

DECEMBER 2021 AND JANUARY 2022

VOICES

'FOR GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MAY NOT DIE BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.'

JOHN 3.16



RURAL AINSTY
A PARISH IN NORTH YORKSHIRE

THE MAGAZINE
OF RURAL AINSTY
PARISH

50P WHERE SOLD

COVERING THE COMMUNITIES OF
Bickerton, Bilton-in-Ainsty, Catterton,
Healaugh, Hessay, Moor Monkton and Wighill

Christmas Events and Services in Rural Ainsty

5 December, 4 pm Hedge Chapel, Old Hall Healaugh

Outdoor Christingle

12 December, 6 pm All Saints, Wighill

Community Carols

18 December, 4 pm St John the Baptist, Hessay

**Carols by Candlelight and Nativity Procession from
the Methodist Chapel**

19 December, 4 pm St Helen, Bilton in Ainsty

Community Carols

19 December, 7 pm All Saints, Moor Monkton

Community Carols

23 December, 6 pm St John the Baptist, Healaugh

Live Nativity

24 December, 2 pm All Saints, Moor Monkton

Nativity and Christingle

24 December, 4.30 pm St John the Baptist, Healaugh

Live Nativity

24 December, 11.30 pm All Saints, Wighill

Midnight Mass

25 December, 10 am All Saints, Moor Monkton

Christmas Day Service

25 December 10 am St John the Baptist, Healaugh

Christmas Day Service

John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh and lived among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

READINGS AND PSALMS FOR DECEMBER 2021 AND JANUARY 2022

YEAR C

These are the readings taken from the Church Lectionary and are suggested as read on the following Sundays. They may be changed depending on the theme of the service.

Sunday 5th November

Baruch 5:1-9 or Malachi 3:1-4 • Luke 1:68-79 • Philippians 1:3-11 • Luke 3:1-6

Sunday 12th November

Zephaniah 3:14-20 • Isaiah 12:2-6 • Philippians 4:4-7 • Luke 3:7-18

Sunday 19th November

Micah 5:2-5a • Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7 • Hebrews 10:5-10 • Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Christmas Eve

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8:11-16 • Psalm 89:19-27 • Acts 13:16-26 • Luke 1:67-79

Christmas Day

Isaiah 9:2-7 • Psalm 96 • Titus 2:11-14 • Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

Sunday 26th December

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 • Psalm 148 • Colossians 3:12-17 • Luke 2:41-52

Sunday 2nd January

Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12 • Psalm 147:12-20 or Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21 • Ephesians 1:3-14 • John 1:(1-9), 10-18

Sunday 9th January

Isaiah 43:1-7 • Psalm 29 • Acts 8:14-17 • Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday 16th January

Isaiah 62:1-5 • Psalm 36:5-10 • 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 • John 2:1-11

Sunday 23rd January

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 • Psalm 19 • 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a • Luke 4:14-21

Sunday 30th January

Jeremiah 1:4-10 • Psalm 71:1-6 • 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 • Luke 4:21-30

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Thank you to our
contributors this month

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE ALL OF YOUR
COMMUNITY NEWS.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE BY
CONTACTING LISA BROOKMAN, DETAILS ON
CONTACTS PAGE AT THE BACK OF THE
MAGAZINE

Christmas Tears

I am susceptible to shedding a tear at Christmas, just as much as other people. It may be watching a group of children sing 'Away in a Manger', singing a line from a particular carol, watching a Christmas film, or a whole number of other things that I know act as 'Christmas tear triggers'.

"Tears are a heartfelt expression of love that our mouths cannot say"

Christmas is a time when emotions are heightened, but I don't think any of us can say it's just because of this or that particular trigger, there are many reasons for tears at Christmas.

Christmas seems to stir something deep inside.

If we can get past some of our deep centred cynicism, fear, or insecurities (that we may use as a barrier to protect us from our emotions) we find, in both the tears and laughter of Christmas, something special.

I have an inherent belief that everybody, in one way or another, whether they know it or not, has a yearning for the other, for something deeper, something spiritual, something about God.

We look for more understanding about where we came from, what is our purpose and where are we going? This yearning is not just an intellectual 'brain fed' desire. The brain plays its part, but it is far more about our spiritual side.

That important bit, our spirit, that the world doesn't have an explanation for. It is really there... we are mind, body and spirit.

At Christmas, I think we are a bit more in tune with our spiritual sides. There is a blurring of the barriers between the physical and spiritual. We can and do move away from our self-centred, consumer-driven, physical world.

I know that at Christmas time we remember and celebrate the reality of 'God With Us'. God, bigger than the universe. God that reduced God's own self (bigger than the universe) to being born into a cruel and violent world as an innocent baby. Doing this because of the love that God has for each and every one of us.

Our God of love came to be with us for many reasons, not least for us to really know and understand that we are far more than just physical flesh and blood.

I pray that this Christmas you find time and space for the tears and joy of Christmas.

I pray that you have a growing knowledge that we are loved in body, mind and spirit and that in God's loving protection we are encouraged to flourish and grow with one another and God.

I pray that this Christmas, in the joy in the celebrations and through any tears that are shed that you see glimpses of a God's eternity and ours.

'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'

Revelation 21:4 4

In Christ

Richard



To the Saints of the Diocese of York

The Archbishop of York,
Stephen Cottrell,
writes:

Your greatest achievement

How would you answer the question once posed to me; "So Stephen, what's your greatest achievement?"

You might answer by saying "I raised a family, refurbished a house, turned a wilderness into a garden, or overcame an addiction." It's fascinating how we measure achievements. If only I'd had amazing hand-eye coordination I could have opened for England in the T20 and scored 100 runs in 67 balls (Jos Buttler). But it wasn't to be...

