

St Mary's newsletter

Allerton Bywater + Kippax + Swillington



Happy Easter!

**He is risen, he is risen indeed,
Alleluia!**

Firstly, a thank you to everyone who prepared worship, reflections and walked with Jesus to the cross and shared in the joy of his resurrection. There were many highlights culminating in such joy in our Easter day services with 255 people attending across the three churches.

We shared the Easter story with over 1,000 school children during Holy Week with the beautiful shadow Easter tableaux written by Jo. We also had around 100 people at Messy Church at Kippax on Good Friday and the same at the Coffee Morning/YourSpace event on the Saturday.

Personal highlights for me were Gwilym's Compline on Monday. I loved the use of sound and quiet contemplation. Wednesday's Tenebrae with Rev Sarah, especially the surprise of hearing the theme from the film *Interstellar* and the Veneration of the Cross with Revd Jo on Friday and her stunning singing of the ancient

hymn on Sunday morning at the Service of Light; the Exultet. Thank you to the 20 hardy folks who joined our family at 5.30am on Easter Morning for a bonfire of the new light of Christ coming into the world. We managed to miss the wind!

As we heard the re-telling of the Exodus I was struck by Moses' response to the fears and complaints of the people who cried out that they would have been better serving the Egyptians in slavery than face slaughter. Moses said to the people, 'The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.' It reminded me of the great philosophers Fun Boy Three with Bananarama in 1984 singing 'Ain't what you do, it's the way that you do it'. Life is not always *East Enders* or requiring immediate or dramatic action. It is often better to wait. Timing is everything. It is God who acts and sometimes we need to be



still, step back and do the simple things we can do with love.

In a world of Trumpian rhetoric where everything in life is a deal or ambition, stillness, contemplation and gentleness are great defiant acts. When the world says 'might is right' or where we feel pushed to live the best life or get as much crammed into our 4,000 weeks on earth, at Easter God dies leaving stillness, ready to show that it is love that wins every time on Easter morning. So don't listen to Bananarama and 'Walk like an Egyptian' - walk with Jesus! Wishing you a very happy and peace filled Easter. *Rev'd Bob*

sunday worship

April 12th

2nd Sunday of Easter

9am Allerton Bywater Eucharist + Baptism
10.30am Kippax Sung Eucharist
10.30am Swillington Parish Communion
12.30pm Kippax Baptism of Madison & Robyn

April 19th

3rd Sunday of Easter

9am Allerton Bywater Eucharist
10.30am Kippax Sung Eucharist
10.30am Swillington Parish Communion

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

April 26th

4th Sunday of Easter

9am Allerton Bywater All age Eucharist
10.30am Kippax Sung Eucharist
10.30am Swillington Celtic Service



swillington
prayer

Third Saturday of the month
@ 11am

21/3, 18/4, 16/5, 20/6, 18/7, 15/8

Praying together for our church, our local community and those in need



church news

APCM Our Annual Parochial Church Meetings are coming up – a fantastic opportunity to look back on the last year and look forward to where God is leading us. All are welcome. The dates are...

Kippax 26th April 12noon

Swillington 26th April 12noon

Allerton Bywater 17th May 11am.

Electoral Roll Revision Our membership list is updated yearly. If you did not apply to go on the Electoral Roll last year when a new roll was published or you have joined us in the last year, then please do consider joining. The easiest way is online <https://stmarysbenefice.org>



FIRST STEPS
PlayGroup

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



Alternate Wednesdays
2.30-4.15pm
Kippax Church Hall
Next: April 15th



One of the tableaus from the Easter Service for schools

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.stmarysbenefice.com



news from the diocese

The Diocese of Leeds has been awarded over £11 million from the national church to significantly invest in children and young peoples' work, developing more leaders in our churches and supporting the next wave of grafts and plants in the city of Leeds. The funding, £7 million initially and a further £4 million in principle, has been awarded through the Church of England's Diocesan Investment Programme and will enable a new phase of the diocese's long-term strategy, Barnabas, which supports churches to live out our vision of confident Christians, growing churches and transforming communities. Our diocese is one of the largest dioceses in England, and this new funding recognises both the scale of opportunity and the scale of challenge facing churches across our diverse region, including areas of significant deprivation. The new award builds on earlier national investment and enables us to focus on four key areas, including equipping and empowering lay leadership, reaching and discipling children and young people, planting new congregations and revitalising existing churches, and further transforming the city of Leeds. Investment in these areas will continue to give every church the opportunity to grow in mission and sustainability. The Rt Revd Toby Howarth, Acting Bishop of Leeds, said: "This is very good news for the whole Diocese of Leeds. "It is a strong vote of confidence in our plans and in the direction we are travelling together. This funding will help us build on what is already bearing fruit, enabling confident Christians to be part of growing churches that truly transform their communities. "We are deeply encouraged that the national church shares our confidence in this vision and in the people and parishes who are bringing it to life."

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 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.

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 - 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>



Sound drum from Compline; death and resurrection trail from Messy Church

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

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Lynne Tomlinson 01977 554285

lynnetom39@gmail.com

Kippax

Christine Bottom

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Swillington

Dawn Marshall

01132 862314

dawnandjonathan@tiscali.co.uk

Diana Puxty

01132 864465

dianapuxty@hotmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Allerton Bywater

Gordon Linton

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Kippax

Carly Pearson

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Swillington

Diana Puxty

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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 Swillington with Josh's baptism followed by cake and muffins.

We also have baptisms coming up at Allerton Bywater – Phoenix; as well as Madison and Robyn at Kippax.

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.

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|------------|-------------|
| 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

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 new Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally
- For the appointment of the next Bishop of Leeds
- 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 Cafe and our Youth House Group.
- Peace in our hearts, communities and the world.



stmarysbenefice.org

Growing faith + friendship + community