

# PARISH MAGAZINE

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2026

United Benefice of St Helen, Burghwallis and  
St Mary Magdalene, Campsall



## Prayers for 2026

Another New Year! So many mixed emotions for different people, for different reasons. For some, the reluctance to leave a year which brought joy and happiness; for some the relief of leaving behind a difficult year; for some, sadness at moving into a year where a loved one has never been; for some, apprehension and insecurity about what might lie ahead in this world of polarisation, conflict and confusion about what is true.

Lord, help us to take time at the start of 2026 to refocus our hearts, minds and spirits – to tune into you, our un-changing God. Help us to be calmed and encouraged by the promise of Jesus that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. The safe Way. The ultimate Truth. The Life, your gift, to be with you for all eternity. You promised never to leave us or forsake us. When we put our trust in you, through what Jesus did on the cross, we are secure, we are accompanied, no matter what the New Year brings

## February arrives....

The shortest month, the snowdrop month! February brings those beautiful, hopeful little flowers, also called Candlemas Bells. Thank You, Lord, for the beauty and the hope. Thank You for the reminder of when Jesus was presented at the Temple as a baby. Thank You, for Simeon recognising in that vulnerable baby the promised Saviour of all the world.

Oh Lord, how this world needs to hear afresh that message of salvation. Open eyes to see You and to know You. Open ears to hear Your message of hope and reconciliation. Open hearts to receive Your love and to share it, for the sake of all the suffering people of the world. Amen.



## Winnie the Pooh and Lent 2026

Remember the Winnie the Pooh stories? And Kanga's insistence on Baby Roo's taking his Strengthening Medicine? It's 'really quite a nice taste when you get used to it', she explained, although I'm not convinced Baby Roo always agreed.

It can be helpful to think of Lent as a sort of medicine; an opportunity to strengthen us in the things that are good, rein in other facets of our personality, and reset the compass to the true North of following Jesus. A Spring-clean of the soul, if you like.

Baby Roo (and Piglet on the one occasion he was subject to it) found Strengthening Medicine not to their liking, and we may groan inwardly at the thought of 'giving up something for Lent'. Think of what lies behind this 'giving up'. It's so that we may be strengthened, our character refined, our prejudices examined, our junk thrown overboard, and we may come to Passontide and Easter more fit to walk the way of the Cross and rise in new life with Jesus at His Resurrection.

Nor is Lent just a case of giving up chocolate. One year I gave up Facebook for Lent, having spent far too much time scrolling through it each day. It freed me to do other, more constructive things. And instead of giving up, why not take up something you've been meaning to do but never got round to; something life-affirming, something good for God.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on 18<sup>th</sup> February. Many Christians go public with their intention to keep a good Lent by being 'ashed' - the sign of the Cross made on the forehead in a mixture of ash and holy oil at a special service that day. The ash is usually the burnt remains of the palm crosses from last year. Having been ashed, the intention of the 40 days of Lent is to maintain a steady course closer to God, symbolised by the giving up of something - like chocolate - which has a hold on us. We walk with Jesus on the way to the Cross, mindful of the 'riches of God's kindness, forbearance and patience' as St Paul has it, and mindful too of Jesus' choice of the Cross as a way for us to enter those riches more fully.

And to face the immensity of that sacrifice, and the immensity of God's riches made available to us in Jesus, we need all the Strengthening Medicine we can get! *By the Revd Roy Shaw, a retired but active priest in the diocese of York, where he is a spiritual director.*

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## Campsall Bell Ringers

Campsall bell ringing practice, weekly sessions on Monday evenings at St Mary Magdalene Church. If you are interested in having a go at bell ringing, please contact Helen on 07849571162



## St Helen's Church, Burghwallis

All welcome, it would be great to see new people from the village of Burghwallis. Come and support your local church. **All welcome.**



## Norton Community Hall

This is a friendly family group where crafts are created by children and parents together.

There are stories, singing and even dancing, followed by the sharing of a family lunch.

