SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

Sundays at 8am

- **17**th Holy Communion with Revd. Jonathan
- 24th no service

Sundays at 10.30am

- 17th All Age Communion with Revd. Lynne Grey
- 24th Morning Worship with Keith
- 24th at 6.30pm Taizé in Thorner with Sarah Meredith

Wednesdays at 10.30am

- **13**th Morning worship with Pauline and Ann
- 20th Holy Communion with Revd. Jonathan
- 27th Morning Worship with Ann And Pauline

Contact details:

Leslye - church warden - 0113 281 2488 leslyeanglican@btinternet.com Carole - church warden - 0113 281 2149 carole.cassidy39@gmail.com Revd. Kathryn - retired priest - 0113 281 2761 Hilary - Benefice PA - 07762 322193 general enquiries, funerals, baptisms Carol - wedding enquiries - 0113 281 3048 Web site barwickcofechurch.co.uk



FOOD BANK

FACT 1

The Trussell Trust in Leeds distributes

3 tonnes of food each month



FACT 2

The Trussell Trust in Leeds receives just

1 tonne of food each month.

Please keep donating generously.

The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'

On the absurdity of a vicar ever retiring

The Rectory, St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren,

Beware of being invited by bishops to drop round for a chat. My first mistake was to answer the phone when he rang; what are answerphones for, but to avoid having to talk to anyone - ever.



My second mistake was not to be able to think of a meeting I had to attend -preferably on another planet - on the day he suggested.

I therefore found myself in his study this morning, waiting for the point of the meeting while we negotiated the obligatory five minutes discussing the weather and his summer holiday in France. I made it quite clear that I had been far too busy to swan off to foreign parts – although I suspect the implication of what I said passed him by.

We then got to the point. He was toying with the thought of my retirement and linking us with the adjoining parish of St Agatha's. I patiently explained, using simple words and speaking slowly for his benefit, that at 85 and with 40 years at St James the Least of All behind me, I was just getting into my stride and that the vicar of St Agatha's, a stripling at 63, had nowhere near enough experience to organise the hymn list, let alone two parishes. This, too, seemed to drift somewhere above his head.

He had clearly done his homework. There were already plans for *my* Queen Anne rectory to be sold and *my* five acres of garden be turned into a housing estate. This news would be received by our parishioners with as much equanimity as if they were told that Buckingham Palace was to be converted into a sports centre.

The matter, I was told, was confidential – which meant that I only relayed the news to one parishioner at a time. By the end of the day everyone in the village knew, and a counter attack was being planned. Inevitably, the most outraged were those who never attend church. People do so love having a church not to go to. Congregations have soared, gardeners are being brought in to tidy the rectory grounds, and the church council is now well attended. The latter is a mixed blessing, as I always think that the time to get worried is when people start to turn up to meetings.

It may surprise our bishop, but the threat of a merger has been the greatest impetus to mission outreach we've had in years. Retirement indeed! I'm sure Zadok was never asked about his pension plans. Your loving uncle, Eustace



Let's get crafty

meets in church 7-9pm Wednesday 20th Sept 2023 This week it is Macramé for more details phone Sarah: 0792 240 7850

BARWICK METHODIST CHURCH

Harvest Coffee Morning SATURDAY 16th September 2023 Come and join us in the Chapel Schoolroom **Between 10 am – 12.00 noon**

Admission £2.00 includes Refreshments (Tea/Coffee)

Cake Stall/Raffle

Everyone Welcome

Proceeds to

Winter Night Shelter@Gipton Methodist Church via WYDAN

ERITAGE OPEN DAY

Saturday 16th September 2023

10.30 - 4 in the Methodist Chapel