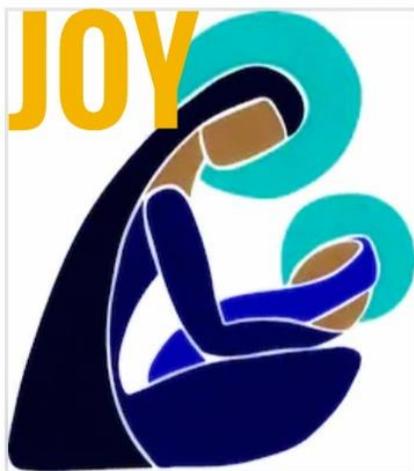


PARISH NEWSLETTER

December 2019 & January 2020

for the villages of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith,
Tholthorpe, Tollerton and Youlton

The Anglican ministers for the villages in the Parish of Alne are Revd. Debbie Coyne and Revd. Carmel Gittens. They can be contacted by telephone on 01423 360759 or by e-mail at rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com and 01347 833437 or carmel-gittens@live.co.uk respectively.



Joy is my favourite word for the Christmas season. For me it captures the wonderment and excitement of the first Christmas. Joy is so much more than happiness. It is a deep rooted contentment and security, that often, but not always, produces a smile. It creates a connection with others. Joy is authentic, not simply conjured up in order to meet the demands of others in a day. Joy is often something that reaches beyond a smile, to the very core of who we are. And it is this, that we are told Jesus brought that first Christmas: **Joy to the World, the Lord is come!**

We often sing these lyrics in the famous carol by Isaac Watts, but do we really mean them?

Christmas isn't always a happy time. For some of you it will be lonely and bring pain of loved ones missing.

It is often a stressful time of year as we work to meet deadlines, line up the food preparations, entertain the children, placate the in-laws and generally trying to meet everyone's (including our own) expectations, with a smile on our face (perhaps aided by a glass filled with some kind of enjoyable beverage). Christmas has become a day we strive for. A day that we measure our success by how "happy" everyone appears to be. A day that in actual fact is just another day in the year.

Away from the turkey and tinsel (both which I love). Away from the chaos and stress. There is a meaning behind the day, behind the season, that requires none of it. Don't get me wrong, I love seeing my family and arguing with them as much as the next person, as well as putting up the tree and decorating the house (I can hear some of you groan at even the concept). But Christmas was never about all of that. It was about a baby. A baby who came to transform the world.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Christmas is all about Joy. Joy, despite our want to define it otherwise, it is not the absence of pain. The author of *The Fault in Our Stars*, John Green, asks "without pain, how could we know joy? suffice it to say that the existence of broccoli does not, in any way, affect the taste of chocolate." In fact, some have said that in knowing pain we can know what real joy is. Including the Bible. Now let me be clear, I do not believe God creates or causes pain, but He does promise to be with us in the pain and turn our tears into dancing. This is the purpose behind Him, Jesus (God), coming at Christmas. To transform the pain of the world into joy.

If we know and love Him (Jesus) the Bible tells us we will have Joy, right to our core, even in the hard things of life. But, as Henri Nouwen states, Joy is a choice. Jesus is a choice. Not just for Christmas but all year round.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Here is hoping you have a very joyful and merry Christmas!!!

Debbie & Aslan

p.s. check out our list of Christmas services across the two Benefice's in December. There is something for everyone and we look forward to seeing you there!

Oh COME
ALL YE
faithful

#FollowTheStar

Christmas in the Benefices of Alne and Brafferton

SUNDAY 8TH DEC

4PM, CHRISTMAS TREE CAROL SERVICE - ALNE
6.30PM, CAROL SERVICE - BRAFFERTON

SUNDAY 15TH DEC

3.30PM, CAROL SERVICE - ALWALK
4PM, CAROL SERVICE - MYTON

WEDNESDAY 18TH DEC

2PM, ALNE SCHOOL NATIVITY - ST MARY'S CHURCH, ALNE

THURSDAY 19TH DEC

6.30PM, CAROL SERVICE - THORNMANBY

FRIDAY 20TH DEC

2PM, BRAFFERTON SCHOOL CHRISTINGLE - ST PETER'S CHURCH, BRAFFERTON

SUNDAY 22ND DEC

6.30PM, CAROL'S BY CANDLE LIGHT - TOLLERTON

CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30PM, NATIVITY - BRAFFERTON
4PM, CHRISTINGLE - ALNE
11PM, MIDNIGHT HOLY COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS DAY

9AM, HOLY COMMUNION - MYTON
9AM, JOINT SERVICE: ALDWALK AND ALNE ALL AGE SERVICE - ALDWALK
10.30, CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE - TOLLERTON
10.30, COMMUNION SERVICE - BRAFFERTON
10.30, COMMUNION SERVICE - THORNMANBY

FIND US ON:



News from Aine Church

Restoration Project

Following completion of the external phase of the restoration project, we are now able to return to normal activities and functions at the church. It is good to be able to clear out unwanted items and bring a semblance of order back to the church!

