

Our Parish

Aston-Cum-Aughton

April 2025



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please contact the Editor 0114 287 5477*



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On why you should never encourage your Congregation

The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear nephew Darren,

There are times when I indulge you too much; why I ever let you run your course 'Taking Responsibility for your Church' among our congregation, I am now unable to understand. I had hopes that it might encourage a few more people to volunteer for the flower rota, or to give occasional help mowing the churchyard. I even had a vague fantasy that someone might turn detective, and discover who had been eating the chocolate biscuits between Sundays, condemning the rest of us to munch on Rich Tea after Services.

Unfortunately, your course turned out to be inspirational, and it has fired up our members to take on all sorts of new initiatives. Enthusiasm in a congregation can be a very dangerous thing, especially if people start making decisions on their own.

Those who formed a welcoming group are admittedly well-meaning; although it was more than a little traumatic for those coming through the door the next Sunday to be greeted with frenzied handshakes, big toothy smiles, and even hymnbooks. That is unheard of in this church; we always ignore people and leave them to find hymn books if they can.

Naturally, all those offering to take the prayers, produce new Orders of Service and even to give the occasional sermon have been booked on the appropriate training courses. By the time they have been completed, I can only hope they will have gone off the idea.

But it was the group which decided to "beautify" the church who have proved the most tiresome. Hanging the Christmas tree lights round the altar made it look as if I was standing behind a fairground stall, waiting to invite people to throw hoops round teddy bears; although I would have rather enjoyed making winners sit for the rest of the Service holding a polythene bag containing a goldfish.

Our pulpit has also been given a makeover, with the various panels painted in contrasting colours; I am sure the sixteenth century Flemish woodcarvers would be delighted with the result, although the next time any medieval historians come to view it, I shall take the day off, probably travelling abroad.

My dear Darren, your course took the stopper out of the bottle; would you please run another to put it back?

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



ALL SAINTS ASTON

SERVICES IN APRIL 2025

Wednesday 2 April

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 6 April

10:30am All Age Service

Wednesday 9 April

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 13 April - PALM SUNDAY

10:30am Holy Communion

6:00pm STAINERS CRUCIFIXION

Wednesday 16 April

9:30am Holy Communion

Thursday 17 April - MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00pm Holy Communion

Friday 18 April - GOOD FRIDAY

2:00pm Stations of the Cross *at Holy Trinity Ulley*

Saturday 19 April

8:00pm Service of Light *at St Peter & St Paul Todwick*

Sunday 20 April - EASTER SUNDAY

10:30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 23 April

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 27 April

10:30am Holy Communion

6:00pm EASTER CAROL SERVICE

Wednesday 30 April

9:30am Holy Communion



Holy Trinity Church Ulley Services in April

Sunday 6 April

9:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 13 April - Palm Sunday

10:30am Holy Communion

Thursday 19 April - Maundy Thursday

7:00pm Holy Communion at All Saints Aston

Friday 20 April - Good Friday

2:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 19 April

8:00pm Service of Light at St Peter & St Paul Todwick

Sunday 20 April - Easter Sunday

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 27 April

10:30am Morning Worship

WHO TO CONTACT AT HOLY TRINITY

Church Wardens:

Charlotte Darling: 07957 627402 charlottedarling@live.co.uk

Sue Hubbard: 07793 046238 suehermec@hotmail.com

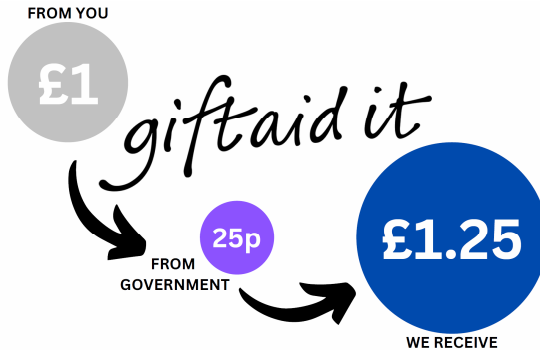
Weddings: If you want to talk about getting married, or to book your wedding please contact Sue Hubbard 07793 046238 suehermec@hotmail.com

Baptisms: If you would like to arrange a Baptism please E-mail our Baptism co-ordinator, Gloria Hope on Baptism@gloriahope.uk

Funerals: To arrange a Funeral please contact Sue Hubbard 0114 287 3846, suehermec@hotmail.com



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO ALL SAINTS CHURCH



We could not fulfil our God-given vision without your generous offering of your time, talents and finance. We encourage everyone to give but especially regular members of the church in order to contribute to the vision of the church and the activities associated with it.

