

Lower Wharfedale Benefice

Digital Newsletter - Issue 3

North Ripton, Pool in Wharfedale, Kirkby Overblow, Sicklinghall, Stainburn, Weeton

Welcome To Our Benefice

If you are joining one of our services for the first time, please introduce yourself to one of the Welcomers at the back of the church. They will be glad to answer any questions you may have or assist you with any mobility assistance you may require.

CONTACTS AND WAYS TO GET IN TOUCH

Rev'd Stroma McDermott

Tel: 07791 499036

Tel: 01423 733341

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Rev'd Emma James

Tel: 07856 198293

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Benefice Office

Administrator - Davina Tyler

email - lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

For all Safeguarding queries and concerns, please contact our
Parish Safeguarding Office - Jeremy Cross - jem_cross@yahoo.co.uk.



Wishing you a Happy New Year
filled with love and peace.

Psalm 118:24: "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

May he come down like rain upon the mown
grass,
like the showers that water the earth.

Psalm 72.6

Church Services

11 January

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion.	8:30am
Kirkby Overblow	Family Service	11am
North Rigton	Parish Communion	9.30am
Pool	Family Service	9.30am

13 January

Sicklinghall	Community Coffee Morning	10.30am
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15 January

Pool	Midweek communion with coffee Wharfedale Court	10.30am
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18th Januar

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion.	8:30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion.	9:30am
Weeton	Parish Communion	11 am
North Rigton	Peace and Praise	6pm

Monday 19th October

Kirkby Overblow	Lego Church	3:30pm
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25th January

Pool	Parish Eucharist	9:30am
North Rigton	Family Service	9:30am
Kirkby Overblow	Parish Communion with Sunday Club.	11am

Monday 26th January

Pool School	Lego church	3:30pm
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The Servant of the Lord

“Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him,
and he will bring justice to the nations.

He will not shout or cry out,
or raise his voice in the streets.

A bruised reed he will not break,
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.

In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;
he will not falter or be discouraged
till he establishes justice on earth.

In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”

This is what God the Lord says—
the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,
who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it,
who gives breath to its people,
and life to those who walk on it:

“I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness;
I will take hold of your hand.

I will keep you and will make you
to be a covenant for the people
and a light for the Gentiles,
to open eyes that are blind,
to free captives from prison

and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

“I am the Lord; that is my name!

I will not yield my glory to another
or my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have taken place,
and new things I declare;
before they spring into being
I announce them to you.”

Prayers and Care

We are always delighted to pray or visit those needing support or help.
Should you wish to be remembered in prayer or receive a visit from the

Pastoral Team, please contact:

Rev'd Stroma McDermott - Tel: 07791 499036

stroma.mcdermott@leeds.anglican.org

We remember in our Prayers

Daniel, Francesca and Baby Jonah, Doris, John, Susan, Hayley, Louise, Ricki, Baby Rosa, Trevor, Bridget,
Christine

For the families of the recently departed:

John Dawson, Tony Hunt and Jeremy Braithwaite

Prayer for the Day

O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.
Blessed are you, Sovereign God, our light and our salvation...
As you call us into your marvellous light, may our lives bear
witness to your truth, celebrating Christ as light to the
nations.

Epiphany and the New Year



Happy New Year to you all.

I get quite excited about New Year and the Epiphany Season. Epiphany means revelation and I wonder what God has in store for us for 2026 and what He will reveal.

I know we have lots of things happening in the Benefice and I'm sure as we go through the year new things will emerge or we will glimpse new opportunities and new ways God is reaching out to us.

During Epiphany tide we get glimpses of the early life of Jesus and start to piece together who He is and what His life and mission will be.

And I guess the big question is will we allow Christ to reveal himself to us anew and what will our response be?

Wherever we are, city or village, busy street or quiet lane, Christ is revealed again when

We choose compassion over indifference,

We choose generosity over haste,

When we choose hope over fear, unity over division, kindness over meanness.

Christ becomes visible through us.

Epiphany reminds us that God is not distant; He is right here, walking our streets, sharing our lives, and lighting even the darkest winter days.

LET US PRAY: An Epiphany Prayer...

