



## The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

**Sunday 17th January 2021**

**2nd Sunday of Epiphany**

**10:30 a.m.**

Partnership Service on Facebook

Followed by All Saints Coffee Time on Zoom

### Public Worship and Private Prayer

Government instructions limit our ability to leave home for other than a few essential purposes and restrict where we can meet and who we can meet. With this in mind all public worship has been suspended within the churches of our Mission Partnership.

This is due for review in February.

We have also decided not to open our Churches for private prayer through the same period.

### The Call of Samuel

The first three chapters of 1 Samuel record the birth, early life and call of Samuel.

Hannah was one of two wives of Elkanah but had been unable to have children. On one of their regular pilgrimages to worship and sacrifice at the holy site at Shiloh, Hannah desperately prayed that, if she were to bear a son, he would be dedicated to the LORD for life. Her plea was heard and she conceived and bore a son and named him Samuel.

Samuel was placed in the care of the Priest Eli at Shiloh and grew in the presence of the LORD. [1 Sam 2:21, 26].

As Samuel grew, the Word of the Lord was rare and there was no frequent vision. [1 Sam 3:1] and Eli's two sons had been abusing their positions [1 Sam 2:12-17].

One night when Eli and Samuel were lying in their places in the temple of the Lord, Samuel heard a voice calling 'Samuel, Samuel'. Thinking that Eli was calling, Samuel went to him, but Eli sent him back to sleep. This happened a second and third time. Eli realised that it was the Lord calling Samuel and told him to reply, 'Speak Lord for thy servant hears'. Samuel responded to the next call and was told by the Lord what was to become of Eli and his sons.

Samuel became recognised as a Prophet of the Lord 'from Dan to Beersheba', a phrase used several times to describe the extent of the settled area of the Israelites. [1 Sam 3:20]

At this time, the Israelites were in conflict with the Philistines. Following one victory the Philistines captured the Ark of the Covenant. The LORD's reaction caused the Philistines so much grief that they returned the Ark.

Samuel went on to be a key figure in the leadership of the Israelites. Towards the end of Samuel's, life the tribal leaders decided that the Israelites needed a more centralised form of Government and a King so they could be like the other tribes. With some reluctance, and following Divine intervention, Samuel anointed Saul as King. [1 Sam 8-12]

**Focus on Mission:** An occasional series on Societies that help us to fulfil Christ's last command to make disciples of all Nations [Matt 28:19]

**Church Army** *Social Action and Sharing Faith*

Church Army evangelists work in some of the most deprived communities in the UK and Ireland. This involves the homeless, lonely, unemployed and those of any age who are seen to be at risk.

**Church Army Residential Services Cardiff** works with homeless young people aged between 16 and 21. Their Ty Bronna project provides accommodation with 24-hour support for up to 13 young people. They are encouraged to develop the various skills needed for independent living including budgeting and cooking, and an understanding of their welfare benefits and tenancy rights.

**CHURCH  
ARMY**



## Prayer Requests

### Please pray for

Olive & Raymond Shaw  
The family of Jeanette Damms

Contact the Prayer Ministry  
Team

**Carol Hunter**  
**07542 527331**

**STAY AT HOME**  
**PROTECT THE NHS**  
**AND SAVE LIVES.**

### 2nd Sunday of Epiphany Collect

Eternal Lord, our  
beginning and our end:  
bring us with the whole  
creation to your glory,  
hidden through past ages  
and made known  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Readings

1 Samuel 3: 1-10, (11-20)  
Psalm 139  
1 Corinthians 6: 12-20  
St John 1: 43-55

### Bible Readings for this week

17th St Luke 19: 28-48  
18th St Luke 20: 1-8  
19th St Luke 20: 9-19  
20th St Luke 20: 20-26  
21st St Luke 20: 27-47  
22nd St Luke 21: 1-19  
23rd St Luke 21: 20-37

## Judges:

The seventh book of the Old Testament.

The twelve tribes of the House of Israel spent forty years in the wilderness following their escape from slavery in Egypt. They then entered the land of Canaan, the land promised to Abraham. Led by Joshua under God's guidance, they defeated the resident tribes and established individual areas for each of the tribes to settle.

For several years after Joshua's death the Israelites continued to serve the LORD until memories faded and the new generations did "what was evil in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals" [Judges 2:11].

Over the following years, the LORD raised up many individuals as Judges to lead the people back to the LORD and give them success against the remaining local tribes. The LORD was with the Judges and the Israelites prospered but soon reverted following the death of each Judge. This became established as a familiar pattern for many years. Among the named Judges are Gideon and Samson.

Gideon was called by the LORD in response to the Israelites' pleas following seven years of oppression by the Midianites. [Judges 6-9]. Chapter 7 relates the defeat of the Midianite army by Joshua, three hundred men and the LORD. Peace ensued during the following forty years until Gideon died. However it then took only a short time for them to forget the LORD and revert to their old ways.

Samson was one of the last of the Judges who lived at a time when the Philistines were a major force in the area and in regular conflict with the Israelites. [Judges 13-16] Samson was gifted with great strength supplied by the LORD as a result of the Nazarite vow taken by Samson. The account of his life with his Philistine wife Delilah, his imprisonment and death is familiar as he broke the pillars of the Philistine temple causing it to collapse and kill all those present.

### From the Parish Registers

Friday 15th January 2021

All Saints      Funeral of Jeanette Damms      aged 83

## Resources and Contacts

**Churchwarden** Peter Robinson 01226 753572  
**Parish Admin** Jo Darlison 07469 857315  
**Clergy** Rev Fiona Kouble 01226 950643  
07817 167386

### Our Web Site

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**Facebook** [@darfieldallsaints](https://www.facebook.com/darfieldallsaints)



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### DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

[jodarlison94@gmail.com](mailto:jodarlison94@gmail.com)

**Wednesday 5 p.m.**

**Find us on A Church Near You**  
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>  
Search your current location or Postcode

All Saints



St Michael



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