

The first part of a vision...

There was great joy in Witherwick in the East Riding on Sunday 24th June as the small village's sole community facility - St Alban's Church - reopened for business with its brand-new roof.



"It has been a mammoth effort by many in the community to complete the not-inconsiderable repairs to the roof," said Priest-in-Charge the Revd Anne White.

The old roof, last replaced in 1855 was beginning to show its age with many slates missing or broken and part of the roof was beginning to buckle.

These urgent repairs could not have happened without considerable local fund-raising and a major grant of £99,500 from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund, as well as Witherwick Wind Farm, York Historic Churches Trust, Garfield Weston foundation and All Churches Trust. The bells have gone to be re-furbished so the bell cote looks a little empty.

"Whilst it is great to see the church looking so good from the outside this is only the first part of an overall vision to make it a community building as well as a place for worship," added Anne White.

Foundation Stone laid for new Priory in Whitby

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, laid the foundation stone on the 19th June for a new Priory in the grounds of Sneaton Castle, Whitby for the Sisters of the Order of the Holy Paraclete.

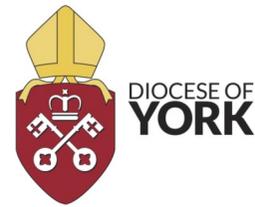


The new Mother House of the Order will open in December this year and include private accommodation with a new Chapel and infirmary wing.

The Order of the Holy Paraclete has been a part of the Whitby community since 1915 and its existing Mother House looks across to where St Hilda founded a monastery in 657.

Andrew Lyon, Project Manager, Castlehouse Construction commented, "It is a real honour to work with the Sisters to deliver a modern new Priory for the Order to continue their valuable work in the Whitby community and beyond."

Prioress Sister Carole said, "The new Priory is the fulfilment of much prayer and planning over the years. We are thrilled that the move is imminent and look forward to welcoming more people than we can at present."



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Ten new Deacons ordained

Meet them on pages 4-7

Celebration turned to consternation after the 1st July service in York Minster at which Archbishop of York Dr John Sentamu ordained ten new Deacons to serve in parishes across the Diocese of York.

After the formal photo call at the end, some of the clergy were joined by members of Sentinel Squad UK, a Star Wars themed costume group who were fundraising in York for their current charity, Yorkshire Children's Trust.

The two squads enjoyed meeting each other.



To the Saints of the Diocese of York

The Archbishop of York,
Dr John Sentamu, writes:

Dearly beloved in Christ,
God is on the move in our Diocese!

I have been greatly encouraged in recent months to hear so many inspiring stories of how God is growing his church in often small but profoundly significant ways.

It seems that church communities - in all manner of contexts - are stepping out in mission like never before.

I passionately believe that when we have the courage and commitment to do that, new shoots of growth begin to sprout.

Getting alongside our local churches on the Archbishop Mission Weekends has been a huge blessing.

I have witnessed the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts and lives of young and old from Holderness to Harthill.

It is my prayer that this is just the beginning and mission and evangelistic weekends and events will become a normal part of what we do across the Diocese to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

You can read some of the encouraging stories from the mission weekends here: www.archbishopofyork.org/news/news-2018/road-power-holy-spirit

At a gathering recently at Bishopthorpe Palace, I became the official Patron of Leading your Church into Growth, committing to pray for all those who use this resource to embark on the growth

journey.

LyCiG is not a silver bullet or a magic wand, but simply a tool for mission.

I have been heartened to see how many churches have been inspired by it

to go for growth - numerically, in Christlikeness and in servanthood.

LyCiG has helped us learn to be more confident in our welcome, invitation and faith sharing, grow new teams and create realistic plans for ways ahead.

It was wonderful to read what fruit has been borne from those churches who attended the conferences in 2015 and 2016.

One priest colleague wrote that it was 'transformational' both for her and the team she took. It enabled them to be "brave and bold" in mission when they returned. Praise the Lord!

One of the key quotes from LyCiG is, 'If you're not leading your church into growth, where are you leading it?' It remains a challenging question to ponder for all of us serving God in whatever capacity.

My continuing prayer is that you will continue to grow and flourish in all kinds of ways as your love grows for each other and the communities you serve. God bless you for your venturesome trust.



+Sentamu Ebor:

Diocesan Office

Diocesan Secretary and Chief Executive Canon Peter Warry writes:

Having just completed our second full year in the 'new' offices it is perhaps a good time to reflect not only on the better working environment for those who support the diocese from here in York, but also on the opportunity to host many more events, meetings and training sessions. There has been a real sense of meeting many more people from across the diocese in a wide variety of capacities, engaging in a deeper partnership than had been possible previously.



