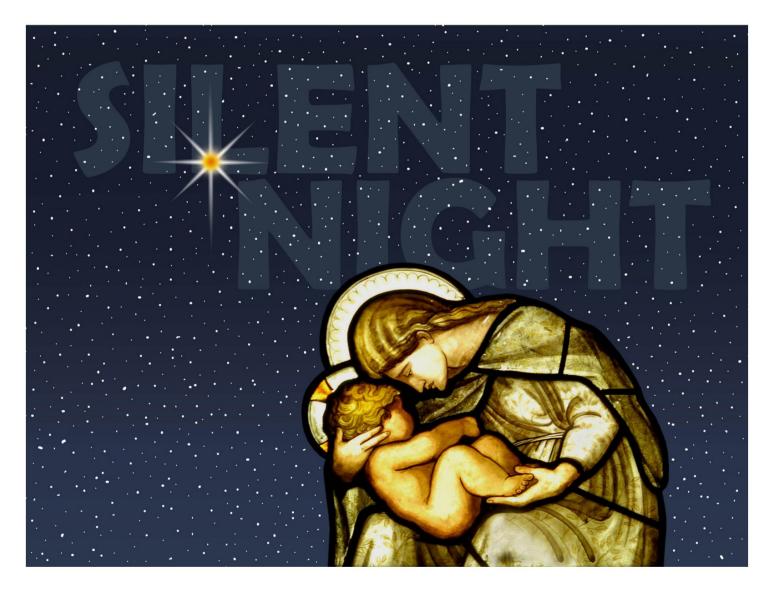
Easingwold & Raskelf

Parish Magazine

December 2020



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PARISH OF EASINGWOLD WITH RASKELF

Vicar	Rev'd Margaret Young	12 01347 821394
Assistant Curate	Rev'd Charlotte Cranfield	☎ 07807 941528
		☎ 01347 824399
Churchwardens	Alizon Leese	☎ 01347 823806
	Juliette Jennings	☎ 01347 823955
Retired Clergy	Rev'd Chris Peel	
assisting in the parish	Rev'd Robin Davill	
	Rev'd John Hetherington	
	Rev'd David Senior	

CONTACTS

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Raskelf Secretary	Graham Bingham	2 01347 821715
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	Pat Brooks	8 01347 824120
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Front Cover: Photography and Graphic Design by Allan Green FRPS

From the Vicar ...



What a year that we have had! COVID-19 has dominated the news when we were probably expecting Brexit to do so. People have not been able to see families when they desperately wanted to do so, and holidays have taken place in Britain rather than abroad. These were all unexpected events. I hope that some good will come from all of this. I would hope that science has progressed and techniques for finding vaccines will have moved on.

On a personal level, our lives have been influenced more by the internet and our computers. How many more people are doing their shopping online instead of in person? How many are keeping in touch by video links to family and friends that didn't use to? It is not as good as seeing people in person, but it is far better than not seeing them at all.

If we go back over 2000 years, we come across another time when a normal year was changed by an event which would affect the world. It was during the time of Herod Archelaus. He was the one who ordered the killing of the innocent children. It wasn't a pleasant time to live in but there came a special year which changed people's lives with the birth of Jesus Christ. God incarnate came to earth and there was hope.

"In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

John 1:4-5

It is hard to imagine exactly what life was like for people then. They wanted change and this boy would give them an opportunity of a better life. Some hoped that He would overthrow the authorities and rid them of Roman rule, but this baby would offer so much more than that. This baby was the light in the darkness, God here on earth, experiencing the everyday things that we all experience; disagreements with parents, and I am sure that there must have been some sibling rivalry going on.

This baby brought the hope of eternal life and the challenge for us to make heaven here on earth. This baby let us know that God is here on earth at all times and in all places. He is there in the hospitals, He is there with the grieving families and He is there in the joy of opening presents on Christmas Day. He is there working through us, so that we help others. By virtue of our baptism we have the mission to do God's work making His kingdom come here on earth.

