

The
Magazine of the
Church of England in
Great Ayton with
Easby & Newton
under Roseberry
Parishes

Spire

DECEMBER 2018 & JANUARY 2019



Jesus is the Reason for the Season.

Join us for Christmas Worship

Details Inside

A Merry Christmas

&

A Happy New Year

to all our Readers

www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk

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60p

DECEMBER & JANUARY

- 1 **Sat** 7.30pm Angrove Singers Christmas Concert in Church
- 2 **Sun** **ADVENT SUNDAY** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion**; 4pm Christingle Service.
- 4 **Mon** 2pm Coffee Lounge Carol Service.
- 8 **Sat** 1pm Wedding in Christ Church.
- 9 **Sun** **ADVENT 2** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; 11am Come & Praise; 12.15pm Baptism; 3pm Masons Carol Service
- 11 **Tues** **Beauty & the Beast Panto** begins today.
- 12 **Wed** 1.30pm Marwood Christmas Production in Church Hall.
- 13 **Thurs** 6pm Marwood Christmas Production in Church Hall.

FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES SEE PANEL OPPOSITE

- 16 **Sun** **ADVENT 3** (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am All Age Christmas Special**.
- 17 **Mon** 11am WWI Remembrance for William Lambert.
- 23 **Sun** **ADVENT 4** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; 6pm Christms Carol Service.
- 30 **Sun** **Christmas 1** am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion**.

JANUARY 2019

- 6 **Sun** **EPIPHANY** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion**
- 7 **Mon** 2pm Coffee Lounge Communion.
- 11 **Fri** 1.45pm Christ Church Visitors meet in Upper Room.
- 13 **Sun** **EPIPHANY 2** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion 11am Epiphany Come & Praise; 12.15pm Baptism.
- 18 **Fri** PCC Dinner.
- 20 **Sun** **EPIPHANY 3** (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am All Age Service**; 4pm Christian Unity Service at Methodist Church.
- 27 **Sun** **EPIPHANY 4** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion.
- 30 **Wed** 7.30pm PCC Meeting in Upper Room.

Regular activities on back page

Items in Magenta all take place at St Oswald's Church at Newton.

Christmas Services 2018

Sunday 2nd December - **ADVENT SUNDAY**

4.00pm Christingle

Monday 3rd December

2.00pm Coffee Lounge Carol Service - All Welcome **

Sunday 9th December

3pm Freemason's Carol Service in Christ Church **

Sunday 16th December

11.00am All Age Christmas Service at St Oswald's, Newton

Monday 17th December

7.00pm *Christmas Carols on High Green*

Tuesday 18th December

7.30pm *All Saints Carol Service***

Thursday 20th December

7.30pm *Christmas Carol Service at St Oswald's, Newton***

Friday 21st December

10.30am Marwood & Roseberry Schools' Carol Service**

Sunday 23rd December (*Morning Services as normal*)

6.00pm Christ Church Christmas Carol Service**

Christmas Eve

2.00pm *Christmas Communion in the Coffee Lounge*

5.00pm Crib Service**

10.00pm *Christmas Communion at St Oswald's (Preacher: Revd Geoff Jaques)*

11.30pm *Midnight Mass of the Nativity (Preacher: Revd Jon Dean)*

Christmas Day

8.30am Christmas Communion (Prayer Book Service) The Vicar

9.30am Christmas Communion & Carols - The Vicar

NO SERVICE ON 26th December

All Services are in Christ Church, unless otherwise stated *in italics*

** Denotes that a collection is taken for the Christmas Appeal



CHRISTMAS IS COMING

Christmas, that wonderful time of year when we celebrate the love of God coming into the world through Jesus born in the manger at Bethlehem.

We do Jesus little justice today if we make him too pious-an intense figure as played by Robert Powell in the TV series Jesus of Nazareth, with violins playing when he enters the scene and every moment a moment of intensity.

