



9th November, 2025

Newsletter

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

Gospel Reflection

“He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.” Luke 20 v 38

One of the biggest things you have been teaching me recently is that “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it”. The way things are used, re-used and then used again until every element has been completely used up is awe inspiring. Only when the thing is completely dead or gone should a replacement be found. And yet, even then, our Gospel reading tells us this week, death is not the end. God can take things which are dead and bring them back to life. He never gives up.

In house group at Allerton Bywater on Monday we studied the story of “the raising of Lazarus”. We discussed the many feelings of those present when Lazarus, a beloved brother, son and friend laid in a tomb dead and Jesus didn’t rush to his aid. Mary Magdalene ... seemed angry and betrayed that the man who claimed to be the Son of God did not get to them in time. (Maybe she felt she’d anointed the wrong man with the expensive oil of burial that day!) Martha, was still busy, still worrying about the practicality of the stench of a body, if the tomb was opened. The religious leaders watching on, blind to what was happening, more interested in proving that Jesus was a heretic. The disciples, tired, wondering why he was bothering with someone who had already gone. The frustration and anxiety of thinking that Jesus had abandoned them in their time of need, reminding of us when we doubt God’s presence in our lives. But, had they not learnt anything during their time at his side? He’d healed the blind, fed the hungry, stilled stormy waters, turned water into wine... what more did He have to do? (Looking at the stone in front of the entrance to Lazarus’ tomb, He knew what he was going to have to do.) No wonder he “wept”. As we remember those who gave up their lives for our freedom this weekend, Luke 20 v 38 offers us hope. Our God “is not the God of the dead, but the living, for to him all are alive.” The soldiers who died for our freedom, left us with a legacy of sacrifice and love that brings communities together in remembrance. “They will not grow old, as we that are left grow old.” And so it was with Jesus, but His sacrifice, made once for all, was not made for this life alone. He gave up his life in order that we might live for eternity, in peace and love and fellowship with our creator, God. When we come to the altar each week we enter into an act of remembrance which celebrates not only His sacrifice, but also His resurrection. Our soldiers conquered our enemies but Jesus conquered death itself. This is why the angels said to the women on Easter Sunday: “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!” and we can sing: “O death, where is your sting?”

*Great is the Mystery of Faith.
Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again*



Services

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



Commemorating the sacrifices of members of the armed forces and civilians in times of war

SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

"We Will Remember Them"

- 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



**Sunday
16th
November**



Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community

- 09:00: Sung Eucharist at Allerton Bywater
 10:30: Sung Eucharist at Kippax
 10:30: Parish Communion at Swillington
 15:00: Taize Service at Swillington

Weekdays.

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| 10th 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 Allerton Bywater |
| 12th November: | 09:30: | Said Eucharist at Swillington |
| | 19:00: | Evening Prayer at Allerton Bywater |
| 13th November: | 09:30: | Morning Prayer at Kippax |
| | 10:00: | First Steps at Kippax |
| 14th November: | 09:30: | Morning Prayer at Kippax |
| 17th November: | 09:30: | Morning Prayer at Kippax |
| 18th November: | 10:00: | Said Eucharist at Kippax |
| 19th November: | 09:30: | Morning Prayer at Swillington |
| | 19:00: | Said Eucharist at Allerton Bywater |
| 20th November: | 09:30: | Kippax Morning Prayer |
| | 10:00: | First Steps at Kippax |
| 21st November: | 09:30: | Morning Prayer at Kippax |

Save the Date!

