

## CHURCH OFFICERS

*(All phone numbers have the dialling code 01748)*

### PCC Officers

PCC Treasurer – Ray Ford 886509

PCC Secretary – Christine McDermott 884236

### Church Wardens

Chris Watts, (Muker) 886202

Andrew and Elizabeth Bedford (Low Row) 886974

Susan Allison (Grinton) 884366

John Wilkinson (Grinton) 884740

Gladys Atkinson (Arkengarthdale) 884550

Lee Lowther (Arkengarthdale) 884473

## NEWSLETTER

This is **your** Parish Newsletter and all contributions and general news items are welcome. Letters and comment on events can be included. The **deadline** for all notices and items for the **February/March** Newsletter is **Monday 11 January**. Please send items for publication in writing (handwritten, typed or email) to ensure correct spelling of names and details.

If you would like to make a contribution towards the cost of producing this newsletter please give a donation to your distributor. A suggested annual donation is £3.

### Contact:-

Rev Caroline Hewlett (Vicar), tel. 01748 884706,  
email: [carolinejhewlett@btinternet.com](mailto:carolinejhewlett@btinternet.com)

Rev Alison Stewart Smith (Curate), tel. 01748  
884665, email: [alisonmstewartsmith@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmstewartsmith@gmail.com)

Please note that the Clergy day off is Friday.

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

# The Parish of Swaledale with Arkengarthdale

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2015 – JANUARY 2016



St. Andrew's, Grinton  
St. Mary's, Arkengarthdale  
St. Mary's, Muker  
Holy Trinity, Low Row

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### From the Curate

Well, the countdown to Christmas is well underway! For the Church, the countdown officially begins in Advent, which is intended to be a time of sober preparation for the celebration which begins on Christmas Day and continues right up Candlemas at the beginning of February. Our society, on the other hand, started the countdown weeks ago - the shops are bursting with Christmas merchandise, the air is filled with cheesy Christmas music, and the TV tugs at our heartstrings with back-to-back Christmas commercials for things we neither really need nor can afford.

Then Christmas Day comes, the presents are unwrapped, and by Boxing Day Christmas is packed away for another year. It's more about the build-up than the celebration, almost like a child who, when given a wonderful new toy, chooses to play with the box instead. We get so caught up in the wrappings and trappings of Christmas that there's a danger that the real gift of Christmas gets tossed to one side and forgotten - the gift of the Christ, the Prince of Peace who came to us in frailty and vulnerability to show us a better way to live.

In our fragile and fractured world, that's a gift we sorely need, and it's a gift that's freely offered. There's nothing wrong with the wrappings and trappings - Christmas is a great time to spend quality time with family and friends and enjoy the celebration - but let's make a point of unwrapping and treasuring the real gift - Immanuel, the God who comes in Jesus to be with us.

May the blessing of the Christ child and the peace of the Prince of Peace be yours this Christmastide,

*Alison*

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

25 October Ethan Ramsay Barningham Arkengarthdale

#### Marriages

19 September John Bentham & Judith Malton Grinton

#### Funerals

26 September	Paul Hawksworth	Grinton
5 October	May Hutchison McAleese	Darlington Crematorium
2 November	Margaret Joan Oliver	Darlington Crematorium
12 November	Ernest Trevor Porter	Grinton

### PARISH DIARY

Sunday 6 December, 7pm - **Christmas event at Marrick Priory**. For tickets and information contact the Priory office (884434). Tickets are going quickly! All welcome to support the Priory's work with young people.

**Tuesday 8 December, 7.30pm, PCC meeting** at Fremington Village Hall

**Wednesday 9 December, 7.30pm - Grinton DCC meeting** at the Vicarage

**Friday 11 December, 6pm - Arkengarthdale School Christmas Concert** at St. Mary's Church. All welcome.

## SERVICES IN THE PARISH : DECEMBER 2015 and JANUARY 2016

Key: *BCP* indicates a service from the Book of Common Prayer; *Eucharist* is a modern language Communion service

### DECEMBER

#### Wednesday 2 December

10am Holy Communion BCP

**This service is in the lounge at Quaker Close flats in Reeth and everyone is welcome**

#### Sunday 6 December 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9.15am Muker Eucharist

11am Low Row Eucharist

**4pm Come and Sing Carols** at St. Andrew's, Grinton. Informal carol service. Donations for Christian Aid's 'Mother and Baby Christmas Appeal'. You are invited to wear your Christmas jumper or hat for this service!

