

# Lower Wharfedale Benefice Newsletter

Issue 11

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 any assist you with any mobility assistance you may require.

### CONTACTS AND WAYS TO GET IN TOUCH

Rev'd Stroma McDermott

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Tel: 01423 733341

email - [stroma.mcdermott@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:stroma.mcdermott@leeds.anglican.org)

Rev'd Emma James

Tel: 07856 198293

email - [emma.james@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:emma.james@leeds.anglican.org)

Benefice Office

Administrator - Davina Tyler

email - [lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

For all Safeguarding queries and concerns, please contact our  
Parish Safeguarding Office - Jeremy Cross - [jem\\_cross@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jem_cross@yahoo.co.uk).

UPCOMING

# Church Services

## Thursday 18 June

Pool	Wharfedale Court	10.30am
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## Sunday 21 June

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	08.30am
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Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	09.30am
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Weeton	Parish Communion	11.00am
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North Rigton	Peace & Praise	6.00pm
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## Monday 22 June

Pool	Lego Church (in school)	3.30pm
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## Sunday 28 June

Kirkby Overblow	Benefice Service	10.00am
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## Sunday 5 July

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	08.30am
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Pool	Parish Communion	09.30am
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Kirkby Overblow	Celtic Service	11.00am
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Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	09.30am
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Weeton	Family Service	11.00am
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# Readings and Prayer

Bible Passage for Third Sunday of Trinity : Matthew 10 :28-39

“Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell. What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

“Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.

“Don’t imagine that I came to bring peace to the earth! I came not to bring peace, but a sword.

‘I have come to set a man against his father,  
a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.

Your enemies will be right in your own household!’

“If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

## PRAYER

Lord, we pray for peace and reconciliation in our world. We pray for peacemakers, we pray for those who stand up for the rights of others, for those who stand up to the bullies and those who despite the risks choose to follow you and your values and standards. Help us to have courage to be people of peace, people who cheer others on even when they are different to us. Help us to celebrate your kingdom and all who love you and help us to put you first.

Amen.

# Reflection

As I sit watching the World Cup unfold, I find myself caught between two very different realities. On one hand there is the world of football. Flags waving, families gathered around televisions, friends debating refereeing decisions as though they were matters of national importance, and millions of people daring to dream that their team might just lift the trophy.

On the other hand, there is the real world. Wars continue. Families struggle with the cost of living. Illness visits homes uninvited. Politicians argue. News headlines often seem determined to remind us of everything that is wrong in our society and in our world, pointing out our divisions.

When Jesus spoke these words to his disciples, he knew exactly what people were like, what they were capable of and He didn't sugar the pill, but he did ask us to love one another, to pray for our enemies and to be peacemakers and perhaps as I think about his words that is precisely why events like the World Cup matter.

For a few hours people are given permission to breathe. They laugh, cheer, groan, and celebrate together. Neighbours who rarely speak suddenly become experts on tactics and formations. Complete strangers find common ground in a shared love of the beautiful game. An opportunity to reset our minds and our thinking, to find a shared hopefulness.

I must confess though to one small complaint. The match times are usually dreadful for those of us in Britain and most parts of Europe. Some seem to kick off at an hour normally reserved for insomniacs, shift workers, and clergy who have forgotten what a sensible bedtime looks like.

Of course, that is a rather selfish view. The host nation arranges things for its own people, and I suspect they feel exactly the same when tournaments are held in Europe and they are dragging themselves out of bed at ridiculous hours to watch their teams play.

Perhaps there is a lesson in that. The World Cup brings together nations, cultures, languages, and peoples from every corner of the globe. We do not all see things the same way. We do not all live by the same timetable. Yet for a few weeks we share something together even when we cheer for different teams.

In a troubled world, that is no small gift.

As Christians, we are reminded that God created a wonderfully diverse world. The Kingdom of God is not built from people who are all the same, but from people who learn to live, celebrate, and sometimes even disagree together.

So, for the next few weeks enjoy the football. Cheer for your team. Complain about the referee. Moan about the kick-off times if you must and let's not mention VAR.