It is also a good time to thank a number of charities and organisations, without whose generosity, this major project could never have been started. These include The Heritage Fund, All Churches Trust, Cohen Foundation, Diocese of York, Garfield Weston, HB Allen, Headley Trust and the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust.

Autumn Services

Harvest Festival – 13th October

The Harvest Festival this year was led by the Revd Debbie Coyne. The main theme of the service is thanksgiving and Debbie also reinforced the message of conservation. *The School Harvest* was held the following day and we were delighted to welcome the children, parents and staff of Aine Primary School for the School Harvest Festival. With the pupils came a huge amount of produce for the Salvation Army. Class by class the children sang their songs and carols with much enthusiasm. Carol Glen gave a blessing at the end of the service. We look forward to seeing them all again!



Easingwold Town Band – 2nd November

The Band gave a lively and varied concert which was much appreciated by those present.



Remembrance Sunday - 10th November

The Revd John Hetherington, formerly an RAF Chaplain, led a moving service this year. The Revd John drew upon his experience of meeting a number of ex-servicemen who had served in Normandy in 1944.



Churchyard

We are very grateful for the dedication and hard work by Peter, Maggie and Chris Bond in transforming the churchyard. Having ended the practice of bringing sheep to the church yard the various fences have been removed. All the grass can now be cut – hence the transformation that we now see. Very many thanks to Peter and his family.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

If anyone is seeking activities which will count towards these awards, a number of varied and interesting jobs will be available at the church from time to time. Contact Peter Cove (838346) or Carol Glen (838016).

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Tree Festival: 5th – 8th December

We invite all local community groups, businesses, schools, families and individuals to make and display a Christmas tree at the Church based on the theme – *Care of the Planet*. Use your imagination to make a tree. The trees can be left at the church from **Thursday, 5th until Saturday, 7th December at 9.00a.m. – 10.30a.m. and 3.30p.m. – 4.30p.m.** Refreshments will be available at the church during these periods. *All are welcome to visit the church and see the trees.*

Carol Service (and celebration of the Christmas trees) - will be held on **Sunday, 8th December starting at 4.00p.m.** There will be refreshments after the service and also a prize of a Christmas Hamper for the best-judged tree. The trees can be taken home after the service or during the following week.

For more details, contact Martyn or Sharon Oliver:
mandsoliver@btinternet.com

Christingle

As usual Christingle will take place at **4.00p.m. on Christmas Eve**. All are welcome to attend this family event. Once more we are seeking Christingle makers – we provide the candles and tape which can be collected from the back of the church.



Please contact Carol Glen on 838016, Peter Cove on 838346 or e-mail: office@abchurches.org.uk.

Midnight Mass – 11.30p.m.

We have not held a midnight service for the past two years but thanks to popular demand we are holding the service this year.

Christmas Day

There will **not** be a service at Alne Church on Christmas Day. However, there will be a combined service at **Aldwark Church at 9.00a.m.** All are most welcome to attend.



St Mary's Church, Alne

Christmas Tree Festival



Entries to be delivered to the church please between 9:00am-10:30am or 3:30pm-4:30pm on Thurs. 5th, Fri. 6th or Sat. 7th December

2019 Theme: Care of the Planet

Use your imagination to make a Christmas tree for display at the Church.

Note: no electrical lighting please – battery operated lights are acceptable.

Prize for best entry: Christmas Hamper

Sunday 8th December

Family Carol Service 4pm

Followed by cake and coffee

ALL WELCOME



COMMUNITY NEWS

Village Hall News and Dates for your Diary

Dates For Your Diary

Pub Nights

Friday 31st January 2020

Friday 28th February 2020



Quiz Night Saturday 14th March

Our first Quiz Night for almost 2 years will take place on **Saturday, 14th March 2020**. The last Quiz Night we held was very poorly attended so we are hoping to see plenty of participants join us on what should be a fun evening. There will of course be a bar to help the old grey matter spring into action.

Christmas Eve Pub Night 5.00p.m. to 8.00p.m.

Not long to go now to Christmas. Come and relax and have a drink with us on Christmas Eve. This is always a very popular event and promises to be a festive and enjoyable evening. There will be the usual bar including a wide choice of alcoholic and soft drinks, mulled wine and snacks. **Doors open at 5.00p.m. just after Christingle**. Everybody is welcome.