The Jesus I love was a man who was good company to be with. He could tell a really good story and make it come alive, and could point out our faults and failings through characters that came to life in his parables. He had a really good sense of humour and would have laughed a lot. He cared about little things and spoke out for justice. He was constantly bringing folk back into the fold from the outskirts of society - be they children, women, foreigners, the sick or disabled or sinners of one description or another. Jesus belonged to all.

Come and join us in celebrating that Jesus at our Christmas worship. There is lots going on at all three Churches to choose from, and invite someone to come with you. Many people would love to come to a Christmas Service but lack the confidence to come on their own, so take the initiative by inviting them.

And, if you have any free time and enjoy a laugh, why not come along to the Bradley School of Dance Panto in the Church Hall. We are putting on **Beauty and the Beast** for a week starting 11th December. Once again I am privileged to have the best role of all, the Panto Dame, and this year it is Mrs Bidet, the French Cook. It's a tale as old as time, full of magic and fun.

Blessings of the season to you and yours.

Paul

Great Ayton Remembers

William Lambert

On Monday 17th December 2018 at 11am

in Christ Church



A TIME OF GIVING

I keep going on about Giving, for Christmas reminds us that it is at the heart of God, who so loved the world that He gave us his son. When we give we become like our Father in heaven, so let me share with you some good news about Giving.

At our November PCC for Christ Church we decide on the beneficiaries of our Christmas Appeal and which charities will receive the earmarked giving that we set aside each year for charities and missions. We had a great meeting hearing much good news about what others are doing, so here are our choices.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL We have chosen **The Genesis Project** in Grove Hill in Middlesbrough as the recipient of our appeal made at all our Carol Services. Kath Dean, a Reader from Saint Chad's Church spoke powerfully to us about this in September, as to how they were working with both old and young in Grove Hill to make a difference. Some members of our Church have visited their Luncheon Club and seen the difference they are making by bringing people together in community. They run on a shoestring, supported by a Church that struggles to pay for itself.

PCC GIVING The PCC had £10,000 to distribute. We sent £1,000 in September to **Children in Distress** as they had an emergency Appeal for Funds. We have supported this charity for many years. They run hospices and homes for sick children in Romania as well as running the annual **Love in a Box Appeal** for the poor. They and the following charities will all receive £1,000 each.

The Eden Project in Stockton was proposed by **Ken Taylor** on behalf of **Nicky Pepper (February)** It is a church planting scheme run by Stockton Parish Church helping put Christians into poor urban areas to build them up. There are many needs in Stockton and we are delighted to support Rachel and Duncan as they begin their work there.

UCCF proposed by **Martin Simmonds (March)** is the organisation that supports Christians at Universities with Christian Unions. Being a Christian today is a lot harder than ever before, so to have some support when away from home is good. They also produce study materials that we have used in the Parish before.

Saint Chad's and Saint Oswald's Middlesbrough proposed by **Robin Harmar (April)** is the Parish supporting **The Genesis Project**. Our clergy have helped out there a lot over recent years due to their Vicar not being in full health. They are a small but very dedicated group of Christians who are striving hard to make a positive difference where they are. We hope our support will give them positive and practical encouragement.

Together Middlesbrough was proposed by **John Dickinson**, (May) and as well as running the local Foodbanks, running holiday clubs for children, work with the homeless and many other areas of poverty in the Middlesbrough area.

The Children's Society is well known to the parish due to the excellent work of our Fund Raising Committee that was in the top ten Nationally. **Vicky Nath** (June) proposed support for them. Many will remember and have benefited through their work with adoption many years ago, but today they deal with more social issues that have an impact on life, like bullying, abuse and homelessness in young people.

The Church Army, often called the Church of England's best kept secret, is a body of evangelists that run similar to the Salvation Army, and work primarily in poor areas, run hostels and often do outreach into communities. **Enid Sedgwick** (July) proposed our support for them.