Whilst we will continue to deliver training in locations around the diocese, it is great to have our own facility in York, particularly for the York School of Ministry and to enable us to deliver a significant programme of Safeguarding training.

Since we are currently recruiting Generous Giving Advisers and 20s-40s specialists, we look forward to developing

the office space further to accommodate them and other additional staff who we pray will continue to enhance partnerships with and between parishes and provide more and better support for Reaching, Growing and Sustaining.

We hope to expand our support in some other key areas such as Church Buildings and work with Children and Young People before the end of the year. Much of this is being funded via Church Commissioners grants or a re-focusing of existing resources.

Staff based at the Diocesan Office are often the conduit for national developments including, for example, Safeguarding. We have been wrestling with the data protection challenges of GDPR and what that means for us and our parishes.

One development linked with GDPR is the adoption of a national Church of England Contact Management System (CMS) which replaces the previous annual printed directory. Further information and updates on both GDPR and access to the CMS are available on the website at www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/database and www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/dataprotection.

Do please contact the office on 01904 699500 if you need help and are not sure who to approach - if we don't have someone who can provide an answer we will do our best to point you in the right direction. If you are passing Clifton Moor and would like to visit or use one of our rooms please do drop in and say "Hello"!

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk

Transformation & Strategy

In 2016 open meetings across the Diocese considered our way forward together, confirming that people wanted to stay with the themes we already had: to be Generous Churches making and nurturing disciples, growing in Christlikeness, commitment, partnership, influence and numbers. Insights from the meetings informed the broad shape of our strategy, which was presented to Synod in March 2017, setting out our three shared goals:

- Reach people we currently don't
- Move to growth
- Establish sustainable finances



Working groups have been translating vision into plans for action. These have progressed at varying speeds but all have provided insights and helped us to set priorities. By June 2018 we have reached some important milestones, and are working towards others:

- Our proposals for reaching 20s-40s, for which we are seeking nearly £3m from the Church's national fund for developing mission, have been submitted to the Church Commissioners. We have been invited to proceed to the second stage of the application process, which entails detailed implementation planning. Recruitment of new central roles has begun.
- A major listening exercise in deprived areas has informed our emerging proposals for Reaching People in Poverty, for which we will seek further national funding by April 2019.
- Two Readers were ordained as Deacons in April, and 16 further Readers from across the Diocese will attend a second discernment day.
 - A Sustainable Giving communications campaign is under way, with a focus on the centrality of developing discipleship. A new Generous Giving team to support parishes with stewardship will now be recruited.

Work will continue over the remainder of 2018 to flesh out our strategy further, including in the areas of support to parishes and Ministry Training and Vocations. Please pray that this work on our strategy will generate a movement of the whole Diocese together in joy and hope – investing time, money and work now in order to build up God's Church for the future.

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/transforming



This month's Q&A about our shared journey to achieve our goals

WHAT IS THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS 'STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT FUND' (SDF) THAT WE HOPE TO ACCESS?

SDF money supports major change projects which lead to a significant difference in dioceses' mission and financial strength.

The Commissioners have already allocated nearly £60m to around 40 projects across half the Church of England – to be released over the multi-year life of projects. There are no firm rules about match-funding, but most dioceses make a significant investment in projects.

Our proposal to Reach 20s-40s involves a bid for SDF funding of nearly £3m. The ideas we submitted in April were positively received so we are invited to proceed to a 'stage 2 application', with detailed implementation plans. Assuming these are approved we can begin to receive funds in 2019. Naturally, we are expected to report back on our use of the funding and the results we achieve.

We expect to make a second bid in support of our goal to Reach People in Poverty early in 2019.

Generous churches making & nurturing disciples

Ten New Deacons ordained

Eight women and two men were ordained deacon by the Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, at a service in York Minster on Sunday 1st July 2018.

As Deacons they will assist in leading worship and undertake work in the local community while serving as Assistant Curate (an assistant minister, continuing their training in service) in a parish in the Diocese of York, which is the Church of England from the Humber to the Tees and from the A1 to the Yorkshire Coast.

Aged from 25 to 62, they include a former social worker, an actor and an optometrist; some will serve full-time while others will continue to support themselves through other means.

Dr John Sentamu said, "No matter who or where you are, God calls you – and I give thanks to God that He has called these ten people to serve as Deacons. Is God calling you? Are you listening to God's commanding voice? Is your answer YES? Please join me in praying for our Deacons – for their ministry and for their followership of Jesus Christ, for all they will do in Jesus Christ's name, for their local churches and their families, and for the blessing of others that the Lord will make of them! 'Rejoice and be glad and let us exult in the Lord together!'"