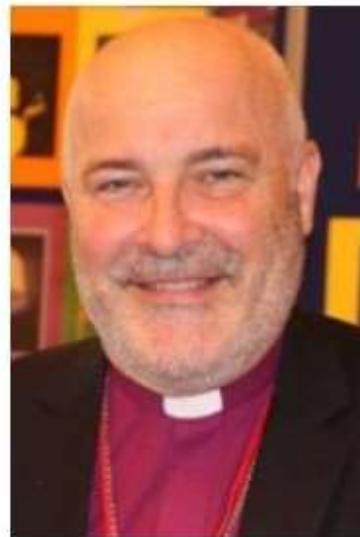
"So you are a king?" Pilate says to Jesus at his trial (John 18.37). Is this what Pilate aspired to? Could Pilate have longed to gain promotion from Roman Governor to King? We recently celebrated Christ the King Sunday and this was the Gospel reading.

Jesus, however, says to Pilate that his kingdom is not of this world – in other words it is a radically different kingdom from the kind we might consider an achievement. The values of Jesus' kingdom are totally the opposite. Success is sacrificial living, possessions are to be used and shared. Outward

appearances count for nothing - it is what's in the heart. The shepherd will search for a single lost sheep and the woman for a lost coin. And there's great rejoicing in heaven because the lost is found.

We're about to enter Advent on the way to Christmas. Worldly success and achievements are not front and centre. It's not the rich business entrepreneur or politician with the message to transform the world. It's a scary prophet whose home is the desert who has the message from God. It's not the A-class celebrity couple with the perfect family who have the answers. It's a man and a young woman who have a baby in circumstances less than ideal. And, what's more, it's the baby who is the focus!

I invite you to consider your greatest achievement as being a disciple of Jesus. And all of us as Church to measure our achievements by how faithfully we are Christ-centred and Jesus-shaped, living Christ's story, passing on Good News and rejoicing with those who find their achievements in God's kingdom.



+Stephen

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

November was a relatively busy month during which we walked alongside and helped many families

We welcomed and baptised Meadow into the family of God. Meadow's parents, Amy and Alex were married in Wighill Church in 2018. It was a delight to welcome them back and to celebrate with them the birth of their daughter and her baptism.



Sadly during the month we said goodbye and conducted the funerals of Janet Joy and Jean Gillam, both of whom had long connections with the area.

Janet was brought up and lived in Bickerton and was christened and married in St Helen's, her family had the garage and shop in the village. Her funeral took place at St Helen's on 12th November.

Jean moved to Healaugh Manor in 1976 and was part of the Parish from then on. Jean was a real countrywoman. Again, we said goodbye to Jean on 12th November at a service in St John the Baptist, Healaugh.

It was an honour for Nick and Richard to lead the marriage ceremonies of 'Julieann and Chris' and 'Sarah and Adam'. Both of these services took place on Friday 19th November.

Sarah and Adam's family have long connections with Wighill. Nick lead their service at All Saints Church.

Chris and Julieann live in Bilton and have been part of our Church family since moving into the village some years ago. It was a real pleasure for Richard to walk alongside them and lead their service.

Please pray for all those families that come to us and whom we serve at important times in their lives.

St John the Baptist - Healaugh, St Helen's - Bilton and All Saints - Moor Monkton remain open daily for private prayer during daylight hours. All Saints, Wighill is also open on weekdays.



DAILY PRAYER

Wouldn't it be great if I knew of a group that met regularly where...

- ❖ ... there was, without judgement, natural fellowship and understanding.
- ❖ ... in peacefulness we look at our lives, regrets and worries and give them to God.
- ❖ ... in a safe place I could share things that are affecting me and this world.
- ❖ ... we can reflect on scripture and what this is saying to us in our lives.
- ❖ ... we can sit in quiet and listen to God, sharing this with one another.
- ❖ ... prayers are said for our world, our communities and ourselves.
- ❖ ... we set ourselves up for the day to come or reflect on the day that is past.
- ❖ ... I can find a sanctuary, an oasis of calm for my mind and spirit.
- ❖ ... I can regularly know and experience God's presence in my life.



The answer to this is, that there is!

At 8am and 6pm, every weekday, a group of us join together on Zoom to do this. Many people just come along once or twice a week, some come every morning or evening. There is no obligation to join every day ... dip in and out as you wish. It is an antidote and remedy to this busy and often harsh world.

Just come along, we welcome everybody. If you want to talk more about this just catch Rev Richard or Rev Nick.

Zoom details are the same as those for Sunday Morning services ...

Zoom Access: <https://zoom.us/j/4933255609> password 750541

OUR SERVICE PLAN FOR THE COMING MONTHS

All Parish services will be in person and broadcast on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube (see details at the back of the magazine)

5 th December	10am at All Saints, Wighill
12 th December	10am at St John the Baptist Hessay
12 th December	6pm All Saints, Wighill – Community Carols
18 th December	4pm St John the Baptist, Hessay – Carols by Candlelight and Nativity Procession from the Methodist Chapel
19 th December	10am at St John the Baptist, Healaugh
19 th December	10am at All Saints, Wighill – Traditional Communion
19 th December	4pm St Helen, Bilton in Ainsty – Community Carols
19 th December	7pm All Saints, Moor Monkton – Community Carols
23 rd December	6pm St John the Baptist, Healaugh – Live Nativity
24 th December	2pm All Saints, Moor Monkton – Nativity and Christingle
24 th December	4.30pm St John the Baptist, Healaugh – Live Nativity
24 th December	11.30pm All Saints, Wighill – Midnight Mass
25 th December	10am All Saints, Moor Monkton – Christmas Day Service
25 th December	10am St John the Baptist, Healaugh – Christmas Day Service
2 nd January	10am St Helen, Bilton in Ainsty – 2022 Celebration
9 th January	10am St John the Baptist, Hessay – Breakfast Service
16 th January	10am All Saints, Wighill – Parish Service with Communion
23 rd January	10am All Saints, Moor Monkton - Traditional Communion
23 rd January	4pm St Helen, Bilton in Ainsty - Memorial Service
30 th January	10am St John the Baptist, Healaugh – Breakfast Service
6 th February	10am St Helen, Bilton in Ainsty – Traditional Communion
13 th February	10am St John the Baptist, Hessay

20 th February	10am All Saints, Wighill
27 th February	10am All Saints, Moor Monkton
2 nd March	Ash Wednesday Service
6 th March	10am St John the Baptist, Healaugh



Refreshments will be served during our time of fellowship following each service except Breakfast where it is before the service. We hope you will join us!



