lovely Scottish Gaelic tune *Bunessan*. So '*Morning has broken*' was written, inspired by the East Sussex village of Alfriston; it duly appeared in the hymnbook *Songs of Praise*. Her popular book of collected poems '*The Children's Bells*' (1957) also contains hymns and carols.

As a hymn it lasts about 45 seconds, far too short for the three minutes needed for **Cat Stevens'** planned album. This was achieved with an instrumental introduction and ending plus other variations\*\*. As such it reached the top ten in popular music charts worldwide as a '*very beautiful piece of music that had brought people closer to religious truth*', said Steven's pianist.

\*\* you can listen to it at this link [www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmAOBosGIHY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmAOBosGIHY)

St Peter's is now part of the **Pilgrim Places** network, a fast expanding map of churches offering an open door to a peaceful space for spiritual reflection.

Focused on the theme of pilgrimage, and taking inspiration from the lives and experiences of Northern Saints in Anglo Saxon times, this initiative has been launched by the *Faith in the North* group in time to coincide with the 1400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the baptism by St. Paulinus of Edwin, first Christian King of Northumbria, which took place in York in 627.

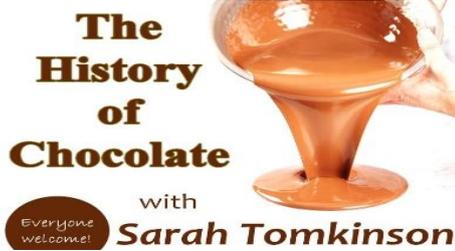


St. Peter's already offers a chance to ponder the history and significance of this site & building, and to explore spirituality gently in a Christian context, supported by faith cards to take away; the **Pilgrim Places** initiative will continue that approach.

## Wulfherans

This month, we have two meetings:

**Tuesday  
3<sup>rd</sup> March  
7.30pm**



Everyone  
welcome!

and



**Tuesday  
31<sup>st</sup> March  
7.30pm**

## Contacts

**Rector:** Revd Mark Cannon 07866 298 892  
**Children/Teens/Families:** Bethany Harrison  
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## Find out more

[www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk](http://www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk)

St Peters Church Addingham

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 monthly Podcasts** via the church website – click **Online**, scroll down to **Podcasts**, then click **Watch on Vimeo**

From the Registers

**Funeral**

(at Waltonwrays, Skipton)

20<sup>th</sup> February Wendy Wade

## Men's Social

Our next meeting is

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** from **7.30pm**

all welcome to join us for a chat in

**The Fleece** (left hand bar)



Share in the Passiontide Gospel and pick up your **Palm Cross** for the coming year on Palm Sunday (29<sup>th</sup> March) – the start of Holy Week.

## 15<sup>th</sup> March : Mothering Sunday

*Traditionally, this is the day to honour your "Mother Church" where you were baptised and became "a child of the church". In modern times, it's also a day to give thanks for our own mothers, Mary the mother of Jesus, and Mother Nature.*

### Mother Church

Upon her knee, we learn the lore  
Of love that guides us evermore.

Not made of stone, but living breath,  
She guards our souls in life and death.

With open arms and gentle hand,  
She guides us to a better land.

She feeds the weak with holy bread,  
And lifts the weary, tired head.

A guiding light, a tender care,  
Our Mother Church is always there.

*Sharing some thoughts of Martin Luther, from a recent healing service :*

**This life therefore is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness, not health, but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise.**

**We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished, but it is going on,**

**this is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.**