You can give in many different ways...

1. On Sundays. When the offering plate or basket is passed around the congregation. Please also consider using the envelopes in church so that we can benefit from Gift Aid, where we can **claim an extra 25p of every £1** of your donation from the Government!
2. Any Day the Church is open. At the back of church, we have a contactless giving machine that can take a donation from your Debit or Credit card. Contactless giving enables people to give in a way that they feel comfortable to, using their card to make a transaction in the same way they would in everyday life. It is ideal for casual visitors who do not have regular giving set up but would like to give. Please also consider using the envelopes in church so that we can benefit from Gift Aid, where we can **claim an extra 25p of every £1** of your donation from the Government!
3. Regular Giving (Gift Aid Scheme) Please contact our Gift Aid Secretary, who will help to who will help to arrange a regular bank standing order or gift envelope where we can **claim an extra 25p of every £1** of your donation from the Government.

Gift Aid Secretary - Carl Spencer

Tel : **07450 648964** or E-Mail : **office@allsaintsaston.org**
and mention Regular Giving (Gift Aid Scheme)



ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON - FOCAL MINISTRY

As many of you will know, we have been without an incumbent Rector here at All Saints for over 5 years. This situation is unlikely to change largely due to financial constraints within the Diocese of Sheffield which has resulted in a reduction of around 50% in the number of stipendiary priests i.e. those allocated to a specific parish. Essentially this means a radical change in the structure and governance of local parishes.

Sheffield Diocese is tackling this with the implementation of Oversight and Focal ministry. An Oversight Minister will generally be responsible for a group of neighbouring parishes, usually assisted by 1 or 2 priests allocated to the group. At individual parish level, the Diocese is appointing Focal Ministers to be the face of the local church within the community and to work with the Oversight Minister and local churchwardens to manage the local church and ensure the continuity of services and worship. Generally, these Focal Ministers will be lay people i.e. not ordained priests or even qualified lay preachers. There is no restriction on the number of Focal Ministers any given church can have.

For us at Aston, Revd Vicky Camber has agreed to be our Oversight Minister, but ideally we need to identify one or more Focal Ministers to work alongside her.

If you would like to know more, please contact one of the churchwardens.

Chris Ward - Tel : 0749 186202 or E-Mail : chrismarkward@sky.com

Val Dixon - 07790 791463

ROTHERHAM FOODBANK

You can leave donations in the porch at All Saints from 9.30am to 10.30am on Wednesdays and from 9.15am to 10.30am on Sundays.

They urgently need:

Biscuits

Tinned Fruit

Long Life Milk

Tinned Vegetables

Packet Mashed Potatoes

Rice

Pasta Sauce

Tinned Potatoes

Custard

Any donations you can make will be greatly appreciated.

Please speak to Pam Taylor 0114 287 9221 if you would like more information.

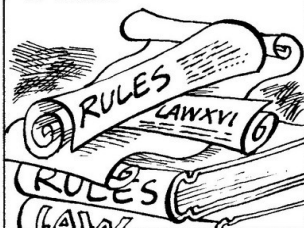


"Some tough talking"

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION JESUS BECAME VERY CROSS WITH THE PEOPLE WHO MADE LOTS OF RULES



YOU ARE BAD PEOPLE - YOU GIVE A TENTH OF YOUR HERBS, MINT, DILL AN CUMIN...



...BUT YOU FORGET ABOUT JUSTICE, MERCY AND HONESTY!