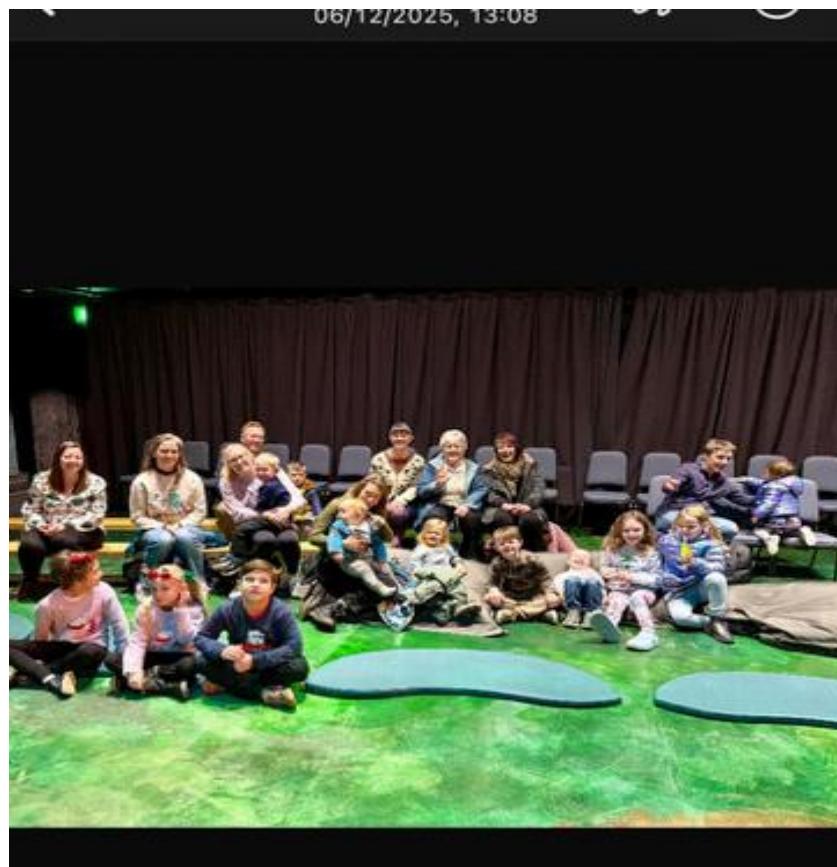
Why not come and join us, you will be made very welcome.

If you wish to find out more about our group, phone 07507 860136 for details.

***Held on the first Saturday of each month from 11.00 am – 12.30 pm***

## **Messy Church goes to the Theatre**

**December 2025**



For our December Meeting we took the children to the Cast theatre to see the show Hansel & Gretal, and what a brilliant time was had by all.

21 of us headed into Doncaster, some by train, some by car and met in the theatre foyer, all very excited, and no one was disappointed. The show was aimed at ages 2yrs – 6 yrs, (perfect for our group), all the children had a wonderful time as did the parents (and grandparents).

There were no crafts to take home, but what we all took from this very special “Messy” was wonderful memories, friendships and fellowship. This is what “church” is all about.

2025 has been a lovely year for our Messy Church, thank you to Elizabeth and Harriet for helping with the crafts and leading the meetings when possible.

Thank you all the parents and children who attend, and all who supported our Messy church in any way. We hope that 2026 will be as exciting and that we grow in numbers throughout the year.

If you can help with the running of our Messy Church in any way, then please contact me.

Thank you Shirley

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### CHURCH FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone who donated to our flower fund over the past months and to those who helped decorate the church for Christmas especially Jean, Lesley S.and Elaine.

Please do continue to donate especially as we look forward to decorating our wonderful parish church during **Easter 2026.**

Many thanks, Lesley D.

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### Events at Campsall Wellingtonia Centre

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month** – Beetle Drive at 1.00pm

**Every Wednesday-**

10.00am – 11.30am

Drop-in Coffee Morning

**Every Thursday –**

1.00pm – 3.00pm

Bingo Sessions



**A big Thank you everyone who donated cash at our  
Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.**

**Your generosity helped raise £370.20  
on behalf of  
The Children's Society.**

**Thank you**



## **DN6 FOODBANK**

Please do try to support this important community needs. We do understand that your purses are being tighter due to the present economic costs however please do try to offer anything you can spare to help this amazing charity.

