

St Mary's newsletter

Allerton Bywater + Kippax + Swillington



It is a time of year when we may go on a Journey. Whitby is a favourite place of mine. When you park on the West Cliff and walk down to the harbour you pass the statue of Captain Cook the great explorer and this made me think of the journey's we all make in our lives. The name of the ship's he sailed sum up something of what I want to share with you. They were **Endeavour, Resolution, Adventure and Discovery.** Endeavour is about making an effort to do or attain something which we are all called to do in our Christian lives. I would suggest that this is what faith is all about a readiness to do and work toward a closer understanding of God. For our faith to grow and develop it requires effort and commitment on our part so that we can begin to explore what God wants for us in our lives and in our church. Many of the voyages Captain Cook undertook were challenges. I was challenged by a booklet called the "Almighty Challenge" in York Minster which was about Vocation, both Lay and

Ordained, after which I made a Resolution to explore what God was calling me to do in my life. We all have to be ready to make our resolution to listen to God and offer ourselves, our talents and wait on God's purpose for us and our church as we continue on our journey.

Then the Adventure started for me and my family which meant giving up jobs, moving schools, leaving home and family. An adventure is a risky undertaking with an unknown outcome, something that can be exciting or unexpected. We don't know what life has got in store for us the ups and the downs. But what we can be certain of is if we have faith in God and are ready to open ourselves to him then we can be sure he will do the rest.

This brings me to Discovery which is about finding out and learning more. As we move on and trust God we begin to discover more of what God can do in us and through us. Sometimes we may be surprised by what we can do once we are open and allow him to use us.



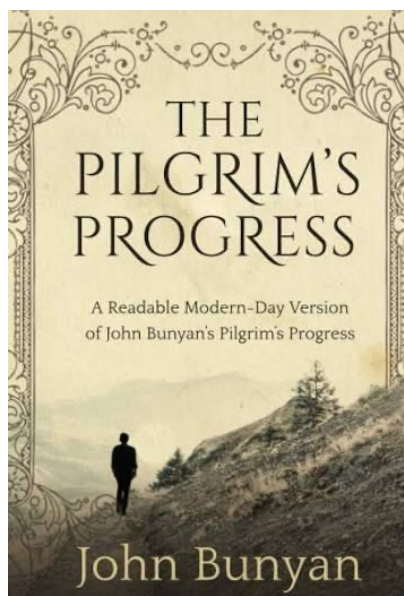
A verse from the hymn "Praise to the Lord the Almighty the King of Creation" made an impact on me. "Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee, surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend thee. Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do. If to the end he be-friend thee".

That made me stop and make time to "Be Still" and wait on God. I would suggest that it is important for us all to "Ponder anew what the Almighty can do" We may be surprised at the answer for us and for our Churches.

Remember those words I started with **Endeavour, Resolution, Adventure and Discovery.**

As Christians we are required to make an effort, be determined and sometimes prepared to take risks and constantly search for a greater understanding of God and of ourselves to prepare us for his service.

I leave you with this Prayer:



God of our pilgrimage you feed us with your word, refresh and sustain us with your Spirit as we go forward on our journey. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God Bless

Rev'd Gordon.

sunday worship

July 5th

Trinity 5

9am Allerton Bywater Eucharist
10.30am Kippax All-Age Eucharist
10.30am Swillington All Together Service

July 12th

Trinity 6

9am Allerton Bywater Eucharist
10.30am Kippax Sung Eucharist
10.30am Swillington Parish Communion
12.30pm Baptism of baby Erin at Allerton Bywater.

July 19th

Trinity 7

9am Allerton Bywater Eucharist
10.30am Kippax Eucharist
10.30am Swillington Parish Communion
12.30 pm Baptism of Emmie Grace at Swillington.

TAIZÉ SERVICE
+
A service of prayer, music and silence in the spirit of Taizé

— AT —
ST MARY'S KIPPAX
SUNDAY
19TH JULY
3PM
— ALL ARE WELCOME —

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 *Wednesday*

church news

Archdeacons' Visitation:

A big Thank you to our church wardens, Janet and Lynn, from Allerton Bywater who have made St. Mary-the-Less a wonderful place to be as well as looking after the beautiful building. The Archdeacon was very smiley!