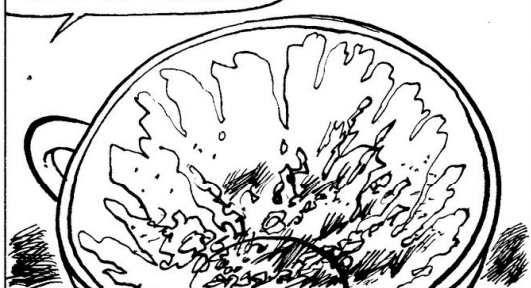
IT'S AS THOUGH YOU STRAIN AT A GNAT - BUT SWALLOW A CAMEL WHOLE!



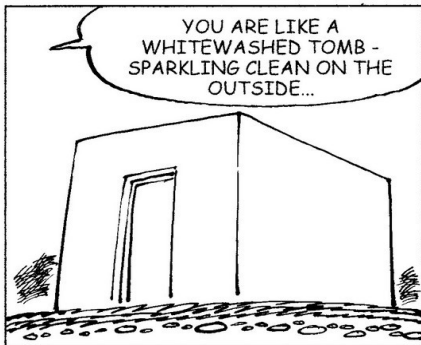
YOU ARE LIKE A CUP THAT IS CLEAN ON THE OUTSIDE...



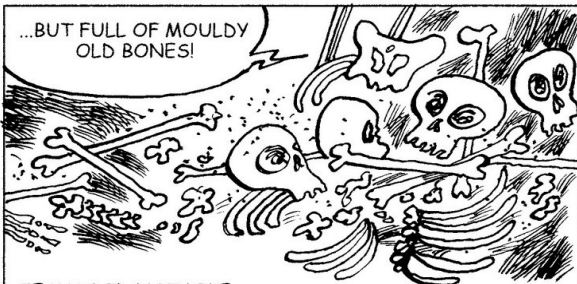
...BUT DISGUSTINGLY FILTHY ON THE INSIDE!!



YOU ARE LIKE A WHITEWASHED TOMB - SPARKLING CLEAN ON THE OUTSIDE...



...BUT FULL OF MOULDY OLD BONES!



JESUS DID NOT LIKE PEOPLE WHO MADE IT HARD TO FOLLOW GOD.

See Matthew 23.23-27



GOD TO ENFOLD ME

God to enfold me
God to surround me
God in my thinking
God in my words

God in my sleeping
And in my waking
God in my watching
God in my hopes

God in my life
God in my lips
God in my heart and my soul
In my sufficing
And in my slumber
In my eternal and living soul.

*By John Michael Talbot
born 1954*

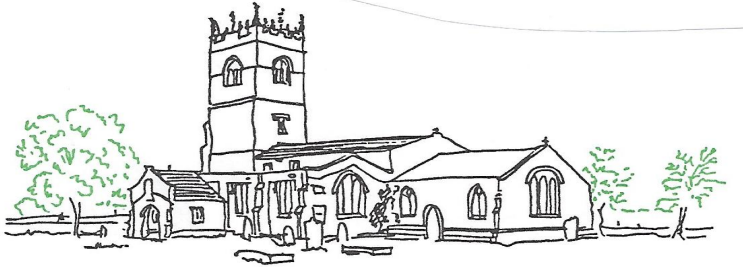


ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

ROTA FOR SIDESPEOPLE

APRIL 2025

6	ALL AGE WORSHIP	Bill Mawson & Pauline Martin
13	HOLY COMMUNION	Paul Moakes & Marjorie O'Neil
20	HOLY COMMUNION	Gill Ward & Ann Mason
27	HOLY COMMUNION	Sheila Brown & Pauline Martin



WEDDINGS AT ASTON ALL SAINTS CHURCH



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Did you know that you can now be married in our church even if you don't live in this parish?

If you would like to come and have a look around please get in touch with our wedding team by:

E-mail weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com or Phone 07934 101538

We would love to be 'The perfect place for your perfect day'.