USPG, now called *United Society Partners in the Gospel*, and **CMS**, the *Church Mission Society*, are two Anglican Societies that support the world Church. If we think Middlesbrough has needs, its nothing compared so some areas world wide, and these two societies help make a great difference. USPG arose out of the High Church Oxford Movement and so the Churches/ Countries they support, like Ghana, tend to be more like us in their practice. CMS is a more evangelical/Low Church society, and places like Nigeria have benefited enormously from them. These were both proposed by **Rosemary Wheway**, (September) who was on a roll by then, and we are delighted to support these two Anglican societies.

Christians Against Poverty proposed by **Ken Taylor**, (November) is a Christian Debt Counselling Agency. The poor often get the worst terms for loans and it is easy to sink into debt. This charity helps people get back to helping themselves.

This is a good spread of Charities with some new causes to support as well as some well known ones from the past. Those who proposed these causes are invited to write a page about them for **Spire**. Names and months in **blue**. We will include reports of **The Genesis Project** during the year.

As well as this support, Christ Church is also maintaining its Freewill Offer to the Diocese for 2019 for £90,840.

Be pleased that you are part of a Church that is helping make a difference, and please be part of it by your regular and generous giving too. We can't be generous to others if folk aren't generous to us first.



It's Panto Time!

Bradley's School of Dance and Musical Theatre present

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Featuring the Rev Pev as Mrs Bidet, the French Housekeeper!

Tuesday 11th, Wednesday 12th and Friday 14th December at 7.00pm

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th December at 1.30pm

Christ Church Hall

Tickets: £7 adults and £5 under 16's and over 60's.

Available from Great Ayton Discovery Centre (mornings only),
margaretconnelly02@gmail.com or 07716 994182 .

Bring something along to be donated to Middlesbrough Foodbank (non-perishable goods) and receive a free mince pie.



Yorkshire Cancer Research

Great Ayton and District Committee

The final total raised at the Kildale Coffee Morning was a wonderful £541.20.

The 70th Celebration Pie, Peas, Pots and Puds will have been held - successfully I hope when Spire goes to print. *(But we held the page!)*



Representatives from YCR Headquarters in Harrogate were present at the lunch to congratulate the two Margarets and the committee and helpers on 70 years of fund raising. Over this time they have raised £533,063 from events, and when legacies from Great Ayton are included the Grand Total is £1,088,000. Brilliant work to all & their supporters. You have helped make a difference to many people's lives. Margaret Stevens is holding a glass award in her hand - just in case you wondered what she was doing.

The Y.C.R. Committee would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who attended this or any other events. We really appreciate all the support and generosity received.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and 2019

Margaret Stevens

A TRIP TO RAF LEEMING



Some of our Mens' Group were invited to join a Methodist Group on a visit to RAF Leeming on the 15th November. It was a memorable day with a talk by the Chaplain in the Station Church; a visit to the Station Museum with displays and artefacts dating from the opening of the station and a visit to the hangar of 100 Squadron which houses the

Hawk 'Fast-Jet' Trainers. These jets can sometimes be seen – and heard – above our skies as they undertake routine training flights and exercises. We were welcomed and hosted by the Station's Senior Warrant Officer and treated to refreshments on arrival and a meal in the Mess at lunchtime. Photography was allowed almost everywhere except the Briefing Room which is 'secret' and cameras and phones had to be left outside. A most enjoyable day!

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The quiz was an enjoyable evening, with Mike Myers arranging the questions and the tickets, and it was a highly successful event - a total of £521.71p was made, which included several donations. Our thanks go to Mike for his work.

Christingle service is coming up very soon, and we hope to see many of you there on Sunday, 2nd December, at 4 pm. Candles & envelopes are at the back of the church.

We will be Carol Singing on Saturday, 22nd December, between 10.30 - 11.30 am near the shops. We welcome anyone to join us - the more the merrier!

Looking ahead to next year, we will be holding our annual Coffee Morning on Wednesday, 13th February, at 10.30 am in Christ Church Hall.



Jancie Brown

GREAT AYTON REMEMBERED



Walking down the steps of the Church Hall on Remembrance Sunday on our way to the Act of Remembrance, I couldn't believe the huge numbers who had turned out. Half of Great Ayton must have been there to pay tribute to all who died 100 years ago and since.

