

February Newsletter

From Christmas to Easter

ST MARY'S
CHURCH
BEVERLEY

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Christmas might seem like a distant memory, but it was only a few weeks ago that we were putting up their Christmas decorations, inviting family and friends and celebrating the birth of Jesus. Here at St Mary's, we welcomed thousands of people into church (over 2000 people to our Christingle services alone and over 5000 people for the festival of Christmas), sung hundreds of carols, ate vast numbers of mince pies and shared Christmas dinner together. We performed 'A Christmas Carol' and invited people to explore the Christian values that underpin the story and we explored the place of Angels in the Bible.

Just as the whirlwind of Christmas subsides, we see Easter Eggs in our shops and (some of us at least) are reminded the story does not end with the eagerly anticipate birth of a baby but moves on.... we leap from hearing how Jesus is noticed (at his baptism, when he turns water into wine) to his wilderness time before encountering his teaching and the mounting threats of the religious leaders before he walks the way of the cross. The whole Christian story is encapsulated in the short time between Dec 25th and April 5th. and it is a reminder that the spiritual life is not static. It grows, stretches, breaks open, and begins again. And each year, the journey invites you a little deeper.... where will it take you..



Trouble in Bethlehem
Our nativity for schools in church

Faith in Everyday Life introducing: Leanne Firth

My name is Leanne. I'm originally from Scarborough but have lived in Beverley for the past five years, which now feels very much like home. I live with my partner, Ellis, and my stepson, and I work in a demanding, people-focused job that has given me a strong appreciation for compassion, patience and understanding in everyday life.

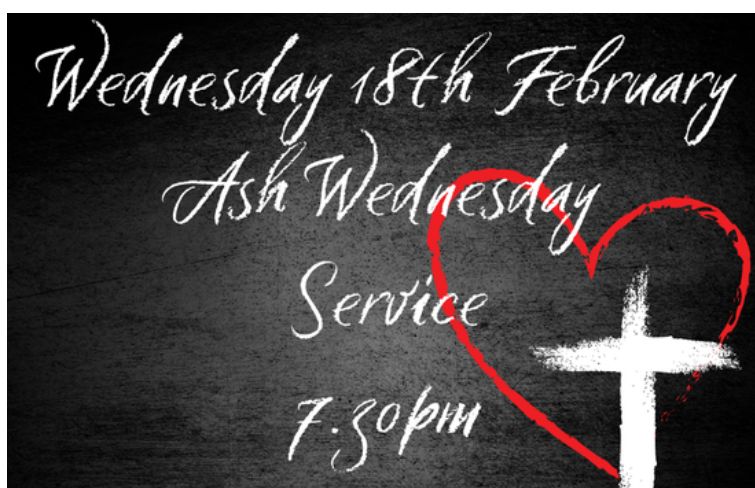
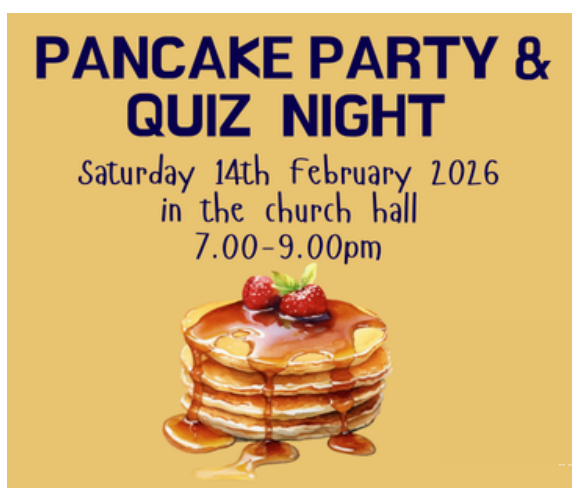
Outside of work, I find a lot of joy in simple, grounding things. I love baking for the people I care about, stressing over the amount of work I need to put into my allotment, and looking after my ever-growing collection of plants — including a steadily expanding number of terrariums (don't tell Ellis!).

