Services in the Parish of Hodder Valley during August and September

Sunday 4th August – 10th after Trinity

Saint Andrew's Church, Slaidburn, at 10.00 am. A service of Holy Communion (Revd Noel Colley)

Sunday 11th August – 12th after Trinity

Saint Andrew's Church, Slaidburn, at 10.00 am. A service of Morning Prayer (Revd Noel Colley) Saint Michael's Church, Whitewell, at 11.00 am. A service of the Eucharist (Revd Noel Colley)

Sunday 18th August – celebrating Saint Bartholomew

Saint Bartholomew's Church, Tosside at 10.00 am. A service of Holy Communion (Revd Noel Colley) No service at Slaidburn

Sunday 25th August – 13th after Trinity

Saint Andrew's Church, Slaidburn, at 10.00 am. A service of Holy Communion (*Revd Noel Colley*) Saint Michael's Church, Whitewell, at 11.00 am. A service of Morning Prayer (*William Leeming*)

Sunday 1st September – 14th after Trinity

Saint Andrew's Church, Slaidburn, at 10.00 am A service of Holy Communion *Revd N Colley*)

Sunday 8th September – 15th after Trinity and Accession Day

Saint Andrew's Church, Slaidburn, at 10.00 am A service of Morning Prayer (John Cowking) Saint Michael's Church, Whitewell, at 11.00 am A service of Morning Prayer (William Leeming)

Sunday 15th September – 16th after Trinity

Saint Andrew's Church, Slaidburn, at 10.00 am A service of Holy Communion (Revd John Ball)

Sunday 22nd September – 17th after Trinity

Saint Andrew's Church, Slaidburn at 10.00 am A service of Holy Communion (Revd Noel Colley) Saint Michael's Church, Whitewell, at 11.00 am A service of the Eucharist (Revd Noel Colley)

Sunday 29th September – St Michael's Day

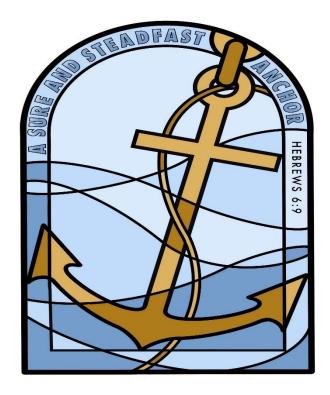
Saint Michael's Church, Whitewell, at 11.00 am A service of the Eucharist (Revd Noel Colley) No service at Slaidburn

THE PARISH OF HODDER VALLEY

Diocese of Blackburn

The Parish Churches of Saint Andrew, Slaidburn, and Saint Michael, Whitewell with the chapels-of-ease at Saint Bartholomew, Tosside, and St James, Dalehead.

Parish News



August and September 2024

The Parish of Hodder Valley

Parish Officers

Rector: Vacant

Churchwardens:
Stuart Beattie 01200 446630
Allan Carr 01200 448634
John Cowking 01200 423855
William Leeming 01200 448100

Deanery Synod: Margaret Brenchley Wendy Leeming

Vice-Chairman: Secretary: John Cowking Janet Haigh

Treasurer: Electoral Roll: David Taylor Eileen Joy

Safeguarding: Margaret Brenchley

Additional Members of the Parochial Church Council:
John Alpe
Mary Beattie
Anthea Hodson
Marjorie Pinder
Helen Wallbank
John Whitaker

St James the Least of All

On the perils of 'standing in' for another vicar

The Rectory
St James the Least

My dear Nephew John

You should not complain about doing duty in other churches when their clergy are on holiday. It is only in other churches that you will be appreciated. Beatification only comes from your own church on the day you leave – which is a way of firing a shot across the bows of your successor. I remember being greeted by a churchwarden on my first day here at St James the Least of All with the encouraging words: 'I've seen six Rectors of this parish; each one was worse than the last.' As the years have gone by, I am sure I will have entirely fulfilled his expectations.

No; when you visit another church, you will be told all the many defects of their own vicar, and whatever *you* do will be praised. Store up these memories for the day you return to your own patch – when you will then be told how outstanding your own temporary replacement has been and how congregations thrived in your absence.

Naturally, this gives you the right to make similar remarks about your own congregation in the churches you visit. Unfavourable comparisons with the bell ringers, vergers and congregational singing in your home patch to the superb standards in the church you're temporarily serving will be much appreciated. Just make sure that the church you are staffing is sufficiently far from your own that word will not get back to your home team.

