

Our Parish

*Aston-Cum-Aughton
And Ulley*

January 2024

Happy
Epiphany



*If you would like to make a donation towards the costs of producing this magazine,
please contact the Editor 0114 287 5477*



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On how to run your Diary for 2024

The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear nephew Darren,

So, you have just attended a course on ‘Diary Management’, to get you prepared for another year. If you had visited me, I could have told you all you need to know in half the time. Allow me to provide you with useful information which was probably not provided in your conference hand-outs.

First, buy the smallest diary you can find. Large blank pages only encourage you to fill them with too many appointments; the smaller the page, the easier it can be made to appear that your days are fully booked.

Second, make sure that it is of a size that will conveniently fit into any pocket. When dates are being arranged for subsequent meetings, you can theatrically start going through jacket, trouser and overcoat pockets. By the time you discover it was in your briefcase all along, all the dates will have been fixed and no one will notice you never got any of them.

Third, adopt your own private code for bookings. This means that any parishioner looking over your shoulder and seeing ‘1.30pm PLS’ or ‘7.30pm WTD’ will assume you are attending important church meetings. The fact that they mean ‘Post Lunch Sleep’ and ‘Walk The Dog’ will be known to you alone – although do have alternative possibilities for your acronyms should you ever be challenged. My congregation know I am assiduous in attending the ‘Pauline Letters Seminars’ and my membership of the ‘World Theology Directorate’ is of many years standing.

Fourth, record everything in pencil so that once you return home, you can rub most of it out and can then deny you knew anything about those meetings you were supposed to attend – and to prove it, you can show the blank page in your diary.

Fifth, put someone else’s address inside your diary. Should you ever have to resort to the ultimate act and need to lose it, you do not want some Good Samaritan returning it to you from the churchyard compost heap.

So, you see, your day of flip charts and group discussions were quite wasted – and I would gladly have presented my course for half their price.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



ALL SAINTS ASTON SERVICES IN JANUARY 2024

Sunday 7 January

10:30am All Age Worship - EPIPHANY

6:00pm EPIPHANY Carol Service

Wednesday 10 January

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 14 January

10:30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 17 January

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 21 January

10:30am Morning Worship

6:00pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 24 January

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 28 January

10:30am Holy Communion

6:00pm Choral Evensong - CANDLEMAS

Wednesday 31 January

9:30am Holy Communion



Holy Trinity Church Ulley Services in JANUARY

Sunday 7 January

9:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 14 January

10:30am Morning Worship

Sunday 21 January

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 28 January

10:30am Morning Worship

WHO TO CONTACT AT HOLY TRINITY

Church Wardens:

Gwyneth Hodgson: 0114 287 2150, Gwyneth.sampson@outlook.com

Sue Hubbard: 0114 287 3846, suehermec@hotmail.com

Weddings: If you want to talk about getting married, or to book your wedding please contact Sue Hubbard 0114 287 3846, suehermec@hotmail.com

Baptisms: If you would like to arrange a Baptism please E-mail our Baptism co-ordinator, Gloria Hope on Baptism@gloriahope.uk

Funerals: To arrange a Funeral please speak to

Gwyneth Hodgson: 0114 287 2150, Gwyneth.sampson@outlook.com



A Plea to the Community of All Saints Church

A warm welcome awaits you whenever you wish to visit our beautiful Grade 1 listed 12th Century Church. Here at All Saints Church Aston we have Services every Sunday and during the week for those people who wish to extend their faith, or cannot make our Sunday Services.

We welcome the residents of our Community. Many of our children visit and play under supervision at our various organised groups. Many of these groups and services are highlighted in this Monthly Parish Magazine.

Our church is run by the Parochial Church Council of All Saints Aston, which comprises elected members of the Congregation, Clergy and Licensed Lay members. The PCC meets every month to discuss our finances and how our money should be spent to benefit and improve our church.

