

May Newsletter 2022

The United Benefice of St. Giles, Killamarsh and St. Matthew, Renishaw

May Sunday Services

Date	Time	Church	Service
01/05/22 Easter 3	10.00 am	St. Giles	Service of the Word
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion
08/05/22 Easter 4	10.00 am.	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Service of the Word
15/05/22 Easter 5	10.00 am.	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion
22/05/22 Easter 6	10.00 am.	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion
29/05/22 Easter 7	10.00 am	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion

Midweek Services

St. Giles: Holy Communion every Wednesday morning at 9.30 am

St. Matthew's: Holy Communion on the second Tuesday at 9.00 am
St. Giles: Ascension Day Holy Communion 26/05/22 @7.00pm

Eastertide. 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (*Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.*)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them – to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands – and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! 'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (John 14:2,3) In the

meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth. *Parish Pump*

View from the Pews

Phillipa Allan

A BIT OF A RANT!

I have been lucky enough to have visited many countries during my lifetime. I've even worked in some! Whenever I come back to the UK I am always appalled at the amount of litter that adorns our roads, our grass verges and fields. What is it that makes people fling their detritus out of a car window onto someone else's land? Don't they have rubbish bins at home?

I've been told that "it gives the rubbish collectors something to do" if that wasn't so sad – it would be funny!

I was sworn at and told to eff off by young girls when I asked them to pick up their sweet papers with a bin two steps away from them!

I fail to understand the logic of picking up dog poo and then throwing the bag and its contents into the hedge! One of the pet supplier retailers now sells brightly coloured poo bags – at least I suppose we can see them! Yuk!

We are fortunate enough to have several playground areas in our Parish for the young to play on. What do we get? Broken bottles, take-away boxes, dog poo, cigarette butts (not to mention all sorts of dealing). It is particularly galling when this rubbish is under the play equipment. I presume that these perpetrators think it's funny.....NO! - I don't that they think at all - or consider the injury or illness that anyone falling might suffer.

I carry a litter picking kit in my car and if I've time, I'll always stop and pick up if it looks too awful! Believe it or not – the Parish is supplied with many bins, all of which are regularly emptied. Somehow, we have to get these litterlouts to use them.

There are quite a few amazing parishioners who regularly walk miles litter picking. I applaud them. There are also groups of litter pickers who regularly cover our worst areas and they have access to all the necessary equipment. Keep a look out on the website for places, dates and times – otherwise..... I

challenge you to challenge these litter louts – TO PUT IT IN THE BIN. Without, of course putting yourself in danger!

Bishop Malcolm's visit to the Benefice

Before Easter it was wonderful to spend a day with Revs Helen and Mick and to meet churchwardens, teachers, and others from your two parishes. I certainly saw Killamarsh and Renishaw at their best as far as sunshine is concerned! What really struck me was the way in which you are all working as a team and enjoying each other's company as you go along. This is in itself good news and tells of the kind of community we seek to build.

It was brilliant to visit your school at Killamarsh and see all the children playing their part in making a magnificent collage of the Easter story. But what with various tragedies this past year, as well as the ongoing problems associated with the pandemic, you have taken a bit of a battering one way or another. May you know the grace and comfort of God, and may the journey from Easter to Pentecost be a time of healing and new life and hope for you all. You have wonderful churches very much in the public eye, and good links with your schools, so I am sure that every conversation, every act of kindness, and every prayer offered makes a difference to the community in which you live out your life as disciples of Jesus. I hope you'll allow me back before too long.

