



# The Benefice of Pontefract Parish of St Giles with St Mary's



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Office hours: Mon, Thu, Fri 10.00am-2.00pm  
Tue 11.30am—3.30pm

The Revd Canon June Lawson 01977 706803  
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Fr. Rod Walker: 07746 980727  
Fr. Michael Taylor: 01977 702824  
Reader David Brooks: 07584 859569

Public Services will be additionally live streamed on [Facebook](#) on Sunday, 10th January, Wednesday 13th January at 9.30am and Sunday, 17th January at 10.15am.

Weekly online Compline - 8.00pm on Thursdays with Jill Clapham, trainee Reader.

## SUNDAY, 10th JANUARY 2021 - THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST, EPIPHANY 1

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister on Monday, 4th January, of another national lockdown, the Standing Committee have met and are pleased to be able to advise that public worship in church will continue at St Giles. However, in line with the government directive, you must not **'mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble either before or after the service'** and we would respectfully ask you to disperse quickly and quietly at the end. You should maintain strict social distancing at all times whilst in the church.

As previously, your name will be taken on entry to church for track and trace purposes and you will then be asked to move forward to use the hand sanitiser before entering the church and taking your order of service and being directed to a seat.

We are doing our utmost to keep people as safe as possible and your help in this regard, by adhering strictly to the guidance, is greatly valued.

Public worship will continue be held at the following times:

Sunday, 10.15am

Wednesday, 9.30am

Private prayer will take place on Wednesdays from 10.00am—11.30am

It is important to say that these arrangements will be reviewed and can change at any point given the national situation. Please do take great care, our services are live-streamed online and if you feel more comfortable joining in 'virtually' using Facebook, then please do so.

Funerals are still allowed in church and permit up to 30 to attend.

Blessings to you all.

Canon June

### NATIONAL LOCKDOWN

Communal worship and life events - You can leave home to attend or visit a place of worship for communal worship, a funeral or event related to a death, a burial ground or a remembrance garden, or to attend a wedding ceremony. You should follow the guidance on the safe use of places of worship and must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble when attending a place of worship. Weddings, funerals and religious, belief-based or commemorative events linked to someone's death are all subject to limits on the numbers that can attend'. 'National Lockdown: Stay at Home' Government Guidance 05/01/21

## DAILY READINGS THIS WEEK

<b>Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>	Morning:	Psalm 2 & I Corinthians 1.1-17
	Evening:	Psalm 34 & Matthew 21.1-17
<b>Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning:	Psalm 9 & I Corinthians 1.18 to end
	Evening:	Psalm 45 & Matthew 21.18-32
<b>Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning:	Psalm 20 & I Corinthians 2
	Evening:	Psalm 47 & Matthew 21.33 to end
<b>Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning:	Psalm 21 & I Corinthians 3
	Evening:	Psalm 61 and Matthew 22.1-14
<b>Friday, 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning:	Psalm 67 & I Corinthians 4
	Evening:	Psalm 68 & Matthew 22.15-33
<b>Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning:	Psalm 33 & I Corinthians 5
	Evening:	Psalm 85 & Matthew 22.34 to end

### ELIZABETH REED—RIP

Canon June will take the funeral service of her mum (Elizabeth Reed) on 15th January at 11.00am. Please would you remember Canon June, Canon John and the wider family in your prayers.



## THE WORLD OF JESUS

The Lay Training team are pleased to offer an online training course - 'The World of Jesus' with Gordon Dey, - starting Wednesday, February 3rd 2021, 7.00pm-9.00pm for eight weeks (with a break on March 3rd).

John's Gospel captures the amazing truth: 'And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us'. Jesus came and lived on earth in 'time and place'. He stepped into 'our world' so that we can step into his. He invites us today to explore afresh all that he brought to those with whom he shared his life almost exactly 2000 years ago, so that this can inspire and inform us today, in 2021.

But those were different times, and different places, and with people who lived in a very different culture. Indeed in 30 AD people who lived in what we describe as 'The Holy Land' lived in a wide range of contrasting cultural and geographical settings. If we are to gain best insight from a study of the Gospels we will do well to get to grips with the context in which Jesus was immersed, and in which his ministry flourished.