You can leave your donations at either Burghwallis Church or Campsall Church on Sunday mornings, alternatively visit St Peters Church Hall on Thursday mornings or contact Ian to arrange collection.

If anyone has questions about CRY or indeed interested in volunteering, please contact me on my mobile: **07711 899 283. Ian.**

## Advent - Thank You All

The members of Campsall PCC and Warden are very grateful to our Bell Ringing Team and volunteers who decorated our beautiful church for Christmas it looked wonderful!

Also, the ladies who give up their time over the months to wash costumes and make new ones for children to dress up and take part in the Christingle story on Christmas Eve.

We are grateful to the small team of volunteers who made the Christingle Oranges for the children to enjoy at the service.

And on behalf of all here at Campsall Church thank you to parents and their children who joined us here on Christmas Eve to celebrate Christingle and helped raised **£370.20** which will be sent to The Children's Society. T

Thank you.

Editor

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## Burghwallis Parish Council

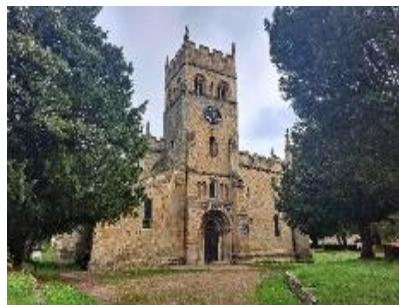


*Meeting*

The next meeting of Burghwallis Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.00 pm in The Burghwallis pub. All residents are welcome.

David Maxwell - [clerk@burghwallisparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@burghwallisparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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## ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH RESTORATION UPDATES 2026



After a long, drawn-out application process we are now at the final stages with the disabled footpath to the north door. It is hoped that work can commence during late February/March on the pathway allowing a more accessible walkway and easier access for visitors to the church.

The cost of this work was awarded to us from Church of England Disability Project Parish Grants Scheme for which we are grateful and this allows our growing restoration fund to be used in the future for emergency works and improvements.

The very old boiler is still working, thankfully, and we pray it continues to do so throughout the winter months enabling us to keep the church building warm for all services. However, again with the help of a successful grant application, we now have the use of ten heated seat cushions which when charged can be offered to give some comfort during services should the main heating fail.

Our Buildings Team based at Church House and our Church Architect are working hard to estimate the full costs of extensive roof repairs. We will then be able to approach some of the big funders and move our restoration project forward during 2026.

We do still need your help and support with your donations and fund raising for the Restoration Fund, to help with our larger very urgent roof project and not forgetting the boiler project.

We have a long journey ahead, but this journey has begun and let's hope and pray that this beautiful, historic Grade 1 listed church will be an inviting, dry, warm building for the community, to use in many years to come when we achieve our goal to restore St Mary Magdalene

Churchwarden & PCC.



## **Magdalene Dementia Café update 2026**

### **Norton Community Hall**

Magdalene Dementia Group opened its doors in May 2025, giving local people somewhere safe and secure to come along and spend a couple of hours enjoying entertainment, games, crafts, singing and chair exercises. The group has grown from strength to strength.

We have a few volunteers who give their time willingly along with our award-winning baker who always bakes amazing cakes.

We have a no question too silly to ask approach and if I can't answer, I will find out from Age Concern or Alzheimer's Society who supply all the information leaflets. Everybody is welcome, including family and carers. We are open the last Saturday of every month from 10:30am till 1pm.

We look forward to meeting members old and new.

Lyn Pearson – Magdalene Dementia Cafe



Warm and welcoming

# Magdalene Dementia Café

Last Saturday of every  
Month 10.30 am – 1pm

Engaging activities,  
Socialising and support

£3 per person  
Including refreshments  
cake and a raffle ticket

**Norton Village Hall**

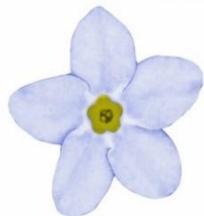
Carers and families welcome



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## **Norton WI**

Norton WI meet on the last Wednesday of each month (except December) in Campsall Village Hall.