It is a mistake I made only once. After filling in for a colleague, I happened to complement the choir on the singing of the anthem. Unknown to me, a tenor was the second cousin of my organist, who received a rather embellished story that I had compared my own choir back home unfavourably with theirs. On my return the following Sunday, all the hymns were played fortissimo and at double speed and the choir in rotation dropped hymn books throughout my sermon.

Inevitably, when you staff another church, you will be told: 'It's the normal Service.' It will be *nothing* of the sort. Hymns will appear in unexpected places, Sunday schools will enter and leave (and enter again) apparently at random, objects will be brought to you to be read from, placed on the altar or blessed - just as you were about to try and find the pulpit. In any case, wherever you are standing, you will find you should have been standing somewhere else. But not to worry - most mistakes will be forgiven – provided your sermon is short.

So - enjoy your visits to other churches. And above all, make sure that your temporary replacement is so spectacularly incompetent that your own people will welcome you back with open arms on your return.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

From the Registers

Funeral:

28th June – Carolyn Frankland at Slaidburn Parish Church

Service of Thanksgiving:

29th July – Stanley Pearson at Slaidburn Parish Church

The Tower Clock at Slaidburn Parish Church

As you pass Saint Andrew's Church at Slaidburn you will have noticed that the south-facing clockface is permanently showing 12 o'clock which means it is only momentarily right twice a day! Some of the old bearings on the clockface allowing movement of the hands have deteriorated and need attention. This is likely to mean the provision of scaffolding and the removal of the clockface to allow the work to be done. We hope normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Observations on our Christian pilgrimage

If we complained less, and praised more, we should be happier, and God would be more glorified. *Charles Spurgeon*

At least bear patiently, if you cannot bear joyfully. Thomas a Kempis

It is a religion without love that has been responsible for most of the misery in the world. *Anon*

The kingdom of God is not for the well-meaning, but for the desperate. J Denney

A wise person will desire no more than he may get justly, use soberly, distribute cheerfully and leave contentedly. *Anon*

How many Christians live their lives packed up and ready to go? J Packer

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Welcome to our newsletter for August and September. We are almost at the mid-point of the school holidays and no doubt many of you will be taking holiday breaks. We hope you enjoy your time away and that the weather is kind too!

The Hodder Valley Parish can confirm that funding is now in place to create the role of a full-time Rector with duties divided between the diocese and the parish. You may have heard on the grapevine that the initial advert for the new post did not produce a suitable candidate and it will be readvertised in September in the hope that someone will respond to lead our parish. Please continue to pray that suitable candidates will offer themselves for consideration of the role.

Our weekly worship continues in the parish with regular services at Saint Michael' and Saint Andrew's churches. Another patronal service takes place in August with Saint Bartholomew's Church celebrating its patronal saint on Sunday 18th August, and on Sunday September 29th Saint Michael's Day is celebrated at Whitewell. Please note, there is no service at Slaidburn on those two Sundays. Full details of all our services can be found on the back cover of this newsletter.

We have been asked by the Diocese of Blackburn to publicise their Churchyard Rules and Regulations and you will find a pictorial explanation of their details in this newsletter. Please note – the parish does not have any control over these instructions – they apply to all churchyards in the diocese. More details are displayed at all four churches in the parish.

Can we also take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported our recent fund-raisers for the parish. Teas at Dunsop Bridge raised £479 and the Hayley Sisters concert at Slaidburn showed a profit of £770.

Please remember the parish in your prayers, especially asking God to send us the right person to lead our ministry and work in the Hodder Valley.



ADD YOUR PARISH/BENEFICE LOGO HERE

<u>Information for Visitors to our</u>

Churchyard

It is our intention to make the Churchyard a beautiful, natural and safe environment. We can only do that with your help, which is why we ask that your do not place certain items on the grave.

Below are some items which are not allowed unless written approval has been given.



Graves are laid to lawn, and plants and shrubs must not be planted within the grave scape. To allow for grass cutting and safety reasons, it is important that nothing is put on the grass than can make it difficult to maintain the Churchyard effectively.







Unauthorised items will be removed and sensitively disposed of. To avoid any distress please do not place items on a grave which are not allowed.

For more information please contact our Church directly: John Cowking 01200 423855

Our Churchyard Regulations can be found on notice boards in each church.