St Mary's newsletter

Allerton Bywater + Kippax + Swillington
November 2026

"A prayer in a teacup"

'I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty—and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They tell of the power of your awesome works—and I will proclaim your great deeds. They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.' Psalm 145:1-8

The other day I was thinking about the number of times we praise God and then came across this psalm in my reading. It is very easy to always be asking God to act in our lives or in various situations. David, our psalmist declares what he is doing and declares that God is on the throne of his life – 'my God the King.'

Our psalmist addresses God directly and refers to him personally and therefore has several 'I will'. He keeps on praising and focussing on what God has done for him which turns into more praise.



I like this quote by David Watson, "When it comes to prayer, there are no experts. We are all children learning from our heavenly Father."

A helpful way to pray and begin with praise is to use the teaspoon prayer idea. It is based on the letters 'tsp' which is the abbreviation in cooking.

The idea is to begin with prayers of thankfulness – thanking God for who he is and for his mighty power at work. We then move to saying sorry – asking God to forgive us for the wrong things that we do. And finally, we move to please – this is our opportunity to ask God for something which could be for you or for someone else.

At our Advent retreat morning on the 12th December we're going to be thinking about prayer and how we walk with God. Everybody is welcome as we are always learning about how to know God more. Rev Sarah.

Sunday worship

November 8th

Remembrance Sunday

9.00 am Allerton Bywater Remembrance Eucharist
10.30am Allerton Bywater Remembrance service

10.30am Kippax Remembrance Service of the Word

10.30am Swillington Remembrance Service.
11.30 am Kippax Remembrance Service at the memorial.
2:00pm: Great Preston Remembrance at the memorial.
5.00pm. Youth Housegroup at Kippax

November 15th

The Parable of 3 Servants.

9.oo am Allerton Bywater Eucharist
10.30am Kippax Eucharist
10.30am Swillington Parish Communion

