

# Diocese of York Newsletter

News from  
the Church of  
England  
between the  
Humber and  
the Tees

January & February 2016

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## Church Explorers



Would you like to share your church's story with hundreds of visitors this summer?

The Diocese of York is partnering with York Archaeological Trust and inviting churches to take part in the JORVIK Group's programme of medieval summer events in 2016. In 2015, twenty-six churches took part in Church Explorers, with some welcoming hundreds of visitors.

Church Explorers involves churches opening their buildings for open days on a medieval theme. In recent years, churches have included artworks by local children, exhibitions, talks and guided walks, archery, wood carving, wool spinning, and medieval banquets. Churches have built on relationships

with schools and local groups to create wonderful events, which have received coverage throughout the Yorkshire region via the Festival's website, social media and printed programmes.

To help find out more about Church Explorers, and how your church can share its stories, there's a training morning on Tuesday 26th January at Christ Church, Heworth, York, from 10.30am to 13.30, with coffee from 10am and lunch provided.

To book a place on the Church Explorers training morning, please email Eleanor Course on [comms@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:comms@yorkdiocese.org). There's more online at [www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/churchexplorers](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/churchexplorers).

# Archbishop Sentamu's Pilgrimage of Prayer, Witness and Blessing



Archbishop Sentamu is now well underway on his six-month Pilgrimage of Prayer, Witness and Blessing across the Diocese of York. He begins his Pilgrimage in Whitby on Tuesday 1 December; he will later journey to the East Riding, and finish in York Minster on Trinity Sunday (22 May 2016).

You can follow and share in Archbishop Sentamu's journey on the dedicated website [pilgrimage.archbishopofyork.org](http://pilgrimage.archbishopofyork.org).

Archbishop Sentamu is spending six days, from Tuesday to Sunday, in each of the Deaneries. He will be walking a sizeable distance each day from the coast, over moor and dale, along highways and byways, through both the rural and urban communities from the Humber to

the Tees and the A1 to the coast. His aim is to meet people, pray with them, and to encourage them to follow Christ, and bless what God is doing.

Archbishop Sentamu said, "My prayers have led me to this pilgrimage. St Paulinus, St Aidan, St Cuthbert and St Hilda of Whitby in their time shared the good news of Jesus Christ with the people of the North. Praying for those who come to know Christ is a great privilege and a joy. During this pilgrimage, I would like to encourage everyone I meet to commit themselves afresh to try praying, be open to encountering Jesus Christ, pray for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and receive the gift of the joy provided by Jesus Christ – and be thankful. Pray with me, and join me on the road!"

### **Pilgrimage Prayer**

God of Our Pilgrimage,  
Thank You for Your Friendship.  
Be the Fire Leading Us.  
Be the Star Guiding Us.  
Be the Good Shepherd Calling Us.

May the Holy Spirit,  
Strengthen Us  
For All that Lies Ahead.

May Your Holy Angels,  
Surrounding Us:  
Watch, Defend, and Protect Us  
Against All Evil. Amen.

### **Here is a personal prayer the Archbishop has written for individual private prayer:**

Father in Heaven,  
Mould me into Christlikeness;  
And Stir up in me,  
the Fire of Your Love.

Holy Spirit,  
Fill me with Your Power;  
And Help me to Tell of the Love  
And Salvation in Jesus of Nazareth.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the Father,  
Renew my Friendship in You;  
And help me to Serve You  
With a Quiet Mind and a Burning  
Spirit.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Please Keep Me  
In the Joy, Simplicity, and  
Compassion  
Of Your Holy Gospel.  
Amen.



# Vocations stories

With Generous Churches very much in mind, a New Year for many pursuing a vocation to ordained ministry means an offering that takes them on a journey of discovery. Let me share a few stories:

There's Tom, a recent graduate from York University and former member of the Minster congregation. His New Year brings the prospect of marriage, a Selection Panel (Bishops' Advisory Panel) and, if all goes to plan, time at a college being formed for priestly orders in the future. At present Tom is undertaking a year pastoral assistant/intern which the diocese organised with a church next to the Borough Market in the heart of London. He's rubbing shoulders with the 'great' as well as those engaging with urban deprivation.

Abi is married and in her late 20s, holding down a significant role as a Health Care Assistant in a York hospital. Her New Year takes her in to the second term of training with the Yorkshire Ministry Course. Her sense of vocation is to the Permanent or Vocational Diaconate. – 'to the door of the church rather than to the Communion Table'. Abi has been a Street Angel (ministering to clubbers on the streets of York) as well as a Chaplain at the York Races.