These meetings cover matters from the day to day running of our church, to the safety of every person who enters our church, and the ongoing repairs and maintenance needed to ensure our church is fit for purpose.

We receive many wonderful testaments from visitors who visit our church; from those who have been to a Service, a Wedding, a Baptism, a Funeral or just decided to look around our Church when in the area or staying at Aston Hall Hotel.

Like many other organizations, our Church continues to have challenges to maintain the fabric of the building and the requirements for our Church and Community's future.



We are grateful to members of our congregation and friends who donate to assist in all that we try to do in the development and the continuing pathway work of our Church. These donations are made by a monthly bank direct debit, a weekly envelope scheme or by cash in the collection tray. All monies are used to help in the running of our church.

We hope you too would like to consider becoming part of the continuation of our work and the future of our Church by donating whatever you feel you can afford. Being a charity, if you are a tax payer each £1.00 donation you give attracts 25p from the government, which as you can understand is of great help to us.

If you would like further information on how you can help by making a monthly bank direct debit donation, by weekly envelope contribution, or a one off donation to our church we would be very grateful for you to contact our Gift Aid Secretary or our Admin Assistant.

Contact details as follows:

Gift Aid Secretary : **Glyn Sands**

Mobile phone 07835 240870 or glynsands@aol.com

Church AdminAssistant : **Hazel Winstanley**

by email at office@allsaintsaston.com or phone 07934 101538

About 700AD the people of Aston embraced Christianity and built a church: probably of wattle and wood. After the Norman Conquest in 1066 the Norman Lord erected a Hall and rebuilt the Church in Stone.

**Together with your assistance
we could help to ensure that
our Church will continue into the future**

ROTHERHAM FOODBANK

You can leave donations in the porch at All Saints from 9.30am to 10.30am on Wednesdays and from 9.15am to 10.30am on Sundays.

They urgently need:

Biscuits	Tinned Fruit	Long Life Milk
Tinned Vegetables	Packet Mashed Potatoes	Rice
Pasta Sauce	Tinned Potatoes	Custard

Any donations you can make will be greatly appreciated.

Please speak to Pam Taylor 0114 287 9221 if you would like more information.



The tale of the Two Sons

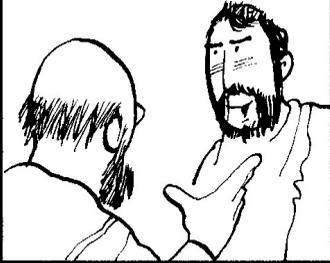


JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONCE TOLD A STORY ABOUT A FATHER WHO HAD TWO SONS.

THE FATHER WENT TO HIS OLDER SON AND ASKED HIM TO WORK IN THE VINEYARD



'NO I WON'T!' SAID THE OLDER SON...



...BUT THEN HE CHANGED HIS MIND AND WENT AND HELPED.

THE FATHER THEN WENT TO HIS YOUNGER SON AND ASKED HIM TO HELP IN THE VINEYARD TOO.

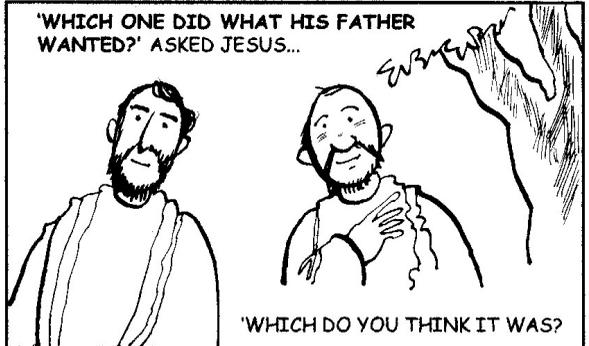


'OF COURSE I WILL!' SAID THE YOUNGER SON. BUT HE PROMPTLY FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT....

...AND DIDN'T DO A STROKE OF WORK!



