Hipswell Parish (www.hipswellparish.org.uk)

St Cuthbert's, Colburn & St John's, Hipswell, both aim to be: "A warm, welcoming church; open to the wider community; confident in Jesus' love and presence."



Feb 23rd: Sunday next before Lent
This Saturday, 2-4pm: Afternoon Tea at Colburn
Village Hall, to fundraise for the Natalie Harker
Commemoration...

As explained last week, we are grateful to Cllr Angie Dale, who has offered for us to hold one of her fundraising teas on Saturday, to support the costs of the Memorial Commemoration. We must provide a team to serve the teas, to take the money at the door, and to run both a raffle and a tombola on the day. We have a briefing during coffee today, at 12.15pm, following the



11am service at St Cuthbert's, to plan. We're also looking for good quality prizes for the raffle and tombola. If you would like to help, please come along to that meeting. We also need to get as many of our friends and neighbours as possible to come along to the tea support John, Deborah & Alistair. Please get it in your diary & offer to help if you can!

There's also a **Sequence Dance** that evening, again in the village hall, to raise funds for St Cuthbert's, if you would like to assist with that, please speak to Marie or Maureen. We're grateful to Alan for hosting & doing music for that.

Giving Back

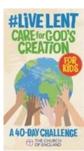
In case you missed it, here's the 'Giving Back' info we gave out last week:

Last September Simon Eastwood, our PCC Treasurer, shared with us proposed budgets for the coming year, together with the level of giving needed to make them possible, through the new 'Giving Back' scheme. Simon explained to us that St John's and St Cuthbert's need to raise £400 and £500 per week, respectively, to keep going. Simon tells us that we have made a good start, but are only part way there. So far, 15 of the 40 individuals and families who received his 'Giving Back' pack have responded. Simon wishes to thank everyone who gives to support either (or both) churches, and especially those who have been able to review their giving, as well as those who have been able to give regularly for the first time. He is concerned that there may be some who have mislaid the packs and may be wishing for another. If so, please do get in touch with him: treasurer@hipswellparish.org Simon, on behalf of the PCC, thanks us for our prayers, participation in the work of the Kingdom and in our generous financial partnership with our churches. As our gospel reading today reminds us, we continue to trust God and give him thanks for supplying our needs, and as church members we aim to give generously as we share in the task of growing God's Kingdom.

Lent Resources: To be used alongside Dr Ruth Valerio's book, 'Saying Yes to Life', the Church of England has produced some thought-provoking booklets, #Live Lent:

Care for God's Creation with 40 daily prayers, reflections and challenges. There are two versions – for adults & children. These are available from today. They are also available as a daily App for IOS & Android smartphones.





There will be enough for everyone to have a copy, & enough of the children's version for one per household. If you'd like to contribute towards the cost, £1.50 would cover it. We will be using these through Lent, and as a focus at our Lent Lunches

(Wednesdays, 11.45am, following the weekly Drop-in, commencing 4th March).

We will also be running a series of **Lent Course** sessions based on this material on **Monday** evenings, starting **March** 2nd. Please get those in your diary and come along!

Please pray: Baby Christopher Lucas' funeral will take place tomorrow at 10am in St Cuthbert's Church, followed by burial at Hipswell Cemetery. The refreshments will be served in St Cuthbert's Community Hall. Please continue to hold Ann, Mel, Jonathan, Skyla-Marie, Tiani and their wider family in your prayers at this very sad time. In addition to the normal retiring collection, there will be an opportunity to support the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle, via a collecting box in the hall, should you so wish.

Lent Course: This is for everyone.. Monday evenings 7-9pm, from 4th March, St Cuthbert's Community Hall: come along!

This week in the Parish:

Mon: 10am Funeral: Baby Christopher Lucas St Cuthbert's Church, followed by refreshments in St Cuthbert's Hall 7-8.30pm Supporting Children's & Youth work in Parishes Meeting with Anne Carter, Diocese of Leeds, for KFC Team Shrove Tues:

10-12 noon **Veterans & Community Art Group** in the hall 6-7pm **Warden's Hour**, meeting room

Wed: 9-11.30am Drop-in St Cuthbert's Community Hall 2.15pm Ash Wednesday Service Hipswell Primary School 7pm Ash Wednesday Service St Cuthbert's Church 8pm PCC Meeting Meeting Room

Thurs: 7.30pm Prayers for the World St Cuthbert's Hall

Prayers For those seeking comfort & healing: Brendan, Lisa, Glen, Stuart, Lee, Eve, Graham, Angelika, Gracie, Derek, Tricia, Ann, Jenny & Pauline.

We pray for the families & friends of those who have died: **Christopher Lucas & Simon Williams** .

Next Sunday: First Sunday in Lent St John's – 9.30am Service of the Word St Cuthbert's – 11am Holy Communion & KFC

Vicar: Revd Andrew Cromarty

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