



**ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,
BRADFIELD**

Founded 1109, rebuilt 1480

Grade 1 listed building

Sunday Services at 10.30am:

1st Sunday: Holy Communion BCP)

2nd Sunday: All Ages Service

3rd Sunday: Holy Communion (BCP)

4th Sunday: Holy Communion (CW)

5th Sunday: Holy Communion (CW)

* BCP: Book of Common Prayer CW: Common Worship

Notable services:

Thursday 8th May **VE Day: Service for Peace at 7pm**

Sunday 8th June **Whitsuntide Service with Baptism
10.30am**

Events:

Church Open Day on 5th May: 10am – 4pm

Bank Holiday Monday **to commemorate VE Day**

Refreshments served 11am – 3pm

Bradfield Festival of Music: 21st – 28th June in
St. Nicholas' Church.

Why walk when you can run?

As a teenager, pounding round the farm in my too-short shorts, I gradually began to connect my sheer exultant joy in nature and the outdoors with the God of Life I had been told about in Church.

That came to a sticky end when I was cooped up in a rabbit hutch at College and told by the Christian Union that there was one very definite way of relating to God!! It was the gentleness of friends who taught me another – that of sharing and fellowship and fun!

And since then, every time one channel of communication between us has dried up, God in his gracious love has opened up another: the nourishment of Bible study in the loneliness of my second teaching post, and the beauty and freedom of charismatic worship for example. In Addis it was times of stillness and prayer on our early morning veranda, and over the last two years, you have been teaching me of the depth of meaning found in the BCP Liturgy.

Gary Chapman¹ reckons that there are five ‘languages’ by which we show love to each other -things like

¹ The 5 Love Languages by Gary Chapman

touch, giving gifts, speaking affirming words - and by which we show love to God. Most of us have one or two preferred languages which are our natural 'go to' means of expression - our 'default settings'. I still connect with God most readily through nature; but I am so grateful for the deeper, often more challenging channels of meeting in Him in His Word; through Worship; through Service; through Prayer...

Over the next few months I hear that you at St Nicholas' are experimenting with shifting Service patterns a little. My prayer is that, enabled to find God in whatever way is your 'default setting', we will all be enriched by discovering God in slightly new ways; knowing that actually, it isn't the means which matters – it is connecting with God, who is the 'spring of water welling up to eternal life' (John 4.14) which is what is vital, as is supporting each other in our varied means of doing so.

Revd. Sara

The Love Languages of God by [Gary Chapman](#)

Summer Sundays Evening Services at Bradfield Church??

We know that not everyone can get to Church on a Sunday morning, but also, that an Evening Service once a month in the peace and quiet of Bradfield Church could be really rather special.

The question is what? And what time would suit?

I don't want to start something unless I know a few folks would come, so if you think, 'Yes, this could be good and I could be there',

I would be very glad to hear from you

saragoodman@bradfieldchurch.org

07591 411950

VE DAY COMMEMORATION

CHURCH OPEN DAY

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, 5TH MAY

10am – 4pm

REFRESHMENTS FROM 11am – 3pm

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SIDESPERSONS ROTA

MAY

4 th	M. Sheldon & R. Pettinger
11 th	J. & M. Bird
18 th	E. Walker & J. Panniker
25 th	J. & M. Wilkes

JUNE

1 st	P. & J. Reynolds
8 th	J. & M. Bird
15 th	S. Barrand & C. Leichert
22 nd	M. Sheldon & R. Pettinger
29 th	E. Walker & J. Panniker

JULY

6 th	J. & M. Wilkes
13 th	P. & J. Reynolds
20 th	S. Barrand & C. Leichert
27 th	J. & M. Bird

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

Welcome to the Church Family

9th March: Alfie Charlie Kirk

16th March: Casper Beau Green

13th April: Laurence Alexander Cerrone

Funerals:

We offer our sympathy, love and prayers to the family of the following:

Church Service followed with Burial

4th February 2025: Dean Hinchliffe

A Note from the Focal Ministers

As many of you know, John and I work as Focal Ministers at St Nicholas. As Focal Ministers for the past couple of years, we have been responsible for taking some services and developing a monthly All-Age Service here. This is a service that is designed to appeal to people of all ages, with modern language and lively, well-known hymns to sing.

Baptisms (or Christenings) have taken place at St Nicholas' for hundreds of years. Our font, where the water is poured, is very ancient and is believed to have

come from Roche Abbey. Just think how many people will have been Baptised in it!

Anyone is welcome to be Baptised at St Nicholas' – babies, children and adults. It marks the beginning of a lifelong journey of faith and welcomes people into the Christian community. We believe that having the support of the church family is really important and, with this in mind, we have been incorporating some of the Baptisms into our All-Age service this year – one has taken place in March and two in April.

If you are thinking about Baptism and want to find out more, please contact our Baptism Co-ordinator, Sandra Barrand on 0114 286 2926.

Naomi Marples



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CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT 2024-25

Welcome to you all. Firstly news on a new Priest and unfortunately we have had three applicants thus far but none have proved suitable.

