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On the Perils of Swinging Incense

The Rectory St James the Least of All

xty

My dear nephew Darren,



Well, at least you tried. Filling in for another colleague who was away on holiday was kind of you; that it was somewhere with a high church tradition was adventurous of you. But just because something is worth doing, must you do it to such excess?

I can remember the first time I saw you having to use incense; you held the thurible as though you had just been presented with a dead rat. This time, however, I am told that you heated so much charcoal that the congregation thought you were going to hold a barbecue rather than burn incense.

The church warden was impressed with how quickly everyone knelt down, as you went by. If it was in more of an effort to stay clear of your thurible than to pray; well never mind, at least they were on their knees. And I am entirely on your side; you were not to know that their new fire protection system included automatic sprinklers, activated when too much smoke is detected. I am sure most of them would have dried out by Evensong. You told me that you had not been sure what to do with the thurible when you reached the front. But swinging it so enthusiastically that the chain broke and catapulted several pounds weight of red-hot brass through one of their stained glass windows was really not the best solution. Never mind. I am sure the insurance company will be sympathetic.

But surely you knew that smells also implies bells? So why the panic when the server rang the bells in your ear beside the altar? To have promptly dropped the chalice and shouted, 'fire!' was surely something of an over-reaction? Especially as it meant that the verger re-started the sprinkler system. I am told that several in the congregation left church looking as if they had taken part in a mass baptism, involving full immersion whilst fully clothed.

I am told that you actually even wore full robes, rather than your customary T-shirt and jeans. Just one tip: should you ever wear them again, you might wish to wear the chasuble right side out. But that is a small point compared to the 'hat', as you called it. My dear nephew, wherever did you get it from? That is only worn by a bishop – and even then, the two tabs hang at the back, not over your face.

I am told that some of the congregation feared that in some frightful 'fresh expression' of episcopal rule, you had suddenly been handed control of the diocese. With the Church of England in its present woeful state, I suppose anything is possible.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

ALL SAINTS ASTON SERVICES IN AUGUST 2024

Sunday 4 August

10:30am All Age Worship

Wednesday 7 August

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 11 August

10:30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 14 August

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 18 August

10:30am Holy Communion6:00pm Said EVENSONG with Hymns

Wednesday 21 August

9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 25 August

10:30am Holy Communion6:00pm Said COMPLINE with Hymns

Wednesday 28 August

9:30am Holy Communion





Holy Trinity Church Ulley Services in August

Sunday 4 August 9:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 11 August 10:30am Morning Worship

Sunday 18 August 10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 25 August 10:30am Morning Worship

WHO TO CONTACT AT HOLY TRINITY

Church Wardens:

Charlotte Darling: charlottedarling@live.co.uk 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 contact Sue Hubbard 0114 287 3846, suehermec@hotmail.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:

xtx

Gift Aid Secretary : **Glyn Sands** Mobile phone 07835 240870 or <u>glynsands@aol.com</u>

Church Admin : 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.

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THE ARROW AND THE SONG

I shot an arrow in the air, It fell to earth I know not where; For, so swiftly it flew, the sight Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air, It fell to earth, I know not where; For who has sight so keen and strong, That iy can follw the flight of song?

Long, long afterward, in an oak tree I found the arrow, still unbroken: And the song, from beginning to end, I found again in the heart of a friend.

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow 1807—1882

ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

ROTA FOR SIDESPEOPLE

AUGUST 2024

- 4 ALL AGE WORSHIP
- 11 HOLY COMMUNION
- 18 HOLY COMMUNION
- 25 HOLY COMMUNION

Pam Taylor & Gill Ward Paul Moakes & Glyn Sands Pauline Martin & Marjorie O'Neil Sheila Brown & Bill Mawson



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

GARDENING PARTY SATURDAY 10 AUGUST

11:00am - 3:00pm

Following our recent lovely gardening day in June, everyone is warmly invited to come again and help with more weeding, digging, sweeping, cutting, making drinks etc. Just come along at any time, for an hour, or longer. Bring your own picnic and (alcoholic) drinks. Tea, coffee, soft drinks, beef burgers and hot dogs will be provided. Many thanks for your invaluable help in keeping our church grounds looking neat and tidy.

