The Newsletter

ST MARY'S CHURCH
BEVERLEY

NOVEMBER 2026

Remembering

Remembering is something we all do every day. We recall experiences from the past and they shape our choices in the present.

Yet remembering is more than an everyday habit. For people of faith, it is a sacred discipline. Throughout the Old Testament, God repeatedly commands his people to remember. Israel is told to remember their slavery in Egypt and God's mighty act of liberation. The Passover becomes a living reminder of God's saving power.

In the New Testament, remembrance stands at the heart of Christian worship. On the night before his death, Jesus took bread and wine and said, "Do this in remembrance of me." Whenever we gather at the Lord's Table, we remember not only Christ's death but also his resurrection and the hope of his coming kingdom.

This is a season of remembering. On the 11th November we will remember those who have served and those who have offered sacrifice in conflicts and wars. This is a national remembrance and how we remember is important, Nations remember their past in ways that shape their identity and influence their future. Different people tell different stories about history, often to support different visions of society. How we remember matters, because memory shapes action.

As Christians, our task is to understand national remembrance in the light of the gospel. We remember those who have died in war, but we do so as disciples of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Each time we pray, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," we express a holy impatience for a world where violence and conflict are no more.

We remember in this way because we know that how we remember shapes our choice today. As we remember the horrors of violence we do all we can to build a Kingdom of Peace.

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Next Vintage Lunch

Tuesday 24 November
12:30 - 15:00

From Boy to Man: Mark Sykes
Tuesday 3rd November
13:15 - 15:00
St Mary's Church Hall

Talk in the church hall about Sledmere and world war one. With refreshments.

We are delighted to welcome Heather Sugdon from Sledmere Hall to talk about the youth and short adulthood of this local politician and diplomat. We will serve First World War rock cakes, penny sandwiches, and a wartime brew in a mug. Come for a fascinating talk and friendship. All are welcome!
Free Entry but we welcome donations to help with our funds.

Anna Chaplaincy Training Day.
4 November.
Beverley Minster Parish Rooms.

Rev. Dr. Keith Albans is fantastic. He is the Chair of Christians on Ageing and Professor Google will give you a complete list of his experience and credentials. A group from St. Mary's Church will be there leading one of the workshops. Do come and support us and be prepared for a wonderful day of inspiration about work with older people and Anna Chaplaincy.
Please let Carolyn know if you would like to attend.

Bookstall: Books and cards.
24 November & 15 December:
Bookstall.

Pre-loved books and hand-made cards will be on sale to subsidise the cost of our coach to Burton Agnes at our next lunch and our tea on 15 December. The cards are beautiful and unique, made by Ann Jepson, and our high-quality fiction is a donation from Kathy Doughty. Huge thanks to both these people.

Remembrance Vintage Lunch.
24 November. Vintage Meal.
12.30 in the church hall.

The theme is "Remembrance". Bring a photo of one of your loved heroes to put on our table of remembrance. We will say a short prayer of thanks over them all, and also prepare for Advent.

Christmassy Tea: Singing and quiz.
15 December at Harvest Court.
1.30-3.30 pm .

Harvest Court is the same entrance as Manor Road Health Centre and Pharmacy on Manor Road, but turn right instead of left. It is the wide, modern building on the right, past the nursery, with a garden and car park in front of it.





VINTAGE

Special Outing to Burton Agnes Hall
Tuesday 22nd December

Burton Agnes Trip. 22 December. A coach trip to Burton Agnes Hall, beautifully decorated with hand-made items, many from the house's own walled gardens. We will leave from outside church at 9.45 am and be back at church before 5 pm. Your £30 ticket includes the cost of transport, there and back, entry to the hall and gardens, and a Christmassy packed lunch.

We can offer a gluten-free and vegan alternative if you let us know in advance. Feel free to invite a friend or family member over 18 to come along with you. The more the merrier! The ticket cost of £30 is actually less than our actual cost per person, which is nearer £35.

If anyone would like to anonymously gift one of our older people a free ticket, please contact Carolyn Kirk or John Faulkner. Such Christmas generosity will be much appreciated.

