

# SERVICES IN MARCH

**Sunday 3rd**                      **Sunday next before Lent**  
*Both Services with Clare Nelson from 'Compassion UK'*  
8.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
10.30am                      Morning Worship,  
*Communion Readings: Exodus 34: 29-35; Luke 9: 28-36*

**Wednesday 6th**              **Ash Wednesday**  
7.30pm                      Ash Wednesday Service, St. Aidan's  
*Communion Readings: Psalm 51: 1-18; John 8: 2-11*

**Sunday 10th**                      **Lent 1**  
8.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
10.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
*Communion Readings: Romans 10: 8b-13; Luke 4: 1-13*

**Sunday 17th**                      **Lent 2**  
8.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
10.30am                      Parade/All Age Worship, St. Aidan's  
*Communion Readings: Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13: 31-end*

**Sunday 24th**                      **Lent 3**  
8.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
10.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
*Communion Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-9; Luke 13: 1-9*

**Sunday 31st**                      **Lent 4 Mothering Sunday**  
8.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
10.30am                      Holy Communion, St. Stephen's  
*Communion Readings: 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7; Luke 2: 33-35*

## **Weekday services of Holy Communion in March**

Every Thursday —10.00am in St. Aidan's  
(*First Thursday Mothers' Union Corporate Communion*)

Acomb  
Parish



# THE MAGAZINE

**March 2019**

**50p**

**Welcome to  
St Stephen's & St Aidan's,  
Acomb.**

www.acombparish.org  
Twitter: @acombparish  
Facebook: Acomb Parish, York



Charity Reg. No. 1130667

## Parish Staff

**Vicar:**  
01904 336827

Rev. Pete Vivash  
peter.vivash@dsl.pipex.com

**Youth Leader** (part-time)  
07525649041

Ali Speed  
ali.speed13@gmail.com

### Associate Ministers:

Rev. Andrew Bailey  
58abailey@googlemail.com

Rev. Pamela Cooper  
pamelacooper55@outlook.com

Rev. David Erridge  
davidandsusan51@hotmail.co.uk

Rev. Anne Freestone  
annefreestone123@gmail.com

**Churchwardens:**  
01904 792735

Lyndon Parker (St. Stephen's)  
julieandlyndon@hotmail.co.uk

01904 792993

Rachel Parker (St. Aidan's)  
johnandrachel31@tiscali.co.uk

**PCC Secretary:**  
07949714103

Anne Barker  
acombparishsec@gmail.com

## Uniform Groups

Beavers	HQ Front Street	Thur 6.00-7.15pm
Cubs Mohawks	HQ Front Street	Mon 6.30-8.30pm
Apaches	HQ Front Street	Wed 6.30-8.30pm
Scouts	HQ Front Street	Fri 7.00-9.00pm
Rainbows	Parish Hall	Wed 6.00-7.00pm
Brownies	Parish Hall	Tue 6.15-8.00pm
Guides	St Aidan's	Wed 7.00-9.00pm

## Useful contacts

### Bookings

Parish Hall – Val Atkinson 01904 799494  
St Aidan's – Christine Chittock 01904 784348

### Planned Giving and Young People's Fund

Nigel Atkinson 01904 799494

### Small (Home) Groups

A member of the clergy (see inside cover)

### Squeals on Wheels

Jennifer Deamer 01904 330569

### Mothers' Union

Anne Barker 07949714103

### Guides, Brownies and Rainbows

Micki Stokoe 01904 781477

### Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

Nick Lincoln 07882237352  
gsl@2ndacombscoutgroup.co.uk

### Church Flowers

St Stephen's – Lynn Butler  
St Aidan's –

**MAGAZINE—DEADLINE 16TH OF EACH MONTH**  
acombeditor@googlemail.com

## From Acomb Parish Church Registers...

### BAPTISMS

10th February            Isla Kate SHIMMIN

.....*Into the family of God*

### FUNERALS

6th February            James Colin GOODALL (85)  
7th                        Geoffrey Alan TYLER (96)

.....*Into the hands of God*

Please let the clergy know if you or anyone you know is unwell or would like a visit at home or in hospital. Home Communions can be made available.

#### A prayer of St. Ethelwold

May God the Father bless us,  
may Christ take care of us,  
the Holy Ghost enlighten us all the days of our life.  
The Lord be our defender and keeper of body and soul,  
both now and for ever, to the ages of ages.