John Stainer The Crucifixion

The Choir of All Saints Aston

Graham Smyth *Tenor*

Ian Thomson-Smith *Bass*

Elliott Walker *Conductor*

Fiona Law *Organ*



Sunday 13th April
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Aston, Sheffield
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Retiring collection

www.allsaintsaston.org



18th April : GOOD FRIDAY, Jesus and the Thieves on the cross



Luke's account of the crucifixion (Luke 23:32-43) emphasises the mocking of the crowd, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself' (35,37,39). In their view a Messiah does not hang on a cross and suffer. In considering the two men who were crucified with Jesus, we are also confronted with the issue of how Jesus secures salvation for us.

The words of one of those crucified with Jesus reflected the crowd's taunts: 'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us.' He highlights the question of Jesus' identity: how can He save others, when He cannot save Himself from death? He failed to see that the cross itself was the means of salvation.

So – what kind of Messiah was Jesus?

The other criminal's response in his last moments is a moving expression of faith. When challenging the other man, he spoke of the utter injustice of the crucifixion: 'this man has done nothing wrong.' He perceived the truth that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. In a wonderful picture of grace, 'remember me when You come into Your kingdom', the second thief confessed his guilt and secured Jesus' forgiveness and mercy.

In reply, Jesus promised the man life from the moment of death; 'Today you will be with Me in paradise.' Jesus used the picture of a walled garden to help the man understand His promise of protection and security in God's love and acceptance eternally.

Each one of us has to choose how we react to Jesus on the cross. Do we want Him to 'remember' us when He comes into His kingdom, or not? If you were to die tonight, how confident would you be of going to be with Jesus?

***'For Christ died for sins once for all,
the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God'' (1 Peter 3:18).***



20th April : EASTER, the most Joyful Day of the year

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins.

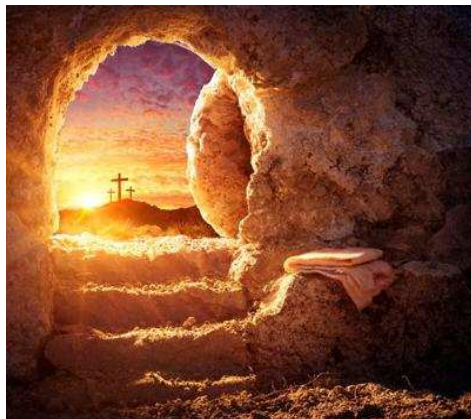
We are forgiven. Christ has risen!

We are redeemed!

We look forward to an eternity in His joy!

Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.



Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for the first Good Friday: Friday 7th April 30 AD or Friday 3rd April, 33 AD with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these two Fridays to be the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22nd March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25th April, which last happened in 1943.

Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month,' but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply 'beginning month' – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.



WHEN I AM GONE

When I come to the end of my journey
And I travel my last weary mile,
Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned
And remember only the smile.

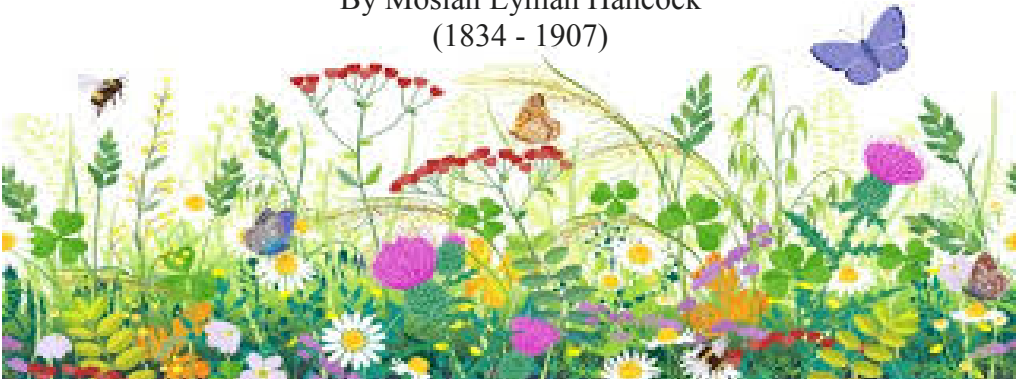
Forget unkind words I have spoken;
Remember some good I have done,
Forget that I ever had heartache
And remember I've had loads of fun.