John has also, but more recently, been selected for training as a Deacon. He's retired with three adult children. The New Year heralds a complete new focus of ministry in a group of the coastal churches of the diocese. Recently selected for training he begins studies

and formation later this year. His journey to ordination began many years ago as a lay man in the Methodist church. He has already held a significant role within the community during a recent parish vacancy but looks forward to wearing his 'dog-collar' as he serves in a different capacity alongside a new Incumbent.

There's Nick, a Consultant Psychiatrist, married with three young children. With a successful career to hand, Nick has very recently been selected as a potential Incumbent but has yet to trace out his training and what his future ministry will look like. It may, for instance, take the shape of Self Supporting ministry. In this, he embodies the sense that vocation for each one of us is a journey of discovery, of where God wants us to be his disciples and to become the people he wants us to be.

These are just a small sample of those who are responding to the generous love shown to us by God - some of the people I have the privilege to walk alongside as they ask themselves, 'where does God want me to serve?' Praise God that many more like these are responding to the call to be generous in their service of our Lord whether within ordained ministry or our baptised - and surely most important - calling and vocation to be followers and disciples of Jesus.

*The Revd Dav Mann, Diocesan  
Director of Ordinands and Adviser  
on Vocations*

# 150 years of Readers

In 2016, the Church of England will be celebrating 150 years of Reader ministry.

The order of Readers was inaugurated on Ascension Day 1866 to extend the effectiveness of the traditional parochial system to new pioneering work on the boundaries between church and world.

There will be events to celebrate this anniversary across the Diocese, but the first chance to mark the 150 years of Readers is on Sunday 7th February: Reader Sunday.

Geoff and Susan Hill from Guisborough were among seven new Readers licensed by Archbishop Sentamu in November (pictured left).

Geoff said, “I began attending church regularly about 15 years ago in 2000, and my faith developed quickly. In 2011, our vicar asked me and my wife, Susan, if we had considered applying for Reader Ministry training. I dismissed it, thinking God wouldn’t call me. I could see so many other people in the Church with what I considered ‘better claims’ to such a calling, as after all I was a relative ‘newcomer to Christ’. The vicar encouraged me to consider this seriously, but it was not until the following year, after praying long and hard, discussing this with my wife and family, others in the Church, and others who I knew were



going through Reader Ministry training, that I decided that I would put myself forward, recognising that this was God’s decision, not mine.

Susan said, “Returning to study has been quite a challenge for me, every time we started a new module I would look at the essay titles and the deadlines and think to myself ‘I can’t possibly manage to do this! In time, though, I began to accept that if God really was calling me to Reader ministry then he would help me to meet the challenges of the course.

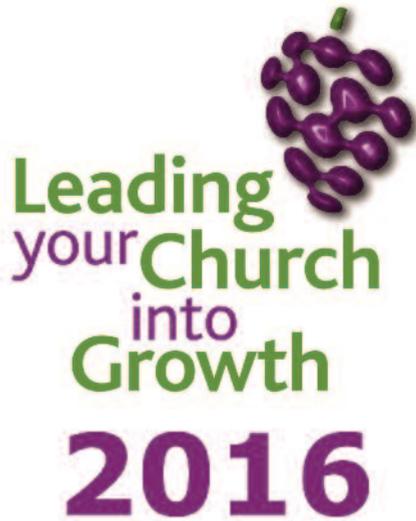
“Throughout our married life Geoff and I have always been supportive of each other. Our vocations in Reader ministry have always been distinct; we are, after all, different people, with different gifts to offer. However, I do feel that we complement each other, and that God, in his wisdom, has called us both.”

# Leading Your Church Into Growth

Applications will soon be closing for churches to take part in the Diocese's Leading Your Church Into Growth (LYCIG) conference in September 2016. Expressions of interest need to be submitted to [growth@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:growth@yorkdiocese.org) before 31st January.

People who came on the Diocese's pilot Leading Your Church Into Growth conference gave the following feedback:

- The best conference I have ever attended. They should teach this at theological college!
- I was looking for something to renew my vision, and found the whole team gave out such a lot of positive energy and encouragement. It set realistic goals rather than gave you tickets for a guilt trip. It takes a lot to drag me out of my parish, so I was pleased to see time used so well
- We worked hard, we prayed hard and laughed harder still.
- I would recommend it to others. I am grateful for going on it. It continues to inspire and encourage me.
- It developed my confidence and helped me to 'think out of the box'.