So this Christmas, no matter how strange it will be, we have the joy of the birth of the Christ child, who lived as a human and had compassion. He understands our loneliness, our heartache and our fears. He came with the message of love and peace.

May the peace of the Lord be with us all this Christmas,

Margaret

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Sadly, there will be no Christmas card board in church this year so, for those of us who wish to send Christmas Blessings to our

church friends please, when reading this, think of all your friends and wish them

Christmas Blessings and a Happier and Healthy New Year

Margaret and Tim, Lottie and Rob and Chris and Ian



THANK YOU

This year has been challenging for us all. Restricted from being with our families and friends; the elderly and vulnerable being isolated resulting in feelings of loneliness and being abandoned by those they love.

Margaret, Chris and Lottie have worked so hard to keep in touch with everyone which has been appreciated by all of us. Indeed, organising our services of worship have been a huge challenge for the clergy and new skills have had to be learnt as well as caring for parishioners.

Thanks also to Tim who has been instrumental in setting up the technical environment for providing online services, initially from the Vicarage and then from the Parish Church.

Sadly, it looks as though the situation may continue, for how long, we just don't know. So, on behalf of us all, I would like to express great and sincere thanks for everything they have done this year and will continue to do in the coming months.

Sue Thorn

Samaritans' Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2020



A huge "Thank you" to all who have filled a box; also to those who have donated towards the costs; those who have provided gifts and knitted items and

those who have helped by encouraging others to take part in this worthwhile venture.

So far we have collected over 150 boxes which were piled high in my study, as the church cannot be used during lockdown.

We have been provided with cartons which hold 12 boxes to make collecting and transporting easier. Because of the pandemic the collection, and thus the delivery to recipients, has been delayed, but I am assured that they will be on their way very soon.

Deacon Chris Peel

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

THE LICENSING OF CHARLOTTE CRANFIELD AS ASSOCIATE MINISTER



Congratulations to Lottie who has come to the end of her training and now has a permanent position here in Easingwold. Lottie has been, and will continue to be a huge asset to the ministry team.

The Licensing of The Reverend Charlotte Claire Cranfield took place on Sunday 22nd November at 3pm by The Right Reverend John Thompson, Bishop of Selby.

Lottie is now Assistant Curate of the Benefice of Easingwold with Raskelf and cross licenced to the Benefice of Skelton with Shipton and Newton on Ouse and in the Benefices of Alne; Brafferton with Pilmoor, Myton on Swale and Thormanby, Coxwold and Husthwaite; Crayke with Brandsby and Yearsley; Strensall; and the Forest of Galtres.



Mothers' Union News News on MU Programme in Uganda



The community development coordinator, Barbara Mugisha, reports on the ongoing campaign in one diocese regarding female genital mutilation.

By using music and drama activities and seminars to discuss the issue, women have been empowered to speak out against this practice. Also men have become supportive in the community.

As a result marital conflict and separation due to FGM have greatly reduced. The girl-child has been protected and reports from schools and churches are encouraging particularly in the urban areas.

More work is required in the more rural areas and Mothers' Union members are determined to continue with the campaign.

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As reported last month a new magazine and prayer diary will start next year. Members will be given the details on this and the annual subscription by the end of December.

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Thank you to all who bought Christmas cards. I have some new cards for sale; birthday, sympathy etc. Please contact me if you would like some.

Many thanks, Margaret Summerscales

The Mothers' Union Prayer

Loving Lord,

We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.

We pray for families around the world.

Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life.

Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world.

In Jesus' name.

Amen

THE REV'D GABRIEL DEWHURST

A tribute by Gerald Edmondson-Jones

Iris and I knew Gabriel for very many years, ever since he retired when he and Mary came to live in Easingwold. In case people do not know, Gabriel started out his priestly life as a Benedictine monk in the Roman Catholic Church, before he became an Anglican vicar and then got married. He and I worked well together during the interregnum before John came, but I had to be careful that he did not introduce any unsuitable prayers out of his old Roman missal!!!

