



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion *Great Houghton*

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship *Darfield*

Sunday 10th May 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion *Darfield*

Thursday 14th May 2026

Ascension Day

11:30 a.m. Holy Communion *Darfield*

Our Place

Peter's First Epistle is addressed to God's Elect who were scattered across the Roman Provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia. These areas make up most of the modern-day Republic of Türkiye between the Mediterranean and Black Seas, an area between Europe and Asia often called Asia Minor. Most of these Christian communities had been established by St Paul on his Missionary Journeys around the area and had a high proportion of Gentile converts. In common with most of the small communities of believers they were facing persecution. Peter's letter was intended to bring them encouragement to continue in the Faith. He tells them that they were chosen by God through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.

Peter addresses his readers as *living stones*, being built into a spiritual house. These relate to quotes from the Old Testament including Isaiah and the Psalms. Isaiah describes the Sovereign Lord as *laying a tested stone for Zion to act as a cornerstone* [Isaiah 28:16] and the *Lord Almighty will be a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall*. [Isaiah 8: 14] The writer of Psalm 118 described "*The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone*" [Psalm 118: 22]. In his letter to the Church at Ephesus, St Paul encourages his readers by writing that they are "*built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.*" [Ephesians 2: 20]

Jesus was travelling around the country with his followers and dealing with what were mainly trick questions from the Pharisees and Sadducees. He was also attempting to prepare the Disciples for what was to come. The road to Jerusalem, Palm Sunday and Good Friday were ahead of Him and He knew that the Disciples would be afraid of the authorities. Peter who had described Jesus as "*The Messiah, the Son of the living God.*" and was called the rock on which Jesus would build His Church, was to deny knowing Jesus three times. [Matthew 16: 16-18; Luke 22: 54-62]. On the Day of Resurrection, the disciples were found to be together behind a locked door, [John 20: 19].

Jesus told his disciples that their hearts should not be troubled as He was going to prepare a place for them. In response to Thomas, Jesus describes Himself as *The Way, the Truth and the Life* We are offered a place to belong. We are this generation's living stones in the spiritual Temple held together by Christ as cornerstone. Our place is ready to help us fulfil the tasks set before us as members of our spiritual community. Our lives can be secure and our anxieties lessened by being in Our Place.

Ascension Day 11:30 a.m.

On **Thursday 14th May** we will be celebrating Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer. This Service will be later than usual because of Warm Space and Community Shop on the Go.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father.

Readings

Genesis 8: 1-19
Acts 7: 55-60
Psalm 31: 1-5,15-16
1 Peter 2: 2-10
John 14: 1-14

Readings for this week

May

3rd Joshua 23:
4th Joshua 24: 1-13
5th Joshua 24: 14-20
6th Hebrews 6: 1-8
7th Hebrews 6: 9- 20
8th Hebrews 7: 1-10
9th Hebrews 7: 11-18
10th Hebrews 7: 19-28

Prayer Square

This week we are praying for residents of Middlecliffe

John Street
George Street
Windsor Crescent
Queen's Avenue
Charles Street
Mary Street

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Community Shop on the Go and Warm-Space

Next Community Shop: Thursday 14th May

Warm Space: Every Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

BOOK THE DATE: Saturday 6th June - All Saints Garden Party
How can YOU contribute to the success of this event?

Thoughtful Thursday at Great Houghton

Thursdays between 11:00 a.m. and noon.

Craft and Natter is back Tuesday 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Stephen: Acts 6: and 7:

Our Lectionary for the Sundays between Easter and Pentecost is taking us through the early chapters of the Acts of the Apostles where Luke the Evangelist records the events following Pentecost as the fledgling church begins to expand in numbers and to locations outside Jerusalem and Judea.

The twelve Apostles were responsible for the daily distribution of bread to their growing community of believers. One group, the Hellenistic Jews, complained that their members were being overlooked so seven men were chosen to take responsibility for the distribution and to free the Apostles to concentrate on prayer and the Ministry of the Word. Among this group was Stephen, described as *full of faith and the Holy Spirit*.

With God's grace and power, Stephen performed great wonders and signs which created opposition. False accusations of blasphemy against Moses and against God brought Stephen in front of the ruling Sanhedrin. He made a major exposition on the history of the Jews beginning with Abram. The way that the Lord had provided for each succeeding generation but including the many times that they failed to obey.

The members of the Sanhedrin were furious and had Stephen dragged out of the city where he was stoned to death. Whilst in front of the Sanhedrin, Stephen had been given a sight of heaven opened and the glory of God and the Son of Man, Jesus, standing at God's right hand.

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden
PCC Secretary

Peter Robinson
Karen Walton

01226 753 572

Safeguarding

Contact Peter Robinson
07910 728 581

Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>

Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

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



Find us on A Church Near You

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Search your current location or Postcode

DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

pdrobinson@live.co.uk

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

All Saints



St Michael



All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).