I also enjoy getting lost in a good book, spending time with my family, especially Ellis, and being at home with my cats, who bring plenty of comfort and amusement.

I first went to church with my mum when I was younger, but like many people, I drifted away as life became busy. I returned to St Mary's on Ash Wednesday last year — which means it's almost my church anniversary now. Coming back felt natural and reassuring, like rediscovering something familiar that I hadn't realised how much I missed.

Faith now plays an important role in my everyday life. It gives me grounding and perspective, particularly during challenging times, and helps me to approach others with empathy, kindness and hope. Being part of the St Mary's community has brought a sense of peace, belonging and quiet joy.

Many thanks,
Leanne



Pancake Quiz - All are welcome

Come and share pancakes and test your quizzing skills.
Please contact the Church Office to let us know you are coming
and any food preference/ allergies. email:
stmarys.beverley@gmail.com

Next Vintage Years lunches: 24 February and 24 March. 12.30pm in the Parish Hall. Community Lift minibus to the lunch and back. We can pick you up and take you home again thanks to the Community Lift. Please let Carolyn or the Church Office know if this would make things easier (no parking worries!).

St. Mary`s Monday Singalong. 2-3.30 pm Parish Hall. This is a chance to sit down and sing through pop songs from the 40s-50s. Lots of old Elvis, Cliff Richard, Beatles and the like. You pay £3.50 and get a nice cuppa and “proper” wrapped biscuit in the interval to lubricate your voice. A lovely group of friendly people. Come and join us: just turn up! Dates: 2, 9 and 16 February; 2,9 and 16 March (that is: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Mondays).

Retiring Well Course. Starts on 6th February, Fridays, 5-7, finishing before Easter. Last call for participants! It will be at Elm Close, off Molescroft Road, Beverley. Phone Carolyn if you would like to join us. There’s still space for one or two.

Garden Pilgrimages: We have already had some suggestions of gardens to visit in February. It can be very cold outside in Jan/Feb, but if you have a little conservatory or somewhere to sit in the warm we could stay in and look out of your windows. Your garden does not have to be big and grand. Some of our favourite vintage years events take place with little groups of people in cosy places. We would love to get to know you better and small is beautiful. So, if you have lovely winter jasmine, Christmas roses, favourite clumps of snowdrops or great daffodils, we can come and cheer on your garden/pots and the Beverley spring! We have small extra folding chairs and you do not have to provide any refreshments. As pilgrims, we bring our own to share (even the cups!). Text or phone Carolyn. We stay 30-40 minutes and say short prayers for your home and enjoy a drink together.

Anna Chaplaincy: “Spiritual Caregivers Course”. A very interesting 8-week course to support those caring for older, lonely or vulnerable people. We will be offering it again in the spring, probably beginning in April. Please text Carolyn if you are interested.

Marmalade Workshop. We are aiming for 3 February, Tuesday, at Carolyn’s house. It will be less glue- like than last year’s—promise! We make real marmalade from scratch and you all get a jar to keep. The rest is for church breakfasts. All welcome. Please talk to Carolyn.

Welcome Back!

It is a joy to welcome Roland Deller back to St Mary's. Roland was our Director of Development from 2018 - 2021 and a great friend to St Mary's. He will be with us for 6 months as finish off our feasibility study for the National Lottery Heritage Fund. He is keen to meet with people and talk about what is happening so please do not hesitate to get in touch -
roland.deller@stmarysbeverley.org



New to St Mary's Church?

On Sunday 1st February we will be hosting a Welcome Afternoon Tea in the Church Hall at 3pm.

You are welcome to join us to find out more about our activities and services and make some friends

Women's Meet



Here a few pictures from our 2025 gatherings to inspire you. Lots more adventures to come .