RURAL AINSTY



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT WITH NATIVITY
PROCESSION FROM METHODIST CHAPEL
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HESSAY
18 DECEMBER - 4PM



RURAL AINSTY

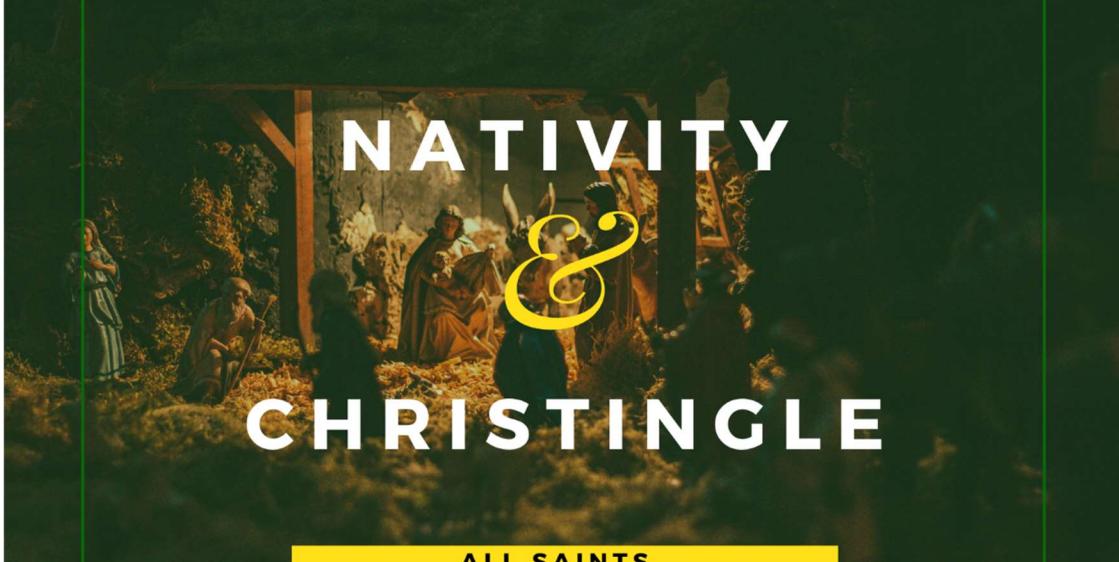
LIVE NATIVITY

23 December 6.00pm

24 December 4.30pm

St John the Baptist, Healaugh

RURAL AINSTY



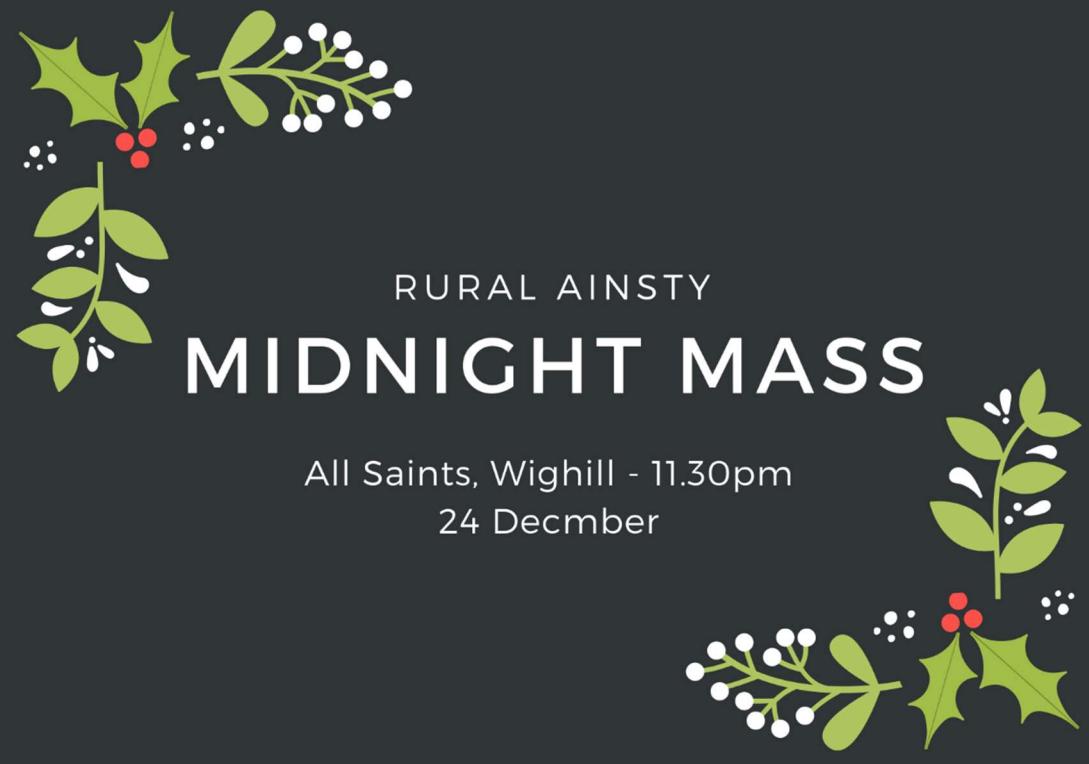
NATIVITY & CHRISTINGLE

ALL SAINTS,
MOOR MONKTON
2.00PM 24 DECEMBER

RURAL AINSTY

MIDNIGHT MASS

All Saints, Wighill - 11.30pm
24 December



RURAL AINSTY

Christmas Day

10.00AM

St John the Baptist, Healaugh &
All Saints, Moor Monkton

RURAL AINSTY



Always loved, never forgotten

Memorial Service

SUNDAY 23RD JANUARY
ST HELEN, BILTON IN AINSTY
4.00PM

THE GENEROSITY OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Do you want a Church here after 2023?