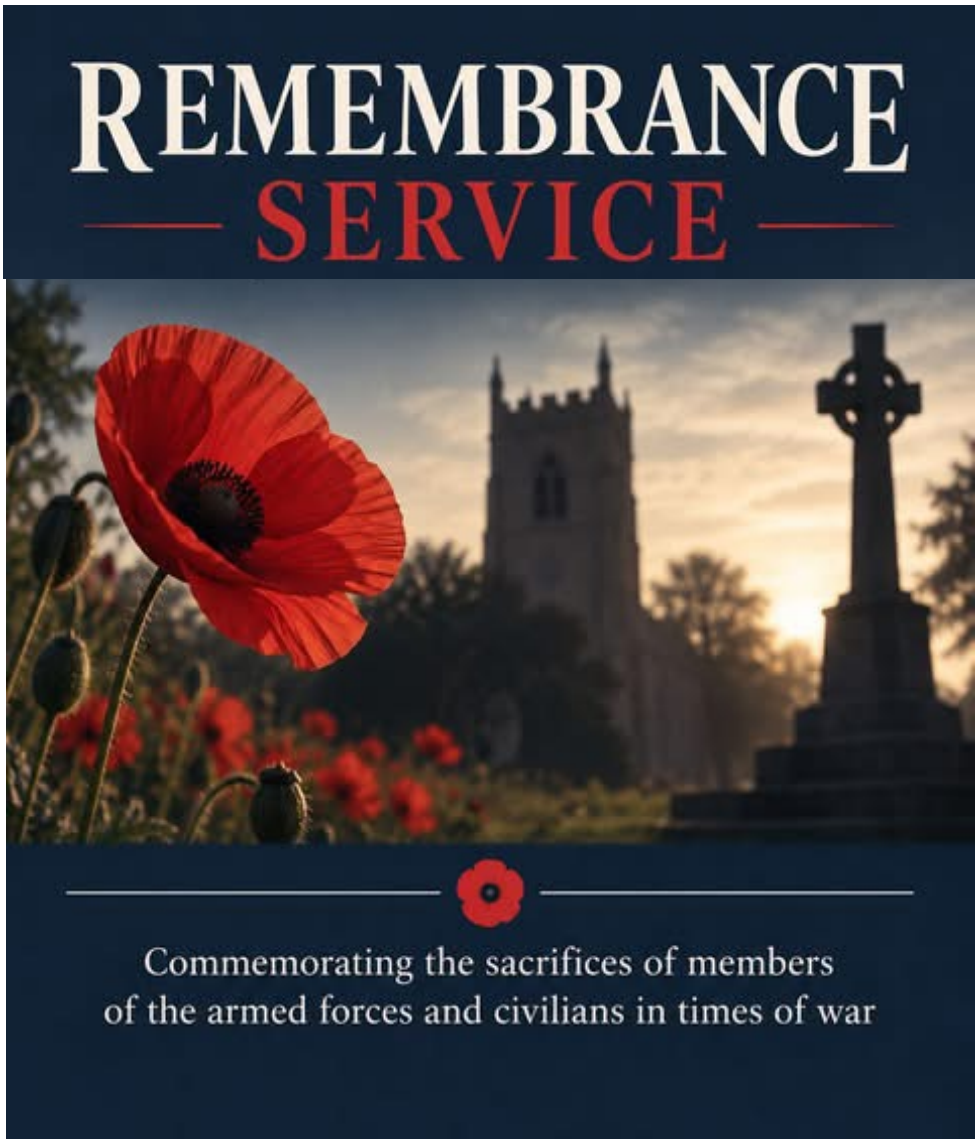
3:00pm Assembly Bangers at Swillington

November 22nd

The Sheep and Goats

9.00am Allerton Bywater All age Eucharist
10.30am Kippax. Sung Eucharist

10.30am Swillington Celtic Service



midweek worship

Allerton Bywater

Evening Prayer or **Said Eucharist** 7pm *Wednesday*

Kippax

Morning Prayer 9.30am *Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri*.
Said Eucharist 10am *Tuesday*.

Swillington

Morning Prayer or **Parish Communion** 9.30am *Wed*

fresh expressions



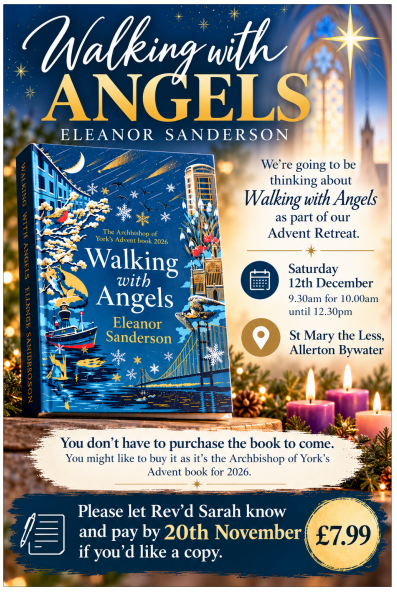












It's beginning to look
A lot like Christmas







Across the Team

Pastoral care: Do let us know if you are unable to attend church and need a visit or Home Communion. Please let a Church Warden know if someone needs praying for or speak to Bob, Sarah, Jo, or regular events & information.

Baptisms, weddings, funerals, burials, renewal of wedding vows or blessings: please book at church or contact a member of the clergy or a Churchwarden.

Safeguarding: for any concerns please contact the relevant Parish Safeguarding Officer or clergy.

Youth House Group for bible study, prayer, worship, friendship and fun; ages 11-17 yrs old, Kippax Rectory, Sunday 5pm - 6.30pm.

Messy Church rotates around the churches seasonally - Join the mailing list (stay in touch below) to hear about future events.

Allerton Bywater

Home Group Mondays 7pm. A chance to study, pray and socialise together. 23 Davy Rd, Allerton Bywater, Castleford WF10 2EU

Coffee Morning 1st Saturday of the month 10am with Council Surgery, play and stay, bingo etc.

Your Space 3rd Saturday of the month 10am - 1pm, A family space with singing, craft, board games and regular community activities. Free coffee, tea and snacks.

Baby Space Mondays 1pm-2:30pm

Swillington

Home Group Mondays 7.30pm in church.

Coffee Morning with bacon sandwiches 1st Saturday of the month 9.30-11.30am.

Bellringing practice Mondays 7.30pm - 9pm.**Church Choir practice** Tuesday afternoon 2.30pm.

Kippax

House Group most Mondays term time, 7pm. A chance to study, pray and socialise together. The Rectory, Church Lane, Kippax, LS25 7HF.

NEWSFLASH!!! Anyone interested in a daytime house group in Kippax? If so, get in touch with Rev'd Bob

First Steps for play and friendship (pre-school aged children) Thursday, 10 – 11.15am.

Kippax Food Pantry (organised by Kippax Parish Council and hosted in the hall) Saturdays 10am - 11am, Kippax Church Hall.

Church Choir practice Saturday morning at 10.15am.

Bellringing practice Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9pm.

Craft Cafe alternate Wednesdays 2.30 - 4.15pm (see publicity) drop in for refreshments, craft making, story and song.

