Diocese of York Newsletter

News from the Church of England between the Humber and the Tees

May 2015

New Bishop of Hull and new Archdeacon of Cleveland

On Wednesday 25th March, Archbishop Sentamu announced our new Bishop of Hull - the Revd Canon Alison White, and our new Archdeacon of Cleveland - the Revd Sam Rushton.

The official announcements were made at Bishopthorpe Palace, where the choir of Archbishop of York's CofE Junior School, Bishopthorpe, sang at a service in the chapel.

The Revd Canon Alison White then visited places in her new Archdeaconry - Archbishop Sentamu Academy in Hull, and All Saints Church in Kilham, near Driffield. At Archbishop Sentamu Academy, Alison was welcomed by Principal Andrew Chubb and the school's choir, and treated to lunch (and lots of media interviews!).

All Saints Church threw Alison a party to welcome her, with jazz from the Rev Ray trio, a song from the children of Kilham CofE Primary School, and an amazing afternoon tea (with bubbly) courtesy of All Saints Church.

There's more on our new Bishop and Archdeacon in following pages. Welcome to the Diocese Alison and Sam!

New Bishop of Hull

The Revd Canon Alison White, priest-in-charge of Riding Mill in the Diocese of Newcastle and Diocesan Adviser for Spirituality and Spiritual Direction, has been appointed as the Bishop Suffragan of the See of Hull. Alison will be consecrated on Friday 3 July, at 11.00 am, at York Minster.

As Bishop of Hull, Alison will also have diocesan-wide responsibilities both as Ambassador for Prayer, Spiritual & Numerical Growth and Ambassador for Urban Life & Faith. Alison is married to Bishop Frank White, Assistant Bishop of Newcastle.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu said: "This is a joyous day! I am delighted to be welcoming Alison as the next Bishop of Hull. Whilst she will be working with others across the Diocese of York encouraging faith in urban life, she will have particular responsibilities for the vibrant city of Hull and the glorious coastline and countryside of the East Riding. Alison is a person of real godliness and wisdom – it is fantastic that she has accepted God's call to make Christ visible together with all of us in this Diocese of York."

The Revd Canon Alison White said: "In 2010, I was privileged to be invited to take part in the York Diocesan Clergy Conference where I got a profound sense of a Diocese with faith and hope. I know that

there is a real vision to be Generous Churches Making and Nurturing Disciples and can't wait to be part of loving God and growing the Church in this great part of Yorkshire".

Following a degree in English at Durham, Alison studied Theology at Cranmer Hall, Durham, and completed her title at Chester-le-Street in the Diocese of Durham, as deaconess from 1986, deacon from 1987 and priest from 1994. From 1989 to 1993 she served as Durham's Diocesan Adviser in Local Mission. She then spent 5 years as Director of Mission and Pastoral Studies at Cranmer Hall. She served as Diocesan Director of Ordinands also in Durham Diocese for 2 years and then nationally as part of the Springboard Team for 4 years.

On moving to the Diocese of Peterborough she served 5 years as an Adult Education Officer for the Diocese before moving to the Diocese of Newcastle in 2011.

New Archdeacon of Cleveland

The Revd Samantha Rushton, Diocesan Adviser for Licensed Ministry, Warden of Readers, Area Dean of Chippenham and Associate Minister of the North Chippenham Group of Churches in the Diocese of Bristol, has been appointed as the next Archdeacon of Cleveland.

In addition to her role as Archdeacon of Cleveland, Samantha will hold the diocesan-wide portfolio of Warden of Readers.

Samantha will be collated and licensed as Archdeacon of Cleveland on 6 May at St Peter & St Paul's Church, Pickering at 7.30pm.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu said: "It is fantastic to be able to welcome Sam to the team. These are exciting times for the Diocese of York as we seek to grow as Generous Churches Making and Nurturing Disciples. Sam brings with her a wealth of experience both inside and outside the Church and will be a great encouragement to us all as we seek to make Christ visible together in all that we do".

The Revd Samantha Rushton said: "I'm delighted to accept my new role as Archdeacon of Cleveland. It will be a great pleasure to build on the work that Bishop Paul has already started and to get to know people and places which are new to me. I am especially looking forward to experiencing the spirituality of the North East and learning more about the pioneering ministry of St Hilda – a lovely echo of my undergraduate days in Oxford".