Forget that I've stumbled and blundered
And sometimes fell by the way.
Remember I have fought some hard battles
And won, ere the close of the day.

Then forget to grieve for my going,
I would not have you sad for a day,
But in summer just gather some flowers
And remember the place where I lay.

And come in the shade of evening
When the sun paints the sky in the west,
Stand for a few moments beside me
And remember only my best.

By Mosiah Lyman Hancock
(1834 - 1907)





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ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

the HAVEN

EVERY 3rd WEDNESDAY

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IN THE NARTHEX

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AUGHTON COURT HOSPITAL - FORMERLY ASTON HALL



Aughton Court Hospital with the fire escape and the day room extension, the roof can just be seen in front of the church tower.

At the end of the Second World War Sir Ronald Matthews and his family never returned to Aston Hall. They had lived at Letwell during the war whilst the Hall was used as offices for the London and North Eastern Railway. In 1948 they sold Aston Hall and the cottage at Letwell and moved to Wadworth Hall near Doncaster which, coincidentally, was the home of Ann Wordsworth who married Harry Verelst in 1771 and came to live at Aston Hall soon afterwards.

Aston Hall never reverted to private ownership. In 1948 it was bought by the West Riding County Council for £7,000. Sheffield No 2 Hospital Management Committee had its headquarters at Middlewood Hospital and was responsible for the administration of a number of Sheffield hospitals and hostels mainly for patients with mental illness. In 1948 it took over Aston Hall and opened it as Aston Hall Institution, with 62 beds for mentally handicapped female patients. It was later renamed Aughton Court Hospital, probably because there was already an Aston Hall Psychiatric Hospital in South Derbyshire.

In August 1972 there was a report in the Sheffield Star about Aughton Court Hospital. It reported that conservationists had lost their fight to prevent Sheffield No. 2 Hospital Management Committee from erecting a factory-built extension on to the former Aston Hall, which was designed by the famous York Architect John Carr.



‘Following an unofficial inquiry, the committee have been given the go-ahead to build a day room costing about £10,000 on to the building now known as Aughton Court Hospital.’ Both Hallamshire Historic Society and the Georgian Society objected to the plan, contending that it would spoil the facade of the hospital, which is used for female mentally sub-normal patients.

An official of the Department of the Environment said it had been agreed to seek an assurance from the Department of Health that the building would be in position for only 10 years. That is the possible life of the hospital and when it ceases to be used for this purpose the day room should be removed from the side of the house.

The official said: “It was agreed by those at the unofficial inquiry that the day room in its present position would spoil the facade of the Hall, although it had already been spoiled to a certain extent at this point by a large fire escape.” Mr John Woolman of the Hallamshire Historic Building Society said: “This is most unsatisfactory and there is no guarantee that it (the day room) will be removed in 10 years’ time.” Well, as we all know the day room was not removed and is still in use.

In 1982, responsibility for the 56 women patients then living in Aughton Court Hospital was transferred from Sheffield Area Health Authority to Rotherham Health Authority. After that date there were no further admissions to Aughton Court and as a result of deaths, discharges and transfers the number of patients reduced to 39.

The Health Authority said that ‘extensive maintenance work was required to make the structure safe and maintenance costs would be a continuing drain on Resources’. They therefore decided to close Aughton Court at the end of 1984. The patients would be housed in community units and those with more severe handicaps would be accommodated at Beechcroft Hospital in Rotherham.

‘All staff involved in the proposed changes had been consulted and so far as possible their preferences would be borne in mind when the redeployment of staff was organised. The firm intention was not to make any staff redundant.’ Aughton Court was closed in 1984 and that year it was used to house the police during the miners’ strike. In 1987 it was bought and renovated and opened as Aston Hall Hotel.

Since then the hotel has changed hands several times and been extended and a new conference and event centre built. It is now a Best Western Plus Hotel.