Meetings start at 7.30pm and we have a variety of demonstrations, speakers, quizzes and social activities throughout the year. Meetings are open to non-members for a small charge of £5 which includes tea/coffee and cake.

We also have a regular coffee and cake/breakfast club, a lunch club, as well as organizing day trips and theatre outings. Our programme for the next 3 months;

### **25th February 2026 - Medical Detection Dogs**

A talk about a charity dedicated to training dogs in the detection and recognition of human disease by odour. The dogs prevent medical emergencies, save lives and improve quality of life.

### **25th March 2026 - Annual Meeting**

Our Annual Meeting + quiz night

### **29th April 2026 - 'Meet the Butler' with Chris Cade**

Know your place in the Victorian social order.

Visitors are very welcome to any of our meetings.

We'd love to see you – if you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact Val Greaves on 07813 599793 for further details.

# Bible Bite

It can be read in the Bible in  
1 Samuel 2:11-17, 22-25, 3:1-21

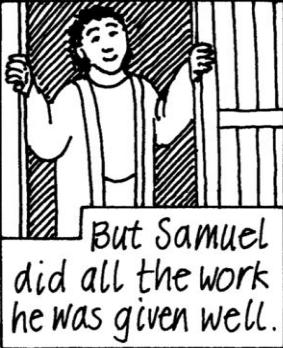
## A short story from the Bible

As soon as he was old enough to leave his parents, Samuel went to live at God's temple in Shiloh, with the priest, Eli...

Eli's sons were also priests, but they helped themselves to what people had brought to give to God.



Eli talked to them about it. They ignored him.



But Samuel did all the work he was given well.

One night, after everyone had gone to bed, Samuel heard someone calling him.



He thought it was Eli, so he ran to him.



It happened again.



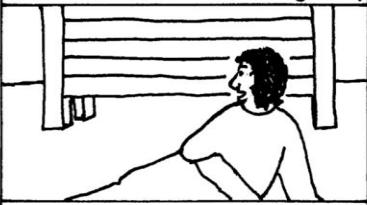
No, I didn't call you  
I didn't call. Go back to bed.

The third time, Eli knew it must be God calling Samuel.



You must say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

God called Samuel again,



and Samuel answered as he had been told.

I told Eli his sons had done bad things, but he has not stopped them. Now, even being sorry will not make up for what has happened.



The next morning, Eli demanded to be told what God had said.



Samuel was afraid, but he told him.

He is God. He will deal with us as is right.



God continued to talk to Samuel. He became known throughout Israel.



## The Gift of the Unseen Valentine

The little church on the hill had never been known for grand Valentine's Day celebrations. There were no roses lining the pews, no heart-shaped balloons, no glittering cards. But every February, something quietly beautiful happened there—something only a few people noticed.

Miriam, the church's oldest member, sat in her usual spot by the stained-glass window. At eighty-three, her hands trembled when she held a hymn book, but her eyes still sparkled with the same warmth she'd carried since her youth. She had never married, though she'd been asked once, long ago. Instead, she had poured her life into loving people the way she believed God loved—steadily, without condition, and without expecting anything in return.

Every Valentine's Day, Miriam would slip small envelopes into the hymnals before the service began. Inside each was a handwritten note, never signed, with words like:

***"You are loved more than you know."***

***"God's heart delights in you."***

***"You are never forgotten."***

She prayed over each one, asking God to guide it to the person who needed it most.

That year, a young man named Daniel came to the church for the first time. He sat in the back, shoulders hunched, eyes down. Life had been heavy—too heavy—and he had almost stayed home. When the congregation stood to sing, he opened the hymnal and a small envelope fluttered to the floor.

He almost ignored it, but curiosity won. Inside, in careful, looping handwriting, were the words:

***"You are not alone. God's love is holding you even now."***

Daniel's throat tightened. He didn't know who had written it, but it felt like it had been meant for him alone. That night, he prayed for the first time in years.