'WHICH ONE DID WHAT HIS FATHER WANTED?' ASKED JESUS...



'WHICH DO YOU THINK IT WAS?'



Let nothing disturb thee

Let nothing disturb thee,
nothing affright thee;

All things are passing;
God never changeth;

Patient endurance
Attaineth to all things;

Who God possesseth
In nothing is wanting

Alone God sufficeth.

*By St Teresa of Avila
28 March 1515 - 4 October 1582*



ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON NOTICEBOARD

ROTA FOR SIDESPEOPLE

JANUARY 2024

7	ALL AGE WORSHIP	Paul Moakes & Marjorie O'Neil
14	HOLY COMMUNION	Glyn Sands & Gill Ward
21	MORNING WORSHIP	Bill Mawson & Pauline Martin
28	HOLY COMMUNION	Sheila Brown & Ann Mason

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Many thanks to **ALL** the people who made this Event possible.

Huge thanks to everyone who spent several days helping put up the Christmas Decorations, organise the Publicity and Create Santa's Grotto - including Santa and his Elves; and to all stall holders and to those who contributed in so many different ways with Donations of Cakes, Raffle Prizes etc.... Not forgetting Aston Hall for their kind donation of the delicious mince pies.

Another great Team Effort.

Thanks to all those friends and families who came to visit the Fayre: especially all the local Dignitaries, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Rotherham and our local MP and his family. We really appreciate and value everyone's support.

We raised a clear total of £ 1,074; of which half in the sum of £ 537 is to be donated to the Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice.

**Thank you once again to everyone
for your kind help and support!**



5th January : St Simeon Stylites - one of the weirder Saints

Quite frankly, this hermit was about as weird as they come. But he loved God, and God blessed him, strange though he was. So perhaps Simeon Stylites (390 – 459) should be the patron saint of all *Really Eccentric People*.

Simeon was the son of a shepherd on the Syrian border of Cilicia. He joined a monastery near Antioch, where he practised mortifications and penances that nearly killed him. When the abbot dismissed him in disgust as crazy, Simeon moved on to Telanissos (nowadays Dair Sem'an) and spent his first Lent there in a total fast. He was found unconscious on Easter Day. After three years in that monastery he felt life was too easy, and so moved himself to the top of the nearby mountain, where he chained himself to a rock. He began to be talked about, and more and more people came to see him.



Simeon did not want their company, and so planned his escape: to the top of a pillar. For the next four years he lived on top of a pillar that was nine feet high. More people came by, and so Simeon in desperation added to his pillar, until it grew to be 18 feet high. Still people came to see him, and so three years later, Simeon built himself a real skyscraper – a pillar 33 feet high, from the top of which he enjoyed 10 years of comparative solitude.

Still people came to see him – both Christians and pagans, and so Simeon decided to somehow build a pillar that was 60 feet high and six feet wide. Here he found peace and quiet, and so here he lived for the last 20 years of his life. People still came to see him, and tried to catch the ‘sacred’ lice that fell off his body. They enjoyed his twice daily exhortations to everyone below. Even some emperors came by for a look – Theodosius, Leo and Marcian.

A scholar has written of Simeon: “His preaching was practical, kindly, and free from fanaticism. ... In an age of licentiousness and luxury he gave unique and abiding witness to the need for penance and prayer; his way of life provided a spectacle at once challenging, repulsive and awesome.”

Simeon finally died and was buried at Antioch. Perhaps he would have enjoyed the chance to take the plinth at Trafalgar Square!



6th January : Where did the Wise Men come from?



Magi from the East – it isn't a lot to go on. The Magi had originally been a religious caste among the Persians. Their devotion to astrology, divination and the interpretation of dreams led to an extension in the meaning of the word, and by the first century the Magi in Matthew's gospel could have been astrologers from outside of Persia. Some scholars believe they might have come from what was then Arabia Felix, or as we would say today, southern Arabia.