A few weeks ago, three people independently asked me ...

How long are you going to be with us?

My answer was simple “Well for the next two years, but then after that I am not sure”.

They then asked why. I answered saying that we needed to show ourselves as financially stable to justify a full-time minister in the area and to do that we needed to see an increase in giving.

Immediately they said, “How can I help?”

*Some give freely, yet grow all the richer;
others withhold what is due, and only suffer want.*

*A generous person will be enriched,
and one who gives water will get water.*

Proverb 11:24-25

In June 2020 the Bishop of Selby came and reviewed our Parish, our work and mission. This has brought about a focus on the way we fund our mission.

In 2016 I was placed here as part of pilot and example of how Rural Church communities can grow and thrive. To show that, contrary to a prevailing opinion, merger and closure of Rural Churches is not inevitable. The Bishop’s review noted how we have thrived and grown as a Church family (whilst difficult to put an exact number on this I think we have some 200 people who I would say are part of our Church Community). This is wonderful news and every day I am humbled by the number of people I spend time with and the ways in which God is moving across our Parish.

Nevertheless, the Bishop’s review was not all good news. Since 2016 a lot has changed regarding how Churches and Parishes are asked to be financially stable. The Church of England and not least the Diocese of York have, like many charitable organisations, come under significant financial pressure. This pressure significantly heightened due to Covid-19. Subsequently the Diocese are facing some difficult decisions.

Now, when the Diocese looks at each Parish, they ask two questions when considering placement of Vicars

- Is the Parish financially self-sufficient?
- Is the Parish in an economically challenged area?

With those two questions in mind the York Diocese helps each Parish understand what financial commitment they should make to fund the Church. Clearly it would be wrong if a Parish, in an affluent area, is dependent on the Diocese to fund a clergy post when at the same time economically deprived areas (e.g. areas in Hull and Middlesbrough) cannot afford to do so.

In the case of our Parish the Diocese have made it really clear and said that they will extend the funding of a full-time minister (or in other words, my post) until the end of 2023. As we are a thriving Church and are not in an area of economic deprivation, we need to pay our fair share. If we cannot do this several different scenarios may be considered in 2023, e.g., a part-time post or merger with another Parish.

What does this mean to our Church?

For our Parish to be financially justifiable we require some £87,000 per annum. This figure is made up of the following (I have rounded these figures for simplicity):

	£ per annum
Cost of Clergy post (including pension, NI and other costs of employment)	40,000
<i>Note: we are so fortunate that a benefactor provides a grace and favour Vicarage which reduces costs</i>	
A share of Diocesan costs for training future clergy and lay workers	10,000
A share of Diocesan costs, not least to support those Parishes who are in economically challenged areas	17,000
Total amount required by the Diocese each year	67,000
Monies spent by our parish, running the parish and five Churches	20,000
Total Costs per annum	87,000

It would be completely wrong of me not to be open about this situation, only to tell you in 2023 that I have been the last full time in vicar for the area as I am then moved on. I am committed to the long-term flourishing of our Parish and not for me to raise the subject of money would be wholly wrong. My calling is in building a Church for the future, not one just for our lifetimes. Decisions made in 2023 about our Parish will have long term consequences.

The great news is that people have been rising to this challenge and the gap between what money we have coming in as a Church, as opposed to what we need is quickly diminishing.

In the last few months, we have seen our shortfall drop and we are probably between 5% and 10% short of being financially stable. Our funding gap is probably about £1,000 per month but this gap is closing each month. It is difficult to say exactly as we are still seeing things get back to normal after the pandemic.

I am so grateful to many people who have started to contribute regularly, via a monthly gift, to our Church. The best way for people to do this is through the Parish giving scheme (see details below). An efficient and safe direct debit scheme, that most people now use when making a regular gift to our Church. The average gift to this scheme is £75 however many people make a gift of between £30 and £50 per month (this can be given as gift aid meaning we receive an extra 25% from the government on top of your gift).

You may already make a gift to our Church, however I am also asking for you to consider that gift in light of what you have read. Not least to move your giving to the Parish Giving Scheme, a scheme that significantly reduces paperwork and automatically pays our Church gift aid (as opposed to us sending in HMRC returns and waiting for what can be up to a year to see this money). More information on this scheme is attached at the foot of this letter.

Think about it, for what amounts to little more than £1 per day you can help by ensuring there is a viable and flourishing church, for you and the communities in our area, for the future.

A Flourishing Church ...

... that prays for you.

... is at the heart of our communities.

... that maintains our wonderful heritage buildings, icons in our landscape.

... that provides worship (on-line and in person) on every Sunday and throughout the week.

... that is there organising and celebrating our important festivals throughout the year.

... for young people, walking alongside them in their formative years.

... for families, being there, creating and nurturing fellowship.

... for important times in people's lives.

... provides comfort for the sick, the lonely, the lost.

... that has a listening ear, praying for God's healing touch for those suffering in body, mind or spirit

... to spread the good news of God's love for us in this world.

I pray that you find it in your hearts to ask the question "How can I help?"

Our God is a generous God, and encourages us to be generous, in body, mind and spirit.

In Christ

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard". A single blue line extends from the bottom right of the "R" towards the bottom left, ending in a small hook.

Parish Giving Scheme

On-Line

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/parish-of-rural-ainsty-tadcaster/>

Phone

Tel: 0333 002 1271 / Ref: 43A643014

PASTORAL TEAM

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34



If you would like a chat either in person or on the telephone, or you would like us to pray for you, please contact us in confidence. Any requests for support will be dealt with in strictest confidence.

No one else will have access to your information.

OPEN HEARTS AND OPEN DOORS.

CONTACT: REVDNICKG@GMAIL.COM OR
KATHRYNWRIGHT498@GOOGLEMAIL.COM

GOD CALLING GROUPS

As summer is drawing to a close and the nights grow darker and longer why not try one of our 'God Calling' groups.

What are they?