The vicar of Burton Agnes Church (St. Martin's) is delighted to let us eat our lunch in the church, if it is cold and wet, and we will conclude with a Christmas blessing and a carol before we get on the bus. The church is right next to the house and easily accessible. Burton Agnes has a small café where we can buy our own cake and hot drink; although their larger café space is presently closed, they do have a heated tent for bought refreshments.

This trip will replace the December Vintage Lunch.







Pictures of our fabulous October Vintage meal including our prayer tree. With thanks to all who helped

Faith in Everyday Life: Sue Merryweather

Many of us know Sue through her involvement in church life, but there is much more to her story. From her Scottish upbringing and nursing career to her deep faith and family life, Sue has lived a life shaped by caring for others and trusting God.

Family and Roots

When asked to describe herself, Sue's first thoughts are not about her career but about the people she loves.

"I'm a wife and a mum," she says. Together with her husband Mark, she has three children: Isaac, Yasmin and Aisla. Many at St Mary's will have seen them around church over the years. Isaac has set up home in the North East, Yasmin has recently completed her sports therapy degree and is looking to develop business, while Isla living in Guildford playing rugby and studying.

Although Sue has spent many years in East Yorkshire, she was actually born in Exeter. At the age of two, following her parents' divorce, she moved to Scotland, where she grew up in a village outside Glasgow, close to her grandmother.

Church was at the heart of family life. Her grandmother was an elder in the church, a role her mother later took on as well. Both were involved in flower arranging, and Sue joined the choir as soon as she was old enough to read. Those early experiences gave her a strong foundation of faith and lifelong friendships.

Like many students before her, Sue came to Hull to study and simply never left.



Sue with daughter Yasmin

Meeting Mark

Sue and Mark's story began through church connections in Beverley.

While working in Hull, a colleague told her about a group called the 20's Group, a gathering of young Christians from churches across Beverley. The group met regularly for Bible study, fellowship and social activities, bringing together people in their late teens, twenties and beyond.

"It became much more than a Bible study group," Sue recalls. "It was a real friendship group."

Members would meet for Bible study during the week, often followed by time in the pub, and many strong friendships grew out of those gatherings.

Mark was one of the key people involved in organising the group. Sue remembers noticing him long before they became a couple.

"I remember saying to a friend that there was something about his eyes," she says with a smile.

At the time both were seeing other people, but eventually their friendship developed, and the rest is history.

A Life of Caring

From an early age Sue knew she wanted a career that involved helping people.

"I used to say I wanted to be either a nurse or a hairdresser," she laughs. "If you'd seen my daughters' hair when they were younger, you'd know why I didn't become a hairdresser!"

Sue Merryweather (cont.)

Nursing proved to be the perfect fit. She studied nursing at Hull University before working in hospitals across the Hull area, including the former Princess Royal Hospital and later the Royal Infirmary, where she worked in Accident and Emergency.

Over the years Sue has worked in a wide variety of nursing roles. Today she works in renal services, travelling across Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and occasionally Teesside.

What has remained constant is her desire to care, support and advocate for others. “I think caring for people is part of who I am,” she says.

Her faith has played an important role in her professional life too. During her years in emergency care, Sue often found herself supporting people and families at the end of life. She was passionate about ensuring patients could access spiritual support, whatever their faith background.
“That was always really important to me,” she says.

Faith in Everyday Life
Sue is refreshingly honest about the realities of Christian discipleship.
“I’d love to say I have a perfect routine every day,” she admits, “but life doesn’t always work like that.”
She values resources such as Lectio 365 to help her focus on God amid the busyness of life. More and more, she has discovered that prayer can happen anywhere.
Because her current role involves a great deal of driving, much of her prayer life takes place on the road.
“I find myself having little conversations with God as I’m driving,” she says.

For Sue, faith is not confined to church buildings. Whether travelling through the Yorkshire countryside or facing the challenges of daily life, she is reminded of God’s presence and creativity in the world around her.
She also finds great comfort in Sunday evening worship and traditional hymns. “It never stops surprising me how the Psalms are so relevant today.”

