

Parish update...

Wednesday 28 April 2021

THE PARISH
OF KEIGHLEY



St Barnabas Church, Thwaites Brow, Keighley

Dear Friends, I'm not sure where to begin, hot on the heels of Rev Jonathan's announcement the other week. Clergy leaving are like London busses. You wait ages for one to leave then two leave at the same time. I would like to add that I had been offered my parish before Jonathan had been interviewed for his. But Chelmsford diocese are much quicker at sorting out the necessary paperwork. I would like to share how my move came about.

In the autumn of 2020 I began to feel that change was coming and that I needed a time of listening prayer to discern what that might be. I had to spend two weeks self-isolating in early November so I took the opportunity to spend some time praying through what God might be saying to me. The upshot is that I believe that there needs to be changes in Keighley parish that will allow the next season of growth, and I do not believe that that includes me as part of the team. It took a while for me to come to terms with this realisation because I wasn't expecting to be going anywhere for a while yet, nor did I wish to.

The image I was given was of the child's toy, one of those sliding tile games, where you slide the tiles to make the picture or put the numbers in the correct order. With all the good changes that have happened over the last 4 years the space to move the tiles had filled up, thus stopping a new picture being formed. Another tile needed to be removed to make space to allow the remaining tiles to slide and the new picture of Keighley Parish to be seen. I believe that am the tile that needs to be moved, I wasn't expecting Jonathan's move to be part of the picture and so I started to explore where it might be that I am being called to. I believe that the Lord has confirmed where the next season of my ministry is going to be.



After nearly 4 years in Keighley we will be moving to be Rector in the parish of Eston with Normanby in the Middlesbrough Deanery of York Diocese. I have loved being in Keighley, the people of St Barnabas will always have a place in my heart. As will the people of Keighley and all those that I have met working on the estates, and at Merlin Top school. My last service will be at the end of July ready for a move in August so we can be settled before Rebekah starts her new school in September.

Archdeacon Andy Jolly writes: "Graham is to be congratulated on his appointment as Rector in this team ministry in the Diocese of York. Bishop Toby and I are most grateful to him for his pioneering ministry in developing Keighley parish's work with the estates of the town over the past 4 years. It's also been encouraging to see the energy he has brought to developing ministry and mission at St Barnabas. Graham's departure, at a similar time to Jonathan's, leaves significant gaps, but gives opportunity for creative thinking as part of the review of the Team Ministry which is just starting. I am looking forward to working with Mike, the PCC and others to consider the key roles, skills and experience we will need for the future. We are therefore praying for the parish as well as for Graham, Sarah and the family as they prepare to move over the border to the Diocese of York."

Rev Graham

Racial Justice

At morning prayer on Monday, part of the New Testament reading stood out. 'Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, and Saul.' Why? Why might a list of names stand out? There are plenty of lists like this in the Bible, aren't there? Why this list, now? But the now is quite pressing. We always read the scriptures in 'our now' - and allow them to read us too. And right now assumptions we make in church about ethnicity and culture are being exposed. We are becoming more aware that something isn't right.

We've had so many Church reports about race since Stephen Laurence's murder nearly 30 years ago. There was another published last week. But little seems to have changed. We are not particularly racially diverse as a church - though our nation is. And it's being noticed and commented upon. 42 Diocesan Bishops? Just one from a non-white ethnic group. Bishop Guli, the new Bishop of Chelmsford.

Let's go back to that reading again. How might you imagine what these people in Acts look like? Of course, none of these leaders in this growing church is white. They show the diversity of the Middle Eastern Roman Empire. And they bring their diversity into their mission. Some are Jewish. Niger means black (probably indicating that he is Black). Cyrene is North African. Diversity is clearly in our Church DNA. But something is getting in the way in the Church today.

I wish it was as easy as saying that difference and diversity doesn't matter: that we are all welcome in God's House! But what happens once we've all been welcomed? The challenge - as it was in the early church in Acts - is to go further than the welcome at the door. To so fully include that the Body of Christ becomes more whole. It's a great challenge. But if you have ever worshipped as part of a racially and ethnically diverse church that has learned to live this well, then you know this prize is worth it. It feels like the very gates of heaven opening on earth.

Rev Dr Jonathan Pritchard
Town Chaplain & Team Vicar All Saints

Back of Beyond (B.O.B.) Walkers is the re-branded name of the former SMUtley Walkers

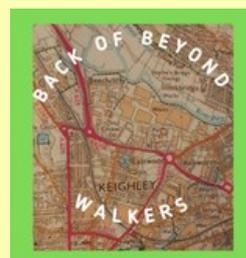
Save the date for the first walk of 2021

SUNDAY (yes Sunday) 23 May at 2:00pm

Details of meeting place and distance in Parish Update on 13 & 20 May

See us on Facebook

Contacts: Greg Thomson 07922-872397 & David Maude 07975-823843



SLEEPING BAGS NEEDED FOR CAP CLIENTS

Please contact the office (details below) if you are able to help. Thank you, Duncan.