Ann Key
Secretary Aston-cum-Aughton History Group



I CHOSE TO LOVE YOU ...

"I choose to love you in silence ...
For in silence I find no rejection,

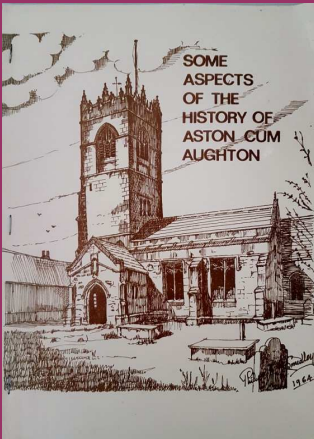
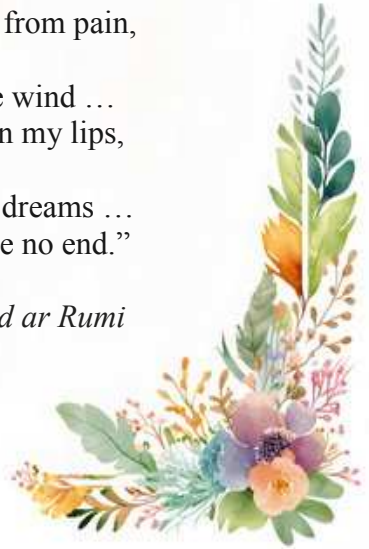
I choose to love you in loneliness ...
For in loneliness no one owns you but me,

I choose to adore you from a distance ...
For distance will shield me from pain,

I choose to kiss you in the wind ...
For the wind is gentler than my lips,

I choose to hold you in my dreams ...
For in my dreams, you have no end."

*By Jala ad Din Muhammad ar Rumi
(1207 - 1273)*



Aston-cum-Aughton History Group

We meet in the Reading Room on
1st & 3rd Mondays of each month

7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Contact **Brian Mears 0114 287 7751**
 Gloria Hope 07788 123044
 Ann Key 0114 287 2610



ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

CHANGE OF CHURCH WEBSITE & E-MAIL ADDRESS

If you tried to look at the church website in the second half of December - or if you tried to contact us by email at the usual office address, then you will have realized that we had major problems with communication. If you got a 'site unavailable' message, or if your email bounced back, then we apologise.

All is working properly now and we have a new address:

Church Website : www.allsaintsaston.org

Office E-Mail : office@allsaintsaston.org

Our Parish Office is still : 07934 101538

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From the Registers

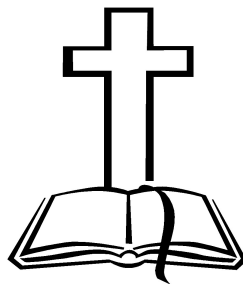
Baptisms :

Ashley Upperdine

Zara Morley

Vinnie Anthony Greaves

Funerals :



WHO TO CONTACT AT ALL SAINTS

If you want to talk about getting married,
or book your wedding

please telephone **07934 101538**

E-Mail : **weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com**

If you would like to arrange a Baptism
please E-mail our Baptism co-ordinator
Gloria Hope on **Baptism@gloriahope.uk**

If you would like to arrange a Funeral
please speak to our Funeral Co-ordinator
Gloria Hope **07553 504806**

Having a meeting or party?

Why not hire our Narthex.

£15 per hour. No Booking Fee.

Contact E-Mail : **office@allsaintsaston.org**



REGULAR SERVICES

PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS ASTON CUM AUGHTON

SUNDAYS:	All Age Worship (1st Sunday of the month)	10:30am
	Parish Communion (2nd Sunday and 4th Sunday)	10:30am
	Morning Worship (3rd Sunday)	10:30am
	When there is a 5th Sunday To Be Arranged	10:30am
	Evensong (2nd Sunday)	6.00pm
	Compline (4th Sunday)	6:00pm
WEDNESDAYS:	Holy Communion	9.30am