Bishop Malcolm

Father Georges

Dear Reverend Canon Helen and Fr Michael.
All our friends at St Gile's church Killamarsh.
All our friends at St Matthew's church Renishaw.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are very pleased to send you some update photos showing our work and our good will to reach our target : **“God our Father make us perfect in every good work to do your will..!”**

Photos :

In the parish : We have observed each day of the **Holy week** mainly the Palm Sunday, the Maundy Thursday, the Good Friday and the Easter Eve (1-2-3). The Easter day 2022 celebrated at St James church. **(16)**

The farming projects : (From 4 to 15)

By means of your prayers and your contribution you were in solidarity with us at the difficult times – **Covid 19 , the drought ,the flooding and cyclones** - Also ,you were with us at our time of need ! We are able to continue to flourish and thrive by God's grace ! We are able to purchase the food we required for the human being and for the livestock...**Thank you very much indeed .**

We are very hopeful for all the coming days !

With warmest Regards.
Fr Georges and Eveline.
The Congregation.

Father Georges Photographs



Ben's Readership Training

An update so far on my journey as reader in training

Saturday 15th January 2022 was the first official day of training via a full day on Zoom. After months of filling forms and some pre-work the day had finally come.

It was the day when I got to see the other students on the course. There are 8 of us all from different walks of life. It was daunting especially when we introduced ourselves to each other. We have a professor, a few lecturers and a couple who work within the cathedral. I thought to myself how could I compare myself with these other clever people. I'm just a lad born on the white city with no qualifications behind me, just the average person. But then I thought - wait a minute we are all equal. God is calling me to ministry and serving him and the people. I have felt the 'call' for years but having a family and being self employed, some weeks in excess of 70 hours how could I possibly take on his call. However many times I put it to the back of my mind, God would come back again and never leave me alone until I gave in and agreed.

So here we are, 3 months in already and the first module completed. Mission and Evangelism - the module consisted of 10 sessions (3 via zoom and 7 of own learning through online sessions). All the sessions except the Zoom ones can be done at your own leisure. I aim to complete one a week.

I have covered different aspects of mission and evangelism including:

- Modernity and post-modernity
- Christendom
- Secularisation
- Church planting
- Numerical growth

The sessions included me having to think hard about my faith and found some areas to be very challenging and testing at times.

As the module sessions finished it came to the assignment time. This has involved my creating a PowerPoint presentation to a small group about the context of the parish Killamarsh. It included statistics of population, deprivation and those who are religious or not. On concluding this I have had to come up with some new potential mission opportunities for church growth and articulate why they are of particular relevance within our parish. Discover Easter was one missional opportunity which was offered on Easter Saturday.

The second part of the assignment was to write a 2500 word theological reflection. This was based again on Discover Easter.

All this learning along with the other modules I will be doing over the next 2 years will eventually be put in practice in our Churches here at St Giles and St Matthew's.

I hope the theological knowledge will enhance my ministry so that I can help people to grow in faith and knowledge of God.

My aim is to be able to set up fresh expressions of church in the future. To help those who find the traditional church difficult to engage and learn more about God in a new and fresh way.

Discovering Easter was a fresh expression of church and God placed that seed on my heart and with preparation and team work it was a successful event.

I would like to thank all my church family for your love and support and to my tutor Revd Helen (the boss) who has spent so much time helping and supporting me.

If you would like to know more about what I've been learning or have any questions please do have a chat with me.

God bless
Ben

Discover Easter



On Saturday 16th April between 2pm-4pm members from St Giles and the Methodist church along with other volunteers gave up their free time and put on an afternoon of fun, laughter and fellowship in the church hall.

Posters had been put up in local shops and frequent posts added on St Giles Facebook page to promote this amazing event.

Discover Easter was put together with lots of arts and crafts all free for people to come and experience the first Easter morning. Activities included making your own Easter Garden, nest buns, clay crosses decorated with brightly coloured gems, stained glass effect sun catchers and a large collage for the church. Additionally there were opportunities to paint and decorate them. Our Methodist friends offered tea light candle boxes to be decorated along with other Easter story art work.

Refreshments were served including delicious cake and hot cross buns to keep with the Easter theme. Parents and children had the opportunity to go on a special Easter egg hunt outside the church hall where letters had to be found to make the word 'resurrection'. On completion of this task each child/adult received an egg. Everyone loved it!