14th February

10am Coffee & Heritage update with Fiona Jenkinson @ Carluccios

7.30pm Women's Meet Quiz table at the Pancake and Quiz Night.

Please let Alice Lee or the office know that you can come

20/3/2026 Needle-felting - Please tell Alice or the Church Office that you can come,

Other dates with more details to follow:

11.4.2026, 9.5.2026, 20.6.2026, 25.7.2026

Join our Welcoming Team

Join our lovely team of volunteers who share our beautiful church building with visitors through the week. For more information please contact the Church Office by email or telephone us to let us know you are interested

Men Meet

**Erik's Kitchen Curry Night
Friday 20th February
@7.30pm in Parish hall.**



Lamb +Karachi Curry + pilau rice, salad+ cucumber + mint raita.

Cost: £5(cash only).

Places limited: 22 only. £5 cash secures place.

You bring: own drinks and pickles.

Please email Steve Parkin

sparkin55@hotmail.com

to book and bring £5 cash asap to secure a place.

CHURCH STARS

A GROUP FOR ADULTS WITH SEND

A safe space for adults with SEND + their carers to meet and explore faith

Refreshments, welcome, Bible story, table activity, games & relaxing
18 years -29 years

St Mary's Church Hall, Beverley

2.00pm -3.30pm

2nd Sunday of each month

For more information please speak to Ann McGowan, Amelia McGowan, or Gill Gregory or contact the Church Office

Christmas 2025!





2,000 people in
St Mary's Church
celebrating
the light of Christ
this afternoon



#christingle



Easter 2026



Mon 30th March	7.30pm-8.30pm	Holy Week Reflection
Tues 31st March	6pm onwards	Agape Meal* in Church Hall
Wed 1st April	7.30pm-8.30pm	Holy Week Reflection
	8.30pm-9.00pm	Candlelit Sung Compline
Thurs 2nd April	10.00am-10.30am	Holy Communion
	7.30pm-8.30pm	Maundy Thursday Communion
Good Friday	10.45am-11.15am	Walk of Witness from Minster to St Marys
	11.15am-12.15pm	Good Friday Passion Play
Sat 4th April	10.00am-11.30am	Holy Week Reflection with James Jones
	1.30pm-3.30pm	Children's Easter Activities in Church Hall
	8.00pm-8.45pm	'Around the Fire' Holy Saturday Service
Easter Sunday	8.00am-8.45am	Easter Holy Communion
	9.15am-10.15am	Easter Day Breakfast in the Hall*
	10.30am-11.30am	Easter Celebration with Communion
	6.30pm-7.30pm	Easter Choral Communion

*Booking required - stmarys.beverley@gmail.com or 869137

www.stmarysbeverley.org

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Holy Saturday Reflection

We are delighted that The Right Reverend James Jones will be leading our Holy Saturday Reflection! Please pop the date in your diary Saturday 4th April from 10am-11.30am

James is an excellent speaker with an impressive career and is particularly well known his work supporting those who were affected by the Hillsborough Football Disaster, as well as his media appearances.

He was Bishop of Hull (1994 - 1998) and Bishop of Liverpool (1998 - 2013).

He was a member of the House of Lords from 2003 - 2013 speaking on criminal and restorative justice issues, the environment and urban regeneration. He served on the House of Lords Communications Committee.

In 2009 the Bishop was appointed by the Home Secretary to chair the Hillsborough Independent Panel examining all the documentation concerning the death of 96 (now 97) Liverpool football fans at the 1989 FA Cup Semi-final. The Panel reported in September 2012 and this led to the quashing of the original inquests. He served as Adviser to the Home Secretary on Hillsborough as new investigations proceeded, chairing a Forum that brought together the Families of the 96 with the Independent Police Complaints Commission, the Crown Prosecution Service and Operation Resolve. This enabled them to be informed of the investigations into the deaths of their loved ones.

He has a particular interest in environmental issues. He founded Faiths4Change which brings together people of all faiths working on environmental projects.