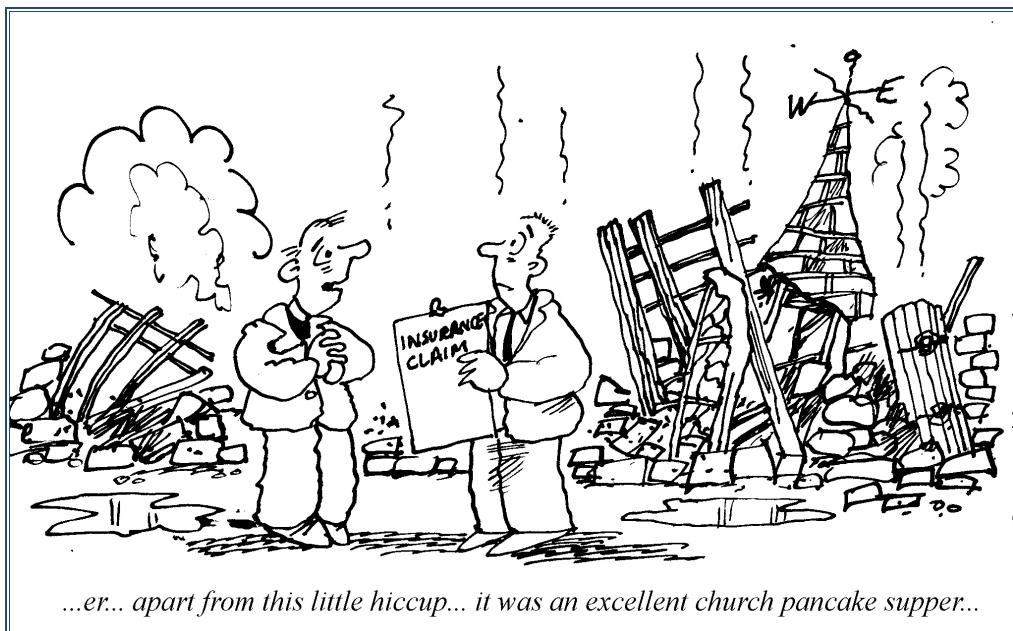
Weeks later, he began attending regularly. He never found out who had left the note, but he didn't need to. The love behind it had already done its work.

And Miriam? She never asked if her notes made a difference. She simply kept writing them, year after year, trusting that the smallest acts of love could ripple farther than she would ever see.

Because in her heart, she knew—Valentine's Day wasn't about romance. It was about reminding someone, anyone, that they were deeply, unshakably loved.....

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### **SHROVE TUESDAY BLUNDER!**



### **ASH WEDNESDAY JOINT BENEFICE SERVICE**

**ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00 PM**

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. But why 'Ash' Wednesday? The reason has to do with getting things right between you and God, and the tradition goes right back to the Old Testament. The late medieval custom was to burn the branches used on Palm Sunday in the previous year to create the ashes for today. **ALL WELCOME**

## The Boffins and the Technocrats

The boffins and the technocrats  
Help folk like me and you  
Inventing lots of clever things  
That tell us what to do!

My car now has a clever light  
Dispelling doubt or fear,  
Without it I'd have not a clue  
When to shift up a gear!

Of course there is the Sat Nav  
To help me find my way  
The time I learned to read a map  
Was just a wasted day!

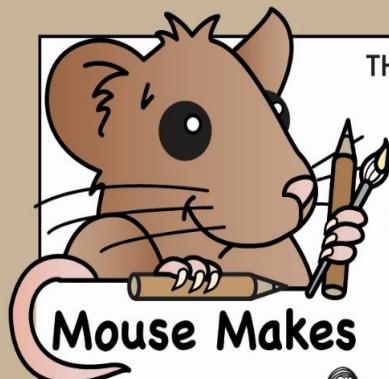
My PC's a law unto itself  
So busy telling me  
To upgrade this or restart that –  
The net I never see!

And sometimes, when my work is done  
I turn on my TV  
All chance to watch my programme gone –  
“Retune” it says to me.