8th November:	17:00:	Christmas Light Switch On at Swillington
12th November:	19:00	"Christians at Pride" Taize Service Leeds Minster
15th November:	10:00:	Safeguard Training at Allerton Bywater (Change of time from 14:00 to 10:00 for convenience. Please come if you know that you need to do basic training, especially if you have difficulty accessing technology)
22nd November:	16:00:	Christmas Light Switch On/Fair at Allerton Bywater
23rd November:	12:00:	Christmas Light Switch On/Fair at Kippax
	15:30:	Bishop Nick's Farewell service at Ripon Cathedral
	17:00:	Sunday Social at Kippax
	18:30:	"New Wine" Celebration at St. George's, Leeds
6th December:	09:30:	Coffee Morning at Swillington
	10:00:	Allerton Bywater Christmas Fair
	10:00:	Kippax Christmas Fair
7th December:	15:00:	Christingle at Swillington
14th December:	13:00:	Christingle at Kippax
21st December:	16:00:	Christingle at Allerton Bywater
	18:00:	Carol Service at Swillington
22nd December:	14:00:	Craft Cafe Christmas Messy Church at Kippax
23rd December:	19:00:	Team candle lit carols and 9 lessons at Allerton Bywater
24th December:	16:00:	Crib Services at Allerton Bywater, Kippax and Swillington
	11:15:	Midnight Communion at Kippax and Swillington
25th December:	09:00:	Christmas All Age Service Eucharist at Allerton Bywater
	10:30:	Christmas Morning Eucharist at Kippax
	10:30:	Christmas Morning Parish Communion at Swillington
29th December:	09:00:	All Age Eucharist at Allerton Bywater
	10:30:	Sung Eucharist at Kippax
	10:30:	Parish Communion at Swillington

ALLERTON BYWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Christmas LIGHT SWITCH ON

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND 2025
TIME: 4PM - 7PM

EVENT INCLUDES:

- DJ
- FOOD & DRINKS
- CRAFT STALLS
- GIFT STALLS
- VISIT WITH SANTA
- GARFORTH BRASS
- BROWNIES SINGING

ST MARY'S CHURCH, STATION ROAD, ALLERTON BYWATER, WF10 2GL

LIGHTS SWITCHED ON AT 6.30PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL ab.lightevent@gmail.com

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Join us for the

KIPPAX PARISH COUNCIL CHRISTMAS EVENT

SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER
2:00PM - 5:30PM

- * Lights switch on & fireworks, 5pm
- * Visit Santa, GG&Co Salon
- * Festive Funfair, Kippax Hall Surgery car park
- * Stalls full of Christmas goodies: Kippax Methodist Church, The Legion & St.Mary's Church Hall

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas"

SWILLINGTON LIGHTS & SHOPPING FAYRE

8th November 2025

Amazing Local Stall Holders & Santas
Grotto 14:00-18:00
Lights Switch On with Fireworks 18:00
Swillington Sports & Social Club
Raising funds for St Mary's Church

Lucy's Pop Choir
17:00 - 17:30

Musical Performance from Elf the Musical
17:30 - 18:00

Songs & Readings



We need to know your favourite carols for the carol services !!
Email Rev. Bob, Rev. Sarah or Rev. Jo to make sure we sing them over the Christmas period.



Sunday Readings:

- Psalm 17 v 1-9
- Job 19 v 23 -27a
- Luke 20:27-38

Allerton Bywater Hymns:

- Crown Him with many Crowns
- Psalm 23 - Townend
- I watched the Sunrise
- I The Lord of Sea and Sky
- God is our Strength and Refuge
- Great is Thy Faithfulness
- The Steadfast Love of the Lord never ceases.

Kippax Hymns:

- O Christ the Lord, O Christ the King
- GLORIA Glory in the highest
- For the healing of the nations
- O God, our help in ages past
- This vision of peace

Swillington Hymns:

- O God our help in ages past
- Eternal Father
- For the healing of the nations (Westminster)
- Make me a channel.
- I vow to thee my country
- National Anthem
- Lord for the years

Past Events

What Bible story were we learning about at Craft Cafe this week?



We had a wonderful time at The Light Party on Saturday at Your Space.

Next Event 13/12.
"Making Christingles"



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 - Goes Monthly.

Join Rev. Jo and team once a month at St. Mary-the-Less, Allerton Bywater. A family space with singing, craft, board games and regular community activities from 10:00-13.00. Free coffee, tea and snacks. Contact Rev. Jo for more details and to join our WhatsApp group: joanne.medhurst@leeds.anglican.org so that you can find out about the next exciting event on 13/12.



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