



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 9th August 2026 Tenth Sunday after Trinity

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield

Sunday 16th August 2026 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Gt Houghton

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Darfield



Wednesday 12th August 2026 at 18:13

Just in case you're not aware, we have an eclipse of the sun on this date. It's a partial but at about 97.8% coverage, it will be spectacular (as long as it's not a day of full cloud like the last one!) The world will darken, the birds will stop singing and an eerie silence will settle on Darfield and Great Houghton. The eclipse begins at 18:13 and will reach its maximum at around 19:00. **IMPORTANT** You **MUST NOT** look at the sun directly, you must have solar eclipse glasses which meet the ISO 12312-2:2015 certificate. So do enjoy this extraordinary event! Jo

Times of Darkness

Scientific theories and discoveries allow our modern astronomers to calculate the movements of the moon relative to the earth. As the moon orbits the earth its shadow can reach the earth's surface, blocking some or all of the Sun. Conditions are right about every eighteen months for a partial eclipse to be visible somewhere on Earth but total eclipses are much rarer. In the ancient cultures, the people would be well used to the regular cycle of day and night and its seasonal variations. Anything outside this would be seen as a supernatural event or a bad omen for the future.

In our Bible we can find many references to darkness. We find the earth created as formless and empty with darkness over the surface of the deep. [Genesis 1: 2] Light and its separation into day and night brought the natural pattern that we know so well.

We can move on to the time of Moses when the Israelites were oppressed in Egypt. The ninth of the ten plagues inflicted by the LORD involved Moses holding his hand towards the heavens as pitch darkness descended on the Egyptians for three days. [Exodus 10: 21-29]. Pharaoh's heart was hardened by the Lord and the oppression continued.

Darkness is often used by the Prophets to signify the distance between people and the LORD. Isaiah wrote *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."* which is quoted in Matthew's Gospel at the start of the ministry of Jesus [Matthew 4: 16]. Matthew also records the teachings of Jesus about the Signs of the End-Times with *"the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky"* [Matthew 24: 29].

Perhaps the most significant period of darkness is recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. It occurred on the day when Jesus, falsely accused and condemned hung on the Cross. Darkness fell at noon and lasted until three in the afternoon, the curtain of the Temple was torn in two and Jesus breathed his last. [Luke 23: 44-16]

"Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;" Evening Collect BCP

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10: 5-15
Matthew 14: 22-33

Readings for August

9th	Genesis 1: 27-31
10th	Genesis 2: 1 -14
11th	Genesis 2: 15-25
12th	1 John 2: 1-11
13th	1 John 2: 12-17
14th	1 John 2: 18-29
15th	1 John 3: 1-15
16th	1 John 3: 16-24

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through
Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Prayer Square
This week we are praying for residents of Darfield

*Vicar Crescent
Vicar Road
Springbank
Springfield Close
Springfield Crescent
Norcross Gardens*

Community Shop on the Go

Next Community Shop:

Thursday 20th August

Warm Space: every Thursday

Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Maureen Hale

Maureen's Funeral will be at All Saints at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday 13th August 2026 followed by Cremation

St Michael and All Angels Garden Party

Saturday 15th August 2026

Join us between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

St Michael's Church, Church Street, Great Houghton S72 0BL

Cream Tea £5: Tea coffee & Cake stall

Children's Games : Raffle: Tombola: Bric-a-brac:

Will be indoors if weather is inclement

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden
PCC Secretary
Safeguarding
Email
Our Web Site
Facebook

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