

The 22nd Week after TRINITY – NEWSLETTER
27th October – 2nd November 2024

'Because of the loving devotion of the LORD we are not consumed, for His mercies never fail.' Lamentations 3:22

We are well into Autumn as russet leaves fall and return to the earth. November brings with it **the season of remembering and remembrance**. That's the title of my minister's article in Gainford and Winston's Parish Magazine, now renamed 'Focus', and in Ingleton's Parish Pump.



Thank you for your continuing prayers, parishioners resident or worshipping in our churches, and those who support us in care and prayer from elsewhere further afield. My dear father's precious birthday gift this week was being able to be with my mother, to receive her warm and loving smile as he held her hand. Only the day before, we had been preparing for mum's earthly life to pass. My father is an inspiring example to me in his confidence of God's eternal promise, although he did feel their impending parting very deeply when shown this photograph.

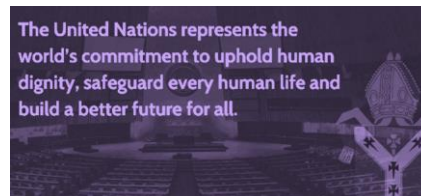
This Sunday, **Ingleton St John the Evangelist Church** would be the first amongst our parishes followed on Saturday 2nd November, 3.30pm, by **Staindrop St Mary's**, to remember loved ones who have departed this life into God's eternal glory. Both Winston and Gainford shall pray for the departed during Intercessions at their All Saints' Day Communion Services the following Sunday, 3rd November.

We are saddened and **we must not cease praying** for places devastated by war and conflict around the world. In particular, we know God's love is poured out to those in anguish from the war in the Holy Land and surrounding area. We also pray for the long-suffering people of Ukraine.

On United Nations Day, the Archbishop of Canterbury posted his thoughts about the place of those agencies set up to bring justice, working hard to promote peace and to restore peace to the world.

"The United Nations represents the world's commitment to uphold human dignity, safeguard every human life and build a better future for all. However imperfect they may be, the institutions responsible for upholding and monitoring the rules of war – the UN, the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court and others. On United Nations Day, I continue to pray for determined action among all nations to build a more just and stable world, one that reflects an unshakable belief in the equal value of person."

The United Nations represents the world's commitment to uphold human dignity, safeguard every human life and build a better future for all.



Services on Sunday 27th October 2024. Note: The CLOCKS fall back an hour!

9.15am Service of the Word	Staindrop St Mary	Worship Group
9.30am Holy Communion	Winston St Andrew	Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop
10.45am Holy Communion	Gainford St Mary	Lay Leaders
11am All Souls Communion	Ingleton St John	Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

Nurture us in fellowship, Lord, that as brothers and sisters we may journey in peace to your blessed kingdom.

Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

Bereavements

Please pray for the families and loved ones of:

- The late **John Robson of Staindrop**, whose funeral service will take place in Staindrop, St Mary's Church on Wednesday 6th November at 11am followed by a Service at Wear Valley Crematorium.
- The late **Violet Scurr of Ingleton**, whose funeral service will take place in Ingleton, St John the Evangelist's Church on Tuesday 12th November at noon followed by burial in the churchyard.

NOTICES



Come along to support our teams at these fundraising events at **WINSTON (Saturday 2nd November)** and **INGLETON (Friday 15th November)**.

Do bring family, friends and neighbours to support our churches.

And come along to the **INGLETON's COFFEE MORNING** on **Saturday 9th November 10.30 to 12 noon**, which is raising funds for **Ingleton St John the Evangelist Church**.

Please join us for delicious homemade bakes and a hot drink for £2. There will be a tombola with all funds raised going to St John's Church. Everyone is welcome to come along to help support both the hall and church.



Come along also to **Staindrop St Mary's Autumn Fayre on Saturday 16th November!**



Staindrop St Mary's new Tower Team of Bellringers Tower Captain Mark Palmer with the help from Helen Scott, who has been supporting us from the team in Barnard Castle, and of Alex Johnston, Tower Captain at Gainford, invites new ringers to learn how to ring at Staindrop. The **new training begins with a session on 2nd November 10.30 to 11.0.30am** in Staindrop St Mary's Church: mark@palmerfrost.plus.com

And are you interested to offer a couple of hours once or twice a month to help with **Staindrop's Thursday TODDLER GROUP?** Please get in touch with Sarah Fells. We hope to resume our provision soon.



Our Churches provide Christian foundation, and support our Primary Schools in Gainford and Ingleton, through the voluntary roles of Foundation Councillors (Governors). We have several vacancies for this important role.



Please speak to Judith Pressley, Churchwarden at Ingleton St John the Evangelist Church, or Vicar Eileen to find out more or to express your interest.



GAINFORD ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS MARKET is on SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER.

Please get in touch with Sue Taylor 01325 730379 if you would like a stall or know of someone who would like a stall at £5 each. Raffle prizes are also always appreciated!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month concludes as we leave October. If you've not yet watched these films on Racial Justice, do give them a go.

Here are links to each of the films:

Visitor: cofe.io/visitor-film

Chocolate Digestive: cofe.io/chocolate-digestive-film

After the Flood: cofe.io/after-the-flood

A colleague, Rev'd Prebendary Dr Godfrey Kesari of Chichester Diocese has written this **thoughtful piece for Black History Month.**

The recent racist name-calling, riots and violence against people of colour have shown that racism is not history yet. Evidently the emergence of England as an integrated multiethnic and multicultural society is still a work in progress. However, it was heartening to note that the overwhelming majority of people deplored and condemned the racially motivated attacks. Just as racist violence is pointless, blaming people of colour for the country's social and economic ills is also pointless.

Black History Month is a time to relearn that skin colour is very shallow. Pigmentation does not make or define a human. BHM is an opportunity to bridge racial divides. Like it or not, the cohesive power of our common humanity and shared sufferings and joys is at the core of our existence.

The Bible is clear that we are all made in the image of God. We must set great store by our character and not at all by our appearance. While we all need our own space to live as individuals, we also need to know that we are one, in God in Christ, despite differences in our skin colour. It should follow from this that educational and job opportunities must be provided to all, irrespective of their colour. Sharing and altruism are the pillars on which a good society is built.

In a deeper sense, the church exists to prepare people for the kingdom of heaven. It should do all that it can to make itself look as close as possible to heaven. For God, diversity is at the heart of the kingdom of heaven. This is echoed in Revelation 7.9. People of all tribes, nations and languages are welcomed by Jesus. It is now only a matter of time everyone joins in the celebration and joyous singing and praise to God together. Communities exclusive in terms of race are a far cry from the kingdom. It is when we understand and act on this compelling call, riots will cease and we will begin to witness a foretaste of heaven here and now.

COLLECT for the BIBLE SUNDAY

Blessed Lord,
who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written
for our learning;
grant that we may in such wise hear them,
read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them,
that by patience and comfort of thy holy word,
we may embrace and ever hold fast
the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus
Christ,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Most gracious God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew thy people with thy heavenly grace
and in all our weakness
sustain us by thy true and living bread;
who liveth and reigneth, now and for ever.
Amen

Readings (Except at Ingleton, where the service remembers All Souls)

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

John 5.36-47

^{36b} The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. ³⁷ And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, ³⁸ and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.

³⁹ ‘You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. ⁴⁰ Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. ⁴¹ I do not accept glory from human beings. ⁴² But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. ⁴³ I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. ⁴⁴ How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? ⁴⁵ Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. ⁴⁶ If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. ⁴⁷ But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?’