But perhaps also give thanks that, despite all the troubles of our age, there are still moments of joy, moments of unity, and moments when the world pauses long enough to remember that we have far more in common than we often realise.

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." — Psalm 24:1

And tonight, somewhere in the world, someone else is setting their alarm for a ridiculous hour just to watch a football match. May God bless them too. 🏆🙏

# 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](mailto:stroma.mcdermott@leeds.anglican.org)

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## We remember in our Prayers

Jo, Carol, Mary, Susan, John, Trevor, Richard, Louise, Ruby, Colin and  
Graham

For the deceased and the families of the late

Doris Telford

For the couples who are to be married

Eden Greenwood and Robert Buck

### The Late Doris Telford

A Service of Celebration will be on Thursday 25th June at 10:30 am at St John's North Rigton with refreshments afterwards at The Square and Compass.

People are encouraged to remember the amazing life that Doris had and to wear something bright to reflect the joy Doris brought to people's lives.

There will be a memorial tribute to Doris in the next edition of the newsletter after the service has taken place to remember her long life here in the Benefice and the love, joy and energy she brought with her to the church, to the village and all her family and friends.

# What's happening in the Benefice

## *Emma James' Priesting*

You are warmly invited to my  
priesting in Ripon Cathedral on

*Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2pm*

and to join us  
for our benefice service  
at All Saints, Kirkby Overblow on

*Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 10am*

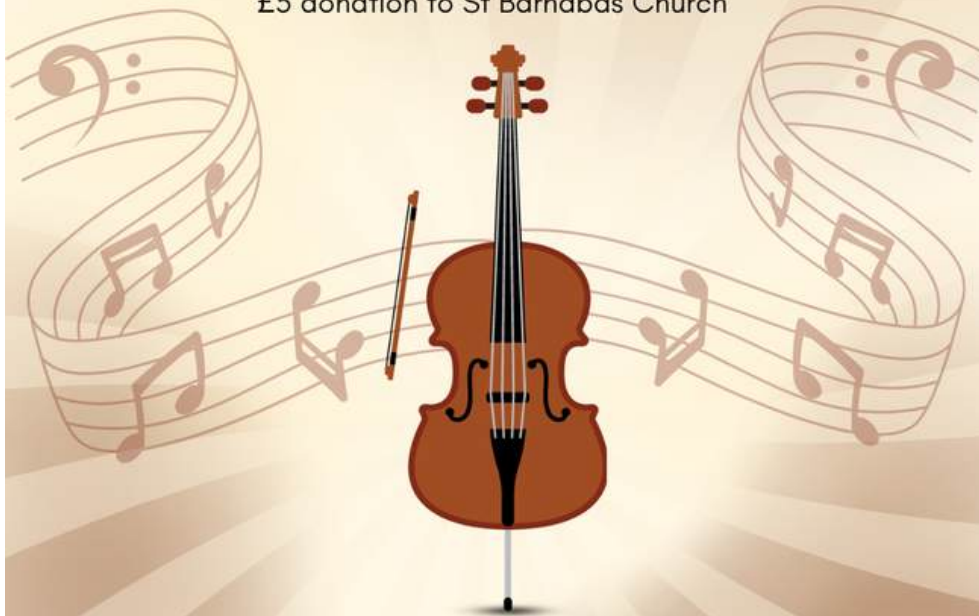
and afterwards for cake!



## St Barnabas, Weeton

### Cellisimo (Cello Ensemble)

A delightful Concert featuring Cellisimo - followed by a cream Tea  
£5 donation to St Barnabas Church



**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 3pm**



## Village Community Event

at St John's Church

# TABLE-TOP SALE!

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September - 10.00 am to 12.00 noon**

.....  
Have fun disposing of all those things you no longer  
require

**Bricabrac, children's toys, plants, tools,  
china, crockery, books, picture**

**No electrical items please**

.....  
**£10.00 per table**

**You keep your sales income!**

Gazebos and tables available or bring your own.