*(St. Ethelwold, c.904-984)*

**For all enquiries regarding Baptisms (Christenings) and other Parish matters please contact the Church Office.**

**Acomb Parish Hall, Front Street, Acomb, York. YO24 3BZ  
01904 790808      acombparishoffice@gmail.com**

**Parish Office opening hours are:**

**Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10am-12pm**

**NB: For all enquiries regarding Banns of Marriage or Weddings please contact the Vicar direct.**

## Letter from the Vicarage....

Christianity is, of course, about worshipping God. But if we leave it at that, we will have missed the point. The first step is not worship, but in allowing God into our lives to change us into His likeness.

If we want to do that, we must ask him in prayer, and earnestly seek to model our lives on that of Jesus. We find out about that in reading about Him in the Bible, and in meeting others who struggle to follow him.

The Church, and the ordering of the Church, is important, but only so long as it is made up of people who are seeking to live as true disciples of Jesus.

Jesus told his disciples: 'You will recognize them (*disciples of Jesus*) by their fruit. Grapes are not gathered from thorns or figs from thistles, are they? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree is not able to bear bad fruit, nor a bad tree to bear good fruit' (Matthew 7:16-18 New English Bible Translation).



In this Lent, we must all examine ourselves and look at our lives to consider what sort of disciples we are. What are our fruits - born out of a life lived in the footsteps of Jesus?

The apostle Paul says that 'the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control' (Galatians 5:22-23). Are these to be found in our lives and in our Church?

Someone asked Jesus which was the greatest commandment, He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Do we - does our Church - show that this is how we live?

As we embark as a Church upon the journey of exploring how we might 'Lead our Church into Growth', we need to consider how we might become more and more the Church which Christ calls us to

be. This means that we must consider all that we as Church offer within our context of Acomb.

This Lent gives you an opportunity to consider how individually you seek to become more Christlike and in your serving of Jesus - how you pray, read God's Word etc., beyond Sunday worship. Not in a small (home) group yet? - why not consider which one you will join after Easter?

Lent also gives us an opportunity to consider how everyone can become involved with LyCiG as, before God, our Church here in Acomb looks to move forward in loving the community in which we are set, and in sharing the Good News of Jesus.

 **'WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER'  
OR WORLD DAY OF PRAYER....????** 

The name 'Women's Day of Prayer' has recently been intentionally changed to 'World Day of Prayer'. This is to better reflect the fact that - though WDP is planned and led by women - it belonging to *everyone*. It is women's gift to the whole Church. Above all, WDP is a prayer movement, a group of people for whom prayer is fundamentally important and who know that prayer changes things. There is no need to ask why we pray.

If you enjoy Acomb Churches Together (ACT) events, you will love WDP on **March 1st!** It is an international, inter-church event, during which prayers begin in Samoa and continue throughout the world in native languages, in over 120 countries through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa.

Acomb Churches are coming together at **Lidgett Grove Methodist** to be part of this global wave of prayer. We'd love you all, men, women, young and old, to join us for a service (which has been prepared by Women of Slovenia) at **10.30am** or **7pm**. Before the evening service we invite you to share in a simple supper at 6pm.

*Mo Vivash*

If you'd like to find out more, or get involved with Chaffinch, please approach me after any of our services. You can also visit the charity's website: [www.chaffinch.org.uk](http://www.chaffinch.org.uk), and see the many ways you can help.



One new initiative is a recycling project whereby Chaffinch can raise funds from items you usually throw in the bin. This includes biscuit wrappers, crisp packets, toothpaste tubes, and pet food packaging. Lists of the items accepted are available in both churches and there are boxes for you to deposit your rubbish.

I'm very grateful for the support of Acomb Parish as our little charity seeks to spread a message of hope and love to the vulnerable children of Kibera, 4000 miles away.

*Sarah Woods*  
Chaffinch founder

## Feedback.....

Thanks to all who came to our United Service and Parish Lunch at St. Aidan's on Sunday 3rd Feb. We had a fantastic and well supported service with over 55 stopping on for lunch!