Bishop James presented the award winning Radio 4 series 'the Bishop and the Prisoner' (2012) and also 'The Bishop and the Banker' (2013). He continues to contribute to Radio 4's Thought for the Day. He presented the Good Friday Meditation on BBC Radio 4 2019 and the Documentary 'The Day When God Was Dead' on 7th and 8th April 2023. He presented 'Said the Actor to the Bishop' about the life and faith of the actor and comedian Kenneth Williams on 'Archive on Four' on BBC Radio 4 on 12th April 2025 (Available on BBC Sounds). His books include:

Why Do People Suffer? (Lion), With my Whole Heart (SPCK)

Jesus and the Earth (SPCK), 'Justice for Christ's Sake' (SPCK) Commended by Theresa May, Baroness Hale, Andy Burnham and Jeremy Vine.



Our Golden Eagle

You might have noticed that our lovely golden eagle is perched at the side of church. He is just resting awaiting repair and we will return to using the lectern as soon as possible. If you have any concerns please speak to Becky or a church warden.

February 2026 Worship

Monday - Wednesday every week

8.30am Morning Prayer
in the Church Hall

Sunday 1 February: Epiphany 4

Micah 6:1-8, Matthew 5:1-12

8am Holy Communion

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mrs Carolyn Kirk

9.30am Parish Holy Communion

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mrs Carolyn Kirk

11.15am The 11.15 Service

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mrs Gill Gregory

6.30pm BCP Holy Communion Service

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mr John Edmond

Thursday 5 February

10am Holy Communion Service

Leader and Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley

Sunday 8 February: Epiphany 5

Isaiah 58:1-9a, Matthew 5:13-20

8am Holy Communion

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mr Steve Parkin

9.30am Parish Holy Communion

Leader and Preacher:

Revd Becky Lumley

9.30am Bubble Church

in the Church Hall

Leaders: Helena and

Bubble Church Team

11.15am The 11.15 Service with Communion

Leader and Preacher:

Revd Becky Lumley

2pm Church Stars in the Hall

6.30pm Evensong

Leader: Mrs Carolyn Kirk

Preacher: Mr Steve Parkin

7pm The Praise Service

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mr Ian Jackson

Thursday 12 February

10am Holy Communion Service

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mrs Gill Gregory

Saturday 14 February

7pm Celtic Communion Service

Sunday 15 February: Transfiguration

2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9

8am Holy Communion

Leader and Preacher:

Revd Becky Lumley

9.30am Parish Holy Communion

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mr John Edmond

11.15am The 11.15 Service

Leader and Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley

6.30pm Evensong

Leader: Mr Steve Parkin

Preacher: Mr John Edmond

Wednesday 18th February

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday 19th February

10am Holy Communion Service

Leader and Preacher: Canon Erik Wilson

22nd February: Lent 1

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7, Matthew 4:1-11

8am Holy Communion

Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Preacher: Mrs Gill Gregory

9.30am Parish Holy Communion

Leader and Preacher:

Revd Becky Lumley

11.15am The 11.15 Service

Leader: Mr Simon Pike

Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley

6.30pm Evensong

Leader: Mr John Edmond

Preacher: Mrs Gill Gregory

Thursday 26th February

10am Holy Communion Service

Leader and Preacher:

Revd Becky Lumley

Saturday 28th February

7pm Celtic Evening Prayer

with Prayers for Healing

Leaders: Mr Steve Parkin,

Mr John Edmond



If you would like to know more about our children and youth groups including Church Lads and Church Girl's Brigade please contact the office.

Church Office	01482 869137 stmarys.beverley@gmail.com
Vicar Becky Lumley	07584 906812 vicar.stmarys.beverley@gmail.com
Wardens	Jill Edmond Nigel Whiting Ian Jackson Ruth Stebbens

**All safeguarding concerns are taken extremely seriously.
Please contact James Haggart on 07810 798475 if you have a concern.**