After the success of this pilot conference, the second conference will have room for 80 benefices, from 19 to 22 September 2016 at the Hayes Centre, Swanwick. This conference will be led by Robin Gamble.

Benefice teams should be made up of the Incumbent and two lay people who will be part of the team putting into place what will be learned at the conference, and helping lead your church into growth.

If your benefice would like to send a team, please start thinking and praying about who could come. Email [growth@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:growth@yorkdiocese.org) to express an interest in the 2016 conference.

# Youth Worker of the Year

Lee Kirkby, Head of Youth and Children at St Michael le Belfrey, York, has won Youth Worker of the Year at the national Christian Youth Work Awards.

The award recognises hard-working, caring youth workers who build positive relationships with young people, helping them to see their potential and fulfil it. Lee Kirkby was described as someone who radiates Jesus and an inspiration to young people.

Lee (pictured left with wife Rachel and baby Amara) said, "I ended up going into youth work because someone really invested in me and I think now I've got to this stage of winning this award, it's made me realise that I could have the same



impact on someone else's life and just to keep on investing in people, no matter how small that may be – we know that acorns grow into great oak trees."

Congratulations Lee!

# Deacons in Mission

If you are a Deacon, considering ministry as a Deacon, or wants to know more about Deaconal ministry, you are invited to a one-day conference on Saturday 30 January at St Andrews Bishopthorpe. The key note speaker is the Revd Dr Stephen Spencer, Vice Principal of the Yorkshire Ministry Course.

The programme includes Revisiting Acts and Tables, Reimagining Ministry in Three Dimensions, and Deacons' stories. The cost is £10 per person. Tea, coffee, and soup at lunchtime will be provided. Bring your own sandwiches

Please book a place/s by ringing Charlotte on 01347 824399 or by email Charli.cranfield@yahoo.co.uk. No deposit needed but you do need to book a place - you can pay on the day.

# All Saints Brandsby receives HLF funding

All Saints Brandsby has received a grant of £33,000 from the Lottery Heritage Fund towards the repair and reconstruction of its distinctive cupola, designed by the architect Thomas Atkinson and built by his mason Richard Scurr.

The restoration of the cupola has been undertaken by Crighton Conservation of Northallerton under the watchful eye of church architect Linda Lockett. The pupils of Crayke Church of England Primary School have taken a keen interest in the project and helped produce a time capsule which is now placed in the bell chamber below the cupola. The time capsule is sealed and with a note saying Not to Be Opened until November 2065, and it contains information about village and school life in 2015 along with recordings of a number of the pupils explaining what they hope to be doing 50 years from now.

Thomas Atkinson (1729 - 1795) was a distinguished architect with a practice at 20 St. Andrewgate in York, a house he himself built and which is still to be found there. Atkinson also designed the Bar Convent Chapel in York, remodelled the facade of Bishopthorpe Palace and is thought to have built Sutton Park, so he was no mean craftsman. Giles Scott, chairman of the Brandsby Cupola Committee said 'We're delighted that the Heritage Lottery Fund has given us this grant,

which has ensured the preservation of this historically important church both as a hub of community activity and religious services into the future'.



*Pictured: the Revd Liz Hassall, vicar of All Saints Brandsby climbing the scaffolding, and pupils from Crayke Primary School with the time capsule.*