**Coffee, teas and cakes for sale**

To book a table contact us at: [stjohnnorthrigton@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnnorthrigton@gmail.com)





**North Rigton**

Village  
**GARDEN PARTY**

Saturday 20th June 2026

In the Community Garden 4.30 - 11.00 pm

**BAR - PIZZAS - CAKES - MUSIC - DANCING  
GAMES - TOMBOLA - RAFFLE  
DOG SHOW - PHOTOGRAPHER**

**\* CHILDRENS SPORTS 2.30 - 4.00\***  
Church Hill Playing Field

Sponsored by The Square and Compass  
Organised by the Parish Council & Village Community Assoc.



**North Rigton**

**DOG SHOW**

Village Garden Party  
Saturday 20th June 2026

**5pm Start**

1. Best looking dog
2. Most obedient dog
3. Gorgeous Oldie (over 8)
4. Best junior handler (under 14)
5. Dog most like their owner
6. Dog the judge would most like to take home

**\* Register at 4.30pm please**

Sponsored by The Square and Compass  
Organised by the Parish Council & Village Community Assoc.



**St Barnabas, Weeton**

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## Weeton Show: Sunday 19 July

Every year the Weeton Show celebrates our local community with a traditional village country show. There's something for everyone from falconry flying, to tractors and terrier racing. Or you could enter one of our many classes from horses to horticulture.

And if you don't fancy competing, we would really appreciate any help you may be able to give on the Saturday or Sunday. The show relies on volunteers who make it the success it is. Drop us an email at [showvolunteers@weetonshow.co.uk](mailto:showvolunteers@weetonshow.co.uk)- many hands make light work!

And that's not all, every year there is a hog roast on the Friday evening before show day – a great opportunity for the local community to get together and enjoy delicious food and the odd glass of wine with each other.

Please come and support your local village country show and the Hog Roast – you won't be disappointed!

Full details on the website: [www.weetonshow.co.uk](http://www.weetonshow.co.uk)



# Regular Events for your Diary

Introducing our  
**NEW** Family  
**service!**



A short, fun and interactive service for all ages!  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, 9.30am  
St Wilfrid's Church, Pool  
**All welcome!**

All Saints' Kirkby Overblow  
**VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING**

9.30am - 11.30am

**FIRST WEDNESDAY  
OF EVERY  
MONTH**



St Barnabas, Weeton, Community Coffee Morning

Third Wednesday of every month  
-  
Come and join us

10am to 11.30am  
Sleights Meadow, Crag Lane,  
Huby



## Sicklinghall Community Service

*Together in Faith, Growing in Community*

We meet at 1030am on the Tuesday following the second Sunday of the month (now that will have confused you!), we enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and cake or biscuits and have a good natter before turning to a time of reflection. The reflections take many forms, pictures, poems etc., and are a prompt for what they are saying to us. We end with some simple prayers and have a prayer tree for anyone who wishes to add their own prayers which are included in our Sunday worship.

All this takes place at Sicklinghall Cricket Club where we can enjoy God's creation in the warmth through the huge windows.

EVERYONE is welcome.

# Events to look forward to

All Welcome

## PEACE & PRAISE

A new and uplifting worship service

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

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026

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

More info: [emma.james@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:emma.james@leeds.anglican.org)

Everyone Welcome !

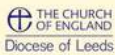
## PEACE & PRAISE

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Aug 2026  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2026

6-7pm  
St John's,  
North Rigton

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

More info: [emma.james@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:emma.james@leeds.anglican.org)



Loving.  
Living.  
Learning.

### 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](mailto:vocations@leeds.anglican.org)

Registration via Eventbrite

#### Contacts

Exploring Vocation Together



Jenice Guild  
Administrator  
[jenice.guild@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:jenice.guild@leeds.anglican.org)

Revd Canon Sean Robertshaw  
Diocesan Director of Vocations  
[sean.robertshaw@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:sean.robertshaw@leeds.anglican.org)

Saturday 27th June

Royal Hall, Harrogate

Time: 7:30pm

Tickets: U18s £5.00

£16.50 / £21.50 / £26.50 / £36.50 / £41.50

Reserve your tickets:

E: [cuorchamberorchestra.com](mailto:cuorchamberorchestra.com)

T: 01423 502116

Cuora  
Chamber  
Orchestra

Mendelssohn  
Beethoven  
Jack Liebeck  
27/06  
Soloist

*Cuora*

# From the Diocese



Over the Pentecost long weekend, 14 lay ministers from the Diocese of Hanover in Germany visited our diocese to meet with Licensed Lay Ministers and to share experiences of lay ministry.