- **Rebecca Allright** spent 17 years working in social care, initially as a psychiatric social worker and then in commissioning and project management. She is the daughter of one of the first women priests in the



Church of England but found her own faith after undertaking an Alpha course as a student. Becky's faith has always been sustained and supported by social action and outreach, while

she enjoys both charismatic worship and quiet days and retreats. She has trained for ordination with St Hild College as a 'contextual ordinand' based at St Luke's church in York where she helped support the establishment of a Forget-me-Not community, which is accessible church for people with memory problems. "I will be ordained as a pioneer and hope to bring the good news to people who don't yet know Jesus outside of mainstream churches," she says. Becky will serve as Assistant Curate in Drax, Carlton and Camblesforth (near Selby).

Diocesan Registry

In 2017 Lionel Lennox hung up his wig once and for all when he stepped down as Deputy Registrar. Lionel continues to practice as a notary public and so his knowledge and wisdom about the diocese, accumulated over more than 30 years, is still available to the Registry on his visits to the office. Many in the Diocese have cause to be grateful to Lionel for his long and very loyal service to the Diocese of York.

Nick Popka stepped down as one of the Registry Clerks and Samantha Lines-White joined, taking responsibility for preparing clergy appointment and ordination documents.

The Registry advised the Archbishop, Suffragan bishops, archdeacons, parish and other clergy, readers, lay workers, diocesan office holders and staff, diocesan committee chairs, churchwardens, PCC members and members of the public on a wide range of topics.

Safeguarding is at the top of the national agenda and advice relating to this also formed a large part of the Registry workload.

Registrar Caroline Mockford served on the Governance Review Group during the year and delivered several sessions of legal training to churchwardens, clergy and surrogates for mar-

riage. "I am particularly proud to have been involved in 'Developing Our Deaneries'", she says, "including the preparation of the new deanery synod standing orders and am delighted at the very positive response they have received."

Faculty work continues to be an important part of the Registry. 293 petitions were lodged in 2017, including two contested cases. Most significant were the applications relating to the demolition of Kirkleatham St Hilda to allow for the future construction of a new church building and the re-ordering of Hull Holy Trinity.

Documentation was prepared by the Registry to re-designate that church as Hull Minister and Caroline remarks that it was a very great pleasure to be part of the Minster-making service in May 2017.



Registrar Caroline Mockford (right) looks on at Hull's Minster-making Service with (from left) Vicar Canon Neal Barnes, Archbishop Sentamu and Archdeacon of the East Riding Andy Broom.



Some of the work done on our behalf across the Diocese of York.

touchingBase

Communications



Martin Sheppard arrived as Diocesan Communications Manager in April 2017—having left the post of Diocesan Communications Officer in 2008, and working since then at York Minster, the Dioceses of Wakefield, Coventry and Newcastle.

He was joined in October 2017 by Jo Jones as half-time Communications Assistant. Jo works half-time as Academic Tutor with York School of Ministry and comes to Communications for light relief.

The priorities in 2017 were:

- to restore and update the essential channels of Diocesan communication after a lean period.
- to begin a process of continuous review and development.
- to seek new and renewed opportunities to develop and share stories.
- to engage with the process of transformation and strategy as it works through the parishes and structures of the Diocese.
- to work with and support other de-

partments as required, including but not only Safeguarding.

To date this has seen:

- increased social media activity and engagement.
- the relaunch of the weekly eNews on an improved e-mail platform which also ensures compliance with new Data Protection regulations.
- regular mailings to clergy and readers moved entirely to e-mail.
- Launch of a downloadable, printable A5 newsletter ten times a year, offering a selection of Diocesan news.
- co-operation with colleagues in developing communication channels and identity for the developing diocesan strategy.

Introduction of the new Diocesan Database and the consequent decision to end production of a printed Diocesan Directory has opened both challenges and opportunities which are still being explored.

Future plans include expanding communications support for parishes and deaneries, and growing collaboration with the planned Generous Giving and Stewardship Team as it comes together in late 2018.

- **David Biggs** studied computer games programming at university but felt God leading him on to something new, which to his surprise turned out to be ministry in the Church of England. David grew up in a Christian home; realising at the age of eight that Jesus could be his friend he went on to get stuck in with the Christian Union as a student, telling people the good news of Jesus. “I am now looking forward to proclaiming the gospel and equipping and releasing people to do the same and to serve the Church in the ways that God is calling them.” Married to Emma, David trained for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, and will serve as Curate in the parish of Thirsk.