The Rt Revd Lee Rayfield, Bishop of Swindon, said, "It is no surprise to us that Sam has been appointed as an Archdeacon; her particular gifts for holding together the big picture without losing touch with the smaller one will be well used in the service of the Lord Jesus."

Samantha studied for an MA in Pure and Applied Biology at St Hilda's College, Oxford, and worked in the banking sector, latterly as Head of Customer Service Improvement Programme for Lloyds TSB Business Banking, before her call to ordination. She studied Theology at Trinity College, Bristol, was ordained deacon in 2005 and priested in 2006.

She is married to Peter and they have two children, Matthew and Adam.

A message from Canon White

This is an adventure I had never imagined setting out on!

My experience of life and ministry is that it is full of God's surprises and this is certainly the greatest. When I first suspected that God might have designs on my life I did all that I could to find reasons to escape. I have learnt over time that this God who made us, knows us and loves us gives us good gifts. I have found that it is easy to see the gifts and potential in others and often much harder to see them in ourselves. So I am trusting the discernment of all those who are responsible for bringing me to this day.

My own experience is that discovering personally and together what we are for and about unfolds over time. The Church is no different in that. This call to be Bishop of Hull comes to me at a creative time in the Church's life. There are all kinds of possibilities and challenges locally and nationally. I believe we need to make the most of everyone's contribution to God's project of human flourishing. I take inspiration from Jesus always coming to share our lives, whatever is going on. I trust that I may be able to follow his example.

I am really excited about coming to this part of the world with all your stories and characters. It is such a good time to be part of what is happening in Hull and the East Riding and across the Diocese of York. The great thing about the Church of England is that we are part of the gospel being around in every community, made real in us ordinary people. I want to be part of that and to give confidence that we have something vital to contribute wherever we live. The video made for the Hull City of Culture bid has a great phrase I want to borrow: 'We've found our voice again'. And I believe we have something worth saying.

I love working with other people and it is great to know that I am coming to be part of a dynamic team. I look forward to bringing what I can from my own experience and gifts to add to that mix. I have prayed in the York Diocese and for it over some time now and it gives me great joy now to find that I am called to come and pray with you as I trust you will pray for me and with me.

You may have noticed that I am married to a Bishop. This may seem excessive! You would think that one in a family is more than enough. Believe me, this has crossed our minds. Actually, I am married to Frank and that is gift. Both our lives have been made rich by this vocation to marriage which we have been working on together with joy for over thirty years. Our vocations in ordained ministry have always been distinct; we are, after all, different people with different gifts. But we have found that in God's wisdom that all of this seems to work out together for good.

And this is a good day for me – a day to celebrate the surprises and goodness of God which are being made flesh and blood in the people who live and work in the Diocese of York of which I am honoured to be a part.

The Revd Canon Alison White
25th March 2015, Feast of the Annunciation

Parish Loan Scheme and Grants for Repairs to Parish Buildings

The Diocese is offering a new Parish Loan Scheme and renewed Grants for Repairs to Parish Buildings.

The new Parish Loan Scheme will allow parishes to borrow money to help complete building works to churches or church buildings, and to enable mission projects which supports growth in one of our five marks – Christlike-ness, Commitment, Partnership, Influence and Numbers.

The Diocesan Board of Finance has set aside £250,000 from the Pastoral Account for these loans, to allow for loans up to the sum of £20,000.

Diocesan Board of Finance has also increased the amount of money available to parishes in Grants for Repairs to Parish Buildings. Grants are now available for 10% of the net project value or £10,000 - whichever is the lower amount.

Find out more at www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/loans and www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/grants.

A Warm Blanket

What do you think of when you hear the phrase, "A Warm Blanket"? We went to the York Mystery Plays in 2012 which were staged out of doors in the Museum Gardens. As the temperature dropped towards the end of the evening, my wife Irene and I were very grateful to the two friends who had taken us when they shared their warm blanket with us!

Have you ever been to a meeting about finance where one or two people make negative comments that colour the whole of the discussion that follows? A person who does something like that is sometimes referred to as "a wet blanket".

The members of a Church once received a letter asking them to give some money to their fellow Christians in another church who were going through a hard time. In his letter, the writer used a "warm blanket" word a lot of times. The word is "eagerness". He reminded his readers that they were well-known for their eagerness in so many things and he wanted them to show eagerness in response to his request.