Following our recent Parish Away Day on Saturday 9th Feb at Bishopthorpe in which we begun unpacking LyCiG (Leading your Church into Growth). Over 20 people attended and Beth Savage writes as follows:

*'At our LyCiG Away Day we were asked to estimate how many people our church has links with and we decided that the number is around seven thousand - through our local schools and care homes those who use our buildings, young people's groups, and those who attend weddings, baptisms and funerals.*

*These are some of the people who we would like to welcome into our churches as regular worshippers. We are praying for them and for an increase in our numbers, and we are looking at ways in which we can respond to this aim, both individually and collectively.'*

## Chaffinch - supporting children in Africa

As founder and representative of Chaffinch (registered charity 1173464) I travelled to the Kibera slum in Kenya shortly before Christmas to spend the festive season with the children supported by the charity. I would like to extend my thanks to all who were praying for me, and my work, throughout this time.

Spending Christmas with the children was a very different experience to my Christmases in England. The music coming from a hundred churches throughout the slum on Christmas morning was awe-inspiring and beautiful. At Future Stars, the children's development centre we support, Chaffinch provided food for breakfast, a huge Christmas Dinner and provision for a party. This is the only time of year that many of the children eat meat as it's too expensive for the daily menu. With chicken, beef, potatoes, vegetables, rice, and chapati, we were able to feed 130 children from the slum. The party gave them a chance to be children, to forget the hardships of their lives, and to enjoy a special day celebrating the birth of Christ. Every child left that night with a knitted star soft toy to remind them that they are all future stars. These were lovingly made by supporters here in the UK. Being a part of the day was very special for me. It is, of course, the supporters of Chaffinch that made it possible and yet I was the one able to experience the joy of so many children.

Much of my time in Kibera was spent providing the children with experiences otherwise impossible. I had a suitcase full of donated clothing, much of it from Acomb Parish congregations. The children were so delighted with the items that they sang and danced as the clothing was distributed. In addition, there were donated books, school supplies, and games. I also took the residential children of the centre to a local market where they each purchased a new outfit for Christmas.

Every time I visit, I run craft and creative arts sessions at the centre and was fortunate enough to have acquired plenty of donated supplies. The children love these sessions as creative art has only been introduced to the primary school curriculum in 2019, so they have rarely had opportunity to get creative. Additionally, I was able to take the children to the Nairobi Giraffe Centre where they got up close to the endangered Rothschild giraffes. Most of the children had never seen a giraffe before so it was amazing to see them learning about one of the animals of their own country.

Of course, I was also in Kenya to check on the work of Chaffinch and to ensure that the charity's money is being spent wisely and correctly. I was very satisfied with what I found and am proud to say that Chaffinch is making a very real difference in the slum.

### ACOMB CHURCHES TOGETHER (ACT) LENT COURSE 2019



#### “FAITH QUESTIONS IN THE CYCLE OF LIFE.”

#### SUNDAYS AT 4PM AT ACOMB METHODIST CHURCH

10 <sup>th</sup> March	Tony Bower, YoYo	Childhood
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Annie Rowley, Anglican Chaplain, York St. John University	Studenthood
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Rachel Turner	Young adults
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Laura Hambleton, Family Matters	Family life
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Kath Albans, Care Home worker	Old age

**During Lent.... Please note** that as with the previous two years I am asking those attending Services during this period not to sit in their usual spot in either Church but to move to the front and perhaps even sit with others who you don't know that well too. This will help us get to know each other better and to grow closer as the Church body. You could see it as a sacrificial Lenten discipline.

Additionally this year two other things will be happening. Firstly, the musicians will move from the side of the Church to be in the chancel, actually traditionally where musicians (choirs etc) used to sit in services. Secondly, we will remove the smaller communion table and use the main one (the High Altar as some may call it) receiving communion at the rail as normal. I hope it will help us think about how we use the whole space of the Church building.

## Could you be our next churchwarden?

The maximum term of office for a churchwarden here in Acomb Parish is 6 years and Lyndon Parker will have reached that point by this April. As a church we need now to be prayerfully considering who might be the next person to fulfil this role.

Personally I would like to thank both Lyndon (and Julie Parker for her recent work as Churchwarden prior to completing her 6 years last year) for serving us as church Warden over the last 6 years. They have both given an enormous amount of time, prayer and practical service.