It is true that in the first century astrology was practised there, and it was the region where the Queen of Sheba had lived. She of course had visited Solomon and would have heard the prophecies about how one day a Messiah would be born to the Israelites and become their king.

Matthew's gospel (chapter 2) is clear that the Magi asked Herod: 'Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.' So it is possible that in southern Arabia the Queen of Sheba's story of how a Messiah would one day be sent to the Israelites had survived. Certainly, there are a number of other early legends that connect southern Arabia with Solomon's Israel.

To many people this makes sense: that the ancient stories of a Messiah, linked to later astrological study, prompted these alert and god-fearing men to the realisation that something very stupendous was happening in Israel. They realised that after all these centuries, the King of the Jews, the Messiah, was about to be born.

One more interesting thing that gives weight to the theory that the Magi came from southern Arabia is this: if you study any map of Palestine as it was during biblical times, you will find that the old Arabian caravan routes all entered Palestine 'from the East'.

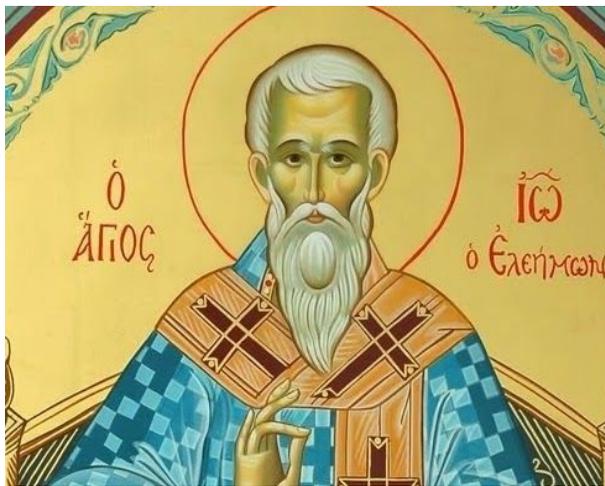


23rd January : John the Almsgiver

Have you noticed that people tend to be either givers or takers?

John the Almsgiver was a giver - on a grand scale.

Born into a wealthy family in Cyprus about 560 AD John was married with children when disaster struck: both his wife and children all died. In his grief, John decided to go into the Church. He was appointed Patriarch of Alexandria.



Here John began to astonish the people with his generosity. He distributed thousands of pieces of gold from his own wealth to help the hospitals and monasteries. He founded new hospitals, and introduced maternity wards, poorhouses, and hostels for strangers to the city. He was even known to give away his own bedding to the poor.

John also ordered the use of just weights and measures, he forbid his officials to take any presents, and he sat in the open air beside his church on Wednesdays and Fridays, to make sure that his people had free access to him.

When the Persians sacked Jerusalem he helped the survivors with money, food, transport and clothes. He even paid to get captives back, and so give them their freedom. Sometimes John gave for a specific Christians purpose; other times he gave for the benefit of all those in whatever need there was, whatever their creed.

John also cared for the souls of his people in Alexandria, and encouraged them in prayer and leading a holy life. He was adamant that only true believers could take Holy Communion.

John died in 620, in Amathus on Cyprus, where he had been born. He had been very much loved, and his memory was highly honoured – he was canonised even though he had not been martyred, and he was made patron of the Knights of Malta.

John the Almsgiver is one of the very few Byzantine era saints to have been truly honoured in the West. Perhaps because it is indeed “more blessed to give than to receive.”



Do Not Ask Me to Remember

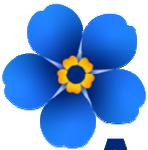
Do not ask me to remember,
Don't try to make me understand,
Let me rest and know you're with me.
Kiss my cheek and hold my hand.

I'm confused beyond your concept,
I am sad and sick and lost.
All I know is that I need you
To be with me at all cost.

Do not lose your patience with me,
Do not scold or curse or cry.
I can't help the way I'm acting,
Can't be different though I try.

