

February 2026

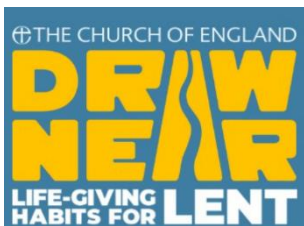
# River Idle Churches

BAWTRY, AUSTERFIELD, MISSON,  
EVERTON & MATTERSEY

## What's Happening in February. . .

- **Youth Alpha** for Older Kids, Bawtry Church Hall, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>, 4.00 – 6.00pm
- **Nourish**, Bawtry Church Hall, Mondays 11.30am -1.00pm, soup, cake and chat
- **Little Lambs**, Bawtry Church Hall, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9.30 - 11.30am, then every Tuesday during term time
- **Misson Messy Church**, Misson Parish Hall, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, 3.30 - 5.30pm
- **Little Lambs**, Everton, Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, 9.30 -11.30am, then every Friday during term time
- **Carpenter's Arms Pop Up Pub Quiz**, Mattersey Church Hall, Monday 9<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm
- **Craft & Chat**, Mattersey Church Hall, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, 1.30 - 3.30pm
- **Pancake Party**, Bawtry Church Hall, Shrove Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>, 10.00 am – 12noon
- **St John's Community Café on Tour**, Misson Parish Hall, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am
- **Joint Council Meeting**, Bawtry Church Hall, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>, 7.30 – 9.00pm
- **The Bible Course – Lent Study**, Bawtry Church Hall, from 26<sup>th</sup>, 7.00 – 9.00pm

The Church of  
England's theme for  
Lent 2026 is **Draw  
Near: Life-giving  
habits for Lent.**



If you have a smart phone, download the Everyday Faith app, for guided reflections through Lent.

This year the focus is on the 'rhythm of life' habits and patterns which help us grow as disciples of Christ day-by-day, as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of God's saving love at Easter. Teaching us how we can cultivate the habits and practices that will draw us nearer to God. And as we do, God will draw nearer to us. During Lent, reflections centre on six activities in our calling as disciples: **worshipping** together, **praying**, **exploring the Bible**, sharing **communion**, offering **service** and **sharing the good news** with others.

## Starting in Lent The Bible Course



FROM 26TH FEBRUARY, RUNNING OVER  
EIGHT SESSIONS, JOURNEY FROM GENESIS  
TO REVELATION AND GAIN A DEEPER  
UNDERSTANDING OF THE BIBLE

**To book a place, please e-mail  
[revbeckyhancock@gmail.com](mailto:revbeckyhancock@gmail.com)  
or ring 01302 218 308**



**Pancake Party 10am - 12noon**  
**Shrove Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
St Nic's Church Hall, Bawtry



Join us for a morning of fun, food, friendship and pancakes, with games, as we look at the meaning of Shrove Tuesday.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Suggested donation of £1 per child.

Contact Di Grice. Details on last page.

**Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**

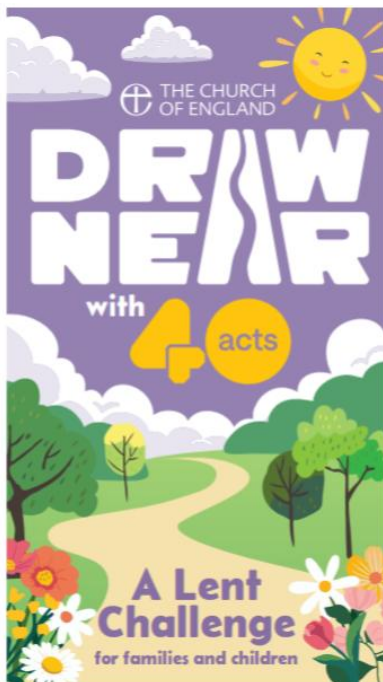
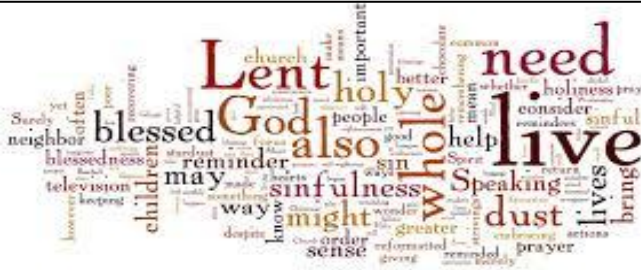
**Communion Service**

7.30pm, St Nic's Bawtry

Come to a quiet, reflective service to mark the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period leading up to Easter.

Lent is a time to consider being more intentional about giving your time and priorities to God, whether through prayer, acts of kindness, taking up something new or giving something up.

Lent isn't about self-denial, it's about renewal and a chance to reset, refocus and prepare for the joy of Easter.