We used to go out for meals quite regularly, and we remember especially going to eat at the pub in Wass, where in the middle of the meal Gabriel decided to do press-ups in the middle of the dining room. The expressions of astonishment on the faces of guests and staff alike were to be seen to be believed.

We had many similar happenings both in our house at parties and at various outside eating places. He was great fun. For instance, we took him to the airport when they were going to America, where he managed to persuade them that the name on his ticket (Gabriel, his Benedictine adopted name) was the same as the name on his passport (George). No mean feat!

We will miss him greatly and look back with fondness on many happy times.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AND ARMISTICE DAY

To comply with current Government guidelines, both Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day had to be low-key events but were, nonetheless, duly commemorated. The Remembrance Sunday service was held in church and was available via Zoom. Wreaths normally carried to the altar by representatives of local organisations were placed there by Rev'd Margaret at the beginning of the service. Prior to the sounding of the Last Post, she then laid a wreath at the church memorial whilst Alfred Boddison read the names of the fallen from World Wars I and II. The service included a film showing the Armistice celebrations following the cessation of hostilities and the poem "In Flanders Fields" by Lt Col John McCrae was read by Greg Sweet over a backdrop of views from the Commonwealth War Graves. Following the service, the wreaths were then taken to and laid at the War Memorial in the Market Place.

On Armistice Day, a short service was held at the War Memorial when music was played by a piper and the two minutes silence was observed following the Last Post played by David Senior.





AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING, WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

SERVICES AND EVENTS: DECEMBER 2020

To contact Revd Margaret Young, tel: 01347 821394 or email: vicar@easingwoldraskelfanglican.org
The Vicar's day off is Monday

Children are welcome at all our services



Morning services at Easingwold

Sunday: 9am (not 27th December) Wednesday: 9am

Be prepared to wear a face mask. Alcohol gel will be available.

The Sunday 10.30 am service will continue using Zoom direct from St John the Baptist Church

If you wish to join the service and are not receiving the codes, then please get in contact with Margaret by email (margareteyoung@btopenworld.com).

1st and 3rd Sunday Evening Prayer at 4.00pm to be held in Easingwold church

Services at Raskelf will be held on the first Sunday in the month at 4pm

PRIVATE PRAYER will continue at Easingwold but only if it is used.

Sundays 2-3pm; Thursdays 9-10am

The **FAMILY SERVICE** will be held via Zoom and Messenger on **SUNDAY 13th December at 4.30pm**

and you are also welcome to join the group via Zoom for **MORNING PRAYER each TUESDAY**

IGNITE GROUP FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN FRIDAY AFTERNOONS AT 4pm

The **IGNITE GROUP** will meet either in church (regulations permitting) or by Zoom

(Contact Margaret for further details)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

ALL WILL BE AVAILABLE ON ZOOM

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER

It is hoped to have carol services from both Raskelf and Easingwold but will depend on Government restrictions at the time.

Further information will be put on the Church website, social media and the Easingwold Advertiser.



CHRISTMAS EVE

4.30pm—Christingle (Christingle bags containing items for assembly at the online service will be available from Easingwold church porch over the weekend of 19th/20th December)

11.30pm "Midnight" First Eucharist of Christmas (on Zoom only)

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.30am—Family Eucharist

As with the Sunday services, numbers of attendees will be limited. Please contact Margaret on 01347 821394 if you wish to attend.

HISTORY OF CHRISTINGLE

The Children's Society's first Christingle took place at Lincoln Cathedral in 1968, but Christingles themselves go back much further to the Moravian church in Germany.

At a children's service in Marienborn in 1747, Bishop Johannes de Watteville looked for a simple way to explain the happiness that had come to people through Jesus, and created a symbol – the Christingle – to do this.

Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story.