Just remember that I need you,
That the best of me is gone,
Please don't fail to stand beside me
Love me 'til my life is done.

- Owen Darnell



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Home Instead.

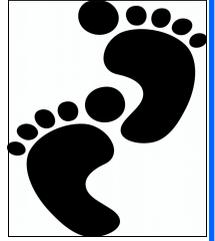
To us, it's personal



Footprints and Fun

<https://www.facebook.com/footprintsandfun/>

Our children's group for ages 3-11 meets
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Every Sunday except 1st Sunday each month



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For more information contact :

Beth Henshaw at Beth@thehenshaws.net or mob 07813 789255



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OCCURRENCES REPORTED IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS



Sheffield Iris, 20th July 1841 - Sheep Stealing.

Stephen Storey, who was remanded on Tuesday, was again brought up for sheep stealing. From the evidence given, it appeared that on Monday, the 5th instant, the prosecutor went to Rotherham market, and there bargained with a man named Harrison, for a tired sheep which had been left in a field near the Wales toll bar. The prosecutor, along with another man, went to fetch the sheep from the field on Monday last; on their arrival at the toll bar, they were informed that the prisoner had fetched it a few days previous. They immediately went in search of the prisoner, whom they found standing at the door of Aston workhouse. After having charged him with stealing the sheep, he said it was a very *bad job and offered to pay for it. Committed for trial.*

Sheffield Daily News and Morning Advertiser, 2nd February 1859

“There is life in the old dog yet” – remarkable circumstance.

On the 27th of December last, a bull and terrier dog was accidentally buried and lost in a rabbit hole, near Aston Hall. It was in good condition at the time. It was only discovered and dug out on the 18th inst., by the keeper, who heard the poor creature howling underneath. When restored to its master at the hall, it was a mere skeleton, having been entombed twenty-three days, without meat or drink. The dog is now quite recovered and again in good condition.

Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 2nd October 1903 - A Plucky Swallownest Girl.

Yesterday afternoon, as a waggonette party were driving on the Rotherham-Tickhill turnpike, between Roche Abbey and Maltby, they saw coming down towards them a horse and trap, the former having taken fright. As it approached the wagonette, which was entirely occupied by ladies, a fifteen-year-old girl, named Gertrude Peat, daughter of Mr. Lubin Peat of Swallownest, jumped on to the road in front of the frightened horse, and by waving her arms and brandishing an umbrella, managed to check its course somewhat. She then got hold of the reins, and brought it to a standstill, probably averting what might have been a serious accident.



Eckington, Woodhouse and Staveley Express, 21st April 1906

Mishap at North Staveley Pond

What might have resulted in a serious trap accident at North Staveley, on Sunday last, fortunately came off without such results. Six young men started to drive to Worksop, intending to have a day out. Their object was thoroughly routed. After going only a few yards the horse refused to go, and to make worse of it, he refused near the pond at North Staveley. The horse continued to back and could not be persuaded to go any other way. He backed the trap down the embankment to the pond, pressing the trap over the fence round the water, the fence stopping it from going into the water, but partly overturned it. The horse fell over on its side, and those of the occupants who failed to scramble out were precipitated into the water. Fortunately there were no more serious results than a good bath.

Eckington, Woodhouse and Staveley Express, 10th March 1928

Motor Lorry Crash

On Saturday night a motor lorry, whilst on its way from Sheffield to Worksop, crashed right through the Hall gates at Aston. The weather being very foggy, the driver had not noticed the bend in the road, and went straight on the private drive to the gates. The gate pillars were very much damaged. Fortunately no one was hurt, and after being extricated from the debris, the lorry went on its way.