Fellowship is central to our faith and our Church. Fundamentally our 'God Calling' groups are about fellowship. To go beyond Sunday mornings and to walk together through the ups and downs of life and faith.

What do they do?

Our groups chat and talk through things relating to our world our lives and our faith. Importantly they do this in trust and confidence, in a safe space, where questions and concepts about our lives can be explored.

Where there are often no right or wrong answers. Neither do groups all follow a set pattern, each group finds their own way which is appropriate to their needs.

What will I get from these groups?

There is a sense of togetherness, support and well-being for mind and spirit emerging from these groups.

The groups help us to know that we

belong in our Church family, and we belong to God.

When and how do they meet?

Most groups meet on Zoom on various days and times generally in the evenings, although some groups meet through the day and in person. Generally, there will be a time and place convenient for you to join.

How do I join a group?

This is easy just contact Richard, and he will chat with you about what you are looking for and which group may suit you.

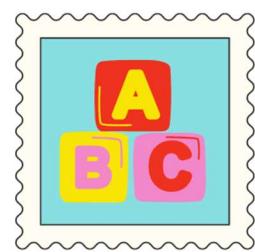
As with everything in life why not give a group a go, you have nothing to lose.

So, let's do it—full of belief, confident that we're presentable inside and out. Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:25 - The Message

With Blessings

Dear Parents, Carers and
Tots,



Your Tots Group is back!
Moor Monkton School Rooms.

Thursday's in term time!
from 9.30 am
Love from,
Zoe, Richard and Nick :)



Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer



Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer is a huge Christian landmark. It will sit in the heart of the UK by the end of 2023. The gigantic monument of hope will host a million accounts of answered prayer, making it the largest database of hope stories in the world.

Each brick will recount a personal, specific way in which God has answered a prayer for people both now and in the past, offering a vast amount of experiences all explaining how God has come through for individuals in the midst of life's storms.

We want to see Jesus' miraculous and loving nature celebrated through these answered prayers and believe that the one million testimonies will ignite faith, and belief in the power of prayer on a national level.

Our Vision

Preserve the Christian heritage of our nation

God has faithfully and powerfully moved throughout the history of the UK. He has answered prayers of people such as St Augustine way back in the sixth century, right through to the more modern times of WWII, when millions of people queued up outside churches to pray for the men on the beaches of Dunkirk.

75,000 'heritage bricks' will be included in Eternal Wall to celebrate answered prayer dating as far back as 600 AD. This is to preserve and remember how God has helped people all throughout our nation's rich history.

We have no way of knowing what culture and society will look like in a hundred years' time, but we do know that Eternal Wall will still be standing, and that people will still be able to discover its stories of hope, and see that Jesus answers prayer.

We know that we will have faithfully sown into future generations and shared with them what Jesus has done in our time.

Ignite a faith for prayer on a national level

You will come to Eternal Wall and be inspired by the fact that every single brick in its design represents a story of Jesus answering prayer. Faith or no faith, we believe you will be encouraged by the many stories of God changing situations around, and perhaps you will even be inspired to 'try praying' to Jesus.

You will have free access to the incredible database of one million answered prayers. Type in whatever situation or storm of life you're going through and discover personal accounts detailing how God answered and came through for many different people. We know that if He has done it before, He is more than faithful to do it again. Your faith will be lifted, and you will be encouraged to seek Him for an answer.

Reveal Christ to the nation

It is, we believe, a time for Christians to be bold about their faith. Around 500,000 journeys will travel past this monument every week, and we estimate that 200,000 people will visit the site annually.

We hope that as you discover the answered prayers and comprehend the colossal nature of what you are witnessing, you will personally encounter the God who answers.

Furthermore, we also believe that this project will embolden Christians to share their faith and their stories of answered prayer more freely.

For more information and to support this amazing plan go to
<https://www.etalwall.org.uk/>

MESSAGE TO OUR READERS



Dear Readers,



Where would we be without you? You are what makes this magazine special and unique! You are why this magazine exists. You are why I sit and compile and edit articles and adverts each month. This is your magazine. What would you like to see in it?



Over the last 18 months or so, little has been able to happen in our communities, but now we are beginning to open up and events are starting to happen it would be great to hear about them. Some groups continue to send me information about what they have been doing or contact details, but there must be more... Who are we missing?



I can be contacted using the details at the back of the magazine and I would love anything you have to offer in whatever format you have to give me. Please get in touch and make your magazine what you want to read.



Best wishes,



Lisa



VOICES FROM AROUND THE PARISH

HEALAUGH MEMORIAL HALL

We are delighted to be able to open our Community Café again

10.00 a.m. to 12 noon

Saturday 18th December

Bacon butties, tea coffee and cakes

Lots of lively banter, come and join friends and neighbours

All profits to charity

Also make a note in your diary!

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 4th December 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

Crafts and Gifts

Fabulous Raffle Prizes and Tombola

Light Lunches available

Everyone most welcome

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOLLOWED BY CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

Wednesday 15th December 12 noon at Hessay Chapel

Donations will be given to Action for Children

If you would like to attend, please contact Kathryn Wright 01904 738498

BICKERTON FESTIVITIES

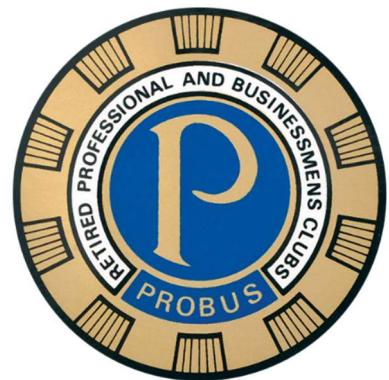
Villagers in Bickerton held a bauble making workshop at the end of November with a second workshop scheduled for the 5th December and a wreath workshop on the 30th November. Bickerton has its grand village light switch on Saturday the 4th December at 5pm with hot spiced apple juice, mince pies and more.... Santa comes to Bickerton too... watch local chat for more information!