Eagerness is a "warm blanket" word - a positive word. Synonyms include such terms as: enthusiasm, impatient expectancy, intense desire, zeal, passion. Wet blanket words are the opposite. I think of terms like: unwillingness, disinclination, hesitancy, aversion, antipathy.

In the letter I referred to earlier, the writer told his readers that, "If the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable (to God) according to what one has - not according to what one does not have". (You can read the letter for yourself in 2 Corinthians 8.7-12.) This eagerness was shown by the widow who gave away two copper coins - all she had to live on. She was a "warm blanket" person and was commended by Jesus.

So when you and I find ourselves in a discussion about money at a meeting, let's ask the Holy Spirit to give us the eagerness that St Paul encouraged, so that we will be known for being "a warm blanket" rather than "a wet blanket".

The Ven David Butterfield,
Archdeacon for Generous Giving and Stewardship

Christian Aid week

This Christian Aid Week, people across the UK can help transform the lives of women like Loko.
Loko's choice in life is simple: "If I can't collect firewood, my children will die."

Four times a week, in a remote corner of Ethiopia, Loko makes a back-breaking eight-hour trip to gather wood. It's a task she dreads, but she steels herself to do it because if she doesn't her children will starve.

She prays to God as she walks. "I ask him to change my life and lead us out of this," she says.

Just £5 could give Loko a loan to start her own business buying and selling tea and coffee, freeing her from her desperate task and allowing her to spend more time caring for her family.

Loko says: "My hope for the future and for my children rests in God. I work day and night and I pray to Him that my children will have good, successful lives."

From 10-16 May, churches the length and breadth of Britain and Ireland will come together to pray, campaign and raise money to improve the lives of people like Loko. Every year, 100,000 volunteers demonstrate God's love for the poor by taking part in house-to-house collections for Christian Aid.

Christian Aid's, Eleanor Ledesma said the Week was an opportunity to take the mission of the church into our community, saying "As the development agency of the church Christian Aid relies on the support of thousands of individuals up and down the UK helping us raise money to tackle poverty".

For more information visit www.caweek.org.

The Slow Cooker Project

I was hit by the mouth-watering smell of sausages and the sound of chatter and children as I walked into the hall of the Trinity centre in North Ormesby. There was a table set up with utensils and a slow cooker, while a lesson of how to cook a sausage casserole was in full swing.

It can be easy for cookery lessons to be formal and intimidating, but that kind of atmosphere is the last thing you think of when in the room with Kim Baines - that morning's cook - stirring the casserole, getting people up to help her mix some ingredients and explaining what she's doing whilst mums and carers look on, laughing and chatting, while learning top tips.

"I'm not a chef or anything," Kim tells me in a coffee break before running off to give another stir to her sizzling casserole, "I'm just a mum who can cook. I always tell people, if I can use a slow cooker, anyone can!"

The occasion for this? It is an ingenious project working with the local community to teach people how to make healthy, affordable meals with a slow cooker.

The slow cooker project is part of Middlesbrough Food Banks's "More than food" programme, helping families surviving on a low income. However rather than just giving out food, this project subscribes to the

'give a man a fishing rod and you'll feed him for a year' philosophy, by giving parents the skills and resources to give their kids healthier meals. Each person receives a slow cooker and a larder pack (with basics like stock cubes, herbs and cooking oil) at the end of the course to go out and get cooking themselves!

It can be tempting when lacking confidence in cooking and on a tight budget to buy food which you can use for a meal straight away, such as frozen pizza or pies - rather than cooking a meal from basic ingredients (although generally much cheaper and more nutritious).

Slow cookers mean that meals can be prepared in the morning when things are calmer, and be ready for that evening when stomachs are rumbling, children are underfoot, and it's a struggle to get anything done. Slow cookers can be used to make a wide range of dishes (stews, curries and soups), they are easy to use, easy to clean, and only use as much energy as a lightbulb!

Heather Black, the project worker for Together Middlesbrough (a joint venture between the Diocese of York and the Church Urban Fund), explained why local churches are involved in such a practical project helping local families: "The church's job is to preach the gospel, but how do we share the good news of Jesus?" Jesus brings life in all its fullness, "you don't have a full life if you're struggling to feed your kids. For churches working in communities where families are struggling, the good news means practical support and help."

This project could easily be implemented in other areas where people are in need, whether it's young parents and carers in an urban setting or older people in rural areas. If you are interested in setting up something similar in your community contact Heather Black on 07446 908451 or together@trinitycentre.org.