Reverends Jordan Betts and Sara Goodman joined us in May although the former left in November but Sara still remains and is keeping us afloat. Reverend John Barratt and John, Naomi and Jack Marples each take one service a month for which we are most grateful.

Carol Leichert, Mary Sheldon and Sandra Barrand continue to be responsible for weddings, funerals and baptisms respectively and we thank them for all their work. Thanks also to our organist Roy Chamberlin and his Choir, Sidespersons, Flower Arrangers, and Coffee Makers. Our thanks also to the Deputy Wardens, Sandra Barrand and Jane Gregory. Jane is also our Treasurer and it would be remiss not to mention her considerable contribution to the administration of the Church.

Finally our thanks to our Verger, Elaine Denton and the members of the P.C.C. for all their support.

The following events have taken place during the year:

March - Flood Open Day commemorating 160 years

June - Music Festival

Open Air Service in Low Bradfield

September – Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Concert in Memory of Frank Sheldon and Diane
Westwood

October - Barn Dance Harvest Festival

November - Ploughman's Lunches. Christmas Coffee morning

December - Handbell Concert

Administrative matters: -

Certificates have been issued where applicable:

- Heating serviced; Lighting tested; PAT testing; Alarms serviced.

Other matters:

- A new sound system was installed during the year and work to resolve difficulties continues.
- Plans for the long-awaited new kitchen and toilet are finalised and we expect this work to be completed during 2025.

John and I have been privileged to serve as your Church Wardens during the year. Whilst this is a joint report, it would be remiss of me not to record the substantial and dedicated contribution made by John in the day to day running of our Church for which we are extremely grateful.

On a personal front, I would like to thank all who have prayed and helped me throughout this difficult year.

God Bless,

John Barrand and Judy Hodson.

MOTHERS' UNION PROGRAMME

Thursday 1st May: 2pm "Our Mothers Union Branch".

Thursday 5th June: 11am Service of Holy Communion followed by Bring and Share Lunch

Thursday 3rd July: Hearing Dogs for Deaf People
An Open Evening in Church at 7pm for anyone interested.

Coffee Mornings are held in Sheffield Cathedral on the 1st Friday of each month from 10.15 – 12pm with Mothers' Union literature stall.

Mothers' Union/ Mothering Sunday

The Mothers' Union theme for Mothering Sunday this year was Give the Gift of Peace. Mothering Sunday is a time to reflect, remember and celebrate the Women who nurture and guide us. Sadly for many families around the world, home is not always a place of peace. Children often experience violent discipline or neglect. Most parents long for a better way – to create harmony, to teach love and to build a future where children can flourish. Through

Mothers' Union's Parenting Programme we are making that hope a reality.

After the Morning Service during coffee time we had a sales table with items to purchase and enjoy; also a basket for items to be donated to the Sheffield charity Baby Basics which St. Nicholas Branch of MU have for many years supported and continue to do.

On behalf of our Branch, I wish to say a huge thank you to everyone for the wonderful support received through donations for the sales table and items for the charity - everything but the baby! The amazing sum of £120.00 from sales has been sent for Give the Gift of Peace.

I share with you words of Mother Theresa of Calcutta: "God has created us so we do small things with great love." I believe in that great love, that comes, or should come from our heart, should start at home: with my family, my neighbours across the street, those next door, and this love should then reach everyone.

THANK YOU AGAIN,
Mary Sheldon.

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21st – 28th JUNE 2025

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Bookings via the website: **bradfieldfestivalofmusic.co.uk** or tickets from Cricket View Post Office, Café and Shop, Low Bradfield or The Old Horns Inn, High Bradfield.

News From the Bell Tower.....

On Saturday 22nd March 17 members of our team set off for the Yorkshire coast, armed with packed lunches and warm clothes. All of us were looking forward to ringing on different bells in different places and, of course, spending time ringing together.

Our first stop was the church of St Peter & St Paul, Stokesley. This beautiful church is just off the market square in the centre of the town. The oldest part of the present church is the Chancel and this dates from before the Black Death in the 14th Century; the Tower was added at the west end a century later. The heaviest 6 bells here date from 1885 and the lightest 2 were installed in 1988. They are quite light – the heaviest bell was only 7cwt 2qrs 5lbs (or 383 kg). These were quite a favourite of ours as they were so lovely to ring – and sounded nice too!

The second stop was the church of St Mark, Marske-by-the Sea. The church stands close to the town centre and adjacent to the 17th century Marske Hall. These 8 bells were a little lighter than Stokesley and actually 7 of these bells aren't very old as they were installed in the 1970s. However, the 6th bell dates from around 1410! Always such a privilege to ring a bell so ancient. They sounded nice but were trickier to ring than Stokesley.

Third stop was Emmanuel, Saltburn-by-the-Sea. The church was built between 1867 and 1869 and the tower was added in 1898. These 8 bells date back to 1901. They are very heavy bells with a long staircase to climb. However, they sadly aren't rung very often. These bells were very loud inside whilst we were ringing. The ringing chamber had lots of beams and you also see the clock faces too. One of our younger ringers challenged herself to ring the heaviest bell which is 23cwt 0qrs 21lbs (or 1178 kg) – quite a challenge but she handled it marvellously.