#### Wednesday 9 December

10am Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 13 December 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9.30am Grinton Eucharist

11.15am Arkengarthdale Holy Communion BCP

4pm Muker Crib Service

#### Wednesday 16 December

10am Holy Communion BCP

#### Friday 18 December

1.30pm Joint Schools' Ecumenical Christingle Service, at St. Andrew's Grinton

#### Sunday 20 December 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

9.15am Muker Holy Communion BCP

11am Low Row Eucharist

6.30pm Arkengarthdale Joint Carol Service at St. Mary's Church

8pm Carols round the Tree on Reeth Green with Reeth Band

#### Wednesday 23 December

10am Holy Communion BCP

#### Thursday 24 December Christmas Eve

6pm Low Row Village Carol Service at Holy Trinity

10pm Arkengarthdale Holy Communion BCP

11.30pm Grinton Eucharist

#### Friday 25 December Christmas Day

9am Muker Eucharist

10.30am Low Row Eucharist

#### Sunday 27 December First Sunday of Christmas

10am Said Eucharist at St. Andrew's, Grinton

6.30pm Muker Carol Service with Muker Silver Band

**Wednesday 30 December** *There will be no midweek service today*

### JANUARY

#### Sunday 3 January Epiphany

9.15am Muker Eucharist

11am Low Row Eucharist

6pm Evening Prayer BCP

#### Wednesday 6 January

10am Holy Communion BCP

**This service is in the lounge at Quaker Close flats in Reeth and everyone is welcome**

#### Sunday 10 January Baptism of Christ

9.30am Grinton Eucharist

11.15am Arkengarthdale Holy Communion BCP

6pm Muker Evening Prayer

#### Wednesday 13 January

10am Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 17 January Epiphany 2

9.15am Muker Holy Communion BCP

11am Low Row Eucharist

*There is no evening service at Arkengarthdale during the months November-February*

#### Wednesday 20 January

10am Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 24 January Epiphany 3

*There is no 8am service at Low Row during the months November-February*

9.30am Grinton Eucharist

11.15am Arkengarthdale Holy Communion BCP

#### Wednesday 27 January

10am Holy Communion BCP

#### Sunday 31 January Candlemas

10.30am United Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Candlemas, and a Celebration of Grandparents.

Saturday 12 December, 10.30am-12.30pm – **Recycled crafts for Christmas** – Hymnbook angels and much more – all welcome.

Friday 18 December, 1.30pm – **Joint Schools' Christingle Service** at St. Andrew's, Grinton.

Friday 18 December, 2.30pm, in Fremington Village Hall  
**The Parish Choir presents Christmas Music with Tea and Mince Pies.**

Tickets £5 on the door.

Proceeds to the Butterwick Childrens Hospice.

**St. Andrew's, Grinton – winter services arrangements**

During January and February, Sunday services for St. Andrew's, Grinton will take place in Fremington Village Hall. Wednesday morning services will take place as usual - in church, but with the first one in the month at Quaker Close flats.

Sunday 17 January, 3.30pm at Ripon Cathedral –  
**Collation of Rev Beverley Mason as Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven.**

Monday 18 January – Start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Thursday 21 January, 7.30pm – **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** Service at Gunnerside Methodist Church.

Tuesday 26 January, 7.30pm – **Muker DCC** meeting at Armsleigh.

Wednesday 27 January, 7.30pm – **Christians Together in Swaledale** meeting at Fremington Village Hall. These are open meetings, and are all are welcome.

Saturday 30 January, 2-4pm – **Forest Church** in Grinton Churchyard. Outdoor activities and worship for all ages. All welcome.

Monday 1 February, 7.45pm – **Arkengarthdale DCC** at Arkle Town.

Tuesday 9 February, 12 noon - 2pm – **Shrove Tuesday Soup and Pancakes at Muker Public Hall.** Donations for a charity, to be decided. Contact Mary Guy (886116) if you would like to help. No need to book, just come along. All welcome.

**The Vicar is in print!** Caroline has written a chapter for a new book *Resourcing Rural Ministry – Practical Insights for Mission*, which will be published by Bible Reading Fellowship on 20 November. It will be on Amazon and in bookshops, but half price copies will be available direct from Caroline – let her know if you would like a copy.