Middlesbrough Foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK-wide network of 400 foodbanks. The Trussell Trust's "More than Food" initiative is now being introduced in partnership with foodbanks across the network to provide access to additional support services at the point of crisis, in order to provide practical long term solutions. More Than Food projects include debt advice, as well as cooking, budgeting and welfare. The Slow Cooking project designed between Middlesbrough Foodbank and Middlesbrough Environmental City has been generously funded by a local company. For more on Middlesbrough Food Bank, contact Nigel Perrott on info@middlesbrough.foodbank.org.uk.

Rosalynne Hutchings

Rest in Peace

The Revd Leslie Burnham died on Sunday 8 February. He had served this Diocese most recently as Assistant Curate of Fulford and had been Vicar of Acomb, St Stephen's and Team Rector of Marfleet. Mr Burnham was 91 and is survived by his nephews Stephen, Christopher and David.

The Revd Canon Gerald Pearce, who had the Archbishop's Permission to Officiate, died on Tuesday 24 March. Gerald was in his ninetieth year and is survived by his wife Diana.

The Ven Leslie Stanbridge died on Thursday 19th March. In 1955, Leslie was appointed as Vicar of St. Martin's, Kingston on Hull – the beginning of a long and distinguished ministry in the Diocese of York. Leslie was appointed in 1968 as a Canon of York and in 1970 as Rural Dean of Hull. He subsequently served as Warden of Readers, and as Archdeacon of York from 1972 until 1988, when he retired from full-time ministry. Leslie was made Archdeacon Emeritus and was granted the Archbishop's Permission to Officiate in 2000.

What's On

Tues 5 – Thurs 7 May - Women Clergy Retreat 'Longings, Liberation & Laughter', Holy Rood House, Thirsk. Contact 01845 522580, enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk or www.holyroodhouse.org.uk.

Weds 6 May - York Archdeaconry Readers: annual quiet evening, Carmelite Thicket Priory, York. Retreat Leader: the Rt Revd John Thomson, Bishop of Selby. A space for quiet personal reflection and discernment, in the company of fellow Readers. Open to all, not just Readers.

Thurs 7 May - Ebor Lectures on Theology and Public Life, by the Very Revd Professor Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church Oxford , at York Minster, 7pm. 'Not joining the dots: education as love, life and liberty' - what is the point of education? It is surely not just about forming individuals for making useful contributions to economic outcomes. Surely a real education shapes us for virtue and wisdom?

Sat 9 May - Prayer & Eckhartian Spirituality, Carmelite Thicket Priory, York. The Eckhart Society invites you to attend a reflective day to consider Prayer & Eckhartian Spirituality. To book a place, contact 01628 810240 or email cgg@cgglover.com. Details at www.eckhartsociety.org.

Sat 9 May - 'Conversations': The Music of Paradise, by Fr Alexander OSB (Ampleforth), Old Malton Priory, 10am to 12.30pm. For further information please contact 01653 692370 or pcrobinson53@gmail.com.

Sat 9 May - Dementia Awareness meeting, Holy Trinity, Micklegate, 10am to 12.30pm. Presentations from Dementia Forward, a GP and/or a representative from the Hospital Trust, Livability, Dementia Dogs, followed by a Question and Answer session.

Sat 9 May - Humber Bridge Cross sponsored walk for Christian Aid, 2pm.

Weds 13 May - Out of the Box Activities Training Course, The Gateway Centre, Acomb, York, 9.30am to 3.30pm. Equipping people to deliver creative activities for people with dementia. For further details and to book a place please email Katy@brightshadow.org.uk, www.brightshadow.org.uk.

Weds 13 May - Developing a vision for people with sight loss in York, at The Ark Church, Monkgate, York, 10am to 3pm. The Torch Trust and One Voice York invite you to a day equipping churches to reach the 6000+ people living with sight loss in York. For more information and to register: jamess@torchtrust.org or 07446 898149, www.torchtrust.org.

Weds 13 May - Suicide Awareness, half-day course, Diocesan House York. This is a half day for Clergy, Readers, Counsellors and anyone involved in Pastoral Work, led by the Revd Andrew De Smet. Book via training@yorkdiocese.org or 01904 699504.

Sat 16 May - Embodied Approaches to Psychotherapy & Life, Holy Rood House, Thirsk. Contact 01845 522580, enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk or www.holyroodhouse.org.uk.

