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the Parish Office (872433) to arrange delivery.*

YOU ARE ALL WELCOME!

The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St John the Divine, Menston with Woodhead have great pleasure in inviting you to the Collation and Induction of

Reverend Joanna Glenwright

as Vicar of the Parish of Menston with Woodhead and Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Vocations by the Right Reverend Dr Toby Howarth, Bishop of Bradford in the Parish Church, St John the Divine, Menston,

on Sunday 8 September at 3pm.

There will be a reception in the Parish Room afterwards.

This month

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Copy for the OCTOBER magazine is due by **Sunday 8 September, a little early due to holiday commitments.** Please email copy to both editor and Parish Office (office@stjohnmenston.org.uk) or leave copy for typing with the office.

Hello to all at St John's!

It is so good to be joining you as your new vicar! My family and I are looking forward to getting to know you and joining in with what you and God are doing together in Menston.

I have been so encouraged by the snippets I have seen already of St John's, from the friendly people to the view from the bench! In my interview for the post, I was asked what my vision for a parish like Menston would be...

My response was an image that came to mind: St John's as a beacon of light and hope on a hill, with all sorts of people coming in and being sent out to serve and tend the Kingdom, carrying the love of Christ with them wherever they go. Whether that's at work, at home, in school, or hospital, wherever their sphere of care and influence might be.

I am no artist but I do like pictures and find them helpful for communicating ideas, so I include what I drew for the interview panel...



What do you think?

Do you recognise this image? Could it be a vision for the future?

Would you want it to be?

For church to be a place where people are themselves before God, where they might be relieved and transformed, and sent out into the world to do the same for others?

My hope is for St John's to be such a place, and such a community.

What's your hope?

A bit about my family and I...

For me, my journey of faith has been life long and I expect will continue to be so. My heart is for connecting people with God, and his love for them. I have journeyed myself in understanding God's love for me, and truly accepting it and letting it change my behaviour in this world. I am still on that journey, very much a work in progress. But I do have this deep belief that we are called to live lives trusting in God's love for us, rather than driven by fear. And I am inspired and sustained in this, by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, whom I believe proves God's love for us, proves his power to redeem all things, and so enables us to trust God once again.

My family and I join you after serving as curate at St Chad's Far Headingley in Leeds. Prior to that we were briefly with the lovely people at St Edmund's Roundhay, and for a much longer time part of the community at St James Woodside, Horsforth. Before our time in Leeds, I attended St Peter's, Harrogate, which is where I was confirmed, and Rob and I were married.

(Continued on page 6)

Rob and I (both 38) met at school, and have been together since we were 18. We both have a background in analysis, I as an economist in the civil service, and Rob in various lead roles for Aviva. I left my career after 11 years in order to start three years of training for ministry, gaining a postgraduate diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission and our third child.

Our children Ted, (9), Max (7) and Elsa (5) bring us so much life and joy, if no rest.

As a family, we enjoy being outdoors, sports (including a house divided between Newcastle and Leeds United), time with family and friends, travel, film and food.

We look forward to getting to know you and being with you in this place.

With blessings and prayers,

Jo

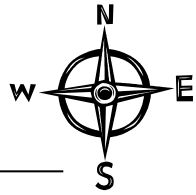
Here's the gang:



And here is me:



Prayer Points



During the recent civil disturbances we saw both terrible inhumanity as well as great compassion and love of our fellow human beings. I reflected on the prayer by Alden Solvey from *Jewish Prayers of Hope and Healing*, an adapted extract below:

*God of mercy
Grant me wisdom and compassion
To see all men and women
As my neighbours and family.
Help me to use the gifts of my life
To support others
Including those angry with the world around them.*

Our reflection in this Harvest season is to think about all affected by difficult times, including those affected by violence and upheaval both here and abroad and that we do not forget all humanity when we may have abundance in terms of food, safety and peace.

*Praise God for the harvest of mercy and love.
For leaders and people who struggle and serve.
For patience and kindness that all may be led
To freedom and justice where all might be fed.
Amen*

With thanks to David Mercer for this month's Prayer Points

ECO CHURCH GROUP

The Eco church welcomed an enthusiastic group of children, young people and adults to the Eco workshop in July. The tree trail was popular and also making fat balls for birds in the winter and grass heads.



