



2nd November, 2025

Newsletter

News from the Benefice of St. Mary's, Allerton Bywater, Kippax and Swillington

Gospel Reflection "He turned my world upside down"

It was exactly 7 years ago that Jesus stepped into my world ...again... and called me to be a priest. It was a "now or never" moment. As the next few months unfolded my life was turned "upside down." God told me to "be still" and "wait" and "listen", but my job was making me work more hours. One week during the first lock down of Covid 19, I calculated that I had worked 126 hours, eating at my desk and sleeping when I could. (I was a care manager.) Shortly after this, I broke down. My world stopped turning. The day I went to the doctor was the day that my sending vicar put my name forward to the Bishop. How was this going to work? In a few short hours I felt that everything I had ever worked for was gone. BUT, God had other ideas... with Rev. Richard saying: "Just be real" to me, I learnt that it was being in my most vulnerable time, having lost my income and security, Jesus could take my humble, broken heart and start to mould me into who He wanted me to be; not someone I thought I should be. Today's reading speaks to us all... "Blessed" are those who do not have everything the world thinks we need, money, excess, happiness, security, perfection, power... sometimes He has to rock our world for us to realise this. For me, the realisation of knowing that even without anything of earthly value to my name, I was content and even joyful gave me an inner peace that meant when I left my family to move to Leeds, this "upside down calling" was more than worth it. Take a look at the Gospel Reading for Sunday, what is God calling you to? It may not be as drastic as losing everything and moving, it may be as simple as letting go of stubbornness, saying sorry to someone, committing to Morning Prayer ...but one thing I can promise you, if you feel it and you respond... you'll never look back...and being "upside down" in Jesus' calling will bring you love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control. (Galations 5 v22-23) Lots of love, Jo x.

Memorial Services **Sunday November 2nd**

St. Mary's Church
Allerton Bywater 3pm
Kippax & Swillington 6pm

light a candle to remember someone you love

www.stmarysbenefice.org

JOIN US FOR OUR **LIGHT PARTY** AT YOUR SPACE



SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER
10-12
ST MARY THE LESS, ALLERTON BYWATER
A FUN FREE MORNING FOR FAMILIES

Come and Dance dressed as your favourite Disney Character... Prize for the best dressed family! (Children must be accompanied) Pizza lunch for those who Book; Email with Names and ages to: joanne.medhurst@leeds.anglican.com

Services

Weekdays.

3rd November:	09:30:	Morning Prayer at Kippax
4th November:	10:00:	Said Eucharist at Kippax
5th November:	09:30:	Morning Prayer at Kippax and Swillington
	19:00:	Said Eucharist at Allerton Bywater
6th November:	09:30:	Morning Prayer at Kippax
	12:20:	Funeral - Brian Tredgold at Pontefract Crematorium
7th November:	09:30:	Morning Prayer at Kippax
	11:45:	Funeral - Beverley Diane Nunns at Kippax
8th November:	09:30:	Morning Prayer at Kippax
11th November:	10:00:	Said Eucharist at Kippax
	11:30:	Funeral - Jean Meek at Allerton Bywater
	14:00:	Carer's (Dementia Friendly) Communion at AB
12th November:	09:30:	Said Eucharist at Swillington
	19:00:	Evening Prayer at Allerton Bywater
13th November:	09:30:	Morning Prayer at Kippax and Allerton Bywater
14th November:	09:30:	Morning Prayer at Kippax

(The new rotas for November and December are now published here:

<https://stmarysbenefice.org/enews>)

Sundays.

2nd November:	09:00:	Sung Eucharist at Allerton Bywater
	10:30:	All Age Eucharist at Kippax
	10:30:	All Together Service at Swillington
	15:00:	Memorial Service at Allerton Bywater
	18:00:	Memorial Service at Kippax
	18:00:	Memorial Service at Swillington
9th November:	09:00:	Remembrance Service at Allerton - Parade at Cenotaph at 10:30
	10:15:	Remembrance Service at Swillington
	10:30:	Remembrance Service at Kippax - Parade at Cenotaph at 12:00
	14:00:	Remembrance Service at Great Preston Cenotaph



Save the Date!

1st November:	10:00:	"Light Party" at Your Space, Allerton Bywater
	10:00:	Coffee Mornings at Allerton Bywater and Swillington
7th November:	10:00:	Christmas Fair at Allerton Bywater
8th November:	17:00:	Christmas Light Switch On at Swillington
12th November:	19:00	"Christians at Pride" Taize Service Leeds Minster
15th November:	14:00:	Safeguard Training at Allerton Bywater
22nd November:	16:00:	Christmas Light Switch On/Fair at Allerton Bywater
23rd November:	12:00:	Christmas Light Switch On/Fair at Kippax
	18:30:	"New Wine" Celebration at St. George's, Leeds



Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community

Sunday 16th November
St Mary's, Swillington

3pm

Come and try a different style of worship which includes singing and silence



Bishop Nick

Bishop Nick's Last farewell service is at Ripon Cathedral 23rd November, 3.30 pm
Please do pray for Bishop Nick as he starts to handover responsibilities to Bishop Toby for the interim. All are welcome to attend.