At 7.00pm we will be making the first draw of the Lottery with special Christmas prize money of 1st £100, 2nd £50 and 3rd £25.

Events in the pipeline

During those cold winter months, Alne's very own gin distiller will be hosting an evening "Gin making at home, my first year." It should be an interesting evening, watch this space for more details. This will be a ticket only event.

If you have any ideas for events or activities please let us know.

In order to maintain the Village Hall for future generations we need your help. Please come along and support our events if you can. If you would like to be involved in the running of the Village Hall or organising an event, please get in touch.

Please check our webpage on www.alnevillage.co.uk for contact details and upcoming events. Follow us on Facebook. If you would like to be included on the email distribution list (which is confidential) please let us know.

Alne Singers

Christmas Concert



Alne Village Hall

Thursday 19th December—7.45 pm

with

Raffle and Festive Refreshments

Adults £5/Children free

*All profits to be shared between
SASH (Safe and Sound Homes) and HOPING (Helping Other People
in Need Group), helping people in need in York and Hambleton at
Christmas and throughout the year*

*Tickets on the door or in advance from Helen Dawson
(cellohelen@gmail.com) and Maggie Bond (maggiebond23@hotmail.com)*

Alne WI Meeting 13th November

This month's meeting was Resolutions & Charity Tombola. We were greeted by Jean with a glass of mulled wine. Delicious.

Joan Baram our President opened the meeting with her usual friendly, welcoming enthusiasm. The minutes of last year's meeting were read and agreed. Helen gave her excellent "end of the year financial update", & praised her husband Bill for his support! Many thanks Bill, from all the members. Joan gave the President's yearly report and thanked all the committee members and members who have contributed with support throughout, a busy, enjoyable, interesting WI year. Pam Marlow gave the Secretary's report. Sadly Pam stepped down as Secretary, to enable her to globe trot around the world, but I'm sure she will still be a very supportive member, when available. Thank you from all the members Pam. The good news is we welcome Diane Hunter as our new Secretary. The rest of the Committee stays the same, "why change perfection". Thank you all, especially Joan. Marion gave a vote of thanks.

We moved on to Joan's wonderful tombola, Joan provides, sources & organises the tombola. This year the proceeds are going to, Easingwold Communities Projects. As you can see by the photo, "no mean feat" by her.

The committee provided a cheese & pâté supper.

Next meeting Christmas Dinner.

Visitors are always guaranteed a warm welcome including all surrounding villages. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year.



Alne Parish Leisure Association (APLA)

For those of you that are new to the area, Alne Parish Leisure Association (APLA) (registered charity number 516566) is responsible for the recreation ground and sports field in Alne. A small dedicated group of volunteers manage and maintain the extensive facilities that are open to all: children's play area, skate park, fitness area, wildlife orchard, playing field, all weather basketball court and tennis courts. This is not a council facility and is run by the community for the community.

Don't join our committee... Give us one hour a year instead!

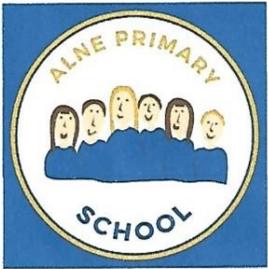
We understand that being part of a committee is a time commitment that not everyone can make. However, without volunteers we cannot maintain the excellent range of facilities that so many of us in the community enjoy. If you, or your family use the play area, skate park, tennis court, basketball court or playing field, would you consider giving us one hour a year? Here's how you can help:

1. Choose a month of the year that suits you.
2. E-mail alnepark@btinternet.com to let us know that you can help.
3. Once a week, during your chosen month, spend 15 minutes (or less if you walk quickly!) walking around the children's play park, basketball court and skate park.
4. If you see any litter pick it up and put it in the bin.
5. If you notice anything that's broken or needs attention e-mail alnepark@btinternet.com
6. Bask in the glory of giving back to the community and making Alne a nicer place to be!

It's as simple as that. There are no set dates or times you need to make your visits, just be the committee's eyes on the ground for a month and fit your visits around the times you're already there.

Calling all dog walkers

Do you walk your dog past the recreation ground carpark first thing in the morning or last thing at night? If so, we'd love your help with opening and closing the carpark barrier. It takes less than 2 minutes and will help keep the facilities secure. E-mail alnepark@btinternet.com and we can add you to the rota on a regular or casual basis. All help greatly received.



Alne Primary School now collects worn out or broken pens of all types (including biros, markers, highlighters, felt tips, correction fluid pots/pens) for recycling which keeps them out of the rubbish bin and raises money for the school.

Please bring them to the school office during normal school hours.

For more information or to arrange a bulk collection please contact dpe@btinternet.com.