GAMES EVENING

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

6:30pm



Do you fancy a game of Dominos or Scrabble ? Please join us for lots of fun and frivolity at our Games Evening. Try some new (board/card) games, or come and play your old favourites. Please save the date, and watch out for further details. Refreshments provided.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

COFFEE MORNING

In the Narthex

2nd Friday of each month

10:00am - 12:00pm



xty



6th August : The Transfiguration of Jesus

It's an unusual story. One day, Jesus is with three disciples on a high mountain in Galilee, when His appearance dramatically changes. Also, Moses and Elijah suddenly appear, and from a cloud comes the voice of God. What is this all about?

This event was witnessed by James, Peter, and John. They were close friends of Jesus. In the future, they were to become prominent leaders in the Early Church. They needed to see something special that would help them remember Jesus in the difficult years ahead. They had a glimpse of Christ in His divine glory. His face shone like the sun and His clothes turned white as light.

While this was an extraordinary sight for the disciples, it served to encourage Jesus who once had glory and majesty in Heaven. One day He would have it again. But firstly, He had to fulfil His mission: to suffer on the cross and die.

Why were Moses and Elijah standing with Jesus? Moses was the giver of the Law and Elijah represented all the prophets. They had pointed people to the promised Messiah. Jesus was about to complete God's plan of salvation.

God's voice was heard to remind Peter there was no need to build shelters. They were not going to stay on the mountain. God spoke to get the disciples to fix their attention of Jesus. The wonder of the Transfiguration was a short interlude before Jesus had to return to His work and subsequent death on the cross.

This story is a reminder that our times of spiritual blessing have to be followed by down-to-earth commitments and responsibilities. In the same way that Jesus gave His friends a glimpse of His awesome glory, to help them face challenging and traumatic times ahead, our special times in His presence are provided to encourage us and equip us for the trials we may have to face.

Our journey through life may sometimes rise to the peaks but we can't stay on a 'high' all the time – no matter how much we want it! We have to descend to face everyday challenges if we are to fulfil our calling in Christ. From our mountain-top experiences we all need to find a balance between times alone with God and serving Him in the company of others.

13th August : Florence Nightingale Nurse and Social Reformer

If you have a strong sense of calling from God, then you will well understand Florence Nightingale. At the age of 16 she felt God was calling her to some great lifework, and so she determined to avoid marriage, and thus be available to obey Him.

Florence had been born in Italy in 1820, while her parents were travelling – hence her name. But she grew up at Lea Hurst in Derbyshire. Her parents were Unitarian, but Florence later joined the Anglican Church.

Florence had a strong sense of God's personal presence in her life, and in 1844, when she was 24, Florence came to believe

that her calling was to nurse the sick. In 1849 she set off to study nursing in the hospitals of Europe.

It was on 12th May, 1850 that she wrote in her diary: 'Today I am 30 - the age Christ began His mission. Now no more childish things. No more love. No more marriage. Now Lord let me think only of Thy will, what Thou willest me to do.'

Later that same year she went to train in the hospital of Alexandria in Egypt, and then the Lutheran Deaconess Institute at Kaiserwerth in Germany. In 1853 she returned to England, and was appointed superintendent of the Hospital for Invalid Gentlewomen in London.

Then the following year, 1854, war broke out in the Crimea. Florence contacted friends in high places, and soon got permission to take 38 nurses to serve at the military hospitals at Scutari in Turkey, and later Balaklava in the Crimea. These hospitals were dreadful places, but with better nursing and better sanitation, the mortality rate among the sick and wounded men soon fell dramatically.

When, by night, Florence took to patrolling the hospital wards, carrying a dim lamp, the legend of 'the Lady with the Lamp' was born.

After the Crimean war, Florence returned to England determined to establish the first professional nurse training scheme in the country. She found a base at St Thomas' Hospital in London, and through her efforts the stature of nursing gradually rose to become that of a respected medical profession.

But Florence had been working too long and too hard, and now her own health broke down, and she became an invalid. But she was not forgotten, and the honours rolled in. In 1907 she became the first woman to receive the Order of Merit. Florence died in London on 13th August 1910, aged 90, and was buried in St Margaret's, East Wellow, in Hampshire. Her tombstone says simply: F.N. 1820 – 1910.



IF A STAR FELL

If a star fell from the sky Every time I thought of you, The world would be so dark, The night a deathly hue.

If a leaf fell from a tree Every time I wished you near, The forest would be bare, A winter all the year.

If a wave stopped crashing in Every time I saw your smile, The shore would be so bleak, A barren rock pile.

If a song was never sung Each time I ached for you, The land would be so quiet, Pleasures would be so few

But none of this is so, The world keeps turning round, And though you're gone from sight, By love we're always bound

By Donna Ashworth





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ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

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Many thanks to everyone who supported our recent Summer Fayre.