# New York Course on the Psalms

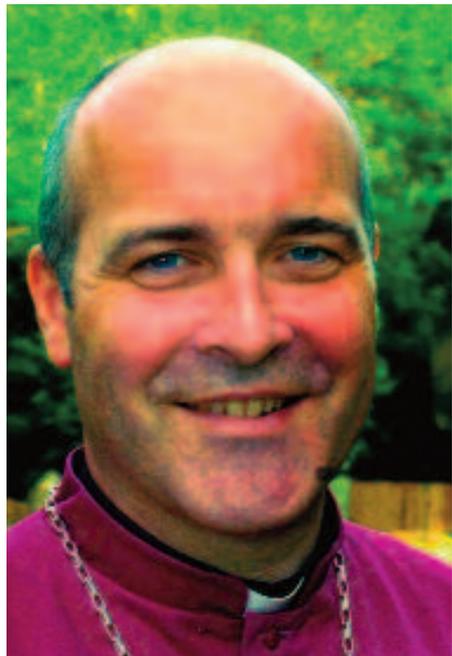
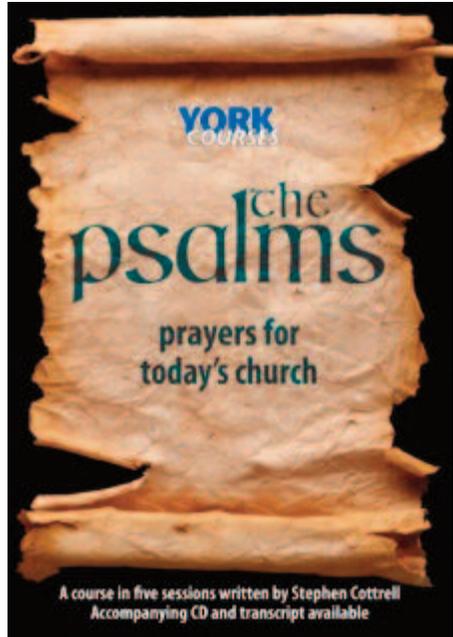
York Courses have produced a new course, ideal for Lent (or any other time) on the Psalms.

The ancient poems we call Psalms are over 2000 years old. But these songs have stood the test of time for they address many of the problems we still face: violence, injustice, anger - and bewilderment. Why do the wicked prosper? Where is God when we suffer? In this 5-session course, Bishop Stephen Cottrell - a prolific and popular author - reflects on the psalms in general (and five psalms in particular). He invites us to join him as he does so.

This is an easy-to-use ecumenical discussion course for groups comprising course booklet, CD and transcript, with a choice of wide-ranging questions to help group leaders involve all members in lively discussion.

Participants on the course CD include John Bell of the Iona Community; Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP, Director of the Las Casas Institute, Blackfriars, Oxford; the Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the House of Commons, and the Revd Dr Jane Leach, Principal of Wesley House.

For more information, contact York Courses on 01904 466516, email [thepsalms@yorkcourses.co.uk](mailto:thepsalms@yorkcourses.co.uk), or visit [www.yorkcourses.co.uk](http://www.yorkcourses.co.uk).



# What's On

Saturday 9 Jan - Company of Servers: Inaugural meeting and election of officers, All Saints Church, Hessele, Hull, 2pm. For more information please contact Tony Parker on [tony.parker56@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tony.parker56@yahoo.co.uk) or 01430 235308.

Tues 12 Jan Making Fruitful Disciples, St Andrew's Huntington, 9.30am - 4pm. This day, run by Freedom in Christ, will equip you to help every Christian grow to maturity and bear fruit that will last. Establishing a foundation of key Biblical principles, the day will look at practical ways to implement them using the award-winning Freedom In Christ Discipleship Course, The Grace Course and Freedom in Christ For Young People. The day is aimed at Church leaders and youth leaders who want to understand more about FIC's approach to discipleship and how to use it. Cost: £25 (lunch not included). Book online at [www.ficm.org.uk](http://www.ficm.org.uk), call 0118 321 8084 or email [info@ficm.org.uk](mailto:info@ficm.org.uk).

Sat 23 Jan - Multi-Church Challenge, Kirkby in Cleveland Church Hall, 9.30am - 3.30pm. Most of our parish churches are linked to one or more others. How do we work well in partnership? This is a workshop for all involved in leadership in multi-church situations. It would work well for small groups to come together and will be an opportunity to gain new insights, share experiences, celebrate

good practice, re-evaluate and, if necessary re-orientate! Led by the Revd Richard Walker, the Revd Canon Terry Joyce and the Revd Canon Angela Bailey from the Diocesan Training Team, and others. Contact [training@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:training@yorkdiocese.org) or 01904 699504.

Tues 26 Jan - Church Explorers training morning, Christ Church, Heworth. See page 1.

Sat 30 Jan - Deacons in Mission, St Andrews Bishopthorpe. See page 7.

Tues 2 - Thurs 4 Feb - Women's Spirituality Course: Exploring Liberating Christologies, Holy Rood House. Led by the Revd Elizabeth Baxter, the Course will be based on Lisa Isherwood's book "Introducing Feminist Christologies". Among the areas we will be working with are: 'Liberating Prophet' 'Embodied Christ' 'Ecological Christ' 'Suffering Christ' 'Christ Sophia'. Contact 01845 522580 or [enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk).