- * The orange represents the world
- * The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ
- * The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations
- * The list candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness

www.childrenssociety.org.uk



CHURCH OPENING ARRANGEMENTS

Easingwold church is open for weekly congregational services and Raskelf church is open on the first Sunday of each month (see previous page for times of services). However, as we can only have a limited number of attendees at each service, you would need to **pre-book your place** by contacting Margaret a day or two before the relevant service (01347 821394).

There will not be any hymns and if you wish to have a service sheet you will need to bring your own which are available online. There will also be a few for collection for those not online but you will be requested to take these home and bring them back on subsequent weeks. Many of you know the words of the service so well that you may find a service sheet unnecessary.

Unfortunately it will not be possible to offer lifts to church or offer refreshments after the service

Hymn books are not accessible and all loose leaflets have had to be removed.

There are only certain pews available to sit on.



No Evensong services are currently planned but relevant readings are provided for your reference.

6th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	No Evensong
Isaiah 40:1-11		1 Kings 22:1-28
2 Peter 3:8-15a		Romans 15:4-13

Mark 1:1-8

13th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	No Evensong
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11		Malachi 3:1-4, 4
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24		Philippians 4:4-7

20th December	4th Sunday of Advent—Family Service	No Evensong
2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16	5	1 Kings 1.15-40
Romans 16:25-end		Revelation 1.4-18

Luke 1:67-79

John 1:6-8, 19-28

24th December	Christmas Eve—Midnight Service
	J

Isaiah 52:7-10 John 1:1-14

25th December Christ	mas Day
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Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-20

27th December	Christmas 1	No Evensong
Isaiah 61:10-62.3		Isaiah 35
Galatians 4:4-7		Luke 2:41-end
Luke 2:15-21		

Coronavirus liturgy and prayer resources can be found on the Church of England webpage: https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources from which the following prayer is taken:

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**



From the Registers

There were no marriages, baptisms or funerals recorded in the month of November

ST MARY'S CHURCH, RASKELF

St Mary's Church is open for congregational services on the first Sunday in the month at 4pm

Please see information on previous page for Christmas service arrangements.



Service sheets are available on-line with a few being made available in church which you will need to take home and use next time.

BE PREPARED TO WEAR A FACE MASK ALCOHOL GEL WILL BE AVAILABLE

The church will no longer be open for private prayer.

OPEN THE BOOK AT EASINGWOLD PRIMARY SCHOOL

IS NOW BEING ZOOMED!!!



Following a successful trial run, stories are now being told via Zoom

Dates for the next stories are:

2nd & 16th December: Nativity stories; 17th December: Noah's Ark

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer is at the heart of what the church offers to the community. At St John the Baptist and All Saints', we join with you in your prayers for family, friends and all whom you care for. There is currently no access to the church to visit the prayer corner to write down the names of those you are concerned for. If you would like prayers for yourself or another, or for those who, at this time, are struggling with anxiety, loneliness and isolation, our small, confidential and dedicated circle of people will pray for you. If you would like prayer, please contact Reverend Lottie Cranfield 07807 941528



Please include in your prayers this month:

- All Christmas planning and activities; that all may think of others less fortunate than themselves
- Those who will be alone this Christmas the poor; the homeless; refugees; all those who feel forgotten and unloved
- Easingwold and District Churches Together shared worship and activities
- Charities and individuals who support not only those especially in need at this time, but also throughout the year

Why are some church clock faces blue?

The clock face on the tower of Easingwold Parish Church is blue with gold numerals which is a familiar colour for many churches across the country including some in nearby parishes, eg, Northallerton, Thirsk, Boroughbridge and Brafferton, but why?

Henry VIII may be remembered for the destruction of many of our churches during the reformation but some suggest he was responsible for a decree that church clocks should be

"blew with the signs upon them gilt".

It is written in the bible 'that following God's command to Moses (Exodus 39) to make Aaron the priest "garments of blue with gold bells".

Perhaps the involvement of Henry VIII is mere folklore and the real reason for gold numerals on a background of sky blue is simply that it looks good!

