

# PARISH NOTES

Welcome to  
**St John the Divine**  
The Parish Church of  
**Menston with Woodhead**



**THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

**7 FEBRUARY 2021**

**Sunday 11am - Service of the Word** followed by optional Eucharist

In person, in church (any overflow will be directed to the Parish Room)

**Private Prayer**— The church building will be open for prayer on Wednesdays from 10am-4pm & Sundays after the Service of the Word until 4pm.

Social distancing and hygiene measures should be maintained, including the wearing of a mask unless exempt. You can find various resources on [our website](#) to aid in worship from home, including prayer resources, videos, readings, crafts and so much more. Every Sunday you can also find resources from our services, including a video recording of the service and the written sermon.

## **READING ONE (OLD TESTAMENT): PROVERBS 8: 1, 22-31**

### *The Gifts of Wisdom*

Does not wisdom call,  
and does not understanding raise her voice?

### *Wisdom's Part in Creation*

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of long ago.  
Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.  
When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.

Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth—  
when he had not yet made earth and fields,  
or the world's first bits of soil.  
When he established the heavens, I was there,  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
then I was beside him, like a master worker;  
and I was daily his delight,  
rejoicing before him always,  
rejoicing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the human race.

## **READING TWO (NEW TESTAMENT): JOHN 1:1-14**

### *The Word Became Flesh*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## WEDNESDAY COMMUNION

Due to the national lockdown, we have taken the decision to postpone Wednesday Morning Holy communion until further notice.

## ZEST

Sunday's Zest services will now be online. On our [Sunday Resources page](#) you will find the service video, readings and weekly crafts.

## MENSTON HELPLINE—01943 874335

The Menston helpline is available to support people in the village in the coming month(s).

## DIAL-A-SERMON—01943 666875

St John's has a phone line which offers a short Service of the Word. The call is charged at your local rate (i.e. the price of a normal phone call).

## CHURCH PRAYER MEETING

The next Zoom Prayer Meeting for the Church Roof is on Sunday 28 Feb at 8.15pm. Join the meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83303910584>  
Meeting ID: 833 0391 0584

## HELP—FACEBOOK

If you are a regular user of Facebook and are willing to help Revd Steve with something (which isn't onerous but

would require a regular check of facebook) please get in contact with him for more details.  
vicar@stjohnmenston.org.uk

## ASH WEDNESDAY

There will be an Ash Wednesday service in church on Wednesday 17 Feb at 9.30am. The imposition of ashes will be offered but rather than on the forehead they will be sprinkled on the head, in line with guidelines for Covid.

## PARISH MAGAZINE—FEBRUARY

The February edition of the Parish magazine is now online. [Click here to read!](#)

## FUNDRAISING BOOKLETS

Published during the lockdown, two new booklets by David Machin are for sale at £5 each, every penny to the church roof fund.

- Let the Rafters Ring - verses fresh off the pen  
- Ding Dong Merrily - tasty tales to make you smile. - 'Verses for Funny Folk' (children & the young at heart)  
- Verse on the Wing - (our friends the birds)  
- Machinations'- (his first volume of short stories)  
You can get in touch by ringing 872228 or emailing david@machdv.plus.com

## WE PRAY FOR



### The Sick:

Ken Parker, Pauline Blake, Sylvia Bradley, Marjorie Thompson, Eric Wilkinson

### Memorial Book:

Elizabeth Barber, Samuel Midgley, John Speak, Geoff Steele, Peggy Hall, Mavis Shaw, Katherine Elkington, James Flather

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- \* The universal Church
- \* Bishops, synods and all who lead the Church
- \* The leaders of the nations
- \* The natural world and the resources of the earth
- \* All who are in any kind of need

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God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen.



## CHURCH ROOF APPEAL



There has been a tremendous response to the Roof Appeal, and donations from the congregation and the community add up to very nearly £40,000. With fundraising events/activities and Gift Aid added the total comes to £50,700. As we have raised 50% of what we require, we are now in a position to apply to grant making bodies, although we must also continue with our own fundraising activities and ongoing donations. This is quite an achievement given the constraints of the last year. Particular thanks to those who delivered the leaflets throughout the village – the financial response received means it was well worth it.

## **Living in Love and Faith**

How do questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ?

What does it mean to live in love and faith together as a Church?

These are questions that are addressed through the Church of England's Living in Love and Faith resources.

Our deanery has been asked to offer a pilot course to explore these issues.

The course has been produced in video format, with a booklet as well, and comprises five interactive workshop sessions with some personal reading in between.

These will take place from 7.30pm-9.00pm on:

Thursday 18 February

Thursday 25 February

Thursday 11 March

Thursday 18 March

Wednesday 24 March

If you are interested in taking part in this course, please either filling in the online form here: [form](#) or else contact Marilyn Banister, by Friday 5 February by email ([marilyn@banisters.org.uk](mailto:marilyn@banisters.org.uk))

This course provides an excellent opportunity for us to engage with subjects that are too often simply not talked about using material that has been carefully produced and offering tools to engage well across a range of different opinions and convictions.