A happy time and Eucharist to boot with the gang at the beautiful St Gemma's seeing Lynne. Prayers for Lynne's speedy return home and thanks for this amazing place and all they do.



Craft Café

for all ages, activities, crafts, refreshments, make friends, share new skills

Wednesdays fortnightly
2.30pm - 4.15pm

Drop-in anytime • donations welcome
After-school songs and story 4pm
St Mary's Church or Church Hall Kippax

Dates

- July 8 Puppet making
Parable of the sower
- July 22 Weaving
- Sept 2 Summer Mini Messy Church
- Sept 16 1st year anniversary party

For more information
Email rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com / 07885386932



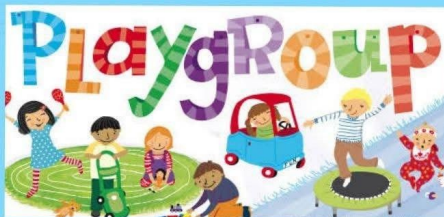
Sunday Social



5pm-6.30pm
St Mary's Church Hall Kippax

- 29 March **Old gospel praise night**
scratch choir /just turn up with instruments
- 26 April **Poetry and music workshop**
with Jimmy Andrex & the Bible of Dreams
- 31 May **Community meal**
- 28 June **Midsummer murder mystery**
- 26 July **Schools out for summer**
disco + school pudding + school bangers

Chilled café style including...
Sing-a-long • hot-chocolate • bingo
cake • discussion • quiz • DJ RICH • origami
Info: Rev Bob 07885386932 • www.stmarysbefice.com



St Mary's Church Kippax

Baby and toddler group
For 0-5 year olds

Every Thursday Morning
10am - 11.15am

We meet in the church for a short story and song session followed by play and refreshments in the hall

For further information
Contact Elizabeth: 07739151701

Come and join us at

BABY SPACE

St Mary the Less, Allerton Bywater
Every Monday
1-2:30pm

- Baby weighing support
- Friendly tips for feeding & weaning
- Meet other local parents
- Relaxed, welcoming space
- Refreshments to finish



What's happening over the next few weeks?

ST MARY'S CHURCH KIPPAX

SUMMER FAIR

SATURDAY 4th JULY

10.00am to 2.00pm

Lots of stalls, come and browse, join us for Tea and Cakes or a Coffee

United Benefice of Allerton Bywater, Kippax and Swillington
ST MARY'S

YOUR SPACE

Holiday at Home

MONDAYS 1-3PM
ST MARY THE LESS ALLERTON BYWATER

- 27th JULY - BEACH PARTY
- 3rd AUGUST - LETS GO WOMBELING
- 10th AUGUST - DIY SOS - FAURY GARDEN
- 17th AUGUST - 999 WHAT'S YOUR EMERGENCY?
- 24th AUGUST - MESSY PLAY AGAIN
- 31st AUGUST - YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN US

United Benefice of Allerton Bywater, Kippax and Swillington

PICNIC

at TEMPLE NEWSAM

Come together for a relaxed afternoon of fellowship, food and fun!

SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST

1:00PM - 3:00PM

Bring your own picnic and join us for a relaxed afternoon together. *Everyone is welcome!*

- Beautiful parkland & lakeside picnic areas
- Toilets & baby changing facilities available
- Cafés on site for drinks & treats
- Great for families - fun for all ages!

LOCATION: Temple Newsam, Leeds LS15 0AE

We look forward to seeing you there!

KAOS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

LEEDS CAN

noda

PLAGUE

A MEDIEVAL STORY OF HOPE, COMMUNITY... AND ROOT VEGETABLES

29TH JULY - 1ST AUGUST 2026

ST MARYS CHURCH YARD, KIPPAX
A UNIQUE OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE

CHURCH LN, KIPPAX, LEEDS LS25 7HF
TICKETS- WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/KAOS-PRODUCTIONS

regular events & information

For whom to contact and more information please see our contacts page below.