Remembrance Sunday coincided with Armistice Day, so we gathered at the very moment the guns fell silent one hundred years ago.

The occasion was added to Nationally by many communities, like ours, who had made displays of poppies around their War Memorials, and ours was certainly well photographed and appeared in several national newspapers.



As we kept the two minute silence a few drops of rain came down, almost like tears of sadness for all the lives lost and changed.

We packed as many as we could into Christ Church for the service, and we reckon approaching 600 thanks to the Uniformed organisations who filled in on spare bits of floor. Full marks to all the young people who did readings and helped lead the service, especially the young Scout who did an excellent job reading the moving

Meditation to an Unknown Soldier. Central to our time was a slide show prepared by Ian Pearce that mentioned every man by name and their circumstances, as well as noting different things that happened in the war. A morning to remember.





The Guide movement had also placed 10 silhouettes around the village, reminding us of how many were not there anymore. It's not just the 47 who didn't come back, but all those who came back completely changed, and all the children who were never born because their mums never married. Who knows what gifts and blessings mankind missed out on because these folk were not born.

We ended the day with an Act of Remembrance around the willow soldier on High Green, the lighting of beacons on the Green and Easby Moor, and a singalong.

Gordon McRae's famous poem *In Flanders Fields* had been read in the service with the lines

*To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

I wonder what those who died in both World Wars would make of our Country today?



Do we have the same pride in our country and the willingness to rally behind our leaders for the common good? Could Churchill have delivered the victory he did, if he had had to spend as much energy fighting at home as overseas as our present leaders do? We don't seem to value democracy and freedom as much as they did, and I fear we will lose it. We are more controlled than any generation before us, with opinions manipulated constantly by the media.

But one of the saddest recent happenings was when the Pakistani Christian Asia Bibi was turned down for asylum here for fear of how it would effect community relations. She had been falsely accused of blasphemy in her own country over an argument over a cup of water and after 8 years on death row was recently acquitted but now living in fear of her life. We now have a growing intolerance in our country that is preventing us from being an open and welcoming society, standing up for justice and other's rights. Am I alone in finding that frightening for the future?

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE DISCOVERY CENTRE



Anyone walking the High Street this Autumn will have seen building works going on at the Discovery Centre.

It had been agreed that the Tourist Information be brought into the Centre to give them more prominence, so plans were drawn up to extend into the alleyway by Stamps.

In the event it was decided this wonderful space would be

better used by the Children's Library with Tourist Information being part of the main room. Grants were applied for and won, so our village has been especially fortunate this year, and a few weeks ago Rishi Sunak MP came to perform the official opening with stakeholders and friends. He is pictured here with Ken Taylor, Chairman of the Discovery Centre Trust and many volunteers.



The Good News didn't stop there for the Discovery Centre was entered for the annual Community Awards for North Yorkshire County Council and came out the winner. The award was received by

Dorothy Moffitt, a widow who had moved into the village and spoke movingly in the video as to how being a volunteer at the Centre had helped her make new friends.



Our thanks to all who keep this valuable community asset growing and thriving for the benefit of all in our community. Well done!

The Memory Tree



The Memory Tree will appear in Christ Church on Friday 30th November. It is a way of remembering loved ones who have died, but are still in our hearts, especially at this time of year.

Just come into Church and write a message or simply their name on one of the cards and hang it on the tree.

Any donations made will be sent to support Herriott Hospice Homecare who do so much to support the terminally ill in our area.

The tree will come down on Wednesday 2nd January following prayers for our loved ones at the 10am Service of Holy Communion. All welcome.

Charity Auction of Surplus Christmas Gifts



Auctioning the game "Plop"

Christ Church Hall, Guisborough Road, Great Ayton.

Saturday 2nd February 2019

Viewing from 1.30pm - Auction starts at 2pm

50p admission includes half time cuppa!



Growing Together 2019

Last month we reported that there'd be a number of Groups & Courses during 2019 to suit all adult members of our church to help us grow in faith.