Traditionally one churchwarden has covered St Stephen's and the other St. Aidan's. Although Lyndon and Julie tended to 'mix and match' as necessary. Lyndon and I have tended to stick to a more traditional plan.

The three key areas for a churchwarden are:

- A. Looking after the fabric of the building. Note - the property committee handles practically all of the routine maintenance tasks.
- B. Making sure the church is ready for services. There are various folks who fulfil the background / support roles.
- C. Supporting the vicar in the mission of the Church. You become a valued member of the staff team and have a real opportunity to prayerfully influence the future direction of our church.

Being a churchwarden is an amazing and a very fulfilling role. You have a real sense of serving God within our church family and in the wider community. It's remarkable that the more you give to the role the more you want to give! And you do feel supported by the prayers of many people, and the Vicar too.

So we need to start the ball rolling now in finding a replacement for Lyndon. Please start praying in earnest. Over the last few years we have as a church become more confident in listening to God. Is God calling you to this role? Full training and support will be given.

*Rachel Parker (Churchwarden).*

**Acomb Parish Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
Sunday 28th April 2019 at St. Stephen's Church  
at 10.45am following on from the 9.30am service.**  
Coffee will be available between the service and the meeting.

*In preparation for this:*

Every 6 years the church Electoral Roll is completely renewed. This is the year for that renewal which will take place between 24<sup>th</sup> March and 7th April 2019. So everyone wishing to be on the roll must complete and sign a new application form which you can find in the entrance at both churches. Your name may be added to the roll if you are baptised and 16 years of age or over. Applications should reach the Electoral Roll Officer, Mr Gordon Wise, by 23rd March. The revised roll will be available to view in both churches on 7th April. Those then on the roll can vote at the Annual Meetings on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

There will be **PCC member vacancies** as some complete their terms of office. Forms are available at each church to nominate individuals who may like to come onto the PCC. Nomination forms should be completed and passed to the Vicar or churchwardens well before the meeting.

### **Churchwardens**

You will be aware that Lyndon Parker will be standing down at the Annual Meeting. If you would like another Churchwarden to support Rachel the church needs to nominate people to this office. Nominations are to be handed to the Vicar well before the Annual Meeting on the prescribed form available at the back of the church. These need to be signed by the nominee themselves plus two nominators! Over to you!

### **Acomb Local History Group**

On Wednesday 13th March 2019  
we will have a talk entitled  
**York Minster: Insights into medieval life**  
by Mike Stillings

We start our meeting at 10.00am (prompt)  
in ACOMB PARISH CHURCH HALL,  
FRONT STREET. Acomb  
ADMISSION: Members 50p Visitors £1.00  
(includes tea/coffee/biscuit)

## Events in March

- SUN 3** 5 - 7pm Sunday Supper, Parish Hall  
**TUE 5** 9 - 11am 'Squeals on Wheels'  
(*Babies & Toddlers*), St Aidan's  
3.30-5.30pm Messy Church, St Aidan's  
**THU 7** 7 - 7.30am Meeting for Prayer, St Aidan's  
10am MU Corporate Communion, St Aidan's
- SUN 10** 5 - 7pm Sunday Supper, Parish Hall  
**TUE 12** 9 - 11am 'Squeals on Wheels'  
(*Babies & Toddlers*), St Aidan's  
2.15pm MU Branch Meeting, St Aidan's  
7.30-9pm Craft Evening, Ellis Rooms  
**THU 14** 7 - 7.30am Meeting for Prayer, St Aidan's  
**FRI 15** 9.30am Time for Reflection, 51 Barlow Street
- SUN 17** 5 - 7pm Sunday Supper, Parish Hall  
**TUE 19** 9 - 11am 'Squeals on Wheels'  
(*Babies & Toddlers*), St Aidan's  
**THU 21** 7 - 7.30am Meeting for Prayer, St Aidan's  
**FRI 22** 9.30am Time for Reflection, 51 Barlow Street  
**SAT 23** 10.30am-12.30pm Coffee & Craft Morning, Parish Hall
- SUN 24** 5 - 7pm Sunday Supper, Parish Hall  
**TUE 26** 9 - 11am 'Squeals on Wheels'  
(*Babies & Toddlers*), St Aidan's  
**THU 28** 7 - 7.30am Meeting for Prayer, St Aidan's  
**FRI 29** 9.30am Time for Reflection, 51 Barlow Street
- SUN 31** 5 - 7pm Sunday Supper, Parish Hall



Don't forget to put your  
clocks forward one hour  
on Sunday 31st March

### Prayers contributed by members of the congregation attending the Parade/ All Age Service on Sunday 17 February.

Thank you God that we can trust you, and know that you love us.