Some may even say that there is a connection between time and the colour of the sky above us.

Perhaps you have your own ideas!

Tim Young

SERVICE ON LINE

Those of us who are able to access the Sunday service on line, either by Zoom or through the website, are so grateful to Margaret and Tim for making it available, and would like to say a huge "Thank you" to them both.

However, there are those in our community who don't have this access and the current situation is likely to continue for some time. Do you know someone near you, or perhaps a friend, who would really appreciate being given the readings and Margaret's sermon each week?

By going onto the website – <u>easingwoldraskelfanglican.org</u> – on a Sunday, and looking at the middle of the page, you will find the service. Scroll down, print off the relevant readings and sermon and hand it on. If you don't have time on Sunday it is there during the week.

Deacon Chris Peel

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SCAMS

Financial scams are on the rise but there are some general things we should all do to avoid them. So to find out how you can protect yourself from the most common types of scams, visit the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) website at www.fca.org.uk/consumers/protect-yourself-scams



If you would like to raise money for Easingwold with Raskelf Anglican Churches without it costing you any extra money then please consider joining easyfundraising.

How does it work?

- The easyfundraising organisation works with over 4300 retailers who have agreed to pass on a donation to a given good cause when a purchase is made via the easyfundraising website.
- There are no catches and it's 100% free!

How do you join?

- Click on <u>easingwoldwithraskelfpcc</u> to go to the easyfundraising.org.uk website to create an account by clicking on the red Join Us button.
- Enter your First Name, Last Name, Email address and choose a password, then click on the green Create my Account button.

How do you shop once registered?

- Go to the website easyfundraising.org.uk and log in (if not already logged in) with your email address and the password you chose.
- Once logged on, click on the dropdown lists on the green taskbar to find the retailer you want, e.g. click on 'Entertainment and Leisure' then 'Food and Wine' to see shops like Sainsbury's, Tesco or Waitrose; or click on Electricals then 'Home Appliances' to see shops like Amazon, John Lewis or Argos.
- Click on the retailer you want to use then click on the Go Shopping button to buy online in the usual way.
- When you make a purchase a donation will be made to Easingwold with Raskelf Anglican Churches PCC.

EDCCA

(Easingwold and District Community Care)

Please note that during the COVID-19 crisis, our staff are working from home and can be contacted Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9.30am to 12.30pm using the normal telephone number: 01347 822875.

Messages can be left outside those hours, or email at info@edcca.org.uk

We offer a Meals on Wheels service (Mondays to Fridays) and also a telephone befriending service. Contact us on the above number for more information.

We are co-ordinating volunteers to assist people in Easingwold and the surrounding villages who are self-isolating or in need of help with shopping and collecting prescriptions.

Please let us know if you are willing to volunteer or need help.

Thank you.

For donations to Easingwold with Raskelf churches go to **give.net** & 'Find a charity' number 1145021, then select '1 Charities' or go to easingwoldraskelfanglican.org and select the 'Support us' link.



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16th year and still chipping away



The Church Mice is a session for children aged 3-11 years and is normally held in the choir vestry at St John the Baptist & All Saints Church during Parish Eucharist

Children are very welcome to attend church on any Sunday

Future dates will be announced as and when the current COVID-19 crisis ends

Matthew Slinger

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The Parish Magazine Editorial Team would like to thank all of our contributors for their input to the magazine, during this trying and difficult year.

Thank you also to the Distribution Team for preparing and circulating the issues earlier in the year.

We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

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Morning Coffee Afternoon Tea is a social enterprise partnership business.

Our objectives are to offer work placements to young and needy people with a strong outworking of the Christian Faith within the community. We are committed to recycling a minimum of 55% of our profits back into community and charities supported by the enterprise.

Morning Coffee Afternoon Tea will give voluntary and paid work opportunities with accredited training in all aspects of retail business.

WHO BENEFITS?

The community and individuals provided with opportunity for change.

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