Eckington, Woodhouse and Staveley Express, 6th September 1930

Havoc by Hailstones

Considerable damage was done in Aston and district yesterday (Friday) week, owing to unusual sized hailstones which fell during the thunderstorm. Many panes of glass were broken at Aston Hall. Green-houses owned by Mr. Fellows and Mr. Winn, of Aston, and Mr. Radford of Aughton, were damaged. An unusual coincidence occurred in Mr. Walker's cornfield, where a thunderbolt fell, firing a sheaf of corn. Some years ago a thunderbolt fell in the same field whilst the corn was stacked.

South Yorkshire Times and Mexborough and Swinton Times, 14th April 1956

One of the most unusual tasks performed in "Bob-a-Job" Week must have been one which fell to two Swallownest Wolf Cubs. It is a story with a typical tang of Yorkshire humour about it. As the lads were wheeling home a hand cart which they had been using for their tasks they encountered a merry housewife, who, with a twinkle in her eye, pointed to the cart and asked whether they would give her "a lift up t'ill for a bob." The hill referred to was steep enough but the cubs accepted with alacrity. Thus taken at her work the lady sportingly took a seat in the trolley, was duly conveyed up the hill and paid the cubs sixpence each for their not inconsiderable effort. It is not recorded who was the more surprised, the boys at the request or the lady by the solemn acceptance of the commission. This could only have happened in Yorkshire!

Ann Key Secretary,
Aston-cum-Aughton History Group



WEDDINGS AT ASTON ALL SAINTS CHURCH



Are you planning your wedding? Why not come and see our beautiful 12th century church and have a chat with our wedding team to see if we can help you have a truly memorable day.

Aston All Saints is a wonderful setting for your wedding and of course it is ideally situated if you are planning to hold your reception at the outstanding Aston Hall Hotel which is just a two minute walk away.

Did you know that you can now be married in our church even if you don't live in this parish?

If you would like to come and have a look around please get in touch with our wedding team by:

E-mail weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com or Phone 07934 101538

We would love to be 'The perfect place for your perfect day'.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

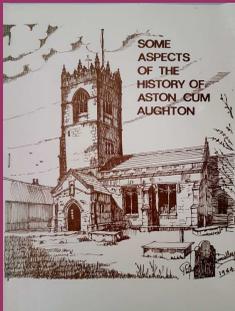
6:00pm SUNDAY 7 JANUARY 2024

SERVICE FOR CANDLEMAS

6:00pm SUNDAY 28 JANUARY 2024



THE DIOCESE OF
SHEFFIELD



Aston-cum-Aughton History Group

meet in the Reading Room on
1st & 3rd Mondays of each month

7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Contact

Jeff Blades 0114 287 2102

Brian Mears 0114 287 7751

Ann Key 0114 287 2610



Van Hoof Opticians

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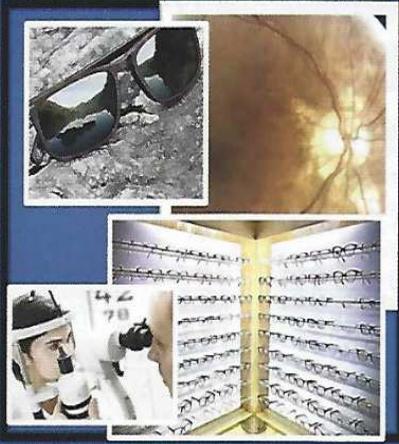
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From the Registers

Baptisms :

Cora Rae Hunter
Florence Annie McGregor
Frank John Derrick Ellis-Foster
Oscar Alexander McAndrew
Ayda Rose Tillery



Funerals :

Vera Thickitt
Eileen Royston

WHO TO CONTACT AT ALL SAINTS

If you want to talk about getting married,
or book your wedding

please telephone **07934 101538**

E-Mail : **weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com**

If you would like to arrange a Baptism
please E-mail our Baptism co-ordinator
Gloria Hope on **Baptism@gloriahope.uk**

If you would like to arrange a Funeral
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REGULAR SERVICES