Marston Moor Probus Club

At the Club's meeting on Tuesday 30th November 2021 Mr John Riley introduced Mr Jeff Jacklin to give his thoughts on "Retirement for Beginners". Jeff has spoken to the Club on three previous occasions, so members knew they were in for some amusement. Jeff knows about retirement having retired about seven times! He started by telling us that by next year one in five of the population will be retired. He suggested that retirement was for fun and that you should plan for it and know what you want out of it. You should have an active mind, so Jeff decided to actually *read* the Daily Telegraph and take an interest in politics. This was a mixed blessing as the big stories were all about Brexit not necessarily an easy subject to follow. This was illustrated by an extremely funny short video clip explaining the subjects of the EU, UK, Great Britain, the devolved nations, the euro and the Commonwealth to someone utterly confused by the end of it. As well as an active mind one needs an active body, so which activities to take up? Eventually Jeff settled on gardening but showed some more amusing video clips. Many retirees decide that they will travel, and this was for Jeff. His wife usually does the research, narrows it down to a choice of three and then tells him when he has picked the right one. Using video clips, he showed why not to choose a range of countries. The train journey in Bangladesh was quite remarkable. Finally, perhaps more seriously he said you should probably get Professional advice on any investments and your future income and above all do not fall for any of the scams going around. Jeff was then thanked for his very amusing talk. The next meeting is the Christmas Lunch on 14th December when Mr Alun Pugh is to talk on "Teaching, an interruption to my holidays". We will start the New Year on Tuesday 25th January 2022 with the AGM and "a local views picture quiz" presented by Garry Marriner, bring your own pencil!

Guests and new members are welcome, and the Club meeting starts at 10 00 with coffee on the last Tuesday morning of each month in Long Marston Village Hall. More information from the Secretary Richard Myers, 01904 738 507.

NOTE: *Members come from Angram, Bilton in Ainsty, Boston Spa, High Birstwith, Long Marston, Moor Monkton, Poppleton, Rufforth, Tockwith, and Wighill. We would welcome members from other villages such as Askham Richard, Bickerton, Bilbrough, Cattal, Catterton, Cowthopre, Healaugh, Hessay, Walton and the Hammertons. Come along as a guest.*



Food bank news

An estimated one third of all food produced globally goes to waste. In calories, that's enough to feed every under-nourished person on the planet. According to charity FareShare, over 2 million tonnes of the food that goes to waste each year in the UK is still edible and yet, at the same time, there are 8.4 million people in our country living in food poverty.

It just doesn't make sense.

We think we should all be doing our bit to reduce waste – and help others – so here's what we're doing, in our own small way, to help keep food on plates and out of landfill.

Our food parcels

A lot of thought and planning lies behind every food parcel. As with all Trussell Trust foodbanks, our food parcels contain at least three days' worth of nutritionally balanced meals for individuals and families. When donated food reaches our warehouse, each item is individually and clearly labelled by hand with its Best-Before-date. It is then categorised and stored according to its remaining shelf-life. Our code of practice means we never give out food that is near to or approaching its Best-Before-date and any items with a short shelf-life are sorted into separate bays by our warehouse team.

What happens then?

Unfortunately, for many charities and foodbanks, most of this short-life food will end up in the bin. Avoiding waste (like recycling) takes time. It takes extra volunteers and extra time to divert short-life food away from the bin and into the kitchens of the right charities and organisations. And if you don't know which charities near you have the means to use your short shelf-life food in time, then perhaps the bin is the only alternative.

Part of our role at Wetherby and District Foodbank is to act as a 'hub' for other foodbanks and local food charities. This means we have well-established contacts with several local and regional food charities who can take our short-life food and quickly turn it into nutritious and sustaining cooked meals for their clientele. We also have a small group of

volunteers who have made the delivery of short shelf-life food to these charities part of their fortnightly routine.

In the last two months, we've received 500Kg of food that is approaching its Best-Before date. Thanks to our relationship with local charities and organisations such as Resurrected Bites who run a twice weekly 'pay as you feel' café in Knaresborough, and St Aidan's Church in Leeds with their Foodshare Sunday lunches and a 'Food Bags on Sunday' scheme; we're able to prevent the vast majority of this from going to landfill.

Of course, wasted food isn't just a humanitarian or social issue, it's also an environmental one. Behind every wasted item lies a whole raft of wasted resources that were used to grow, harvest, package and distribute it. We owe it to our community and our planet to do the best we can to minimise waste and being part of a wider network of charities and groups helps us, in our own small way, to work towards this.

If you know any local food charities who can make use of short-life food, please let us know.

What's the difference between a Use by Date and a Best Before Date?

According to the Food Standards Agency:

Use-by dates are about SAFETY

Best before dates are about QUALITY

Use-by dates: Because they're about the safety of the food we eat, use-by dates are extremely important and it's essential to adhere to them. Foods with use-by dates tend to be items such as meat products or preprepared salads. As we have limited storage facilities, however, we don't currently stock any foods that have a use-by date.

Best Before dates: The best before date is usually written as BBE (best before end) and is about quality, not safety. The food will be safe to eat after this date but may not be at its best. The flavour and texture might not be as good. We don't give out food approaching the Best Before date as we believe anyone using a foodbank deserves to receive the same quality of food that they would choose to buy for themselves.

It's still important to make sure the food with a long Best Before date is stored correctly and that the packaging or tin is not damaged. Best Before dates appear on all the food items we stock, including all tinned and dried foods along with cereals and biscuits.

DONATE FOOD

Our foodbank relies on your goodwill and support.

Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks in The Trussell Trust network is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food.

Our shopping lists on the next page show the food items that we need right now and what we have plenty of.

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36

You really do make a difference. Thank you so much for your support. It means the world to vulnerable people knowing that there are people, strangers, that care. You can donate food at any of the local collection points detailed below. If you are not near any of these, please consider donating to your local food bank and make a difference.

Local collections for Food banks will be made at the following locations:

In **Hessay** this has now been moved to behind the gate of Blackthorn House, Main Street.

In **Bilton** donations can be left at disused phone box where Judith and Tony Holmes will monitor it.

