

Revelation Chapter 12 verses 7 – 9

And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

COLLECT FOR ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

29 SEPTEMBER

Everlasting God,

you have ordained and constituted

the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order:

grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven,

so, at your command,

they may help and defend us on earth;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE BINSEY TEAM MINISTRY

(www.binsey.org.uk)

proclaiming Jesus as Lord in word and deed in

Allhallows, Bassenthwaite, Boltons, Embleton, Ireby, Isel,

Plumbland, Setmurthy, Torpenhow, Uldale and Wythop.

2015

CHURCH TO CHURCH WALKS AROUND THE BINSEY TEAM

St Cuthbert, Embleton

to

St Michael and All Angels, Isel

Distance: 4 miles (6.4 km)

Time: allow 2 hours

Grid References: start – NY 162294 end – NY 162333

Terrain: fields, quiet lanes, woodland tracks

Gradients: one steep climb, otherwise gentle ups and downs

Underfoot: mostly very good

Church Access: St Cuthbert – open daily 9.30 to 16.30

St Michael – open every day 10.00 to 16.00 during BST; winter Saturday and Sunday only.

This is one of a set of twelve guides to walks around the Binsey Team.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION: Italics are used for descriptions of scenery and points of interest which are not essential to route finding.

St Cuthbert's Church to A66 – ½ mile

Coming out of the church porch, turn right and go round the west end of the church on gravel, then across grass to a metal gate in the churchyard wall. Through the gate head out into the large pasture field bearing slightly right to pass between two large trees and across the start of a small watercourse where it emerges from the ground. Carry on in more or less the same direction going up a slope on the far side of the field to reach and go through a small wooden gate beside a large metal gate. Walk down the next field keeping near the fence on your right. At the bottom go over a stile onto the verge of the A66. WITH GREAT CARE cross the main road.

A66 to start of Setmurthy Woods – 1 mile

Take the minor road ahead, passing Station House on your right and Station Terrace on your left. *The names refer to the time when what is now the A66 was the railway linking Cockermouth to Keswick and Penrith.* Go round the bend and up the slope straight ahead, not to the right, to the road junction. *The road running east-west, linking Embleton with Cockermouth, was the A66 when the present A66 was the railway.* Cross over and take the minor road opposite which has a sign “7.5T Except for Access”. Go steeply (16%) uphill.

The gradient eases and the road bends left and right. Continue uphill. At the next bend, *pausing for a breather and to admire the views across the Vale of Embleton,* pass the Cockermouth Golf Club buildings on your left.

Keep on the road which now runs straight and level, then gently downhill to Rake Wood where it bears left and rises to a T junction. Turn left and walk down this road for about 100 metres to a sign “Forestry Commission Setmurthy” where turn right onto a gravel path.

Setmurthy Woods to St Michael's Church – 2½ miles

Follow the meandering path which becomes muddy, with some boards to help across the worst places, then rocky and rooty going roughly north at first. After a sleeper bridge over a watercourse turn right at the junction of gravel tracks.

At the next junction turn left, and at the T junction after that turn right and go uphill as the track curves to the left. At a Y junction bear right uphill on a broad gravel track between mature conifers. The track descends, bears left, then sweeps right. Ignore a path off to the left at the corner but at the junction just after turn right going downhill.

The track bears left then turns left more sharply, descending for about half a mile. Eventually the track levels out, soon curves right and enters a beech wood. Pass a metal vehicle barrier and immediately, where another track joins from the left, bear right downhill on a straight track for about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, *with views at first across the Derwent valley. Further on there are more views on the left and the distinctive pink tower of Isel Hall can just be seen peeping over the roof of the main building.*

When you reach a gate across the track, join the road beyond, bearing right downhill. At the junction signed “Blindcrake $1\frac{3}{4}$ Sunderland $2\frac{1}{4}$ ” with “Isel” added as an afterthought, turn left downhill. Cross Isel Bridge over the River Derwent.

At the far side of the bridge turn left, signposted “Blindcrake, Isel”. Isel Bridge House is on your left. *Isel Bridge House was the parish rectory until the formation of the Binsey Team of parishes. The house did not have electricity until well after the Second World War.* Beyond Isel Bridge House take the track on the left, signposted “To the Church C12”, to arrive at St Michael & All Angels. *Across the field on the right the pink pele tower of Isel Hall can be seen. The Hall has been continuously occupied since Norman times.*