We are so grateful to so many people for all their help. It was a great team effort and we had a lovely day. The children loved the glitter tattoos, strawberries and pony rides. Our tower trips were very well received. All the stalls did very well and the food and drinks were delicious. Thanks to all the stallholders, to those who helped us set up and clear away, and especially to all the local residents and families who came along to support us.

It was great to welcome everyone.

We raised approximately £900 for church funds which will go towards the upkeep of the church and other ongoing church projects.



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ASTON-CUM-AUGHTON PARISH

The following article appeared in the Eckington, Woodhouse and Staveley Express on the 1st November 1901. I thought you would like to read it because it contains some interesting snippets about Aston-cum-Aughton parish that you may not know.

Aston-cum-Aughton

st.

The earliest authentic information I can find with reference to the parish is in "White's Gazetteer of Yorkshire," published in 1837, the year of accession of the late Queen Victoria (kindly lent to me by a friend). From this it appears that in that year Aston contained 2870 acres of land and 564 inhabitants. It goes on to state that "Aston is a 'good' village, seated on an eminence on the Worksop Road, 8¹/₄ miles east by south of Sheffield. The Hall, a spacious brick mansion, was re-built about 60 years ago, and is the

seat of Charles Verelst Esq., the lord of the manor, but was anciently the seat of the Meltons and the Lords Darci, of the last of whom and his three wives there are marble figures as large as life in the church, which is an ancient structure dedicated to All Saints. The living is a Rectory, of which the Duke of Leeds is patron.

At Aughton is an Independent

Chapel, built by subscription in 1838.



Several benefactions for poor parishioners and schooling poor children, amounting to £280, were laid out on the purchase of a house, homestead, and 17s 19d. at Ecclesfield, now let for £25 a year, of which £5 is paid to a schoolmaster; £6 10s. given in bread, and £13 10s. in money and clothing to the poor. The schoolmaster has also £2 a year from the Rector, as compensation for a piece of land added to the glebe by the Rev Wm Mason, a late rector, and celebrated poet, who died here in 1797, and to whose memory there is in the church a marble tablet with a profile bust. Aughton hamlet is only about a quarter of a mile north of Aston. At the point where the Rotherham and Mansfield road crosses the Worksop road is Swallownest, a toll-bar and public house".

Progress

From the foregoing extract it would appear that at the commencement of the late Queen Victoria's reign, Aston consisted only of the village itself and Aughton; and that North Staveley and Fence, with their collieries and villages, were not contemplated, nor would it appear that there were more than a few houses at Swallownest. Looking over the list of names at that time it would appear that only a few are in existence at the present day, notably Verelst, Senior, Lister (assistant overseer) and it is worth noting that Mr Lister, Jun, of the present day is registrar of births and deaths; Levick, Johnson and Sorby, the descendants of the first and last-named being still in the same houses. At the present time little change appears to have taken place in Aston or Netherthorpe, beyond the addition of a few new cottages, but what a difference in the other parts.

North Staveley

 $x^{\dagger}x$

North Staveley, which owes its name to the fact that at one time the colliery was worked by the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, now possesses upwards of 100 houses, with a commodious chapel nearing completion.

Swallownest

Swallownest, whose name is popularly supposed to be derived from the fact that the first man to erect a new house there was named Swallow, and while working at it one day a person driving past asked what he was doing. "Building a nest," was the reply and to this day it has remained "Swallownest". At the present time there are probably 800 inhabitants at Swallownest alone, or more than the entire population in 1837. The village is well supplied with shops and allotment gardens, which are well cultivated by the residents. Several new streets have been laid out, and the village bids fair to continue increasing.

Fence

At Fence, which forms the boundary with the Handsworth district, there is a station on the Midland Railway, which is but poorly supplied with trains, especially to Rotherham, which is the market town of Aston. There is a fair-sized colliery belonging to the Rother Vale Collieries Co., and connected with the pits at Treeton and Orgreave. The place forms another small village in itself, and has lately received the addition of some 30 new houses, and appears likely to increase still further.

Schools

The parish possesses a School Board of its own, and has several commodious and modern schools, situated conveniently for each village, the principal ones being at Aston, where there is a school for boys and girls, and one at Swallownest for infants.