Thurs 18 Feb - A Lenten Quiet Day: Exploring the Desert, Holy Rood House. Come and refresh at Holy Rood for a Lenten quiet day to explore the symbolism of the desert and how it can bring us closer to God. Helen Warwick will reflect on the desert experience and some ways of revival in this tough environment. Contact 01845 522580 or [enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk).

Fri 19 – Sun 21 Feb - Northern Conference of Holy Rood House and The Guild of Health with St Raphael: 'Healing in the Context of Creation and Re-Creation', at Holy Rood House. With the Revd Professor Frances Young OBE. Contact enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk.

Wed 24 Feb - Laudato Si Study Day, location tbc. Following on from a very successful study day between our clergy of the Cleveland Archdeaconry and Roman Catholic clergy colleagues from the Diocese of Middlesbrough in March on the Pope's Encyclical 'Evangelii Gaudium', the recent Encyclical on 'Laudato Si – Care for our Common

Home' offers another opportunity to repeat a day together in the same enquiring spirit. Contact 01904 699504 or training@yorkdiocese.org.

Mon 29 Feb - Becoming an Eco Congregation, St Luke's Church Hall, York, 7.30pm. An opportunity to reflect theologically on our response to current environmental issues and to explore some practical ways of becoming an environmentally friendly church. Led by the Revd Liz Carrington, who is a Vocational Deacon with a special interest in ecological matters, who has successfully helped her congregation to achieve Eco-congregation status.

## Holocaust Memorial Day

Every year on 27 January, the world marks Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD). Holocaust Memorial Day provides an opportunity for everyone to learn lessons from the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides and apply them to the present day to create a safer, better future.

The theme for HMD 2016 is "Don't stand by". The Holocaust and subsequent genocides took place because the local populations allowed insidious persecution to take root. Whilst some actively supported or facilitated state policies of persecution, the vast majority stood by silently – at best, afraid to speak out; at worst, indifferent. Bystanders enabled the Holocaust, Nazi

Persecution and subsequent genocides.

Could you commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day in your parish? In a service? With a group? Do something practical? The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust provides a wide range of ideas and resources to support anyone organising an event at [www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk)

HMDT Support workers Rosie Crooks (Yorkshire and Humberside) and Sharon Artley (North East) would be delighted to support anyone who wishes to organise an event. You can contact Rosie on 07740 733 318, or Rosie.YorksHumber@hmd.org.uk, or Sharon on 07773 181 773, or sharon.northeast@hmd.org.uk.

## On the move

The Revd Patricia Margaret Anslow, (Assistant Curate, SSM, in the Benefice of Bramham), has been re-appointed as Assistant Curate SSM of the Benefice of Bramham. Ms Bramham will be Licensed by the Bishop of Selby in the Parish Church of St Peter's, Walton on Sunday, 14 February 2016 at 3pm.

The Revd Lorna Mary Hollis, (Assistant Curate SSM), has been re-appointed as Assistant Curate SSM of the Benefice of Scarborough, St James with Holy Trinity for a fixed term of two years until 12 November 2017. Mrs Hollis will be working under the direction of the Rural Dean, the Revd David Pynn.

The Revd Anthony Patterson, (Priest in Charge) has been re-appointed as

Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Bempton with Flamborough, Reighton with Speeton for a fixed term of two years until 20 December 2017.

The Revd Christopher van Straaten, (Vicar of St Peter and St Paul, Aylesford in the Diocese of Rochester) has been appointed as Vicar of St Andrew, Sutton Park and Priest in Charge of St Peter, Wawne within The Bransholme, Sutton Park, Sutton and Wawne Group Ministry. Mr van Straaten will be collated by the Bishop of Hull in the Parish Church of St Andrew, Sutton on Wednesday 9 March 2016 at 7.30pm.

The Revd David Julian Clune, (Vicar of Sutton, St James), has resigned from his position.

## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The Revd David and Mrs Jenny Everett will be leading a 10 day Pilgrimage to the Holy Land starting on 27th March 2017. They will be spending 6 days in Jerusalem and 4 days by the Sea of Galilee. If anybody is interested in going with them, please contact them on 01430 872808 or find the details on [www.mccabe-travel.co.uk](http://www.mccabe-travel.co.uk). This is a great opportunity to walk in the places Jesus walked and to visit the most significant places of his life and ministry.

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Deadline to include items in the March issue is Monday 1 February.

The Diocese of York News may be copied for use in Parish Magazines etc, and may be downloaded as a pdf file from [www.dioceseofyork.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk).

Contact Eleanor Course as above to receive an e-mailed download link for each new issue.