Being Christian

What are the simple things that make you realise you are part of a Christian community?

There are lots of good people, being good and doing good; what sets us apart as Christians?

Former Archbishop Rowan Williams in his little book 'Being Christian' set out four of the most obvious things:

Baptism, Bible, Eucharist and Prayer.

Our Diocesan Lay Development Adviser Angela Bailey (see photo) has designed a 4 week course to help us explore each of these. She has delivered it in several local churches to groups of up to 40 people.

Angela is responsible for providing encouragement, resource and training for lay people in their ministries across the diocese, including the Recognised Parish Assistants scheme.



Angela is leading **"Being Christian"** in our Coffee Lounge starting on Friday February 8th at 9:30 a.m. with coffee, finishing by 11:45; there will be a crèche for preschoolers. Following sessions are on Feb 15th, 22nd and March 8th. Don't worry if you're at work and unable to come during the day, she'll be running it again on an evening later in the year.

Geoff Jaques



Christmas Quips

Why did Santa go to the doctor?

Because of his bad "elf"!

Why did Santa's helper see the doctor?

Because he had a low "elf" esteem!

What kind of motorbike does Santa ride?

A Holly Davidson!



Saturday 1st December 2016 7.30 pm (Doors open 7pm)

Christ Church, Great Ayton, TS9 6AA

ANGROVE SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Musical Director: Jeremy Harbottle

Accompanist: Jenny Hesford

With 'Flautissimo' and Organist Ewan Murray

**Tickets: £8 (adult) £4 (u18s)
from Gt Ayton's Discovery Centre,
Thompson's Hardware, choir members or ring
01642 722 897**

**Seasonal Refreshments
Donations to Charity from the Proceeds**

Women's World Day of Prayer

Advance notice of World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer). This is a women led global, inter-church ecumenical movement who celebrate annually in over 120 countries with a service/wave of prayer encircling the globe, starting in Samoa as the sun rises and ends 38 hours later at sun set in the Pacific. The theme this year is "Come - everything is ready", written this year by the women of Slovenia. The service includes songs, prayers, music and a time of reflection as well as hearing stories from the people of Slovenia read out.

In 2019 this service will be held on Friday 1st March at Great Ayton Methodist church at 10.30am followed by refreshments. Everyone welcome. More details to follow next year.



LOVE IN A BOX

Thank you to all who responded to this year's Love in a Box Appeal. Having found Vicky and Mandy to manage the depot, we brought our service forward to the beginning of November and still had well over 300 boxes from here.

Once again we had good support from local schools, Churches, the Royal Oak and a Health Centre in Billingham! By the time you read this they will be on their way.



Always a delight to take assembly at Ingleby Greenhow school each year.



We carried all the boxes out



Loading the van outside Christ Church



Surely this counts more than 1



Thanks to Prestons of Potto who generously give warehouse space each year to collect all the boxes in.

Well done Vicky, Mandy & Roy

Wedding Gallery



Clive Laurence & Karen Perkins
married at St Oswald's on 26 October



Alessandro Persano & Robyn Coates
married at Christ Church on 16 November

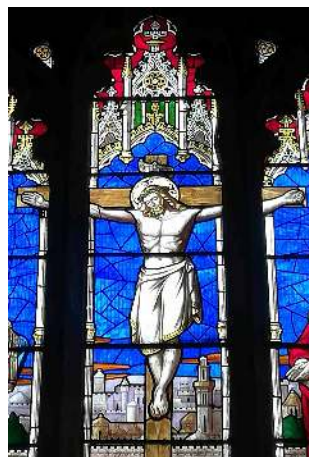
The Power of the Cross

On retreat early in November, Bishop John challenged us to say 'what the cross is all about in 30 seconds' 30 seconds equals 60 words in BBC News speak.

Here is my attempt:

"God on the CROSS is the most painful (& most powerful) act of LOVE ever performed. God suffers daily throughout eternity – on the CROSS we see it. God showed throughout his earthly life in Jesus his LOVE for Justice, his CARE for the Outsider. On the CROSS God showed this LOVE is inexhaustible, vulnerable and victorious."