The same is true, she believes, of Scripture itself. “The Bible isn’t a dusty old book that sits on a shelf. It’s full of things we need for today. Whatever is happening in life, there is always something there to guide and support us.”

Looking Ahead
As she looks to the future, Sue’s greatest hope is for her children.
“My biggest dream is that my children achieve their dreams and are happy,” she says.
She also looks forward to spending more time with Mark as the demands of work ease in the years ahead. Together they hope to explore more of the world, enjoy the countryside, go walking and simply spend time together.
Both Sue and Mark have spent much of their lives serving their communities, and Sue hopes that in the future they will be able to devote even more time to serving others.

For now, however, she continues to balance family, faith and work with the same compassion and commitment that have characterised her life from the beginning.

As anyone who knows Sue will tell you, caring for others is not just what she does. It is who she is.



TUESDAY 1ST DECEMBER
Doors 18.00 / Show starts 18.30

🎄 **A Jam-Packed Crooked Christmas Comedy!** 🎄
⭐ The Shepherd, the Star and the Crooked Christmas Plot! ⭐
Looking for festive fun for all the family this Christmas?
Join us for a hilarious, heartwarming Christmas adventure
from the acclaimed Riding Lights Theatre Company.

A magical star appears in the East, pointing the way to a secret treasure. But two mischievous shepherds & their naughty sheep have other ideas! Can they steal the star and make their fortunes, or will amazing angels, crazy carpenters & wise men with a wool allergy get in their way?

This show will delight children, parents, grandparents and everyone in between.

Ticket Prices
Adults: £10
Children: £5
Family Ticket: £20 (up to 2 adults and 4 children)
Under 5s: Free

All children under 16 must be accompanied by a paying adult (18+).

⏰ Running Time: 50 minutes

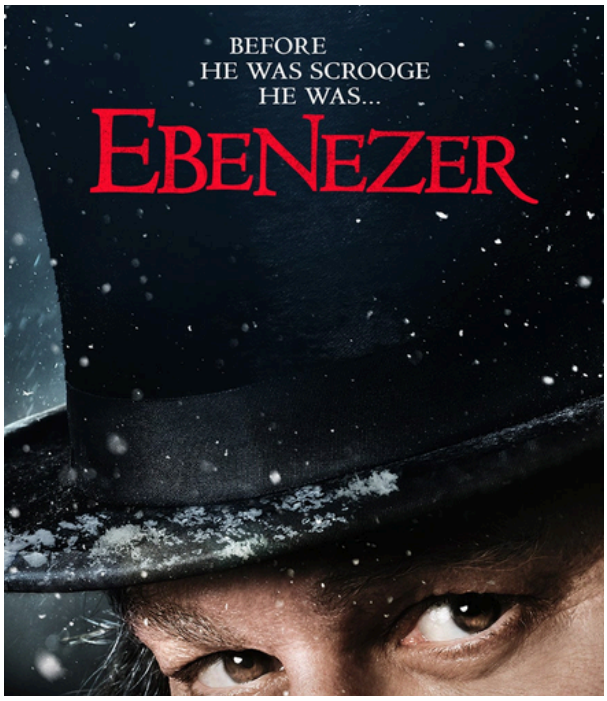
☕ Refreshments
Hot and cold refreshments available before the performance.

🎄 Don't Miss This Festive Treat!
Book your tickets today and flock to this wonderful Christmas comedy!

⭐ Audience Reviews ⭐
"Zany, energetic and rife with well-honed slapstick and physical comedy." — Review Wizard
"A production which is equal fun for adults and children."
— The Reviews Hub