Tues 19 May - Quiet Day - Come Sing to the Lord, Wydale Hall. This will be a day of singing, movement and meditative prayer, with the Revds Mike Leigh and Jenny Hill. Booking: contact 01723 859270, admin@wydale.org, www.wydale.org.

Tues 19 May - Yorkshire Evening at St. Oswald's, Flamborough, 7pm. Flower demonstrations, readings from works of Yorkshire Authors/Poets, a quiz, raffle and a traditional Yorkshire Supper. Tickets £3.

Weds 20 May - Yorkshire Gospel Partnership Conference, Priory Centre York. "The Church in Hard Places - Gospel Ministry Among Our Least Reached". The speaker will be Mez McConnell, Senior Pastor of Niddrie Community Church, Edinburgh and Director of 20Schemes. The cost is £15. For more details and booking, visit www.ygp.org.uk.

Sat 23 May - York Minster Pilgrimage Group "The wisdom of St Teresa of Avila for today" Thicket Priory. Led by The Very Revd Keith Jones. Keith will introduce main insights of this astonishing saint 500 years after her birth. Contact Jo Holland 01904 470519 or Margaret Clegg 01904 448735.

Sat 30 May - "Roots, Rhythms & Relationships": re-connecting with God in the Scriptures and the saints, led by Ray Simpson, at St John's Church, Filey, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Details at www.aidanandhilda.org.uk contact 01723 512645 or allingtonandrew@hotmail.com.

Sat 30 May - Craft fair, St Oswald's Church Hall, Flamborough, 10.30am – 4pm.

Sat 30 May - Gala Concert Shepherd Group Brass Band and Bideford (Devon) Town Band, Selby Abbey, 7.30pm. Tickets from 01757 703123 or on the door. www.selbyabbey.org.uk.

Sat 30 May – Classical Reflection at Tockwith Church, 7.30pm. Classical Reflection, seen on BBC1's The Voice, will be live in concert at Tockwith Church. Tickets £10, including a light supper, from Angela Jenkins on 01423 358067 or Karen Stobert 01423 358979. www.classicalreflection.co.uk.

Sun 31 May - Ordination of Priests, York Minster, 10am.

On the Move

The Revd Samantha Jayne Rushton, Diocesan Adviser for Licensed Ministry, Warden of Readers, Area Dean of Chippenham and Associate Minister of the North Chippenham Group of Churches in the Diocese of Bristol, is to be Archdeacon of Cleveland, and Warden of Readers.

The Revd Thomas David Charlton, (Assistant Curate, Whorlton with Carlton and Faceby), has been appointed as Assistant Curate of the Benefice of Eston with Normanby Team Ministry. Mr Charlton will be Licensed by the Bishop of Whitby in the Parish Church of Christ Church, Eston on Sunday, 10 May 2015 at 6.30pm.

Subject to the current suspension of the Patrons' right of presentation being lifted, the Revd Rebecca Haughty, (Assistant Curate in the Benefices of Londesbrough Wold and Pocklington Wold) has been appointed as Vicar of the Benefice of Coatham and Dormanstown.

The Revd Elizabeth Jane Nattrass, (Priest in Charge of All Saints Pavement with St Crux and St Michael; St Denys; St Helen with St Martin; St Olave with St Giles; Holy Trinity Mickelgate) has been appointed as Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of York St Lawrence with St Nicholas in addition to her existing appointments.

The Revd Peter Alec Horsley, (Vicar of Acomb St Stephen), is retiring with effect from 26 July 2015 and from this time the Archbishop has granted him Permission to Officiate within the Diocese of York. The date of his final service will be 5 July 2015.

The Archbishop has granted Permission to Officiate to the following:
The Revd Douglas Gregory Moore of Whitby
The Revd Kathryn Magdalena Lawrie of Hull
The Revd Canon Rodney Nicholson (formerly of the Diocese of Blackburn) now of Market Weighton.

Diocese of York News May 2015
Editor: Eleanor Course, Diocesan Communications Officer, Diocesan House, Aviator Court, Clifton Moor, York YO30 4WJ. Tel 01904 699530, Email eleanor.course@yorkdiocese.org

Deadline to include items in the June issue is Monday 4 May.
The Diocese of York News may be copied for use in Parish Magazines etc, and may be downloaded as a pdf file from www.dioceseofyork.org.uk.
Contact Eleanor Course as above to receive an e-mailed download link for each new issue.