In **Bickerton**, Teddy Edwards and Joyce Harrison at Manorlea.

In **Healaugh**, please leave donations in the red bin next to the gate to the Old Hall.

In **Catterton**, Lisa Littlefair's home, Wood Farm.

In **Wighill**, Heronwood, the home of Marian Pairman.

In **Moor Monkton**, The Old School Room.

These locations will remain open for the foreseeable future so if you which to continue to donate to the food bank on a regular basis we can do this as a community.



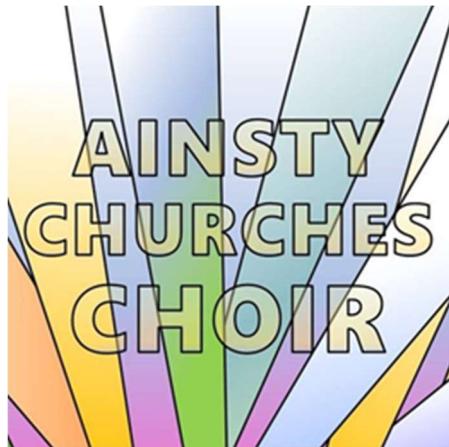
ITEMS REQUIRED

- LONG-LIFE MILK
- LONG-LIFE FRUIT JUICES
- SAVOURY SPREADS: MARMITE, PEANUT BUTTER
- SUGAR (SMALL BAGS PLEASE)
- HOT CHOCOLATE
- COOKING OIL (SMALL BOTTLES)
- SPONGE PUDDINGS
- SQUASH/CORDIAL (SMALL BOTTLES)
- VEGETARIAN MEALS

- TINNED VEG - CARROTS, PEAS, SWEETCORN
- TINNED POTATOES
- INSTANT MASH
- CUSTARD
- CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS
- YULE LOGS

WE HAVE PLENTY OF

- PASTA
- SOUP
- BAKED BEANS
- WASHING UP LIQUID



Ainsty Choir relaunched in September

This group of people meet every Tuesday in the converted chapel in Askham Richard to sing all sorts of good music.

Why not give us a try? You don't have to be good, just turn up (7.30 to 9pm) and be coached twice a month by a young professional choir master, who is a fine pianist and organist.

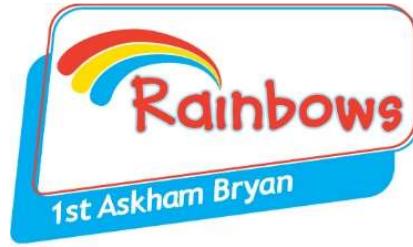
The other two Tuesdays, we sing what we like just for the fun of it. Anyone can suggest music and we will always give it a go to see if we all like it. We are a very friendly group who simply enjoy singing together. One of our singers accompanies us when our choir master is not there.

Once a month, we are invited to sing Choral Evensong or Choral Eucharist at one of our lovely local churches. We run through the items for an hour from 5pm and then sing them during the service at 6pm.

If you want to practise at home, YouTube usually has a video of a choir singing what you need.

A reduced choir has continued during the pandemic with Zoom meetings, rehearsals outside and distanced church practices, but we need your help to swell the numbers back to a well-balanced choir.

We need more of every voice, but tenors and basses particularly. Come on men - give us a no-obligation trial and see if you enjoy it as much as we do! Please give **Ann Watson** a call on **01904 738786** or **07896599198** or email her at **robnannwatson@gmail.com**



Rainbows - a fun and exciting programme for girls aged four to seven

1st Askham Bryan Rainbows usually meet in the Village hall in Askham Bryan. Members come from; Acomb, Healaugh, Rufforth, Askham Bryan, Bilton in Ainsty, Tockwith, Woodthorpe and Appleton Roebuck.

We have a waiting list for girls not yet 4.

Rainbows are getting ready for Christmas! We have yet to get out the glitter! Food crafts and Christmas cards have been made so far as the girls work towards their Santa Challenge badge.

Our very young Rainbows have settled well with the older girls really looking after them and showing them the ropes. We are looking forward to welcoming a few new girls in January too.

If you think your daughter might like to get involved, please get in touch.

If you think you might like to volunteer to help with Rainbows; shopping occasionally, looking after the accounts or getting down and dirty. There are so many roles, please get in touch. We are always looking for an extra pair of hands!

For girls aged four to seven – Rainbows is exciting, messy, friendly and a lot of fun!

Contact Lisa Brookman at lisa.brookman@hotmail.co.uk

Call or text 07979 505067 for more details and to register your daughter's interest.

You can also find your nearest unit and register your daughter here:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

You can register to volunteer here:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest/>