Christmas 2026

Tue 01 Dec	6.00pm - 7.30pm	Riding Lights Theatre Company present... A Very Crooked Christmas Ticket Prices: Adults: £10 Children: £5 Family Ticket: £20 (up to 2 adults and 4 children. Under 5s: Free
Sun 13 Dec	10.00 am-4pm	Festival of Christmas Carols Carol services at 10am, 11am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm
Thur 17 Dec	6.30pm-9.45pm	Carols by Candlight Our traditional 9 lessons and carols lit in beautiful candlelight
Sat 19 Dec	09.00am- 12.00noon	Drop in for mince pies and carols (choir begins at 11am) There is a small charge of £3.50 for refreshments and mince pies.
Sun 20 Dec	11.15am-12.30pm	Family Nativity Feel free to bring children in nativity costumes
	4.00-4.45pm	A Quiet Christmas Service
Christmas Eve	11.15am-12noon 1.00pm-1.45pm 2.30pm-3.15pm 4.30pm-5.15pm	Christingle Services Wonder-filled services for families with oranges, sweets and candles
	11.30pm-12.30am	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day	8.00am-8.45am 10.30am-11.30am	Christmas Holy Communion Christmas Celebration Communion
Thur 31 Dec	6.30pm-7.30pm	New Year's Eve Service Followed by nibbles & glass of wine



ADVENT COURSE 2026

A four-session Advent course using the film Ebenezer as a way into exploring Advent faith, repentance, hope, and the coming of Christ.

A Christmas Carol is beloved because it mirrors the Christian journey: remembering the past, facing the truth of the present, and living differently because of hope for the future. Like Advent itself, it calls us to wake up, prepare, and welcome transformation.

In this Bible study, we'll explore this timeless Christmas classic alongside Scripture, discovering themes of redemption, repentance, generosity, forgiveness, eternity, and transformed hearts.

Join us for thoughtful discussion, warm fellowship, and a deeper appreciation of the message of redemption that Christmas proclaims.

sign up

Session 1 - Saturday 14th November - Trip to cinema to see Ebenezer

Session 2 - Thursday 19th November - Hearing the Call to Change

Session 3 - Thursday 26th November - Remembering Grace

Session 4 - Thursday 3rd December - Christ Among Us

Session 5 - Thursday 10th December - Hope and Judgement

sign up



The Alpha Course

You're Invited to Alpha

Life is full of questions...

Why am I here? Is there more to life than this?
Does God care about me?

Alpha is a place to explore life's biggest questions i
n a warm, welcoming, and relaxed setting.

Whether you've never been to church, have been away for a while, or simply want to discover more about the Christian faith, Alpha is for you.

Everyone is welcome, and no question is off limits.

Each evening includes:
Refreshments and conversation
A short film exploring a Christian theme
Friendly discussion in small groups
A chance to ask questions and share thoughts

Alpha Course
📅 Starting Thursday 21 January
📍 St Mary's Church Hall
⏳ Eight-week course (with a break on 25 February)

Come and discover...
Who is Jesus?
Why did he die?
How can I have faith?
Does prayer make a difference?
How can I make the most of the rest of my life?
There's no charge, no pressure, and no expectation. Just a chance to explore faith, find friendship, and discover more about God.

To find out more or reserve a place, please contact:
stmarys.beverley@gmail.com
01482 869137



"Come and see." (John 1:46)

We would love to welcome you.

November 2026 Worship

Monday - Wednesday every week
8.30am Morning Prayer, in the Church Hall

Sunday 01 November - All Saints
Revelation 7. 9-17 Matthew 5. 1- 12
8am Holy Communion
Leader: Revd Becky Lumley
Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley
9.30am Parish Holy Communion
Leader: Canon Erik Wilson
Preacher Revd Becky Lumley
11.15am: 11.15 Service with Communion
Leader: Revd Becky Lumley
Preacher: Revd. Becky Lumley
6.30pm BCP Communion
Leader: Revd Michael Yates
Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley

Thursday 05 November
10am: Holy Communion Service
Revelation 7. 9-17 Matthew 5. 1- 12
Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Sunday 08 November - Remembrance Micah 4:1-5 John 15:9-17
8am Holy Communion
Leader: Revd Becky Lumley
Preacher: Mr John Edmond
9.30am Bubble Church in the Hall
Led by Helena and the Team
9.30am Parish Holy Communion
Leaders: Mr John Edmond
Preacher: Revd. Becky Lumley
11.15am The 11.15 Service
Leader: Mr Carl Dixon
Preacher: Mr Ian Jackson
6.30pm Evensong
Leader: Revd Michael Yates
Preacher; Mr Steve Parkin
7pm The Praise Service in the Hall
Leader: Revd Becky Lumley

