 ***VINE LEAVES from***

 ***ST. LEONARD’S WORTLEY***

 ***NOVEMBER 2024***

***‘DATES FOR YOUR DIARY’***

**November Sunday Services**

**3rd November at 11am Communion Service with Rev. Chris Herbert**

**10th November at 6.30pm Remembrance Service with Rev. Chris Herbert**

**17th November r at 11am Communion Service with Rev. Chris Herbert**

**24th November at 11am Morning Praise with Ian Watson**

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**Monday 4th November 5-6.30pm Open drop-in Vestry Session with Rev. Chris Herbert**

**Wednesday 27th November at 7.30 PCC Meeting**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** **1-3pm** **Tea & Chat group in Church**

**Our historic Church is open for everyone to visit and to explore every Wednesday between 11am & 3pm**

***CHURCH CHAT***

October at St. Leonards kicked off to a wonderful start with Thurgoland School Choir presenting an amazing evening of Old Thyme Music Hall style songs, jokes and comedy sketches. The children thoroughly entertained the audience, their energy, enthusiasm and genuine talent had everyone laughing, singing, tapping their feet and wholeheartedly joining in. Many thanks to all the children and to their Leader Mrs. Rebecca Davis for all their hard work. Proceeds from the sale of tickets on the night have been shared equally between St. Leonards and the choir to help towards their future expenses.

Thanks are also due to all who gave so generously for our Harvest Festival. Richard made a now familiar journey to Barnsley FareShare with a pile of well filled bags and boxes which were, as always, received with appreciation.

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**We will repeat our CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL DONATION scheme again this year. So, until the middle of December, there will be a box at the back of the church ready to receive your gifts of non-perishable items - packets, bottles and tins etc.**

**As before these will be delivered to ‘FareShare Barnsley’ in good time to bring a little extra Christmas cheer to a few folk in Barnsley.**

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**A NEW CHALLENGE!** Beginning in January 2025 Rev. Chris is initiating a new venture where-by each of the three churches in the Tankersley Benefice will provide a permanent collection point in which any of us who are able to add a few extra non-perishable food items to our regular grocery shopping list may deposit our donations when convenient, these will then be collected together and passed on at suitable intervals.

**Open drop-in ‘Vestry’ Evenings are now being held at St. Leonards on the first Monday of each month between 5 and 6.30pm** for all who wish to see Rev. Chris to discuss arrangements for baptisms, weddings, other church functions and business.

****SOCIAL EVENTS *CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!***

 **ON SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER FROM 2PM**

**A FESTIVE CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY**

**PLEASE COME AND JOIN US FOR A SOCIAL AFTERNOON**

**THERE WILL TEA, SANDWICHES , CAKES AND MORE**

**PLUS, CAKE & A CHRISTMAS GIFT STALLS**

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Saturday 14th December

Bolsterstone Male Voice Choir Concert

**Our popular annual concert of seasonal music**

**and a scrumptious light supper.**

***Tickets available from mid November from Church,***

***choir members, Wortley P.O.or pay on the door.***

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**Our Annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with Thurlstone Brass Band will be held of Sunday 22nd December at 6.30pm**

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 **EVERY WEDNESDAY - TEA AND CHAT GROUP**

Open to all, you can come each week or just occasionally - whenever you can,we promise a warm, friendly welcome, tea, cakes and relaxed conversation with our happy group.

Come and join us **any Wednesday between 1 and 3pm**

**A PLEA FOR HELP!**

**Thriving WORTLEY & THURGOLAND LUNCHEON CLUB has a waiting list to join our nearly 40 year old pensioner’s lunch club**

**but it is very short of helpers!!!**

**Could you volunteer for a few hours just once a month on a Tuesday to help in the modern, well-equipped kitchen at Thurgoland Village Hall ?**

**You would work in a small friendly established team with full training given.**

**Think you can help?**

**Then please call Glenda Tue on 0114 2848813 or 07921 504650 for more details**

**EDITOR’S NOTE All contributions to Vine Leaves at St. Leonards gratefully received: please send to** **anncampbell288@gmail.com** **or give to any PCC member or leave in Church contributing interesting or informative items for us all to enjoy**

