

Moving on

2018 will inevitably bring its changes to all of us, in our personal lives, our families, and for some in our careers and working life. It will be a year of change in our church life too. My last Sunday as vicar of St Barnabas will be on the 11th February when I will retire from stipendiary (paid) ministry. Tessa's last Sunday with us will be a month later, on the 11th March, prior to her being made vicar of St Mary's Nunthorpe at 3 p.m. on Sunday 8th April.

These changes will have particular repercussions for Sam, our curate, and our Churchwardens.

The Churchwardens, in partnership with the Area Dean, Revd Dominic Black, become responsible for ensuring the church's services are covered and that as far as possible things go on as normal.

The Curate does not become the temporary vicar. It may be that Sam's workload and the pastoral responsibilities he carries could increase significantly. By Easter Sunday the church will have gone from two and a half full time paid clergy to one – Sam. I am sure St Barnabas is mature



enough to take this into account and not place unreasonable expectations on Sam, but please be conscious of the demands being made on him. The Churchwardens and PCC will be ensuring they do not become overwhelming.

I am delighted to say our excellent preaching team is willing to step up and cover more services between them. It is also very welcome news that Revd Ray Morris will be partnering with Sam in covering our Communion Services and preaching more frequently at St Barnabas during the vacancy.

St Barnabas has a long tradition of lay ministry. In many ways, it runs itself. So much of what goes on week by week is done by lay people giving of their time, gifts and energy. This will prove to be a particular strength and asset during the vacancy.

Each of our services has a pastoral team who are responsible for much of the pastoral care of the congregation. By way of reminder, Marjorie Harrison and Mary Grantham take responsibility for those who attend the 8 o'clock Communion Service. Bill McGregor heads up the team covering the 9-30 Service and Ken Whiteway heads the team for the 11-15 Service. Shirley Davidson



co-ordinates those who look after the Wednesday midweek Communion. Please do use them as the first port of call for any pastoral needs, particularly during the vacancy, and make them aware of any pastoral need in the congregation you may know of.

It is hoped the vacancy at St Barnabas will be a relatively brief one, but realistically the earliest the church might expect to have a new vicar is September 2018. It may take considerably longer to find the right person. I hope and trust that the church will pull together, not just in working in partnership as it always does, but most importantly, in prayer. Pray particularly that those involved in the process of appointing the next vicar will recognise the person whom God is calling to this wonderful church, and that they themselves would heed the call.

With much love in Christ
Erik

Dementia Friendly Carol Service

Many, many thanks to all who helped in whatever capacity with the Dementia Carol Service. Once again we had a lovely afternoon, which was much appreciated by all who came, leaving with lovely compliments about how warm it was and the friendly atmosphere in the church. Again ably led by Revd Jen Croft and her team who presented a nativity including 'camels': will we ever forget their galloping down the aisle! Also Kate Wells has asked that her thanks are also passed on to all who helped.

Ann Self

PCC in December



There was a report on the initial First Friday event. The PCC approved the service level agreement with Big Kids for the First Friday events for the next year. The date of Craft Aid next year, Saturday 17th November, was agreed.

John Harrison

Although John was not a worshipper at St Barnabas he was well known, not least through the various parish holidays he took part in over the years, and through Carol and the family. He was well liked and respected as was attested by the number of people who attended his funeral in church. John was skilled in his work and, with his business partner, Lester, ran his own business for over thirty years. Business was a means to an end for John. His main focus was to provide a safe and comfortable home for Carol and the family. They are in our prayers at this very difficult time.

From the Registers

Funerals at St Barnabas

28th November John Harrison aged 75



Diary

Monday 8th January	No Welcome Break PCC meeting, 7.15 pm in the Reid Room
Tuesday 9th January	Armchair Keepfit, 10 am in the hall
Week beginning 14th January	Life groups meet
Monday 15th January	Welcome Break, 10 a.m.—12 noon in the narthex Prayer team meets, 7.30 pm in the Reid Room
Monday 22nd January	Welcome Break, 10 a.m.—12 noon in the narthex
Friday 26th January	Lydia group meets, 2 pm in the Reid Room
Monday 29th January	Welcome Break, 10 a.m.—12 noon in the narthex
Wednesday 31st January	Wider leadership team meeting, 7.30 pm in church
Saturday 3rd February	Church family party, 6 pm in the church hall
Week beginning 4th February	Life groups meet
Monday 5th February	PCC meeting, 7.15 pm in the Reid Room

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