As Eco Church Silver Award holders, we have been asked to provide information for a Diocesan display to take place at Ripon Cathedral during September. It has given us a chance to reflect on what we have done and encouraged us to keep spreading the word - the need for action to address biodiversity loss, the warming of the planet and all within the context of God's creation.

Eco tips – September

The Church of England designates 1 September - 4 October as the Season of Creation. Suggestions are to step outside and enjoy nature: -

- ◆ Get together and eat outside feasting on local food!
- ◆ Go on a prayer walk - we have a leaflet for a village walk - with ideas for prayers at particular points in the village.
- ◆ Plant trees.
- ◆ Litter pick.
- ◆ If you have garden lights, make sure they are turned off when they are not needed during the night - insects and birds are getting confused!

If you would like to get involved with the group, please get in touch with Catherine, Sally, Jen or Marilyn.

A View from The Pews by Dominic Hall

Whilst for some, September may be a month of new beginnings – particularly for those going to university - for many, it is a month of renewal. Most children will be returning to their old schools and renewing friendships that may have lapsed over the summer.

The question in my mind this month is, how do we cope with change, especially when something had seemed so familiar? Those children returning to their old school will, of course have advanced a year. For some this will mean the start of study for exams that will set the course of their lives. Inevitably there will be pressures both internal and external that will prey on them. Here is where friendship comes in. The friends these children have made over the years will, in most cases, be in the same boat and can be companions on the journey. Teachers and families also play a vital role. Not just in terms of providing subject knowledge and preparing for exams, but more importantly because they, like all of us, have been there and know those pressures. There is an awful lot to be said for experience, but it comes with a caveat. The pressures we had in our youth evolve in every generation. Whilst much stays the same there are always changes – particularly in technology – that make each child's experience unique. Those of us who have been there will need to remember that and to offer a space in which to listen and support when that is needed.

As the children are getting to grips with changes to the familiar, so we, as a congregation will need to adapt to some change. September will see us welcoming our new vicar, Joanna, and her family to the village.

The fundamentals of our worship and church life will, of course, stay largely the same. However, any person starting a new job is employed not to be a carbon copy of what has gone before. This is a moment of transition for us all and, as with the teachers and families above, we can smooth that transition if we listen openly and with an acceptance that the destination for us all is the same.

If, like me, you are one of those people who has a mortal fear of walking into a room of strangers, you will know the overwhelming relief of a smile or a friendly word. The key message for this month, then, is the power of friendship and listening to stave off the pressures wrought by change in the familiar.

Bradford North Food Bank

HARVEST THANKSGIVING *Sunday 29 September*

Please do not bring items of food or toiletries.

Once again St John's is supporting the Bradford North branch of the Trussell Trust. Steve has suggested that, as last year, we help the Food Bank with **donations of money only** as there are problems associated with the handling of donated items. Any food items brought will be used in the local homeless collection.

The Food Bank prefers donations of cash used to provide food parcels to people in crisis in North Bradford / Shipley / Rawdon / Yeadon or Guiseley areas. Our donation is vital to their work, especially now that the large supermarkets are scaling down or stopping donations provided. Without help they would struggle to give those referred to them a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food. Across the country, Trussell Trust foodbanks currently feed over 2 million people.



There will be a Big Jar at the back of church for cash donations only. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please do so via their website

bradfordnorth.foodbank.org.uk/

St John's Parish Church, Menston

Zest Harvest Celebration

Everyone is welcome to join us
to give thanks to God and to
celebrate the harvest.

Crafts, Lego challenge, baking,
refreshments and lots more.



Saturday 28 September
Kirklands Community Centre
2 - 3pm

Worship this month

1 Sept The Fourteenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: James 1: 17-end; Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Reader: David Machin

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist

8 Sept The Fifteenth Sunday after TRINITY

9.30am Zest **N.B Please note no 11am Parish Eucharist service**
3.00pm The Collation and Induction of Revd Joanna Glenwright
6.00pm Short service of Holy Communion

15 Sept The Sixteenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: James 3: 1-12; Mark 8: 27-end
Reader: Jan Alexander

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist

22 Sept The Seventeenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: James 3: 13—4: 3, 7-8a; Mark 9: 30-37
Reader: Peter Wilbraham

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist

29 Sept The Eighteenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: James 5: 13-end; Mark 9: 38-end
Reader: Jane Pratt

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist

6 Oct The Nineteenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: Hebrew 1: 1-4; 2: 5-12; Mark 10: 2-16
Reader: Jenny Steele

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist

MID-WEEK SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

9.30am Thursdays: 5 / 12 / 19 / / 26 Sept / 3 October

SEPTEMBER HURRAHS!