The oven, fridge, and microwave  
They make a beeping sound  
Or else they have bright lights which flash  
To order me around.

And so I am a harassed man,  
I live a hassled life;  
The one who shouts at me the least  
Is my sweet and lovely wife!

*By Nigel Beeton*



Read the story in  
Luke 4:1-13



### THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan where did the Holy Spirit lead him to? v1

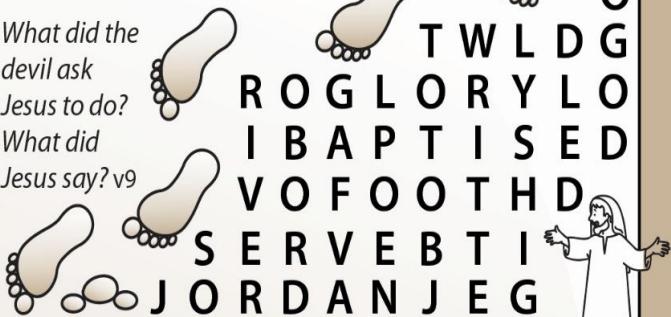
How many days was Jesus being tempted by the devil? v2

What did Jesus eat? v2

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into?  
What did Jesus say? v3-4

What did the devil offer Jesus if He worshipped him?  
What did Jesus say? v7-8

What did the devil ask Jesus to do?  
What did Jesus say? v9



### SECOND TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"I will give you power and wealth if you worship me."

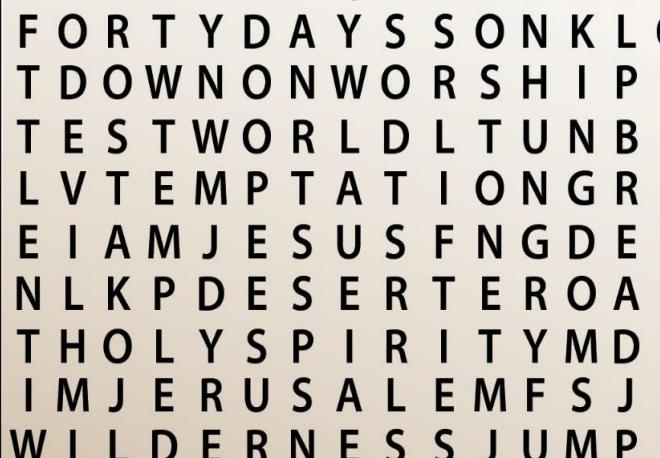
JESUS REPLIED:

"Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him."

Read Deuteronomy 6:13

WE LEARN:

Put God first  
Worship only Him.



JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • HOLY SPIRIT • LED WILDERNESS • DESERT • FORTY DAYS • HUNGRY • DEVIL TEMPTATION • STONE • BREAD • WRITTEN • SON • WORLD KINGDOMS • GLORY • WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • HIGH JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • SON • JUMP • DOWN • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST • LENT

### FIRST TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son order this stone to turn into bread."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Man shall not live on bread alone."

Read Deuteronomy 8:3

WE LEARN:

Read the Bible  
Learn God's word.



### THIRD TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take care of you."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Read Deuteronomy 6:16

WE LEARN:

God cares, trust  
Him do not test Him.



## BENEFICE SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2026

**St Mary Magdalene, Campsall**  
**All Services at 11.00 AM**

1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion  
15<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion  
22<sup>nd</sup> Holy Communion Service  
**Rt Revd Leah Vesey-Saunders**  
**Bishop of Doncaster**

**St Helens, Burghwallis**  
**All Services at 9.00 AM**

1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion  
15<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion  
22<sup>nd</sup> Holy Communion Service  
**Rt Revd Leah Vesey-Saunders**  
**Bishop of Doncaster**

**Campsall Morning Prayer each month is joined by our Messy Church members**

**To arrange Baptisms, weddings etc please contact the following:**

### **Burghwallis**



Colin Bowes – Warden:

Telephone: 01302 702779 & 07768298838

### **Campsall**



Christine Tickle - Churchwarden & Magazine

Telephone: 01302 700731 & 07938 874642

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