**NEWS FROM THE BELFRIES**

**OF ST. LEONARD’S and ST. PETER’S**

**WORTLEY TOWER NEWS**

**Branch Outing to Nottingham**

Ringers from the Wortley and Tankersley teams joined with ringing friends from churches in the Sheffield and Rotherham areas for the annual YACR Sheffield Branch outing. This year’s was to Nottingham. This outing was one with an interesting theme. All the churches we rang at were on the Nottingham tram system and therefore having got ourselves to Nottingham and to the Park and Ride car park at Clifton South it was on the trams all the way. We had 5 churches scheduled during the day; the first one was Clifton Holy Trinity. This was a light ring of 8 bells with a 3 hundredweight Tenor which proved a little tricky to ring. We then had a short walk of about 500 yards to ring at our next church. This was Corpus Christi Clifton, a Catholic church with a ring of 6 even lighter bells this time with a 2 hundredweight Tenor. The slender tower was very tall and the bells at the top sounded like someone playing a xylophone. The church inside was huge with very good facilities and meeting rooms.

Our next church was at Wilford so a tram journey to the Wilford Village tram stop. This was a more traditional stone church of some age. The tower here has 5 bells and more like the weight we are used to ringing at 7 hundredweight Tenor. A ground floor ring (ropes in the back of the church) with a step down into the ringing room. While we were ringing here the churchwardens were trying to get a Blue Tit out of the church which had got in and was flying about. Even more excitement at the end of our ringing when on the very last pull, the rope of the 2nd bell snapped. The rope break was up in the tower and the remaining section below the break slowly descended into the ringing room and onto the floor around the ringer of the bell.

In traditional outing fashion our lunch was taken at the Ferry Inn in Wilford. A lovely pub at the side of the river Trent.

We had 2 churches on the list for the afternoon. This time at the other end of the weight spectrum, both were heavy 12 bell towers. The first was St Peter’s in the city centre. A tram journey to the Old Market Square for this one. As we approached to gain entry, we noticed buskers outside entertaining the shoppers. Oh dear we thought, what will they think when the bells start ringing at the side of them. Ringing here was a pleasure, a huge ringing room with good facilities and bells that were easy to ring unless you were on the light front ones or the heavy back ones. When we descended the tower, the buskers were still there so we mingled with the shoppers as we left.

The final church of the day was St Mary’s Nottingham, another city centre church within walking distance. This was an interesting one to get into. A spiral staircase opened up to a catwalk across part of the roof. Then another straight ladder still on the outside led to a door in the tower wall. Once inside this was a huge ringing room with lots of seating. A good end to the day ringing here on the 35 hundredweight 12 bells.

A tram ride back to the car park and another great outing was complete.

Ringing at other churches is part of the hobby of bell ringing. It is an interesting thing to do, and many ringers keep records of the towers they have rung at during their lives.

**New Learners**

We have welcomed 3 people this month for their first lessons in learning to ring. Two from our tower open day and 1 who had seen our recruitment leaflets. So far, they are making good progress and are enjoying the challenge. Teaching learners at first is done on a tied bell (the clapper is secured in the middle, so the bell doesn’t sound). This means we can do the teaching at any time that is convenient. We hope they continue their learning journey and become full members of our team in due course.

Now is a good time to learn to ring, so if you fancy having a go get in touch. You could join our new learners, and it is nice to have others at the same stage as you are.

**Learn to ring with us. At either Wortley or Tankersley – Telephone Andrew our tower captain on: 07733005526, email:** **wortleytower@gmail.com** **or** **tankersleytower@gmail.com** **There are Facebook pages for Wortley and Tankersley bell ringers, Instagram feeds for both and Wortley ringers have a Twitter account now just called X, @Wortleytower. Andrew will reply to you and arrange a visit, tower tour and training sessions.**