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS ASTON CUM AUGHTON

SUNDAYS:	All Age Worship (1st Sunday of the month)	10:30am
	Parish Communion (2nd Sunday and 4th Sunday)	10:30am
	Morning Worship (3rd Sunday)	10:30am
	When there is a 5th Sunday To Be Arranged	10:30am
	Evensong (2nd Sunday)	6.00pm
	Compline (4th Sunday)	6:00pm
WEDNESDAYS:	Holy Communion	9.30am

PARISH CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY ULLEY

SUNDAYS:	Holy Communion (1st Sunday)	9:00am
	Morning Worship (2nd Sunday & 4th Sunday)	10.30am
	Holy Communion (3rd Sunday)	10.30am

TEAM STAFF

LAY MINISTER:	Peter Hutchinson 17 Front Street, Treeton S60 5QP	0114 4425 340
LAY READERS:	Gwyneth Hodgson Hanbury House, Main Street, Ulley, Sheffield S26 3YD	0114 287 2150
CHILDREN'S MINISTER & WORSHIP LEADER:	Beth Henshaw	07813 789255
WARDENS:	Chris Ward (All Saints) Val Dixon (All Saints) Sue Hubbard (Holy Trinity) Gwyneth Hodgson (Holy Trinity)	07949 186202 0114 287 3214 0114 287 3846 0114 287 2150
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:	Louise Cooper	07581 421976
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:	Elliott Walker	07954 685831
MAGAZINE	Peter Maxted <i>peter@themax2020.co.uk</i>	0114 287 5477
WEDDINGS	Gill Ward <i>weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com</i>	



Groups and Societies

YAS - Youth Club (11-16 years)

*Meets monthly in the Narthex of All Saints Church:
6 to 8pm. Silly games, discussion, food and prayer.*



Aston & District Footpath Walkers Association

*Local friendly walking every Thursday. Contact Mel Partridge on 07731 773832,
or E-Mail melpartridge1943@gmail.com.*

Aston Ladies Circle

*Meetings are at 7.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the Parish Hall or 'OUT' on trips.
Contact Audrey Jones 0114 287 5518*

Aston-cum-Aughton History Group

*Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, 7 - 9pm, William Layne
Reading Room, Aughton Lane, Aston. Visitors welcome.*

Aston-cum-Aughton Ladies Group

*Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 1.45pm in the Narthex at All
Saints Church.*

Contact : Val on 0114 287 3214

Chatterbox Activity Group

for pensioners, carers and over 55's.

*Tuesdays 10am to 12:30 @ Central Methodist Church Hall, Lodge Lane, Aston.
Members £3.00. Board Games, Outings and other Events.*

Contact Janet on 07989 370593

Dinnington & District Horticultural Society

*Evening talks in Anston Parish Hall, Ryton Road,
North Anston S25 4DL*

at 7.30pm. Non members £2.50.

For more details contact : 01909 567326.



Friends of Ulley Country Park

Sunday Café: 11 am to 3 pm. Homemade refreshments including soup, crusty bread, coffee, tea, fruit cordials, cakes and scones. We hope to host a special event at each Café day. Details on the website.

5th Age (charity number 1068378)

This social group meets every Tuesday, 2 - 4pm at Heighton View Community Centre (off Turnshaw Avenue in Aughton).

Open to anyone over 55. Just drop in: ask for Julia. Membership free.

Contact : enquire5thage@outlook.com

Prospects

An inclusive service with those with learning difficulties. All welcome!

We learn stories from the Bible, (sometimes acted out); sing songs together in worship and celebration and end with cake.

Swallownest Baptist Church 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm.

*Contacts : **Malcolm 07720 776081** or **Elizabeth 07594 410801***

Little Angels

Playgroup for babies and pre-school children at The Narthex, All Saints Church, Aston

Every Monday 9.30 - 11.30am in Term-time

Admission FREE, but donations welcome

*Contact : **Gloria Hope 07553 504806** or gloria@gloriahope.uk*



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