

November 24th: Christ the King Sunday



Mothers' Unions from across the **Province of York** have been celebrating a recent visit by the **Worldwide President of Mothers' Union** to the north. **Mrs Sheran Harper** from **Guyana**, the first **Worldwide President of Mothers' Union** from outside the UK, was in the **York Province** for four days recently. In my role as **Mothers' Union Chaplain for the Ripon Episcopal Area**, I joined some 500 MU members from across the Province at Leeds Minster on Thursday November 7th for a Celebration Eucharist led by + **Nick Baines**, **Bishop of Leeds**, assisted by **Bishop John Packer**, who is the **Chaplain for York Province Mothers' Union**. **Mrs Harper**, who spoke at the recent **General Synod** in York to much acclaim, gave a challenging and inspirational address, and said, "I stand here on behalf of all members who have benefitted from your generous giving and faithful prayers over the decades, to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart. You have made a difference in the lives of so many."

Mrs Harper, as a Physiotherapist, opened & managed new Physiotherapy departments in hospitals across Guyana, and lectured for the **Rehabilitation Therapists Training Programme** on behalf of the Government. She has been a member of Mothers' Union since 1987 For the last 17 years has devoted herself to serving the organisation at Parish, Diocesan, Provincial and Worldwide levels. She has visited many countries on behalf of **Mothers' Union**, primarily as the **Worldwide Parenting Programme Trainer**. She has regularly been asked to speak, and advise Governments regionally, on matters relating to the family & the reduction of violence in the home. Personally, I found her sermon utterly inspiring, as she shared stories of answering the call – against the advice of her bishop, on grounds of risk - from remote rural communities to establish **Mothers' Union** branches in new areas. Those visits were then followed up by government agencies to establish schools, medical centres, etc, and led to a new flourishing of the churches. The **Mothers' Union** is a 4 million-strong global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families & advocate for

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change. If you would like to find out more about the **Mothers' Union**, its campaigns for justice, the free '**Away From it All**' (**AFIA**) holidays for those in need, items for sale (incl. Christmas cards and gifts) & local activities, see our website: <https://www.mothersunion.org/> or speak to me.



Alpha: Following our enjoyable **Away Day** last weekend, attended by 18 of us, our **Alpha** series continues tomorrow at 7pm with **Session 9**, with the title, '**How can I resist evil?**'

This afternoon: St Cuthbert's Christmas Fair

Do come along to support our St Cuthbert's Christmas Fair between 2 & 5pm. We are still looking for donations for the raffle, tombola and cake stall; and volunteers to help! Please speak to **Marie** directly.

Dates for the Diary:

Weds 4th December, 7pm **Brompton Ladies' Choir Concert** at St John's, Hipswell. £5/ticket. Do come along and support this excellent annual fundraising event. We're asking for bottles of red wine for the mulled wine, and items for the tombola and raffle, please. Contact: –Tel: 832457.



Christingles: These will be at **St Cuthbert's** on Sunday 15th Dec, 4pm, and at **St John's**, on Tuesday 17th Dec, at 6pm. These are annual celebrations, and all monies raised go to support the valuable work of **The Children's Society**. The collection boxes are *now available*. Why not start *today*?

This week in the Parish:

Mon: 10am **Funeral of Betty Hobson** St John's
7pm **Alpha Session 9** St Cuthbert's Community Hall

Tues: 6-7pm **Warden's Hour** Meeting Room

Wed: 9 – 11.30am **Drop-in** – St Cuthbert's Hall
7pm **Cockpit Crew** meeting room

Thurs: 7pm **Prayer for the World** meeting room

Prayers For those seeking comfort & healing: Kayleigh, Katrina, Stuart, Lee, Eve, Shirley, Graham, Angelika, Gracie, Derek, Tricia & Pauline.

We pray for the families & friends of those who have died:
Natalie Harker, Ian Drew, Hazel Elizabeth (Betty) Hobson.

Next Week: First Sunday of Advent

St John's – 9.30am **Service of the Word**

St Cuthbert's – 11am **Holy Communion & KFC**

6 for 6.30pm **Advent Praise & Worship Service**