- **Lucy Brencher** is a mum and a teacher with experience from toddlers to teenagers and from modern languages to parenting courses and church youth work. She describes her journey to ordination as “Slow and steady - small steps



which have led me to this point of making myself available for God to use.” Married to Paul with three chil-

dren, Lucy trained for ordination with St Hild College and will serve as Curate in the Parish of Rural Ainsty comprising Bickerton, Bilton, Catterton, Healaugh, Hessay, Moor Monkton and Wighill: “I am excited to join in with what God is doing in the lives of those in Rural Ainsty. I am particularly keen to play my part in building God’s kingdom and seeking God’s transformation in the lives of those in the villages where I will serve.”

- **Abigail Davison** will continue to work as a health care assistant at York Hospital while serving as a self-supporting curate in York Minster. Abi felt a strong and clear calling to be a Deacon, a ministry of service which looks to cross boundaries and un-



cover where Christ is at work, particularly in the ‘forgotten corners’ of the world, and she trained for ordination with St Hild College. She is married to Chris and they have a two year old daughter. “I’m looking forward to getting to know the Minster family and exploring what a distinctly Diaconal role could look like in this unique setting,” she says.

- **Jill Gillanders** worked as an optometrist before training for ministry. Jill's faith started to develop when she and Doug visited a vicar to ask him to marry them; he encouraged and inspired them in every way and they became part of the



church family. In the 1990s they adopted two boys and Jill joined Vision Aid Overseas as an optometrist, visiting developing countries. Both these experiences gave rise to many challenges and a lot of questioning, and prompted Jill to begin studying theology. She discovered her calling while their parish church was in vacancy; she retired from optometry in 2016 to take up full-time contextual training in Middlesbrough and St Hild College, and will serve as Curate in the parish of Thirsk. "I feel fortunate and excited to be joining the team at St Mary's Thirsk and can't wait to get started," she says.

- **Sally Gough** is a chartered physiotherapist, once head of physiotherapy at Felixstowe hospitals, and more recently a teacher of piano and theory of music. Having worshipped in Methodist and Plymouth Brethren congregations as



well as with both evangelical and catholic Anglicans, Sally has now found a home in "middle of the road churches". She says that "God called me - shouted at me - in the middle of the night!" She hopes to help people learn about Jesus - "to grow the people who know, and reach the people who don't" - especially via the local Church of England school. Sally is a mother and grandmother with two little rescue dogs who keep her busy and out of mischief, and who join in various church activities. She trained for ordination at St Hild College and will serve as Curate at Thornton-le-Dale near Pickering.

- **Arleen Ingham** has always had a deep faith in God and was influenced over many years by people of faith from across the world who came to stay in her family home, sometimes for quite long periods of time, including trainee



Christian Pastors, Muslims and Jewish friends. "It made for very interesting and very enriching conversations around our supper table," says Arleen. "Those early years and my later years as a mature student prepared me for my call to ordination." She studied Literature and Theology for ten years with a special interest in the role of women in the Bible and gained a PhD in 2007. "I pray that my mission for

spreading the Christian Gospel will be blessed with opportunity and spontaneity." Arleen trained for ordination with York School of Ministry and will serve as Assistant Curate at St Mary's, Scarborough.

- **Shena Moray** has been a Church Army evangelist for the past 12 years and enjoys imagining and providing creative prayer and sacred spaces for people to explore their own faith journey. She has been involved in



ministry for over 30 years and enjoys being very creative in mission and evangelism. Shena has "two beautiful sons who are both grown and flown!" "I'm passionate about continuing to offer the local community spaces with multi-sensory opportunities to engage with our living Lord," she says, and is keen to explore how our local Churches can link into the UK's current focus on wellbeing. Shena has trained for ordination with St Hild College and will serve as Assistant Curate at St Mark's, Newby (Scarborough).

- **Michael Perkins** began attending church in his teens but came to faith after receiving healing on a long-standing knee injury at a Riding Lights Summer Theatre



School when he was 21. He went on to tour with Riding Lights' 'Roughshod' theatre company and through this began to discern a call to ordained ministry, culminating in an experience of the Holy Spirit where Mike felt God call him to leadership within His church. "I hope I will be able to show God's love in the community and in doing so that many will be brought into relationship with Jesus Christ," he says. Mike trained for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, and will serve as Assistant Curate at St Michael-le-Belfrey in York.

- **Miriam Swaffield** is the daughter of a Baptist Minister and currently Global Student Mission Leader for the Fusion Movement. She became involved in 'G2 York' congregation while she was at university, and says, "I've been a leader in a



local church for ten years, and the national Church for seven, and now Jesus has finally convinced me that ordination as a deacon is the next step of obedience. I intend to play my part in God's renewal of all things.

"I have also learnt to never say rash statements like 'I will never ever get ordained in the Church of England.' If I was wearing a hat, I'd now be eating it." Miriam trained for ordination at Cranmer Hall, Durham and will serve with G2 in York.