The fourth tower of the day was All Saints, Skelton in Cleveland. The church was built in 1885 in High Street to accommodate the growing population due to ironstone mining and replaced an older church in a different part of the town. One of the bells was moved from the old church to the new one. There are 8 bells here, with the heaviest 6 dating back to 1884 and the lightest 2 dated 1901 – I presume the old bell must have been recast. Again quite heavy bells with the heaviest being 23cwt 0qrs 16lbs (or 1176kg). These were more of a challenge to ring than the previous churches, but our team of course rose to the challenge!

Final tower was St Mary, Whitby – the magnificent church on the cliff top by the Abbey. It was founded around 1110,

although its interior dates chiefly from the late 18th century. This church has 10 bells dating back to 1950 and these were lovely to ring. We all enjoyed these bells and it was different for our team to be able to ring on 10 bells too.

Last stop was Quayside in Whitby for much needed sustenance with fish and chips!

Naomi Marples

Christian Aid

"Christian Aid" charity is just what it says it is. It is the Christian church reaching out to help some of the poorest people in the world. There is a growing need to help those who are affected by climate change ; those who grow their crops and care for their animals in a rapidly changing climate of increasing heat and lack of rain or, on the other hand, floods and rising sea levels. It is the poor who have no resources of their own that Christian Aid longs to reach and help them to establish new ways of making a living. You can see more on internet videos.

Every May there is a special fund-raising week. This year it is May 11th to 17th. You may have an envelope through your door or, you may want to give some other way. If you would like to contribute go to:

www.christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-to-donate?

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Coffee Rota

May

4th J. & M. Bird

11th R. Pettinger & J. Cass

18th G. Ogley & R. Wragg

25th G. & M. Vallance

June

1st C. & O. Leichert

8th S. Barrand & M. Sheldon (Pentecost)

15th P. & J. Reynolds

22nd The Panniker Family

29th J. & M. Bird

July

6th R. Pettinger & J. Cass

13th G. Ogley & R. Wragg

20th G. & M. Vallance

27th C. & O. Leichert

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CHURCH DRAW WINNERS

5th January 178 - Richard Panniker
 147 - Josh Marshall
 287 - Jane Morris

2nd February 292 - Alan Morris
 102 - Ethel Marshall
 124 - Glenis Turner

2nd March 196 - Joanna Hague
 269 - Mrs Low
 161 - Sue Shepherd

6th April 224 - Samantha Bower
 295 - Margaret Helliwell
 205 - Jenny O' Brian

If anyone would like to join the draw, it is £1 per month and is drawn on the 1st Sunday of the month. All profit goes to Church funds.

Ethel Marshall

Flower Group.

Saturday 3rd May

Decorating the Church for VE Day. 10am

All welcome to come and help.

Flower Group

Wednesday 21st May 2pm in Church.

Making a Maypole

Please bring a tray, small flowers and small pots to put them in. Also a stick for the centre pole.

Wednesday 18th June 2pm in Church

Arranging roses in your favourite container.

Wednesday 16th July 2pm in Church

At the seaside: - Please bring a tray and anything to do with the seaside such as shells, or pebbles as well as plants and materials to reflect the seaside.

Ethel

WHIT SING

***WHITSUNDAY, 8TH JUNE at 2pm in
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Sunrise.....

It is almost dawn. Already the deep darkness of night is fading over the eastern sky. Then, gradually, along the horizon, a streak of light appears, bright, red as blood. A new day is being born. The light slowly grows bringing light into the world. The sky is alive with brightness, red, orange and gold. The world is full of joyous light. A new day has begun.

It surely must have been such a sun-rise that inspired that great hymn writer, Charles Wesley, to write a hymn which many of us love to this day. But he doesn't just sing praise for Christ who, with the Father and the Spirit, was there at the beginning, creating this wonderful world which so gladdens our hearts, he rejoices also that He is the Son of Righteousness, bringing joy to our inner souls. See how he entwines these two thoughts.

“Christ whose glory fills the sky,
Christ the true the only light,
Son of Righteousness arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high be near,
Daystar in my heart appear. ”

But not every day starts with a glorious sun-rise that lifts our hearts. Nor in our inward, spiritual lives are

we always aware of the presence of Christ who is the Light of the world. So, Wesley writes,

"Dark and cheerless is the morn,
Unaccompanied by thee.
Joyless is the days return,
Till thy mercy's beams I see.
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes and warm my heart."

And so, to the final prayer, that Christ will bring his light always into our heart.

"Visit then this soul of mine.
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief,
Fill me radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief.
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day."

Olive

Do you care about the Church building?

Would you have a couple of hours to spare please?
We are asking if anyone would like to join the Church cleaning team?

We have a beautiful building and try to meet together when we can to look after the Church. It will not be a

weekly commitment as we all have busy lives.
However, if you would be interested in helping, please
give Josie a ring on 01142862059. Thankyou

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