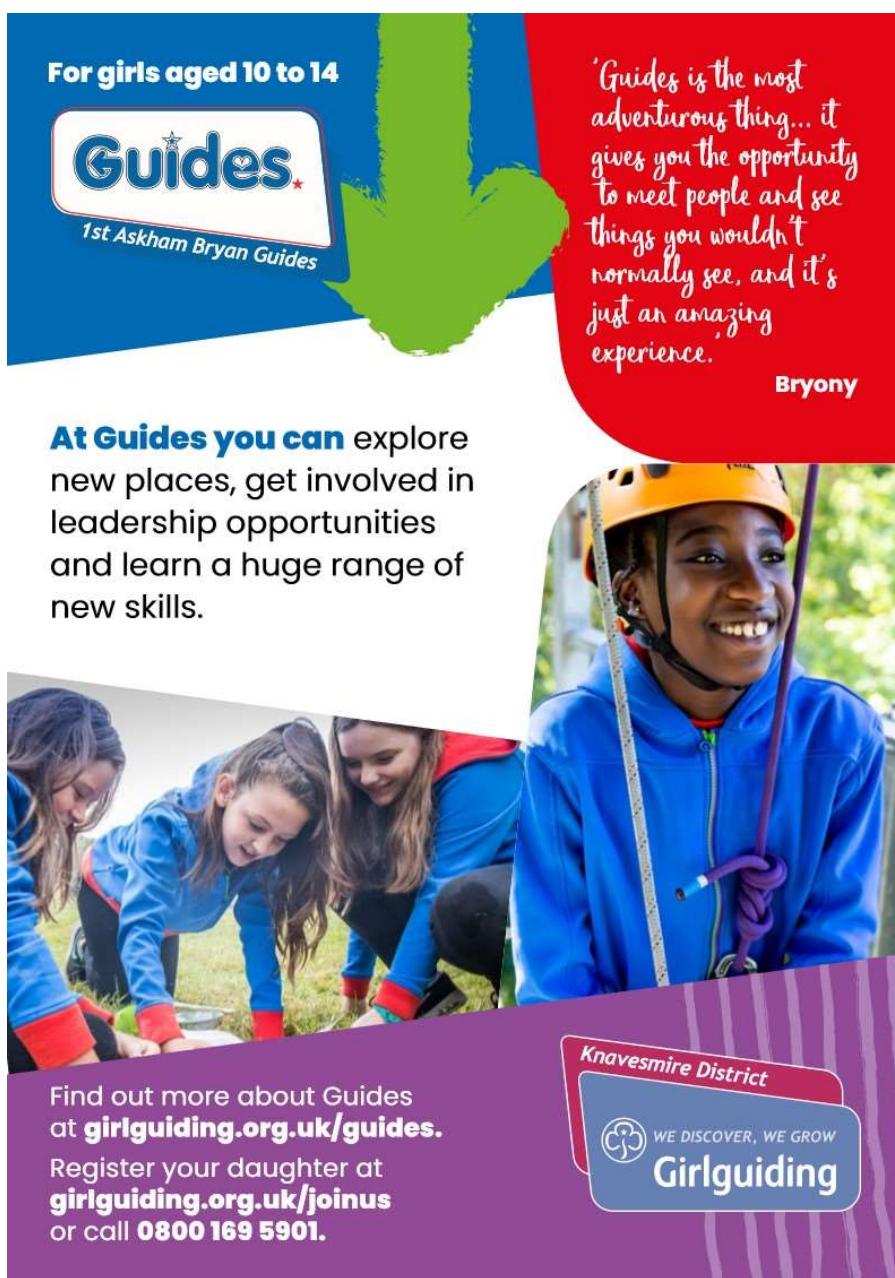
1ST ASKHAM BRYAN BROWNIES ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

We are a friendly and active unit who welcome girls between the ages of 7 and 10 from Askham Bryan and surrounding villages. We have a waiting list for girls not yet 7, and spaces for those aged 7–10 years. To find out more

and register interest, please contact Rebecca Kramm on 07894663336 or rjkramm@gmail.com

You can also find your nearest unit and register your daughter here:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>



The image shows a recruitment flyer for Guides. At the top left, there's a blue section with the text "For girls aged 10 to 14" and the "Guides" logo with "1st Askham Bryan Guides" underneath. A green arrow points from this section towards a red speech bubble on the right. The speech bubble contains the quote: "'Guides is the most adventurous thing... it gives you the opportunity to meet people and see things you wouldn't normally see, and it's just an amazing experience.' Bryony". Below the blue section, there's a photo of three young girls in blue uniforms looking down at something on the ground. At the bottom left, there's more text: "Find out more about Guides at [girlguiding.org.uk/guides](https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/guides). Register your daughter at [girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus) or call 0800 169 5901." On the bottom right, there's a logo for "Knavesmire District Girlguiding" with the tagline "WE DISCOVER, WE GROW".

For girls aged 10 to 14

Guides

1st Askham Bryan Guides

'Guides is the most adventurous thing... it gives you the opportunity to meet people and see things you wouldn't normally see, and it's just an amazing experience.'

Bryony

At Guides you can explore new places, get involved in leadership opportunities and learn a huge range of new skills.

Find out more about Guides at [girlguiding.org.uk/guides](https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/guides). Register your daughter at [girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus) or call 0800 169 5901.

Knavesmire District

WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding

PARISH OF RURAL AINSTY CONTACTS

Priest: The Revd Richard Battersby
The Vicarage, Main Street, Healaugh LS24 8DB
07795 302119 or 01937 830933
Email: revdrichardb@gmail.com

Curate: The Revd Nick Garside 07962 073886
Email: revdnickg@gmail.com

Please be sensitive to clergy day's off (usually Monday)

Reader: Mr Dean Smahon 07527 397897
Email: deansmahon@hotmail.com

Children and Families worker: Mrs Zoe Barratt 07989 736350
Email: ruralainstychildrenfamily@gmail.com

Rural Ainsty Office: 07596 599386
Email: ruralainstyparish@gmail.com

Methodist Minister Moor Monkton and Hessay

The Revd Ian Hill. 98 Main Street, Upper Poppleton
01904 788033

Church Wardens

Mrs Priscilla Smith	01937 833248
Mr Jon Brookman	07884 232935
Mrs Kathryn Wright	01904 738498
Mrs Michelle Yuen	07730 465729
Dr Mark Denyer	01937 835632
Mr Tony Holmes	07784 720565

Please note we have several Churchwarden vacancies, please contact Richard if you are interested.

Parish Administrator: Mrs Lisa Brookman 07596 599386
Email: ruralainstyparish@gmail.com

RURAL AINSTY PARISH NEWS

Please keep your contributions coming in!

The deadline for items to be included in the February issue is
15th January 2022 email to ruralainstyparish@gmail.com Handwritten and
verbal news can also be accepted, please ring Lisa Brookman, on 07596 599386.
Blacksmith Cottage, Main Street, Healaugh LS24 8DB
For advertising in the magazine, please contact Lisa as above



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Zoom Link for all services, prayers and events:

<https://zoom.us/j/4933255609>

Pin code 750541

**Or dial in on 0330 088 5830 followed by the meeting ID 493 325 5609
password 750541**

YouTube Livestream

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNY-mYpiC6zROV4jgq-CmEw/live>

Instagram: rural_ainsty



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