The guests from one of our overseas link dioceses stayed with seven host couples, most of whom were LLMs, and visited a range of places including Mixenden, Keighley, Idle, and Little Horton.

They also participated in a Pentecost Orchestral Eucharist at Wakefield Cathedral and the Bradford City Park Pentecost Festival, and met Resourcing Church LLMs and Mission Apprentices.

Over the four days, the participants from Leeds and Hanover shared personal stories and examples of lay and clergy ministering together effectively, creating cultures of inclusion and hospitality across cultural and social difference, widening access to discernment and training especially for those previously excluded, and the role of leadership in communities that are seeking to develop shared communal ministry, amongst other topics.

Vera Pabst, leader of the group from Hanover, said, “Thank you all for a wonderfully busy and encouraging weekend.

“We were stretched in our reflection on church and (lay) ministry, and leave filled with ideas and impressions we will continue to discuss for a long time.”

Ann Nicholl, Area Warden of Readers and one of the hosts, said: “What a good few days together!

“I have heard nothing but enthusiastic enjoyment and learning from both the German party and our own contributors.

“And thanks for the good food!”

We hope to develop these links and conversations further over the next 18 months or so.

Anyone interested in joining in with this link is welcome to contact the Revd Canon Erik Peeters, Diocesan Lay Training Officer, at [erik.peeters@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:erik.peeters@leeds.anglican.org) for more details.

# Gardening Tips

Mid-June is the peak of the growing season in Yorkshire. To keep your garden flourishing, focus on water management (especially for containers), supporting tall perennials, and pinching out tomato side shoots. Deadheading spent blooms and harvesting fast-growing crops regularly will keep the garden productive and colorful all summer.

## The Flower Garden

- **Support Floppy Plants:** As tall plants put on weight, secure them with Plant Supports such as bamboo canes, grow-through rings, or twiggy pea sticks before summer rain causes them to collapse.
- **Deadhead Regularly:** Snip off fading flowers on roses, bedding plants, and hardy geraniums. This directs the plant's energy into producing fresh new buds rather than setting seed.
- **Sow Biennials:** Now is the perfect time to sow seeds of biennials like foxgloves, wallflowers, and sweet rocket in seed trays. They will establish over the summer and provide an excellent display next spring.

## The Kitchen Garden

- **Tomato Care:** Check greenhouse and outdoor tomatoes regularly. Pinch out the small side shoots that develop between the main stem and leaf joints to focus energy on fruiting.
- **Earth Up Potatoes:** Continue to earth up main-crop potatoes by mounding soil around the stems. This blocks out light and encourages heavier tuber production.
- **Succession Sowing:** Sow fast-growing crops like radish, lettuce, beetroot, and dwarf French beans every couple of weeks to guarantee a continuous harvest through late summer.

## Eco Tip

You can save around £30 a year just by remembering to turn your appliances off at the plug rather than leaving them in standby mode.

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energy-saving-quick-wins](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energy-saving-quick-wins)

Take your phone charger out of the socket when not in use. It uses energy even when it's not charging your phone.

Buy A-rated electrical appliances whenever you can. They may be more expensive initially but you will save on your energy bills.

The location of your fridge can make a difference in how energy efficient it is. Make sure it is out of direct sunlight and not close to the oven. Keeping it against an outside wall will help the heat it generates escape easily, and always make sure that there is a few inches' space all around the fridge so that air can circulate.

Electrical gadgets are great, but the environmental impact of manufacturing them and disposing of them at the end of their life is high. Think before you buy more gadgets.



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](mailto:lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)  
We're excited to keep in touch and welcome new readers!