Your Scholes (0113 289 2437 / 07512 314312)

ThornerCares (0113 880 5255) to request help.

Finally, please contact me or Bob if you feel in need of spiritual or emotional support and we will do what we can to help.

Andy Nicholson (0113 289 2437 / reverandy1@gmail.com)

Bob Bailey (0113 260 7721 / rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com)

### **Coffee and chat**

Starting on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January we are trialling a Barwick telephone chat time.

This will not be a religious service. It will be a time for an informal chat with a small group, over coffee safe at home.

If you would like to join us for a chat, please phone

### Carole on 0113 281 2149 or Leslye on 0113 281 2488

don't forget to leave your name and phone number if the answerphone comes on.

If there are more than half a dozen wanting to chat we will have to have more than one group, to give everyone a chance to get a word in.

We will give details when we know how many are interested.

Revd. Kathryn, Carole and Leslye

## **Barwick Post Office and Village Store**

is still offering to deliver groceries.

Phone Chris on 0113 281 2240

## Did you get a laptop/tablet/computer/smartphone for Christmas?

If you get a paper copy of the notices, would you like to help save the planet, one sheet of paper a week, by reading the notices in your email?

Please email me - leslyeanglican@btinternet.com

If you would also like the Benefice news please email

Hilary, the benefice PA - elmettrinitypa@gmail.com



## SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 Baptism of Christ

Readings for today
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11



#### Collect for today

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

# Letter from the Rector Saturday 9 January 2021

#### Dear all

So here we are at Lockdown version 3, or as some of the press have put it 'The worst sequel ever'! Whilst it's tempting to bemoan the terrible state we're in and get angry at mistakes that have been made, I always find it's better to look at the possibilities that a bad situation opens up rather than the problems we face.

Early this week the Benefice Council, worship leaders and PCCs agreed that the best course of action was to close the churches to public worship. This was a particularly hard decision for me to make as I have been aware of how precious the physical act of coming to church is for those who have been faithfully coming through our doors in the past few weeks. Yet we cannot deny that we are at a very difficult and dangerous point in the pandemic's course and to not close the churches felt like tempting fate too much.

In some ways we are back where we were in April last year, but in other ways we are so far ahead of that point. As churches we have networks of phone contacts, as a benefice we have the daily reflections, phone-in services and printed sheets that are distributed to those without internet

access. We also have the churches set up for livestreaming and will be taking advantage of these facilities in the weeks to come. These will all continue to support people where they are with whatever technology they have. But we are not standing still; instead we are looking to develop more ways of connecting people with the church.

When the lockdown was announced I phoned all the people that 'Your Scholes' Covid Response Group had recorded as people they have previously helped. Virtually all said that their physical needs were being met — shopping, prescriptions, etc — but some spoke of loneliness, of needing someone to talk to. There is amongst certain of the populations of our villages a sense of weariness, of isolation and the connected stress on mental health that this brings; it is in response to that isolation that the churches are looking to put in new responses.

One project is to have a weekly 'Prayer and Chat' service that will be on Zoom (so there's a phone number to ring to access for those without the internet). This will be on Wednesdays at 11am. We're also looking to hold phone-in chats throughout the week, when there will be a phone number that people can call in on to 'meet up' with others for a communal phone call. I have also put on Facebook my own phone number (see below) and said that I'm regularly available if people want to just pick up the phone for a chat one-to-one. We're also looking at creating DVDs and CDs of the livestreamed services for those with CD/DVD players but no internet access. If you would like a copy of the service on CD or DVD, please contact me and when we have this up and running (i.e. cracked more new technology!), I'll make sure you get a copy each week.

All of these projects are detailed overleaf for you to access in the coming weeks. The message we want to get out is that **you are not alone**. The Church is standing beside you, and is there for you if and when you need us. Blessings,

Andy

Andy Nicholson - 0113 289 2437

### Online and phone-in services etc during lockdown 3

**Sundays at 10am** – services will be broadcast on YouTube (available later as a recording). Services will be followed by a Zoom coffee and chat at 11am. The links for both will be emailed the evening before.

**Sundays at 6pm** – the phone-in prayer service continues, offering an opportunity to socialise as well as worship. To access the service, phone 0330 336 0036 (local call rate) and enter the PIN 716 416.

**Wednesdays at 11am** – Morning Prayer with a reflection, followed by a chance to chat and socialise, on Zoom. The Zoom link can be accessed by phone as well as online. **The same link will be used each week**. To join:

by phone – dial 0203 051 2874 and then dial the Meeting ID: 873 4803 0764

online – download the iCalendar files to your calendar system.

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZMuc-

GorTstHNCz7LsowB HCNLbEYn5N5BO/ics?

icsToken=98tyKuGvrT8iGteVtx-DRpwEA4-gWfTztmJago1-

hkjJEC9EQDzeFcxuMJdGHo3-

Join the Zoom meeting by clicking on <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/">https://us02web.zoom.us/</a> <a href="j/87348030764">j/87348030764</a> (if requested).

**Daily from 6am** – reflections on YouTube four days a week (Monday–Thursday) until the beginning of Lent and then five days a week.

**Weekly** (Friday/Saturday) – a round-up of the week's reflections and a letter from Andy, sent by email or printed out; a printed pewsheet (Barwick) and emailed newsletter (Scholes) with news, interviews, prayer requests, etc.

Please let Andy know if you are able to play CDs or DVDs and would like any of the online services etc provided in this form.

We know that some congregation members are not confident with IT and new software. If you would welcome some support with accessing these online resources, please contact the benefice PA on <a href="mailto:elmettrinitypa@gmail.com">elmettrinitypa@gmail.com</a> and we'll try to put together some information sheets.

If you are in need of practical assistance with shopping, etc, or you know someone who is, please contact:

BarwickCares (barwickcares@gmail.com)