Sunday Social last Sunday of the month 5pm - 6.30pm (see publicity) with a variety of social events for all ages including quizzes, boardgames, sing-a-long, crafts and refreshments.

Keep in touch

Contact rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com or any of the clergy to be added to the **mailing list.**

Facebook search for St Mary's and the name of the village. INCLUDING LIVE STREAMING FOR SWILLINGTON.

YouTube

INCLUDING LIVE STREAMING FOR ALLERTON BYWATER.

https://www.youtube.com/@stmarysbenefice

Website

https://stmarysbenefice.org

contacts

Clergy

Team Rector — **Rev'd Bob Bailey**
01132 869606 / 07885386932
rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com

Team Vicar — **Rev'd Sarah Harrison**
07572 232540
sarah.harrison@leeds.anglican.org

Assistant Curate — **Rev'd Jo Medhurst**
07470 052889
joanne.medhurst@leeds.anglican.org

Permission to officiate — **Rev'd Gordon Cooper**
07896 329055
gordon.cooper1954@gmail.com

Confirmation

Could this be something you're interested in? There are some dates coming up. Speak to Rev'd Bob, Rev'd Sarah or Rev'd Jo for more information ☺

Churchwardens

Allerton Bywater
Janet Purcell
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Swillington
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Parish Safeguarding Officers

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Swillington
Susan Wheeler
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Bellringing

Kippax & Swillington
Tim Cox (Tower Captain)
07708 049084
timcox381@gmail.com

Newsletter publication dates

We plan to publish the Benefice newsletter at three-week intervals. If you would like something in the magazine, please email it to one of the clergy before the publication date.
If you would like to include a longer article, please get in touch with Rev Bob, Rev Jo or Rev Sarah.



family news

Please continue to pray for Brian, Andrew and Lisa as they get used to living without Lynne.

Please continue to pray for Margaret Taylor at the loss of her husband David.

House/homegroups/midweek bible study

Allerton Bywater	**Dale Medhurst** dalemedhurst@gmail.com
Kippax	**Trudi Roberts** trudiroberts@btinternet.com
Swillington	**Dawn Marshall** dawnandjonathan@tiscali.co.uk

Youth House Group

Benefice wide	**Jess Bailey** jessovey@gmail.com 07773 651573

1st Steps baby and toddler

Kippax	**Elizabeth Thomas** elizabethanne54@hotmail.co.uk

other support

NSPCC – For adults concerned about a child – 0808 800 5000

ChildLine – For children and young people – 0800 1111 **Action on Elder Abuse** helpline – 0808 808 8141

24-hour National Domestic Violence Helpline – 0808 2000 247

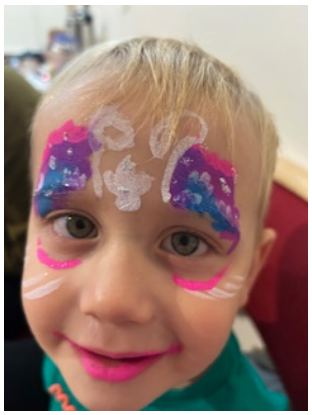
NAPAC – Support and advice for adult survivors of childhood abuse – 0808 801 0331

Stop It Now – Preventing child sexual abuse – 0808 1000 900

Cruse – Bereavement helpline – 0808 808 1677

Half Term Fun at the:







The Beetle Drive! Your Space ! The Disco!



prayers

Don't forget that we have opportunities to pray together during the week.
I always like to quote, "Time wasted in prayer is never wasted."
Here are some suggestions for prayer at home...

- For our Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally
- For the Bishop of Leeds, Toby Howarth
- For the Bishop of Kirkstall, Arun Arora
- For those sick or bereaved.
- Local food pantry hosted out of St Mary's Kippax.
- Growth in numbers, spiritual depth and service to our community.
- Work in the seven local schools.
- The housebound and the care homes we visit
- Our three house groups that study and pray together.
- Children's and youth work, especially our monthly all-age/All Together services, Messy Church, Your Space, Craft Café and our Youth House Group.
- Peace in our hearts, communities and the world.

United Benefice of Allerton Bywater Kippax Swillington St. Mary

stmarysbenefice.org

Growing faith + friendship + community

Sunday Social

chilled café style including
live music • baking
sing-a-long • hot-chocolate
cake • discussion • bonfire
quiz • DJ • origami • dance



4th Sunday in the month
5pm-6.30pm

St Mary's Church, hall
or Rectory garden

29th Nov Sing-a-long
24th Jan Cèilidh

Info: Rev Bob 07885386932 • www.stmarysbenefice.com