Contact Details for the Parish Office and full-time Clergy of the Parish

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Revd Graham Potter

Revd Natasha Thomas

Revd Dr Tracey Raistrick

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Compliance with Covid Rules

It's really great to see lockdown easing as the virus declines, and being with each other as we return to church. But we still need to be vigilant. COVID-19 hasn't gone away. We still need to care for each other when we gather. Social distancing, washing hands and wearing face masks still apply in Church - and only natter outside! And please respect how others may be anxious about being with others and feel vulnerable. This too is a way of showing God's love for each other.

Why not join our new Gardening Club?

Over the last year and months, we as parish have been considering ways in which we can reach out and serve the people of Keighley and God has most definitely pointed out that we sit on a large piece of land that is in our backyard - the church yard!



As a result, we have been praying in this space, clearing this space and securing this space through fencing and lighting. God has also started to bless our efforts and a small grant was offered a day after prayers to enable us to re-establish the path and to put in some flower beds.

We therefore wondered if anyone was interested in joining a gardening club. The idea is that a person or a group of people take on a flower bed to care for so that no space would be too overwhelming and if the space is no longer manageable we can let it become grassed over again.

We are having our first gathering in the church yard on 8 May between 10:00am and 12:00pm. Please do join us if you are free - there will be coffee and cake! **If you would like to know more, would like to donate plants or have any thoughts please do contact Natasha (07887707221)**

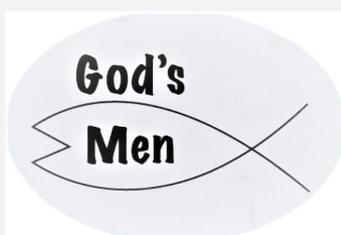
Do Not Miss The Next Men's Breakfast

Saturday 1 May , 9:00am - 10.30am

On Zoom, code: 669 344 7882

Please join us for a great morning of fellowship.

God Bless, Dave



KCT Saturday Morning Prayers

Host: Keighley Quakers

Saturday 1 May, 9:45am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81877029951?pwd=N2tja2p3L2hLRVlkbDZEUVBhN2xLZz09>

Meeting ID: 818 7702 9951

Passcode: 419236

Seeking

Seeking the Kingdom of God for Keighley



Sharing

Sharing the Good News of Jesus



Growing

Growing as disciples together



Weekly Activities

DAILY

7:30am Morning Prayer

10:00pm Compline

Both accessed through Keighley Parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/keighleyparishyorkshire

SUNDAYS

9:15am Service (in person) at St Mark's church

10:30am Eucharist Service (in person) at All Saints

Please contact Jonathan if you'd like to attend.
Also on YouTube and FB:

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC984emxFJ2X8Ykx-YLnV11Q>

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/allsaintskeighley/>

10:00—10:45am St Barnabas communion service

11:00 - 11:45am St Barnabas livestream on

YouTube: [St Barnabas Keighley - YouTube](#)

Everyone is welcome to either or both services.

10:30am Live greetings from the Clergy Team

Accessed through our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stmarkskeighley>

10:45am KSC worship at home and at the church - if attending church please book your place here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/149859956163>

Online access link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUCJZawvv-EI2evtSjBIN7A/playlists>

6:00pm Joint Methodist/Anglican service, KSC

These are fortnightly, the next service is on Sunday 2 May.

6:30pm Sunday Evensong, All Saints (online only)

You tube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC984emxFJ2X8Ykx-YLnV11Q>

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/allsaintskeighley/>

6:30pm Service (in person) at St Mark's Church

Weekly Activities (cont'd)

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

PRAYER 12:00 noon to 12:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85385640097?pwd=M3EvNUdqdFhQTGpXUnZTR0F0SDdpZz09>

Meeting ID: 853 8564 0097, Passcode: 563964

WEDNESDAYS

Mid-Week Eucharist Service 11:00am from All Saints:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/allsaintskeighley/>

Family Time 2:00pm

Accessed through our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarkskeighley>

THURSDAYS

5:00pm, Evening Prayer from All Saints

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/allsaintskeighley/>

Monday Drop-in Group is on Zoom, 4:00 - 5:00pm,

Thursday Youth Group is 7:00 - 8:00pm,

Thursday Young Adults Group is 8:15 - 9:30pm.

Contact Laura for details: laura@keighleyparish.org