What would you say?



Geoff Jaques

Christmas is ...

The only time of year when you stare at a dead tree and eat chocolates out of a sock.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

27 October	William Edward Hull
28 October	Hattie Jade Moor
	Teddy James Moor
	Bonnie Lily Moor
10 November	Poppy Ella-Raye Davies
18 November	Martha Olivia Chester
	Eve Elizabeth Chester



Poppy was baptised the day before Remembrance Sunday

Holy Matrimony

26 October	Clive Laurence & Karen Perkins
17 November	Alessandro Persano & Robyn Coates

Christian Burial and Cremation

9 November	Jeff Mulroy
20 November	Margery Finch

Entries in Magenta took place at St Oswald's Church, Newton

Parish website	www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk
Church Office e-mail	gapo1876@outlook.com
Diocese of York	www.dioceseofyork.org.uk
Stokesley Deanery	www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk
A Church Near You	www.acny.org.uk

Malcolm's Musings



A guest at Claridge's asked why there was no infant Jesus in the hotel crib. "Not stolen, sir," replied the porter. "He doesn't book in until December 25."

A small boy wrote: "Dear Santa Claus, last year I got a sister instead of a bike. Maybe some other boy wanted a sister and got my bike. We have kept the sister but I would still like a bike."

A five-year-old asked his cousin how old his granny was. Told she was 93, he commented: "She's not very big for her age, is she?"

Notice in an Austrian hotel: "Guests are requested not to perambulate the bedroom corridors during the hours of repose in the boots of ascension."

A woman who bought an electric weed burner 4ft. long was surprised to find the instructions warned against using it as a hair dryer.

"If you don't know what introspection is, you need to take a long hard look at yourself - comedian at the Edinburgh Fringe.

Two small girls were overheard discussing their nativity play. "I'm a virgin in the play," said one. "That's nothing, replied the other proudly. "I'm an angel." Declared the first girl indignantly. It's much harder being a virgin."

An undertaker, when asked his profession, replied: "I follow the medical profession." "To err is human - and feels divine" - Mae West.

From a local newspaper cutting of January 2, 1942: "One of the most memorable parties ever held in the village took place in the Parochial Hall. It was attended by Servicemen. Supper was provided for upwards of 300 guests, there was free lemonade and cigarettes, a large Christmas cake - and a galaxy of pretty girls."

Malcolm Race

Editor of Spire

Paul Peverell revpev@btinternet.com

If you would like a paper copy of Spire delivering to your door, please contact Jean Goat on 01642 723274.

The Parishes of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry

Services

Christ Church, Great Ayton

Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.15am	Parish Communion with Sunday School
	11.00am	Come & Praise (2nd Sunday of month) Evening Worship - as announced in the Diary
Tuesday	9.30am	Little Fishes Carer & Toddler Group
Wednesday	10.00am	Holy Communion

Baptisms, Banns and Weddings can be arranged in person at Christ Church Vestry on **Fridays from 6pm - 7pm** where the clergy are present. Or make an initial contact by emailing the Vicar, Paul Peverell at revpev@btinternet.com

At St Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

Sunday 11.00am Services on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month only
1st & 5th Holy Communion; 3rd All Age Worship

Contacts

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	Rev'd Geoff Jaques		01642 722979
	Rev'd Jon Dean		01642 722649
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	Mr Peter Titchmarsh		01642 724153
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	Mr Rob Pepper		01642 724939
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PCC Treasurer	Mr Ken Taylor		01642 722400
Safeguarding	Mr David Fox		07595 898844
Gift Aid Sec.	Mrs Ynez Clarke		01642 723181

Church Hall Office

For **Church Hall bookings**, please contact the Church Office **Tel 01642 722 665** on **Monday, Thursday or Friday 9 am - 12 noon, or leave a message.**

Email. gapo1876@outlook.com (For services or pastoral matters, please contact the vicar as this phone isn't manned every day)