Loving God,
as lights glow in cities and villages,
be born again in our hearts this Epiphany.

Bless our streets and homes,
our conversations and quiet moments,
that kindness may come easily
and hope may rise gently among us.

Help us to notice one another,
to offer welcome where it is needed,
and to carry Your peace into everyday life.

May the joy of Christ
walk with us wherever we go,
today and always.

Amen.

Eco Tip of the Month

Look after your radiators - during this cold spell.

Bleeding your radiators – which means releasing air that has become trapped inside – can make them perform better. and be more cost efficient

Make sure you turn your heating off and that your radiators are completely cold before starting.

Then, lay down some towels and use a valve key to loosen the bleed valve. Listen for the hissing sound of air escaping, then tighten it back up once the noise ends.



Would you like to stay on our newsletter list? Or know somebody who would like to receive it? Please drop us a note at lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

We're excited to keep in touch and welcome new readers!



Upcoming Events

BENEFICE CANDLEMAS SERVICE

ST WILFRID'S
POOL IN WHARFEDALE

SUNDAY 1 FEBRUARY 3PM



WITH THE CHOIR OF
ST MARK'S
HARROGATE

REFRESHMENTS SERVED
AFTERWARDS

All Welcome

PEACE & PRAISE

A new and uplifting worship service

Third Sundays of the month
6-7pm St John's, North Ripton

Sunday 18th January 2026
Sunday 15th February 2026
Sunday 15th March 2026

An informal and sociable evening of
uplifting music, peace & prayer.
Coffee, tea & cakes from 5.30pm!

More info: emma.james@leeds.anglican.org

St Barnabas, Weeton, Community Coffee Morning

Wednesday 21 January

10am to 11.30am

Sleights Meadow, Crag Lane, Huby

Third Wednesday of
every month -
come and join us



Looking back

We held some wonderful Services and events during the Festive period. - heres just a few of them!!!!!!

Sunday 21st December: All Saints Kirkby Overblow thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful, varied Christmas Concert extravaganza from the Vocally Locally choir made up of individuals from the village and across the benefice led by the maestro Will Lewis. Thank you and well done



St Wilfrid's Christingle Service

Making Christingles at Wharfedale Court- thank you to our helpers, who also tested the sweets to make sure they were ok



HOW DO I MAKE MY FAITH COUNT?

Come along and find out...

Events 2026

10 February 2026, 7pm-9pm @Leeds Minster

Discussion Evening – Bishop Chris Edmondson will help us think about how we hear God's call

22 April 2026, 6pm-9pm @Wakefield Cathedral

Vocations Fayre – connect with people from a broad range of ministries, including lay, ordained and chaplaincy. Pre-event Choral Evensong at 5:30pm

13 June 2026, 10am - 3pm @Bolton Abbey Priory

Vocations Retreat Day – Spend time discerning with God and others whilst immersed in the history and beauty of Bolton Abbey

23 September, 7pm-9pm @St Peter's Huddersfield

Discussion Evening – Hear about real experiences of starting a new ministry for lay and ordained

18 November, 7pm-9pm @Church House Leeds

Discussion Evening – Hear perspectives on ordained ministry from the new and the retiring

For more details email vocations@leeds.anglican.org

Registration via Eventbrite

Contacts

Exploring Vocation Together



Jenice Guild
Administrator
jenice.guild@leeds.anglican.org

Revd Canon Sean Robertshaw
Diocesan Director of Vocations
sean.robertshaw@leeds.anglican.org

ELM Children and Youth Learning Session

We warmly invite all children and youth volunteers and leaders to our first learning session, where we'll support and celebrate the important work you do throughout the deanery.

This is a unique opportunity to come together and learn from one another's experiences in children and youth ministry.

We'll have time for open discussion and short, engaging spotlights on working with mixed-age groups of children and young people. If you have favourite books, resources, or websites that help you plan your children's groups, please bring them to share.

This gathering is a great way to gain new ideas, support each other, and explore future training needs. Whether you're new to children's ministry or have lots of experience, we hope you'll join us to share, be encouraged, and leave inspired.

To book your place, please email Gayle Bryon ELM Coordinator Harrogate Deanery gaylebryonelm@gmail.com by the 3rd of February 2026.