

March 2026

River Idle Churches

BAWTRY, AUSTERFIELD, MISSON,
EVERTON & MATTERSEY

What's Happening in March. . .

Youth Alpha for Older Kids, Bawtry Church Hall, Sunday 1st, 4.00 – 6.00pm,,
Nourish, Bawtry Church Hall, Mondays 11.30am -1.00pm, soup, cake and chat

Misson PCC, Monday 2nd, 7.00 – 9.00pm

Little Lambs, Bawtry Church Hall, Tuesday 3rd, 9.30 - 11.30am, then every Tuesday during term time

Everton PCC, Tuesday 3rd, 1.00 – 3.00pm

Misson Messy Church, Misson Parish Hall, Thursday 5th, 3.30 - 5.30pm

The Bible Course, Bawtry Church Hall, weekly on a Thursday, 7.00 - 9.00pm

Little Lambs, Everton, Friday 6th, 9.30 -11.30am, then every Friday during term time

Carpenter's Arms Pop Up Pub Quiz, Mattersey Church Hall, Monday 9th, 7.30pm

Craft & Chat, Mattersey Church Hall, Tuesday 10th, 1.30 - 3.30pm

Bawtry with Austerfield PCC, Tuesday 10th, 7.30 – 9.30pm

Mattersey PCC, Tuesday 17th, 11.30 – 1.30pm

St John's Community Café on Tour, Misson Parish Hall, Friday 20th from 9am

Ukulele Concert by Tyram, St John the Baptist Church Misson, Sat 21st, 7.00pm

Fact File: What is Palm Sunday - this year on 29th March



- Why do churchgoers carry palm crosses?
 - Why will there be processions?
- Why will donkeys be seen in churches and cathedrals?

Celebrated one week before Easter Day, it marks Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, on a donkey, an event recorded in all four Gospels. The crowds waved palm branches and shouted "Hosanna!" an exclamation of praise.

Palm branches were widely associated with victory and triumph during the time in which Jesus lived. People also laid their cloaks on the ground, a sign of respect and honour for someone of great importance. To mark this, Palm Sunday is often celebrated with a procession through the streets near a cathedral or church, where congregations carry palm branches or other greenery, sometimes decorated with flowers. Some churches or cathedrals even involve a real donkey in their procession, to mark the role of the animal which carried Jesus.

In our Benefice we welcome our Methodist sisters and brothers, to join in with our Palm Sunday Service each year.

Palm Sunday is a time of mixed sentiment because, although triumphal, it precedes the marking of events which led to the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus. It is a time for Christians to reflect on their faith and to prepare themselves for the solemnity of Holy Week, which culminates in the celebration of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus.

MOTHERING SUNDAY
15th March 

10 am at St Nicholas Church, Bawtry
Family Communion Service
for Mothering Sunday
followed by refreshments in the Church Hall

There will be an opportunity
to light a candle
in this service



Fuel North at St Anne's Workshop, for Y7 and above

What are you doing on Thursday 26th March, 6.00 - 8.30 pm ?
Fancy going with Di Grice, Children & Families Lead to check out Fuel North. There's games, fun and musical worship. Join in discussions about life's challenges, faith and there's time to ask the questions that are on your mind.
With time for prayer / bible reading, to help get to know God better. Have a word with Di, if you'd like to know more.
Contact details on the last page.
Transport is provided.
All leaders are DBS checked

CARBON FAST FOR LENT

This Lent, let's focus on God's creation and consider participating in The Carbon Fast. It will help us think about our carbon footprint and ask if / where we can make changes in our lives, and if anything we are doing is a distraction to our relationship with God.



With a different focus each week, you'll learn more, ask questions and focus in a different way: Sign up to receive a weekly e-mail full of facts, practical suggestions and prayers to lead you through the Lenten season. More information at the Climate Steward website:

climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast-for-lent/

Are you on the CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL?

If not, or you're not sure, please speak to your Churchwarden or the Electoral Roll Officer for your church: Bawtry and Austerfield - Robin France, Everton - Tom Swallow, Mattersey - Julie German, Misson - Elizabeth Smith.

Each year we need to up-date the Electoral Roll, prior to our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

The Electoral Roll is the parish church's register of electors. In the same way that being on the civic Electoral Roll allows you to vote in parliamentary, local elections and referenda, joining the Church Electoral Roll means that you can vote on Church matters, attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

To be added to the Electoral Roll, please fill in the form which is available in church, before the end of March and hand it to your Churchwarden.

This is one of the ways of showing our commitment to the church.

Now Is The Time: Vocations

Saturday 21st March, 9.30am – 2pm
Trinity Church, Nottingham

A day for those who are sensing God's calling, to explore, be inspired and open to take a new step in faith in response to what God is doing.

Speak to Becky and Book your place via the Southwell & Nottingham Learning Hub: learning.southwell.anglican.org/resources/now-is-the-time/

It Could Be YOU

How might God be calling you to serve in your local parish church? This might be as a member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC), creating beautiful flower displays, children's/youth work, churchwarden, prayer warrior or a number of other different ways. Please pray and be open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit, as we prepare to discuss this together, after Easter. Meanwhile, please note the APCM dates and come along:

Misson: Sunday 26 April, 12.30pm
Bawtry/Austerfield: Tues 28 April, 7.30pm
Everton: Sunday 10 May, 12.30pm
Mattersey: Wednesday 13 May, 1.00pm

March 2026 - Services across the River Idle Benefice

1 st	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17 John 3: 1-17
	11.15am	All Saints, Mattersey	Holy Communion	
8 th	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters with Baptisms and Sundayz Cool	John 4: 5-42
	11.15am	Holy Trinity, Everton	Holy Communion	Romans 5: 1-11 John 4: 5-42
	6.00pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Evensong	
15 th	8.30am	St Helena's, Austerfield	Holy Communion	Colossians 3: 12-17 John 19: 25b-27
	10.00am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Benefice Family Communion at Living Waters for Mothering Sunday and Sundayz Cool	
22 nd	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	Romans 8: 6-11 John 11: 1-45
	11.15am	St John the Baptist Misson	Holy Communion	
	6.00pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Evensong	
29 th	10.00am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters Palm Sunday Service with Communion and Sundayz Cool	Psalm 118:19-24 Matthew 21: 1-11

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

1st Monday - Mattersey 2nd Monday - Everton
3rd Monday - Bawtry 4th Monday - Misson
5th 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, 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

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

Bawtry w Austerfield 01302 710 948 peter.eggleston@btinternet.com
Peter Eggleston

Misson - Susan Howard 01302 719 113 suehowardsusan@aol.co.uk

Everton - Jean Winder 01777 817 777 sleepyjeantaxis@gmail.com

Mattersey - Chris Hull 01777 816 858 cpahull@btinternet.com