General

The whole parish is supplied with water obtained from Sheffield in bulk, and distributed by a network of pipes, which, however, appear to be insufficient, as there are frequent complaints of the shortness of water. The parish has been put to considerable expense, owing to the inadequacy of the sewerage schemes for Aughton and Swallownest, constructed about 20 years ago, and which have had to be re-constructed on more modern lines. From your returns, it would appear that the parish is in debt to about £5,500, which it will take nearly 30 years to pay off.

Although usually healthy we have unfortunately been visited this year by a serious epidemic of diphtheria, but thanks to a small but fully-equipped hospital in the parish, for the reception of infectious cases, and the prompt removal of them, few have terminated fatally. Considerable fears have been aroused with reference to the erection of a new permanent hospital, half-way between Swallownest and Aughton, for the reception of patients from the greater portion of the Rotherham Rural District, and also from Handsworth and Kiveton Park. Knowing nothing of such matters, I am unable to express an opinion as to the advisability or otherwise of bringing such a place into a populous and extending parish, but the cost which was stated at the inquiry held by the Local Government Board appears to be erroneous, amounting as it does to £500 per bed, or a total of £16,000 for 32 beds.

The Parish Council

Since the Parish Council came into being, there has been a good competition for seats on it, showing that local government is appreciated; but I am not aware that the Parish Council has set the Thames on fire, the principal monument erected by them being some very ugly and useless seats in honour of the late Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. From what I have seen of them they are used (if ever) by tramps, but having no backs to them they do not form very tempting resting places. The provision of a system of public lighting by the parish authorities is much needed, and would be a blessing. A Free Library would also be appreciated. There are post offices at Aughton, which by the way is generally pronounced "Ighton", Swallownest and Aston, the latter being a telegraph office also. The postal address is near Sheffield, but until five years ago it was near Rotherham, and again, before that, it was, as at present, near Sheffield.

The Cemetery

In consequence of the churchyard being full, a commodious cemetery has been provided in the centre of the village itself, but without a chapel, the first portion of the services being held elsewhere and the latter by the graveside.

The Police

The police arrangements are in the hands of the West Riding Constabulary, but it is seldom that a case from the parish appears in court – a fact which speaks well for the peaceable inhabitants and the tact of the police.

If anyone knows where the "small but fully-equipped hospital in the parish" was situated, please let me know. I believe it was on or close to the site that became the South Rotherham, Handsworth and Kiveton Park Isolation Hospital which was opened in 1904, commonly known as the "Fever Hospital". The site is now occupied by Swallownest Court, Aughton Road, Swallownest.

Ann Key

Aston-cum-Aughton History Group



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Funerals :

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WHO TO CONTACT AT ALL SAINTS

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REGULAR SERVICES

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS ASTON CUM AUGHTON

SUNDAYS:	All Age Worship (1st Sunday of the month) Parish Communion (2nd Sunday and 4th Sunday) Morning Worship (3rd Sunday) When there is a 5th Sunday To Be Arranged Evensong (2nd Sunday) Compline (4th Sunday)		10:30am 10:30am 10:30am 10:30am 6.00pm 6:00pm	
WEDNESDAYS:	Holy Communion		9.30am	
PARISH CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY ULLEY				
SUNDAYS:	Holy Communion (1st Sund Morning Worship (2nd Sun Holy Communion (3rd Sund	day & 4th Sunday)	9:00am 10.30am 10.30am	
TEAM STAFF				
LAY MINISTER:	Peter Hutchinson 17 Front	Street, Treeton S60 5QP	0114 4425 340	
LAY READERS:	Gwyneth Hodgson		0114 287 2150	
Hanbury House, Main Street, Ulley, Sheffield S26 3YD				
CHILDREN'S MINISTER & WORSHIP LEADER: Beth Henshaw			07813 789255	
WARDENS:	Chris Ward (All Saints) Val Dixon (All Saints)		07949 186202 0114 287 3214	
	Sue Hubbard (Holy Trinity) Charlotte Darling (Holy Trin		0114 287 3846 07957 627402	
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Louise Cooper		07581 421976		
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Elliott Walker		07954 685831		
MAGAZINE	Peter Maxted peter@the	max2020.co.uk	0114 287 5477	
WEDDINGS	DDINGS Gill Ward weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com			

Groups and Societies

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 : Linda on 0114 287 6696**

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.

Chatterbox Activity Group

for pensioners, carers and over 55's. *Tuesdays 10am to 12:30 at Central Methodist Church Hall, Lodge Lane, Aston.*

Members £3.00. Board Games, Outings and other Events. **Contact Janet on 07989 370593**



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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