

BARWICK METHODIST CHURCH

Valentines Coffee Morning

SATURDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2025

**Come and join us in the Chapel Schoolroom
Between 10 am – 12.00 noon**

Wishing you a

*happy
Valentine's
day*

**Admission £2.00 includes Refreshments
(Tea/Coffee)**

Cake Stall/Raffle

Everyone Welcome

**Proceeds to British Heart Foundation
/Building Fund**



Sunday 16th February 2025

3 BEFORE LENT

Septuagesima

8am Holy Communion

11am Holy Communion

Readings for week 2 of the Prayer Series

1 Peter 5:6-11 and John 11:32-36



The Graveyard

It is now time to remove all the beautiful
Christmas wreaths and flowers
from the graveyard.

Please use the correct bins

brown bin - flowers and foliage only

green bin - clean paper and card, clean plastic

black bin - oasis, cellophane, wired stems,
plastic shapes/formers , plastic bags etc.

Thank you



St James the Least of All
On the peculiarities of ordination candidates

Editor: The Rev Dr Gary Bowness

continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'

The Rectory

St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren



I was quite happy to see the young person from your church whom you are encouraging to get ordained – even though we did not entirely see eye to eye.

When I answered the door to someone dressed in T-shirt, jeans and trainers, I naturally assumed he was the gardener; it was only after I had given him the wheelbarrow and shown him where the spades were, that I found out who he really was. His assurance that this is how Jesus would dress, were He to visit in person again, jarred somewhat. I think that a three-piece suit and stout pair of brogues would be far more likely. We agreed to differ.

I was interested to hear that he was a church musician. Wanting to know if he sang tenor or bass, or even played the organ, he told me that he was the drummer in the

worship band and provided backing vocals. I felt obliged to comment that I was not sure how that would fit in with Matins, but he told me that he had never heard of that Service, and only attended Mega Rock Praise. Since I suspected it would not have been written by Cranmer, we moved on.

I had hoped we may have been on safer ground when I asked him whether he preferred early perpendicular or Victorian gothic, but as he had apparently only ever worshipped in your converted cinema, he was unable to offer any opinion. His reaction to my offer to show him round our late Norman church, prompted him to tell me that he believed all churches should be closed and people should gather in each other's homes, like the early Christians.

In a last despairing attempt to find common ground I asked him if he had ever preached. He was slightly apologetic to admit that he had done so very rarely, as he found it took such a long time to write an hour-long sermon. When I mentioned that I did not think I had ever exceeded eight minutes in my entire life, he gave me such a look of withering astonishment that with heroic Christian charity, I did not beat him over the head with the Bible he was carrying.

Your loving uncle, Eustace