Di Grice, Children and Families Lead, would like to encourage our Children & Young People to explore the life-giving habit of generosity with The Lent Challenge of 40 Acts

~ simple acts of kindness ~ daily Bible reading ~  
~ reflections ~ and ~ prayer ~ during Lent from  
Wednesday 18th February to Easter Day.

There are booklets, wall charts and all kinds of other resources available.

So why not sign up too and join us?

Find out more via the Church of England website

[cofe.io/DrawNear](https://cofe.io/DrawNear)

### HOME GROUPS

These are the home groups meeting across the Benefice. **Becky's** fortnightly on a Wednesday evening. **Jean's** weekly on a Wednesday morning. **Barbara's** fortnightly, on a Thursday morning. **Paul's** fortnightly in Everton. The current Alpha Group, will become a new home group, meeting fortnightly on a Wednesday evening in Mattersey.

If you are interested in joining a Home Group, please talk to Becky.

### LEAVING A LEGACY

Each year, around 4,000 people leave a gift in their will to their church. This helps to fund mission projects, maintain beautiful church buildings and helps faithful communities to grow. For many people, leaving a gift in their will is a final opportunity to make a lasting gift to God. No matter how large or small, every gift, in every will, makes a big difference.

This is something for each of us to prayerfully consider.

## February 2026 - Services across the River Idle Benefice

1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	1 Cor 1:18-end  John 2: 1-11
	11.15am	All Saints, Mattersey	Holy Communion	
8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	Romans 8: 18-25  Matt 6: 25-end
	11.15am	Holy Trinity, Everton	Holy Communion	
	6.00pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Evensong	
15 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	St Helena's, Austerfield	Morning Prayer	2 Peter 1: 16-end  Matt 17: 1-9
	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Benefice Family Communion at Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	
18 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 Matt 6: 1-6, 16-21
22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	Romans 5: 12-19  Matt 4: 1-11
	11.15am	St John the Baptist Misson	Holy Communion	
	6.00pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Evensong	

There is a service of Holy Communion every Thursday morning  
at 9.30am in St Nicholas' Church, Bawtry

Every Monday morning at 9.00 am, we meet in one of our churches across the Benefice  
to pray for our communities. You are most welcome to join us

1<sup>st</sup> Monday - Mattersey    2<sup>nd</sup> Monday - Everton  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday - Bawtry    4<sup>th</sup> Monday - Misson  
5<sup>th</sup> Monday - Austerfield

### Nurturing Prayer



For centuries, God's people have kept the rhythm of daily prayer. As part of our intentional focus around Nurturing Prayer, this month we encourage you to pause to pray The Lord's Prayer, at noon each day. This means you will be taking part in this ancient and shared spiritual discipline.

If you have a smartphone, you could download for free, the Lectio 365 app. Which will support and encourage you in your daily prayers.

“ Prayer does not equip up for the greater work. Prayer is the greater work”  
“ When you pray, you don't just ask for strength, you become it”  
“ Let go and let God”



## Who's Who:



**Vicar: Reverend Becky Hancock:** 01302 218308

Email: revbeckyhancock@gmail.com

Becky's usual rest day is Saturday



**Children & Families Team Leader: Di Grice** 07748 804 080

Email: riveridlechildrensworker@gmail.com

Di's usual rest day is Wednesday

**PA to Rev Becky - Samantha Brazier**

01302 218308

Email: samanthabrazier00@gmail.com



Contact details for the Vicarage | River Idle Benefice

Telephone with answer machine: **01302 218 308**

E-mail address: **riveridlechurches@gmail.com**

**Website: [www.riveridlebenefice.co.uk](http://www.riveridlebenefice.co.uk)**

### Churchwardens

Bawtry Chris Grice | Chris Eyes

Austerfield Kay Beckett | Samantha Brazier

Misson Anne Rowe | Peter Edwards

Everton John Dunn | Vacant

Mattersey Currently Vacant

If you're interested in becoming a Churchwarden at Mattersey or Everton, we would like to hear from you: e-mail: riveridlechurches@gmail.com

### Retired Clergy:

Reverend Jean Tomlinson

Reverend Richard Spray

**Reader:** Paul Kirby



Find us on Facebook:

The River Idle Benefice  
Churches

and Individual Pages for:

St Nicholas, Bawtry

Holy Trinity, Everton

St Helena's, Austerfield

St John the Baptist, Misson

### Treasurers - Contact Information

<u>Bawtry w Austerfield</u> Peter Eggleston	01302 710 948	peter.eggleston@btinternet.com
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<u>Misson</u> - Susan Howard	01302 719 113	suehowardsusan@aol.co.uk
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<u>Everton</u> - Jean Winder	01777 817 777	sleepyjeantaxis@gmail.com
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<u>Mattersey</u> - Chris Hull	01777 816 858	cpahull@btinternet.com
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