This month, our interregnum comes to a close as we welcome our new incumbent Revd Jo. I for one am so excited and delighted at Jo's arrival. I am positive that Jo and her ministry will bring a new season to the life of St John's as we journey forward together.

Interregnums are challenging and interesting times. I want to pay tribute to all the different people who have given so much of their time and their talents to help keep St John's a lively and welcoming place of worship. Listing names is always a dangerous game because we can accidentally miss someone of the list, but you all know who you are, and I thank God for all that you have done. An interregnum also creates opportunities for people to discover new gifts and skills. In Zest, under the quiet leadership of Sally, a group of people have stepped up to leadership roles, and we have enjoyed a rich variety of styles. God bless you for being willing to have a go!

The other side of an interregnum is that some people see it as an opportunity to relax, to have a sabbatical as it were, and there are some faces that we have missed in church over the last few months. September is a God given chance to come back, to start again, to come home, because we have missed you. St John's is a welcoming church and as we welcome Jo and Rob and their family to Menston, we will be delighted to see you back again.

As a worshipping community we have so much to offer our local community. Mission and outreach can simply be a case of invitation, 'come along and see for yourself'. Maybe there is someone that you could invite, to any of our different activities. We do have so much to offer.

In the last book of the Bible, the book of revelation, we read in chapter 21; 'Look, I am making everything new!' God takes us just as we are and transforms us into something new. As a church family we are constantly being made new, refreshed and transformed.

Let us pray for Revd Jo and her family, the life of St John's Church, and for each other.

God bless,

Andrew

PCC Notes *Catherine Meakin*

PCC met on the 15 July and began planning for the arrival of Reverend Joanna Glenwright and her family. They hope to move into the vicarage the week beginning the 19 August. The PCC will convene to tidy the garden and clean the house on the 16 August and will provide some family meals for them while they unpack and settle into the vicarage.

The licensing service will take place at 3pm, Sunday 8 September, in place of the 11am service. Zest will run as normal and there will be provision made for children during the licensing before they join the service towards the end to help welcome our new vicar. Details of this service will follow.

Church finances were discussed with the welcome news that the new energy provider should result in significant savings going forward and is also a greener energy provider. The Generous Church group will meet in August to look at resources

and options to present to Reverend Glenwright on her arrival.

The maintenance day held at the end of June was a success, with many parts of the church looking cleaner, brighter and tidier. This may become more regular and some tasks will continue over the summer, volunteers always welcome.

The churchyard handover to Bradford Council is progressing, albeit slowly, and so members of the PCC are looking at alternatives for cutting the grass, including external funding and contractors. Please bear with us while we try to tame the churchyard wilderness. We are so grateful to the small number of volunteers who continue to do their best on what is such a difficult site.

Upcoming social events include a Harvest service at Kirklands on the 28 September (details on page 11, a quiz night and supper on Friday 1 November and a Zest Christmas Christingle workshop at church on Saturday 14 December.



This month:

3 Sept 12.30pm Light lunch (provided) in the Parish Room to welcome members of our link branch of Upper Cumberworth, Huddersfield, followed by a short service in church.

Diocesan and Bradford Area News

Recent reports from the Mothers' Union to branches give details of elections of officers for the next 3 years beginning January 2025: The new Diocesan President will be Julia Tum from Huddersfield, and our Bradford Area President will be Evelyn Haigh from Wyke, and we wish them well in their new roles.

During the annual '*Summer of Hope*' appeal from Mary Sumner House this year, more active branches have been busy holding fund-raising events such as garden parties and strawberry teas and sending in their donations to boost the fund.

*Lord, help us to love our neighbours
that this may be a summer of hope
for those struggling with life's demands. Amen*

On a less heartening note, it is apparent that many branches in our area are seeing declining numbers and some are facing closure. Suggestions for ideas of attracting new members are always on the agenda at meetings.

