

CHRISTMAS 2025 NEWS

Please join us this Christmas at

The Fox & Pheasant, Armathwaite for carols

We hope to see you at the Fox & Pheasant on **Thursday, 11 December at 7.00pm**. Come along to join in the singing of carols and maybe have a glass of beer or wine. Come and share the Joy of Christmas in an evening of singing amongst friends and neighbours.

The Christmas Fair with live jazz music

Come to Low House, Armathwaite on Saturday, **13 December at 2pm** until 3.30pm. It should be a convivial afternoon with plenty of Christmas goodies to eat plus tea and coffee. There'll be the usual cake and gift stalls plus a raffle. Do come and join us with your friends.

Christmas Midnight

At 11.30pm there will be a service of **Holy Communion** to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The service will be held at Armathwaite Church and you are most welcome to join us on this most holy night when there is calm as God enters into our world with peace and humility. If you have never been to a Midnight Service before why not come along and start your Christmas with us – we would love to see you.

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

JOY



Booklet

We hope you will take some time out of the busyness of Christmas to read the booklet entitled Twelve Joys of Christmas which you may have received with this Newsletter. If you haven't received a copy, there are some in church for you to pick up. Try and find just a few minutes of calm each day to follow the thoughtful reflections, beginning on Christmas Day. This year we are invited to think about Joy: the birth of Jesus, worship and carols, but also the "other stuff" such as the tree, the presents, the food, the trips and treats. We hope you will find JOY in setting time aside to read the reflections.

Allison and Jonny

It was with great joy that we welcomed Allison in May of this year. Allison is now the Vicar of the Inglewood Benefice and is living in Plumpton Vicarage with her husband Jonny. It is wonderful to have them among us as Allison embarks on this new stage of her ministry.

Charles Ecroyd

It was such a shock to us all in Armathwaite and beyond as we learned of the untimely death of Charles, who was one of the patrons of the Inglewood Benefice. His devotion and support for the church will be greatly missed by everyone. We send our love and prayers to his family.

Open Gardens

This year, the event raised £3,000 which was divided between the Old School Hall and the church. We are very grateful to all who contributed to making this event such a success. This is the main fund-raising event of the year and contributes significantly to the running of the church. A great many visitors were delighted to see such a variety of gardens. The tea and scones also went down a treat! Thank you to everyone involved in any way.

Next year's event will be held on the weekend of **27 and 28 June**.

JOY

Messy Church is here!

It has been a really successful year - Messy Church is definitely alive! Many families have joined us throughout the year and it's been great to welcome everyone. Why not come along and join in the fun on **Sunday, 4 January from 11.30am until 1.00pm at Armathwaite Old School Hall?** There will be singing, stories, crafts, activities and food. The event is free (for all ages), but **please book** your place in advance, by contacting Sian Banks on 07881808679.



Harvest Supper

Almost fifty people gathered in the Old School Hall to enjoy a lovely evening with friends and neighbours from around the village. The food was delicious and there was lots of lively chatter during the evening. The event was held in aid of the Bishop's Harvest Appeal for which £586 was raised. Thank you to all those who contributed to the event by helping, making food, donating and being there!

Thank you

We continue to collect and deliver donations of food to the Carlisle Foodbank and are extremely grateful to all those who donate so generously. If you can support this much needed cause, please leave donations in the box at the back of church or on the driveway at 8 Mill Brow. You can view the "shopping list" supplied by Carlisle Foodbank for ideas of things they would appreciate by visiting <https://www.carlislefoodbank.org.uk/donate-food>

*If you have any queries or questions
please contact one of the churchwardens:*

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WISHING YOU ALL A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS

Christmas Specials in Armathwaite

7 December	Advent Service of Healing and Wholeness at 5pm
11 December	Carol Singing at the Fox & Pheasant 7.00pm
13 December	Christmas Fair and live Music, Low House 2-3.30pm
24 December	Midnight Communion Service at 11.30pm
4 January	Messy Church at 11.30am to 1.00pm in Armathwaite Old School Hall

For more information visit: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12301/



Christmas Specials around the Inglewood Group

14 December	Messy Nativity starting in Ainstable Church Hall at 3pm bring your nativity costume if you've got one and a torch ready to walk with the donkey up to church for carols, stories about the nativity, followed by a drink and cake.
17 December	Carol Service at Ainstable at 7.30pm
19 December	Big Christmas Singalong, High Hesket 7.00pm
21 December	Carol Service, High Hesket 11.00am
24 December	Christingle Service, Calthwaite 4.30pm Midnight Mass, Armathwaite 11.30pm

The above may be subject to change - please check with noticeboards

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