St. Michaels Church Board Game Club

For all who like playing board games.

Come along to Tollerton Church at 4.00p.m. on Sunday, 10th November. Monthly on the 2nd Sunday thereafter.

Bring a favourite game with you if you like. For all ages (8 to 80 say).

Children to be accompanied please.

We'll play for 90 minutes then share a light tea and an informal chat about some aspect of the Christian faith. Finish at 6.00p.m.

No Charge!

Church Warden Contact Details:

St Mary's Alne

Peter Cove 01347 838346 e-mail: alnescove@btopenworld.com

Carol Glen 01347 838016

St. Stephen's Aldwark

Vivienne Bird e-mail: viviennebird@hotmail.co.uk

St. Michael's Tollerton

Arthur Harland 01347 823575 e-mail: janeatwoodyedge@yahoo.co.uk

Alison Dowson 01347 838138 e-mail: amcd2350@gmail.com

METHODIST SERVICES

DECEMBER 2019

The Rev Elizabeth Cushion is the Methodist Minister for the villages around Easingwold. Elizabeth can be contacted on 01347 821460. You are welcome at all of the village services listed below.

Date	Time	Venue	Service Details
1 st December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	@Huby (villages together)
8 th December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Alne	R Jackson
15 th December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	H Blake
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	E Cushion - Carols
22 nd December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	10:30a.m.	Alne	K Albans
25 th December	10:30	Brafferton	United service
	10:30	Alne	United service
29 th December			No services

METHODIST SERVICES

JANUARY 2020

Date	Time	Venue	Service Details
5th January (Covenant Sunday)	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	E Cushion (Covenant)
12th January	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Alne	E Cushion
19th January	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	M Chester
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	E Stanforth-Sharpe (Café)
26th January	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	10:30a.m.	Alne	United Service

ANGLICAN SERVICES

DECEMBER 2019

The Revd. Debbie Coyne has been licensed as our new Priest-in-Charge.

Venue	1 st Dec	8 th Dec	15 th Dec	22 nd Dec	24 th Dec Christmas Eve	25 th Christmas Day	29 th Dec
Aldwark	9.00am Holy Comm. Rev Carmel Gittens		3.30pm Carol Service Rev D Coyne			9.00am All Age Comm. Rev R Davill	No serv ice

Venue	1 st Dec	8 th Dec	15 th Dec	22 nd Dec	24 th Dec Christmas Eve	25 th Christmas Day	
Alne	10.30am Holy Comm. Rev D Coyne	4.00p.m. Christmas Tree Carol Service Rev D Coyne	10.30am Holy Comm. Rev Carmel Gittens	10.30am United Service Rev D Coyne	4.00pm Christingle Rev D Coyne 11.30pm Joint Benefices Midnight HC Rev D Coyne	Joint Service at Aldwark	No serv ice
Tollerton	10.30am Holy Comm. Rev Carmel Gittens	10.30am Morning Worship A Dowson	10.30am Holy Comm. Rev D Coyne	6.30pm Carols by Candle- light Rev D Coyne		10.30am Christmas Worship J. Rhodes	
Brafferton	10.30am Morning Prayer TBA	6.30pm Carol Service A Dowson (& Rev D Coyne)	10.30am Methodist Service	10.30am HC Rev C Gittens	3.30pm Nativity M East	10.30am Holy Comm. Rev D Coyne	
Myton		10.30am Holy Comm. Rev C Gittens	4.00pm Carol Service A Dowson			9.00am Holy Comm. Rev D Coyne	
Thormanby						10.30am Holy Comm. TBA	

Wednesday 18th December at 2.00p.m.

Alne School
Christingle in St. Mary's church

Friday 19th December at 2.00p.m.

Brafferton School
Christingle in St. Peter's church

Thursday 19th December at 6.30p.m.

Thormanby Carol Service -
Rev Debbie Coyne

JANUARY 2020

Venue	5th January	12th January	19th January	26th January
Aldwark	9.00a.m. Holy Communion		9.00a.m. Holy Communion	
Alne	10.30a.m. Holy Communion	10.45a.m. Holy Communion	10.30a.m. Holy Communion	10.30a.m. United Service
Tollerton	10.30a.m. Holy Communion	10.30a.m. Morning Worship Alison/John	10.30a.m. Holy Communion	10.30a.m. Morning Worship
Brafferton	10.30a.m. Morning Prayer	6.30p.m. Compline	10.30a.m. Methodist Service	10.30a.m. Holy Communion
Myton		10.30a.m. Holy Communion		10.00a.m. Morning Worship
Thormanby	10.30a.m. Morning Prayer			

COPY DATE for February 2020 issue: 21st January 2020 please.
e-mail: news@abchurches.org.uk