Songs & Readings

2nd November, 2025

Do you have a favourite worship song or hymn? Let us know and we'll try to use it in our worship planning.

Sunday Readings:

- Psalm 149
- Ephesians 1:11-23
- Luke 6:20-31

Allerton Bywater Hymns:

- Praise to the Lord, The Almighty
- Seek ye first, the Kingdom of God
- I will offer up my life
- Focus my eyes on you
- Be Still for the presence of the Lord
- At the name of Jesus

Kippax Hymns:

- At the name of Jesus
- Open our eyes lord
- I will offer up my life
- Jesus name above all names
- Jesus put a song into our hearts

Swillington Hymns:

- For all the saints
- Give thanks
- This is the day
- God for gave my sin
- All hail King Jesus
- Lord for the years

Past Events



A fun night of disco was had at St. Mary-the-Less, Allerton Bywater. Why not hire out the church for your next function?

We had an wonderful time at Social last Sunday. Why not give it a try? 5pm on the last Sunday of the month at St. Mary's Kippax.



Youth

House Group:



Are you aged between 11 and 17?

Come along to Kippax Rectory, Church Lane, Kippax, LS25 7HF every Sunday from 17:00-18:30 for A Bible study, prayer, worship, games and discussion group.

Please register at:

[Youth House Group Registration](#)

Adult

House Groups:

Mondays at 19:00 (Swillington 19:30)

- Allerton Bywater -
23 Davy Road, WK10 2EU.
Cont: joanne.medhurst@leeds.anglican.org
- Kippax - At Kippax Rectory.
Cont: rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com
- Swillington - At St Mary's Church,
Cont: dawnandjonathan@tiscali.co.uk



Craft Cafe

Join Rev. Bob, Elizabeth and team every other Wednesday at 14.30-16:15 at St. Mary's Church Hall, Kippax. All welcome to come and enjoy cake, a drink, some company and crafty creations with a bible story theme. Contact Rev. Bob for more details.
rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com

Your Space

Join Rev. Jo and team every Saturday at St. Mary-the-Less, Allerton Bywater. A family space with singing, craft, board games and regular community activities from 10:00-12:00. Free coffee, tea and snacks. Themes of "Light" and "Getting ready for Christmas" this term. Contact Rev. Jo for more details and to join our WhatsApp group: joanne.medhurst@leeds.anglican.org



free event



SATURDAY

10am-1pm

St Mary the Less Church,
Allerton Bywater

Join us for games, crafts,
music and more



Sunday Social



Sunday Social

Rev Bob and Team every 4th Sunday in the month for a time of informal worship, fun and laughter. Join in the Quiz and a theme sing-a-long at Kippax Church (5-6:30pm). Neurodiverse friendly with no screens. Contact Rev. Bob: rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com

Pastoral Support

Are you unwell, lonely, bereaved or just finding life a bit too much to handle? The Pastoral Team in St. Mary's Benefice are always ready to listen. If you would like support in any way, please contact Rev. Bob, Rev Sarah or Rev. Jo in the first instance.

Clergy Team.

Rector:	Rev. Bob Bailey	
	Email:	rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com
	Tel:	07885 386932
Team Vicar:	Rev. Sarah Harrison:	
	Email:	Sarah.harrison@leeds.anglican.org
	Tel:	07572 232540

(Presently on phased return to work which includes altered hours and amended duties.)

Assistant

Curate:	Rev. Jo Medhurst	
	Email:	joanne.medhurst@leeds.anglican.org
	Tel:	07470 052889
PTO:	Rev. Gordon Cooper	
	Email:	gordon.cooper1954@gmail.com
	Tel:	07896 329055

Wardens.

Allerton Bywater:	Janet Purcell	janetpurcell558@yahoo.com
	Lynne Tomlinson	lynnetom39@gmail.com
Kippax:	Christine Bottom	csbottom49@gmail.com
Swillington:	Dawn Marshall	dawnandjonathan@tiscali.co.uk
	Diana Puxty	dianapuxty@hotmail.com

Safeguarding.

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of us all. If you have a safeguarding concern please contact a member of the safeguarding team or any of the Clergy. (For more information, please see the posters displayed around our churches.)

Safeguarding Officers.

Allerton Bywater:	Gordon Linton	notnilg@aol.com
Kippax:	Carly Pearson	carlypearson22@gmail.com
Swillington:	Diana Puxty.	dianapuxty@hotmail.com