

Monthly Parish Newsletter

Our Lady & St Chad

Kirkbymoorside, and

St Mary's Helmsley

September 2026



Mass times: all welcome

Sundays 9.00am | St Mary's, Helmsley

Sundays 10.30am | Our Lady and St
Chad, Kirkbymoorside

Wednesdays 12.00 noon | Our Lady
and St Chad, Kirkbymoorside

Fridays 12.00 noon | St Mary's,
Helmsley

URGENT NOTICE: The beech tree at St Chad's has been inspected and is dangerous. It is affected by disease and will need to come down. The other trees also need inspection. Until this urgent work is done, St Chad's house and church, and the grounds, are closed. **There will be NO MASS at St Chad's on Sunday 30th August.** Please look at the website <https://stchadkms.co.uk/services/> for further updates.

Fr Raphael says:

"Many thanks to Keith and Jane Jackson for their signage and help in cordoning off the St Chad's site after the news of the dangerous state of the Beech tree and for those assisting Keith in arranging for its removal. No one person should be working alone on these very serious issues. We must all pull together for the greater good and glory of God. So, many thanks to all who helped to notify parishioners of the situation and sparing them an unnecessary journey to the Sunday Mass. Let us all ask the intercession of St Chad and pray for a speedy resolution to this and the other problems we are trying to address. But we are always confident that we are in God's hands."

with prayers, Fr. Raphael.

Fr Raphael will be on holidays from the evening 6th Sept to 19th Sept. He will say Mass for us on Sunday 6th Sept but then Fr Douglas McKittrick will supply for the parish on: Friday 11th Sept at St Mary's, Sunday 13th Sept (both masses but Kirkbymoorside venue to be confirmed), Wed 16th Sept in Kirkbymoorside (venue to be confirmed). **Please note that on Wednesday 9th Sept and on Friday 18th Sept there will be NO MASS.**

Sundays (Year A) & Feast Days: apologies there has not been room for the feast days in this edition of the newsletter, but you can find them here: <https://universalis.com/100/calendar.htm> (select 'England' and 'Middlesbrough').

Thought for the month:

"Most people spend their entire lives living up to the mental self-images of who they think they are, instead of living in the primal "I" that is already good in God's eyes. But all we can "pay back" to God or others or ourselves is who we really are. This is what the Trappist monk Thomas Merton describes. It's a place of utter simplicity. Perhaps we don't want to go there because it is too simple and almost too natural. It feels utterly unadorned. There's nothing to congratulate myself for. I can't prove any worth, much less superiority. There I am naked and poor. After years of posturing and projecting, it will at first feel like nothing.

But when we are nothing, we are in a fine position to receive everything from God. As Merton says, our point of nothingness is "the pure glory of God in us." If we look at the great religious traditions, we see they all use similar words to point in the same direction. The Franciscan word is "poverty." The Carmelite word is nada or "nothingness." The Buddhists speak of "emptiness." Jesus speaks of being "poor in spirit" in his very first beatitude (Matthew 5:3)."

From the writings of Fr Richard Rohr

More information can be found on our website www.stchadkms.co.uk

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Events and Information:

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Mass online is: [Bishops' Conference Daily Online Mass Directory →](#) or [Ampleforth Abbey Liturgy YouTube →](#)

Saturday Meditation at 10.30 in St Chads House, Kirkbymoorside is suspended during August and will not restart until St Chad's reopens.

The Season of Creation 2026 (1st Sept to 4th Oct, Feast of St Francis of Assisi): Christian communities across the globe are called upon to unite in prayer and action for our common home. The theme for 2026 is "Living Water" (Prophet Ezekiel 47: 1-12). We are called to renew our commitment to God's creation"

Foodbank: Ryedale Community Food bank - please leave donations in the church porch; both at St Chad's and St Mary's. You can find a list of the most needed and preferred items in the porch. **Tins are particularly needed, please.**

Ryedale Catholic Parishes: updates will be put on the noticeboards.

St Chads book club will be meeting on 11th August when we will discuss "The Island of Missing Trees" by Elif Shafak. There is no book club in September.

Community Lunch begins again in September, every Tuesday in the Methodist Hall, Kirkbymoorside. If you feel you could help, perhaps just once a month - contact Julie Watson for details. Thank you.

Date for your diary: our annual 'get together' across both parishes is still proposed for **Sunday 4th October** - after Sunday mass at St Chads, provided the tree work has been resolved. **Please put this date in your diary;** we would be delighted to see you there – there will be tea, cake and opportunity to get together. **Also note that there will be no Mass at St Mary's on 4th October.**

For parish emergencies please phone 07944255541 or email raphael@ampleforthabbey.co.uk
If anyone would like the newsletter by email, please request via stchadsppc@gmail.com or ask Fliss. There is also a large print version of the newsletter available if needed - please ask.

Offertory Cash Collections:

June: Helmsley £180 Kirkbymoorside £216

July: Helmsley £186 Kirkbymoorside £248

Newsletter Items for October: Please send or give any items for the next Newsletter by **Friday 25th September** – to the St Chad's "Newsletter" box (back of church), Julie (St Chads), Fliss (St Marys), or send to stchadsppc@gmail.com

More information can be found on our website www.stchadkms.co.uk