Please help us know your love and acceptance in our lives, help us to turn to you day by day without fear, but with joy and gladness in our hearts.

Help us to trust you with our money, future plans, family health and changes happening in our lives.

Help us to trust you with difficult relationships. Guide us Lord in how to talk with family and friends.

Help us God to trust that our families will come to know you and your salvation, and that they will live in your peace and joy.

And help us to trust you for the growth of Your church here in Acomb.

We pray in Jesus name. Amen.



## Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Our next Branch meeting will take place on  
Tuesday 12th March at 2.15pm at St. Aidan's Church.

Our Lent meeting guest will be Ruthi Gibbons.

All Mothers' Union meetings are open to all, men and women;  
young and not so young, members and non members,  
so come along and meet an inspiring woman

*Anne Barker, Branch Leader*

# ACOMB PCC REPORT

## MEETING HELD AT ST AIDAN'S CHURCH ON 21 JANUARY

After the normal PCC business much of the meeting was dedicate to 2 main subjects.

**Service review** - As it is almost a year after the new service times were implemented, the PCC discussed the impact of the changes on congregation attendance. The meeting analysed to results of the questionnaire given out at the services on Sunday 20 January. After discussion it was decided to offer the questionnaire to those who had not attended either church service that day. It was also suggested that another questionnaire just relating only to the timing of the mid-morning services would be arranged with a view to reviewing service timings after Easter.

**Prioritizing works at St. Stephen's and St. Aidan's** - After the Garfield -Weston Fund application was unsuccessful the PCC discussed what projects put forward could be taken forward. There was much discussion about the options given for both churches, agreed priorities in order were:

### St Aidan's

- |                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 – Audio/visual | 2 – Refurbishing external doors |
| 3 –Glazed screen | 4 – Internal lighting           |

### St Stephens

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 - Audio/Visual      | 2 – Lighting the path |
| 3 – Internal Lighting |                       |

Other things discussed were:

**Music and Parenting** - Music Group – this has been well attended and it was decided for it to carry on up until the Easter school holiday, but not in half-term or the weeks of messy church. Parent Class – Going well

**Curates** - The Diocese has advised we will not get a curate this year.

**Looking Forward** - Spring Harvest – the video of this was shown at the Sunday services on the 20 January. It was decided that if any Sunday Supper children want to go then the Youth Fund would help fund.

**Parish Hall** - Don Savage has advised that he will be retiring as voluntary hall caretaker from June 2019. He has completed 10 years with the Parish Hall Committee (PHC) and 7 years as voluntary caretaker. The PCC expressed gratitude for his generous and diligent service with regards to the hall. The Parish Hall Committee will be asked for recommendations as to the way forward - either as a volunteer or an employee.

*Anne Barker PCC Secretary*

## Dates for your diary

### MESSY CHURCH

Tuesday 5th March  
3.30 – 5.30pm at St. Aidan's Church



### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

7.30pm at St. Aidan's Church

This month's **Craft Evening** will be on Tuesday 12th from 7.30pm to 9pm in the Ellis Room.  
Come and enjoy tea, biscuits and conversation.  
If you do not have a craft, come along anyway.  
Contact is Emily on 07473 771491.

### COMMUNION SERVICES

There are monthly services at both Abbeyfields and Vyner House each month to which any are welcome to come along and support and encourage the residents who attend the services. We usually also sing a couple of hymns.

**Abbeyfields on Tuesday 12th March at 11am**  
**Vyner House on Wednesday 13th March at 2pm**

### PARADE & ALL AGE WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday 17th March  
10.30am at St. Aidan's Church, Ridgeway

**Please note that our monthly Parade/All Age Worship Services are now held each 3rd Sunday of the month and not the 1st as previously.**

### Parish Coffee Morning & Craft Fair

**Saturday 23rd March**

**10.30am-12.30pm**

**At the Parish Hall**



**MOTHERING SUNDAY IS SUNDAY 31ST MARCH!**

**ALL WELCOME**