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 Gordon.

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 6.30pm. 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 Every Monday 1pm - 2.30pm (term time)

Community Choir Wednesdays 5pm - 6.30pm.

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 - (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>

What goes on at Baby Space?



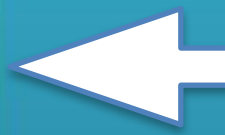


Holiday at Home

**MONDAYS
1-3PM
ST MARY THE LESS
ALLERTON BYWATER**

- 27TH JULY - BEACH PARTY
- 3RD AUGUST - LETS GO WOMBELING
- 10TH AUGUST - DIY SOS - FAURY GARDEN
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- 31ST AUGUST - YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN US

*Nothing to do in the holidays? Why not join us for "Holiday at Home?" All generations welcome to celebrate out community family together!**



**No Charge, but donations warmly invited, just bring what you can afford.*



Leeds Pride Celebration Service

**FRIDAY 17TH JULY 2026
LEEDS MINSTER, KIRKGATE, LS2 7DJ
7PM REFRESHMENTS
7:30PM SERVICE START**

All are welcome to this LGBTQ+ Pride service of reflection, poetry, prayer, song, and fun!



SAFEGUARDING BASIC AWARENESS TRAINING

Learning together to create safer church communities

**SATURDAY
11TH JULY**

10-12

**ST MARY THE LESS,
ALLERTON BYWATER**

**TO BOOK
YOUR PLACE,
CONTACT
REV'D SARAH**

07572 232540

sarah.harrison@leeds.anglican.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

Churchwardens

Allerton Bywater

Janet Purcell

janetpurcell558@yahoo.com

Lynne Tomlinson 01977 554285

lynnetom39@gmail.com

Kippax

Christine Bottom

07789 902666

csbottom49@gmail.com

Swillington

Dawn Marshall

01132 862314

dawnandjonathan@tiscali.co.uk

Diana Puxty

01132 864465

dianapuxty@hotmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Allerton Bywater

Gordon Linton

07866 388580

psostmaryallertonbywater@gmail.com

Kippax

Carly Pearson

07578 444396

psostmaryskippax@gmail.com

Swillington

Diana Puxty

07767 045511

psostmaryswillington@gmail.com

Treasurer

Allerton Bywater

Kathryn Bickerdike

stmarythelesstreasurer@gmail.com

Kippax

Kathryn Bickerdike

treasurerstmk@gmail.com



family news

It seems like things have been pretty busy as usual.

We had a great time last Sunday at Allerton Bywater with baby Ramona's baptism. The celebration starts in the church, not just in the bouncy castle!

We also have baptisms coming up at Allerton Bywater Erin, on the 12th and at Swillington it is Emmie Grace's turn on the 19th.

If you have family news you would like to include in the newsletter, please contact Rev Bob, Sarah or Jo.

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.

April 30th	Rev'd Jo
May 21st	Rev'd Bob
June 11th	Rev'd Sarah
July 2nd	Rev'd Jo

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 ☺

Treasurer

Swillington

James Puxty

james.puxty@yahoo.com

Choir

Kippax

Gaynor Chaplin

gmchaplin1948@gmail.com

Swillington

Susan Wheeler

susanwheeler6228@aol.com

Bellringing

Kippax & Swillington

Tim Cox (Tower Captain)

07708 049084

timcox381@gmail.com

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



prayers

Why not join us for Morning or evening prayer? Because "Time wasted in prayer is never wasted." Here are some suggestions for your own personal prayers.

- For our Archbishops: Sarah Mullally and Stephen Cottrell
- For the appointment of the next Bishop of Leeds and our Suffragan Bishop: Arun.
- For our Priests: Bob, Sarah, Gordon and Jo.
- 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 four house groups that study and pray together.
- Children's and youth work, especially our monthly all-age/ All Together services, Messy Church, Your Space, Baby Space, First Steps, Craft Café and our Youth House Group.
- Peace in our hearts, communities and the world.



stmarysbenefice.org

Growing faith + friendship + community