Thursday 12 November
Joshua 24:1-3a Matthew 25. 1- 13
10am: Holy Communion Service
Leader & preacher: Revd Becky Lumley

Saturday 14 November
7pm Celtic Communion Service
Leader & Preacher: Revd Michael Yates

Sunday 15 November
Judges 4: 1-7 Matthew 25: 14 - 30
8am Holy Communion
Leader and Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley
9.30am Parish Holy Communion
Leaders: Revd Hannah Moore
Preacher: Dr Carolyn Kirk
11.15am The 11.15 Service with faith in everyday life
Leader: Revd Becky Lumlyy
Preacher: Canon Erik Wilson
6.30pm Evensong
Leader: Mrs Gill Gregory
Preacher; Mr John Edmond

Thursday 19 November
Judges 4: 1-7 Matthew 25: 14 - 30
10am: Holy Communion Service
Leader: Revd Becky Lumley
Preacher: Mr Steve Parkin

Sunday 22 November
Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24; Matthew 25.31-46
8am Holy Communion
Leader: Revd Michael Yates
Preacher: Mr John Edmond
9.30am Parish Holy Communion
Leader: Mr John Edmond/Revd Becky Lumley
Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley
11.15am The 11.15 Service
Leader and preacher Revd Becky Lumley
6.30pm Evensong
Leader: Mrs Gill Gregory
Preacher: Revd Hannah Moore

November 2026 Worship continued

Thursday 26 November
10am: Holy Communion Service
Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24; Matthew 25.31-46
Leader and Preacher: Revd Hannah Moore

Saturday 28 November
No Celtic Service this evening.

Sunday 29 November - Advent 1
Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-37
8am Holy Communion
Leader and Preacher: Revd Becky Lumley
9.30am Parish Holy Communion
Leaders: Revd Becky Lumley
Preacher: Revd Hannah Moore
11.15am The 11.15 Service
Leader: Mrs Gill Gregory
Preacher: Revd Hannah Moore
6.30pm Compline
Leader: Revd Becky Lumley
Preacher: Dr Carolyn Kirk



We remember with gratitude those who are no longer with us, yet remain part of our church family. Their faith, kindness and presence have helped shape our shared life, and we hold their names and memories in our prayers. May we continue to honour them by living out the love and hope they shared with us.

Mrs Kathleen Noblett
30th November

Church Office	01482 869137 stmarys.beverley@gmail.com
Vicar Becky Lumley	07584 906812 vicar.stmarys.beverley@gmail.com
Older People's Pastoral Worker Carolyn Kirk	07910018085 carolynkirk@gmail.com
Parish Safeguarding Officer James Haggart	07810 798475
Wardens	Jill Edmond Nigel Whiting Ian Jackson Ruth Stebbens

Our newsletter is the best way to hear about worship, community events, opportunities to get involved, and life at St Mary's Beverley. Sign up and stay connected with our church family.

New Discipleship Group Beginning Soon

Mark and Sue Merryweather are hosting a new discipleship group at their home in Beverley on Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm to 8.30pm.

Drawing on the riches of Celtic spirituality, the group will explore ways of deepening our relationship with God through prayer, reflection, Scripture, and Christian fellowship.

Whether you are new to discipleship groups or have been part of one before, you are warmly invited to come along and journey together in faith.

Contact the church office for more information



St Catherine's Church Leconfield

Sat 21 Nov	12.00pm -14.30pm A warm welcome and refreshments	Church Christmas Fayre
Thurs 26 Nov	7pm	Celtic Evening Prayer
Sat 12 Dec	10.00 am	Holly & Ivy Talk Talk by John Killingbeck on Winter Folklore and Christian Symbolism Tickets £6 incl. refreshments - Contact Anna 07510 671573
Sun 20 Dec	3:00 pm with refreshments afterwards.	Christingle Service with Carols with our own White Rose Singers
Thurs 24 Dec	3:00pm	Crib Service led by lay readers from St. Mary's This is specially aimed at Children but all are welcome