TEAM STAFF ALL SAINTS ASTON CUM AUGHTON

CHILDREN'S MINISTER & WORSHIP LEADER:	Beth Henshaw	07813 789255
WARDENS:	Chris Ward (All Saints)	07949 186202
	Val Dixon (All Saints)	0114 287 3214
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:	Louise Cooper	07581 421976
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:	Elliott Walker	07954 685831
MAGAZINE	Peter Maxted <i>peter@themax2020.co.uk</i>	07950 412753
WEDDINGS	Gill Ward <i>weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com</i>	

PARISH CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY ULLEY

SUNDAYS:	Holy Communion (1st Sunday)	9:00am
	Morning Worship (2nd Sunday & 4th Sunday)	10.30am
	Holy Communion (3rd Sunday)	10.30am

TEAM STAFF HOLY TRINITY ULLEY

ASSOCIATE PRIEST :	Rev Vicky Camber <i>Vicky_camber@yahoo.co.uk</i>	01909 771101
FOCAL MINISTRY TEAM HOLY TRINITY:		
	Peter Hutchinson	0114 442 5340
	Margaret Oakley	07803 118944
	Gloria Hope	07788 123044
WARDENS:	Sue Hubbard (Holy Trinity)	0114 287 3846
	Charlotte Darling (Holy Trinity)	07957 627402



Groups and Societies

Aston & District Footpath Walkers Association

*Local friendly walking every Thursday. Contact **Mel Partridge on 07731 773832**, or E-Mail melpartridge1943@gmail.com.*

Aston Ladies Circle

*Meetings are at 7.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the Parish Hall or 'OUT' on trips. Contact **Audrey Jones 0114 287 5518***

Aston-cum-Aughton History Group

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, 7 - 9pm, William Layne Reading Room, Aughton Lane, Aston. Visitors welcome.

Aston-cum-Aughton Ladies Group

Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 1.45pm in the Narthex at All Saints Church.

Contact : Linda on 0114 287 6696

Dinnington & District Horticultural Society

Evening talks in Anston Parish Hall, Ryton Road, North Anston S25 4DL at 7.30pm. Non members £2.50.

For more details contact : 01909 567326.

Chatterbox Activity Group

for pensioners, carers and over 55's.

Tuesdays 10am to 12:30

at Central Methodist Church Hall, Lodge Lane, Aston.

Members £3.00.

Board Games, Outings and other Events.

Friends of Ulley Country Park

Sunday Café: 11 am to 3 pm. Homemade refreshments including soup, crusty bread, coffee, tea, fruit cordials, cakes and scones. We hope to host a special event at each Café day. Details on the website.



5th Age (charity number 1068378)

This social group meets every Tuesday, 2 - 4pm at Heighton View Community Centre (off Turnshaw Avenue in Aughton).

Open to anyone over 55. Just drop in: ask for Julia. Membership free.

Contact : *enquire5thage@outlook.com*

Prospects

An inclusive service with those with learning difficulties. All welcome!

We learn stories from the Bible, (sometimes acted out); sing songs together in worship and celebration and end with cake.

Swallownest Baptist Church 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm.

Contacts : *Malcolm 07720 776081 or Elizabeth 07594 410801*

Little Angels - CURRENTLY CLOSED

Playgroup for babies and pre-school children

at The Narthex, All Saints Church, Aston

Every Monday 9.30 - 11.30am in Term-time

Admission FREE, but donations welcome

Contact for updates : *Gloria Hope 07553 504806 or gloria@gloriahope.uk*

ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL

In line with the Church Representation Rules once every six years the preparation of New Church Electoral Rolls takes place.

2025 is a year for a New Church Electoral Roll to be prepared.

This means that every person who wishes to have his or her name entered on the new Roll, whether it is entered on the present Roll or not, is requested to apply for enrolment not later than **20 April 2025**.

The New Church Electoral Roll will then take effect for six years from **18 May 2025**.

Forms will be available for collection from Church until **20 April 2025**.

For information please contact Peter Maxted

Tel : 07950 412753 or E-Mail : *peter@themax2020.co.uk*

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