'The World of Jesus' will offer an opportunity to explore these things over eight sessions. Drawing from scripture, other contemporary writings, and extensive archaeological evidence, we'll gain a better grasp of the social, political and geographical context of Jesus' ministry. Not only will this be fascinating, it will also enable the scriptures to come alive – indeed 'the Word will be made Flesh' afresh for God's people today.

The course is an opportunity to explore the people and places of Jesus' ministry from Nazareth through to Jerusalem, as detailed on the following page.

Places are limited so for more information and to book please see

<https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/course/the-world-of-jesus/>

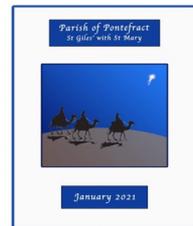
Cont'd...

A zoom invitation will be sent before the start of the course.

## THE WORLD OF JESUS

Topic	Date
JESUS OF NAZARETH	3rd February 2021
JESUS AND THE SEA OF GALILEE	10th February 2021
JESUS AND THE DECAPOLIS	17th February 2021
JESUS AND SAMARIA	24th February 2021
JESUS AND THE JORDAN VALLEY	10th March 2021
JESUS AND JUDEA	17th March 2021
JESUS AND THE COASTAL PLAIN	24th March 2021
JESUS AND JERUSALEM	31st March 2021

The [January Parish Magazine](#) is available to view on the website.  
Thank you to all those who have submitted  
items for the magazine.



## SPONSOR A SERVICE SHEET

Do you have a memory, either happy or sad, that you would like to share with our congregation, a wedding anniversary; a birthday; the passing of a loved one. Please consider sponsoring our service sheet so that we can share this with you. Either write your dedication in the diary in Reception or email to [stgmnotices@gmx.com](mailto:stgmnotices@gmx.com) or [stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com](mailto:stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com).

David Leigh will happily receive any sponsorship contributions.

Account: St Giles Parochial Church Council, Bank: Yorkshire Bank, 25 Ropergate,  
Pontefract WF8 1LQ  
Sort Code: 05-06-71  
Account Number: 16172795

If you would like something posted on our social media platforms, please email:

[stgmsocialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:stgmsocialmedia@gmail.com)

To keep in touch with the latest news from the Parish, please visit our websites:

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

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

Like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/stgilespontefract](http://www.facebook.com/stgilespontefract)



Twitter: @CofEPontefract & Instagram: stgilespontefract



## LUNCH WITH US

Lunch with Us will continue to offer a takeaway service on

**Wednesdays, 12.00pm—1.00pm**

Thank you in advance to all the volunteers for making this possible.

## PUBLICATION DEADLINE

**Deadline for Notices and Prayer List, Tuesday, 12 January. Items must be received by 3:00p.m.**

Please e-mail Vivienne Smales at [stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com](mailto:stgileschurchpontefract@gmail.com)

## Caring for each other....

As we enter the second lockdown, let us think of our friends and acquaintances. If you haven't seen or heard from someone for a while, try and find out how they are or let us know and we will try to make contact. Please also ask the person if they would like to go on the service prayer list (using their full name or just first name). A note to us giving a contact number or address of the person concerned often helps.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



CONNECTIONS

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line, which is available 24 hours a day on

**0800 804 8044**

has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions.



## HELPING TO RAISE MONEY FOR ST GILES

Over £32m has been raised for good causes through the UK's biggest charity shopping fundraising site <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

One of the good causes that is registered on the site is the **St Giles Community Project** established at the time of the start of the internal alterations carried out in 2011 – 13 since when it has raised £429.08 by just 11 members of the congregation who have used the site occasionally when online shopping.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stgilescpl>

Easyfundraising has over 4,000 shops and sites which will donate to us at no extra cost to yourself, including lots of big name retailers like John Lewis, Argos, Currys/PC World, Amazon, eBay, M&S, Just Eat, Domino's Pizza, Debenhams, Screwfix, Wilko.com. All you have to do is go through the easyfundraising website or App whenever you shop online and the church will receive a % of your spend as a free donation, at no cost to you or us.

Happy Shopping!