30 children and 36 adults attended the free event and feedback received was very positive. Thank you to the 15 adult helpers accompanied by their children who also enjoyed the crafts. All the children/parents have taken home a selection of art and crafts which will sit in their homes and will start conversations with parents and other family members about the work they have done and what they represent.

This is such a positive response and to know that 30 households have taken the Christian message home and they will have an understanding of the Easter message. That Jesus died on the cross to save us because of our sins and that he died, was buried and rose again to live forever.

Many thanks to all the volunteers without you the event would not have been possible. So thank you so much!

We look forward to our next discover event later in the year.

Alleluia Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia.

Ben Wheelhouse



Christian Aid Week 15-21 May



In Zimbabwe, the climate crisis is causing aching hunger for families like Jessica's. The combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict, and drought have robbed her of the power to provide for her children. And 7,000 miles away, the war in Ukraine will drive up food prices in Zimbabwe, and around the globe. Without the fertiliser and food - like wheat and cooking oil - that Ukraine and Russia produce, vulnerable families will be pushed even deeper into hunger. But hope does not disappoint. Hope lives in you. Your gifts this Christian Aid Week could help Jessica set up water taps on her farm, learn to grow food, and provide seeds that thrive in drought - giving her all she needs to turn her dry, dusty land into a garden of hope.

Join us this Christian Aid Week, and help turn hunger into hope. With every gift, every action, every prayer, we celebrate and share hope with our sisters and brothers facing crisis around the world, from Ukraine to Zimbabwe.

Easter Coffee Morning

The St. Matthew's Easter Coffee Morning held on Saturday 16th April proved to be a great success with people from the village joining church members to enjoy a social get together. Fairtrade tea and coffee were served along with bacon cobs or toast. The event raised £195 for church funds. Thanks go to the ladies who organised this event and worked in the kitchen and served the food and drinks. Thanks also to all those who supported this lovely event.

Poetry Corner

Blessings by Ann Ward

Thank you God for this day
And the blessings that have come my way
For health and strength
That see me through
For family and friends old and new
For the precious gift of sound and sight
To hear the dawn chorus
See the darkness of night
For the kindness each day of those who care
And for your unfailing love that is always there.

God's Creation by Ann Ward

Dawn brings the early morning light
Evenings sunset welcomes the night
The twinkling stars
And the moons golden glow
Shining from heaven
Lights up the earth below
The universe in its bright array
Is God's creation on display

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

Our Churches stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. We have a special prayer tree in each church for people to hang their own prayers for the situation in Ukraine. We also have a collection bucket in each church which has so far jointly raised £250.00

For your Diary

Both of our churches are holding their APCM's this month.

St. Giles 22/05/22 @11.30 am

St. Matthew's 23/05/22 @1.00 pm

Everyone invited.

Ascension Day Service

Joint Benefice Ascension Day Holy Communion Service

St. Giles Church @ 7.00 pm 26/05/22

Songs of Praise

Joint Benefice Songs of Praise for Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

At St. Matthew's Church

Sunday 5th June @ 4.00 pm

Mid-Summer Fayre

Saturday 25th June Mid-summer Fayre

St. Giles Church Hall from 11 am

Donations of items to be used as prizes on the raffle and Tombola stalls now being received. Thank You

United Benefice Contacts

Rector	Revd. Canon Helen Guest	01142482769
Priest	Revd. Michael Guest	01142482769
Reader	Mr. John Hall	01142484531
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs. Jenny Crump	01142471956
Church Warden St. Giles	Mrs. Jenny Crump	01142471956
Church Warden St. Giles	Mrs. Margaret Hall	01142484531
Church Warden St. Matthew's	Ms. Anne Joule	01246433497
Church Warden St. Matthew's	Mrs. Ann Morton	01246433709
Hire of Church Hall	Revd. Helen Guest	01142482769
Web Site Editor	Mrs. Sarah Parker	
Monthly News Sheet Editor	Revd. Michael Guest	01142482769

www.StGiles-Killamarsh.org

To be Christ in Church and Community