For the more active branches, our current Bradford President Jenny Kimber is keen for the MU to have some involvement with future events to be organised by the Bradford City of Culture, and she is busy making enquiries about that.

Here at St John's MU, we now have a new programme for September to July next year, and look forward to our fellowship together, and also welcoming our new Vicar Jo to our group.

Marjorie Boddy & Ann Dixon

Saturday 12 October, 7-9pm

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In aid of church funds

*If you would like to be part of a group that sings a
worship song at this concert, please can you let me know?
I suggest we meet on Sunday 1 September at 10.30am in
the choir vestry/office. .Marilyn 874220*

OUTREACH

Although we have not committed to supporting USPG, the Anglican mission agency around the world, as part of our charity voting process, some of us still support the charity and receive its updates and prayer diary. For August the diary is focussing on 'Whom Shall I Send'. A familiar refrain in a favourite hymn but in this context, it is about the training programme to equip lay and ordained young people to serve in local parishes in the Middle East. Given the ongoing conflict, they are asking for our prayers for these young people, for justice and peace in the Holy Land and for people of all faiths in that region. I could only think, 'Amen' to that and we would encourage you to pray for them too.

For September, the focus is on Creationtide. The commentary suggests that 'the times we live in show that we are not relating to the earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used. It suggests that there is hope and expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather groaning, crying and actively striving for new life amidst the struggles. Just as in childbirth, we go through a period of immense pain but new life springs forth.'

The prayer for 1 September is:-

*You made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythms of the seasons;
as we thank you for your gracious provision
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its people.
Amen.*

Outreach Group

Climate Action Menston

Having heard about solar, batteries, air source heat pumps as well as no fly holidays and just transitioning by the University of Leeds at our meeting in July, we continue to spread the word about actions individuals locally are taking. If you have a story to share, do get in touch.

If you are interested in Travel and Transport issues, such as the Wharfedale Greenway and Active Travel Hubs, come along on Wednesday 28 August at 7.30pm in Kirklands.

Our next general meeting is on Wednesday 18 September at 7.30pm, also in Kirklands.

All are welcome. Our website is <https://climateactionmenston.org.uk/> or contact Marilyn on 874220.

Menston Heritage Group

Following redecoration of the room at the back of the library that Kirklands Trust have kindly agreed we can use for the village archive, we are sorting the various donations and will move in shortly. We are gathering a wealth of information, pictures, maps etc.

Our next meeting is on Monday 30 September at 7.30pm in Kirklands. Do come along if you are interested in getting involved. For more information, contact Marilyn on 874220.

Light Up St John's – Floodlight Sponsorship

September 24 Happy memories of a lovely Dad

A very special way to mark an anniversary or simply to give thanks. The cost is £5 per evening which helps to cover the costs of floodlighting the church from dusk until 10.30pm.

Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements: 872433
or office@stjohnmenston.org.uk



NOTICE BOARD

ALTAR FLOWERS

8 September Jan Alexander, Judith Knaggs, Marjorie Boddy

15 September Judith Knaggs

29 September Harvest Thanksgiving

Calling all flower arrangers! Can you help to decorate the church window sills for the Harvest Thanksgiving service? Flowers can be arranged in a vase or in oasis. The choice is yours! The variety of autumnal/harvest inspired arrangements has been really lovely in previous years. Please bring your arrangement into church by 12 noon the day before, ensuring that the container has a good amount of water. Remember to check on your flowers at the end of the week, taking them home if they are looking past their best. Thank you in anticipation. *Jan*



FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

14 July

1 September

22 September

We welcome into the Lord's family:

Thomas Andrew Shortman

Evelyn Lily Crabtree

Sofia Charlotte Aspley

HOLY MATRIMONY

27 July

24 August

We extend our congratulations to:

Arthur Cain & Holly Spence

Jonathan Miller & Sally Prus

FUNERAL SERVICES

29 July

We commend into the hands of Almighty God:

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Grace to be not like porridge

O Lord, grant that we may
not be like porridge
Stiff, stodgy and hard to stir.
But like cornflakes: crisp, fresh
and ready to serve. Anon



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Community Centre Menston

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Menston

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