

# St Mary's newsletter



Allerton Bywater + Kippax + Swillington

'See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.' 1 John 3:1-3 I've been thinking about hope recently. Last Sunday I ended up with labyrinthitis which is basically an ear infection which makes you feel dizzy and sick. I felt like I didn't have much hope. I'd been looking forward to visiting my family but knew it wouldn't be possible to travel on the train the next day no matter what I was feeling.

I reminded myself that all was not lost. I was able to cancel my hotel without having to pay anything and I've been able to reschedule my holiday. Hope wasn't lost. But there's an even greater hope that we can have in God.

God has lavished his love on us. One translation uses the word 'bestowed' – given to us. God has chosen to be in relationship with us. We haven't had to earn this love because it's freely given.

Who calls us the children of God? Paul quotes from the Old Testament: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." (2 Cor 6:18). The writer to the Hebrews, 'Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.' Romans 8:16 'The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 'Our hope is rooted in God and in our relationship with him as his children. We don't know what the future holds but we can know the one who holds the future. We can bring our circumstances to God first. In Hebrews 13 it says, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'

But how can we share this hope with others when we can't see it? When we look in a mirror, we see things clearly. In the ancient world mirrors were just made out of polished metal and the image distorted. 1 Corinthians 13:12 says, 'For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.'

We have hope because of the love God has shown us and experience hope in the knowledge we are God's children. Knowing this, we'll want to share God's hope with others. We're being transformed to become more like Jesus and in living for him, people can see the difference he makes in our lives. Let's keep praying for opportunities in which we can radiate God's love to others and give the reason for the hope we have. 1 Peter 3:15 says, 'But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.'

So what's God saying to you about hope? And what are you doing about it?

Rev'd Sarah

## 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](http://www.stmarysbenefice.com)



## sunday worship

### June 14<sup>th</sup>

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

### June 21<sup>st</sup>

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

### June 28<sup>th</sup>

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



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



QUIZ  
Night!

FUN FRIENDS PRIZES!

FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
7:00PM - 9:00PM

St Mary's Church, Swillington

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS

TICKETS £7.50 TO INCLUDE:

- ✓ QUIZ
- ✓ BINGO
- ✓ MINI PLOUGHMAN'S LIGHT SUPPER

BRING YOUR OWN ALCOHOL

TEA & COFFEE AVAILABLE

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

Contact PAT WRAGG  
07544 864448  
FOR TICKETS

SEE YOU THERE!

**St Mary's Church  
Kippax**

**Flower Festival**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

**10.00am until 2.00pm**

**also Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>**

**12.00 until 2.00pm**

**Refreshments**

**Come and get your Cream Tea's**



**SAFEGUARDING  
BASIC  
AWARENESS  
TRAINING**

Learning together to create safer church communities

**SATURDAY  
11<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

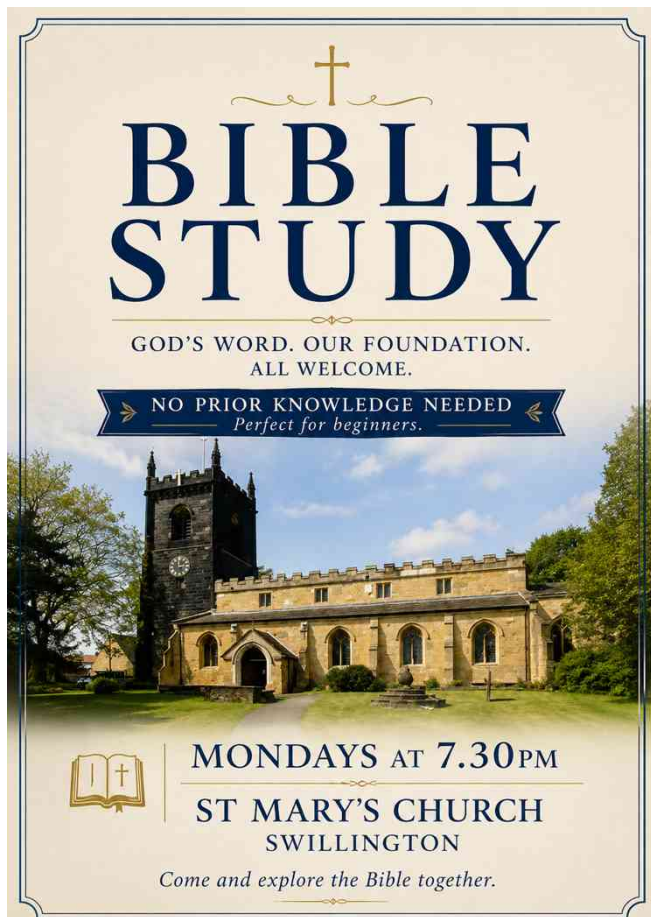
**10-12**

**ST MARY THE LESS,  
ALLERTON BYWATER**

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

**07572 232540**

**sarah.harrison@  
leeds.anglican.org**



**BIBLE  
STUDY**

GOD'S WORD. OUR FOUNDATION.  
ALL WELCOME.

**NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED**  
*Perfect for beginners.*

**MONDAYS AT 7.30PM**

**ST MARY'S CHURCH  
SWILLINGTON**

*Come and explore the Bible together.*



St Mary's Church, Kippax

Traditional  
**SONGS  
of  
PRAISE**

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
12 noon until 2.00pm  
Incorporating the Flower  
Festival

# 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

1. Most Mondays term time, 7pm. A chance to study, pray and socialise together. The Rectory, Church Lane, Kippax, LS25 7HF
2. Daytime bible study / house group Tuesday fortnightly in St Mary's Kippax, 11am (after service at 10am) June 16, 30. July 14, 28. August 11, 25

**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](mailto: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 / 07885 386932  
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**  
07725 722470  
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

**Dianne Wilford**  
07983 977130  
diannewilford87@gmail.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

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.

June 11th Rev'd Bob

July 2nd Rev'd Jo

## 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.

1. For the appointment of the next Bishop of Leeds
2. For those sick or bereaved.
3. Local food pantry hosted out of St Mary's Kippax.
4. Growth in numbers, spiritual depth and service to our community.
5. Work in the seven local schools.
6. The housebound and the care homes we visit
7. Our three house groups that study and pray together.
8. Children's and youth work, especially our monthly all-age/All Together services, Messy Church, Your Space, Craft Café and our Youth House Group.
9. Peace in our hearts, communities and the world.



[stmarysbenefice.org](http://stmarysbenefice.org)

Growing faith + friendship + community