

US Ambassador visits Selby Abbey

His Excellency Robert Wood Johnson, United States Ambassador to the UK, paid an impromptu visit to Selby Abbey during a visit to Yorkshire on the 25th October and was welcomed by Churchwarden Stewart Skilbeck, Curate the Revd Neil Woodhall, Chairman of Selby Abbey Trust John Englehart and Abbey Administrator Jennifer Cooke.



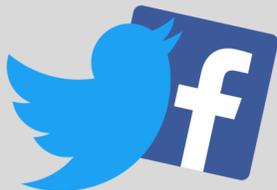
The Ambassador was particularly interested to see the Washington Window in the Abbey, an original 14th century stained glass window which shows the Washington family coat of arms, depicting the stars and stripes – believed to be the origin of the American national flag.

The window is thought to be one of the earliest known surviving representations of the Washington family coat of arms.

Ambassador Johnson expressed his amazement that the 950-year-old Abbey continues to be a vibrant place of worship and pilgrimage at the heart of the Selby community.

Pictured from left: the Revd Neil Woodhall, Stewart Skilbeck, John Engelhart, His Excellency Robert Wood Johnson, Jennifer Cooke.

www.selbyabbey.org.uk



Keep up with the Diocese of York on Facebook and Twitter:

- [facebook.com/DioceseOfYork](https://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfYork)
- twitter.com/DioceseOfYork



TheNews

DECEMBER 2018

DIOCESE OF YORK, AMY JOHNSON WAY, CLIFTON MOOR, YORK YO30 4XT.

OFFICE@YORKDIOCESE.ORG T:01904 699500 F:01904 699501 WWW.DIOCESEOFYORK.ORG.UK

Unto Us a Child is Born



Inside this month:



#FollowTheStar, says Archbishop Sentamu
P3



Team Leader appointed for new 20s-40s ministers
P4



Armistice: the Diocese remembers
P6



New Children & Young People Adviser
P9

...and much more!

To the Saints of the Diocese of York

The Archbishop of York,
Dr John Sentamu, writes:



This year the Church of England' is inviting us all to #FollowTheStar .

Like the Wise Men, we may be coming to meet Jesus from far away and we may be full of uncertainty as well as wonder.

#FollowTheStar doesn't ask us to be perfect. It says: "Come just as you are to take the life-changing Christmas journey."

As Christmas approaches, are we secretly wishing that, like the Wise Men, we have until Epiphany to prepare our Christmas gifts for those we love? Are we already feeling the pressure that the Christmas season can bring, especially for those in parish ministry? Are we anxious about all we have to do, about doing it well, meeting so many expectations at church, at home, in the community? Let us remember that at Christmas, God's love for us all came down in weakness and poverty, entering a world struggling with great strain and need. God With Us lay helpless - with no gifts to give, no words to speak, no ability to demonstrate his love. And yet angels sang, a star rose, and the poor and the far-off were drawn to worship at his cradle.

At Christmas time we join with those who, when Christ entered our world, left their everyday lives and went to worship and rejoice. And the heart of our calling is to invite others to do the same.



In the story of the Wise Men, we see God's power to **Reach** those who are unimaginably far away with the light of hope and purpose. Let us have faith that that power is the same today and that we can be part of that **Reaching**.

Let us seek for the **Growth** that comes when people are drawn by the Spirit to worship the King.

Let us learn together, like the Wise Men, how to give what is fitting and precious to the King; how to **Sustain** the long journey of obedience and fruitfulness that we are called to, so that we can rejoice at our journey's end.

Friends, let us, too, look up from our busyness, and see the signs that tell us that the King is born, the Kingdom is near at hand. Then with our brothers and sisters, let us follow the star and worship the King. And as we do so, may we be overwhelmed with that same wonder and joy this Christmas.

With every blessing

+Sentamu Ebor:



But the accessibility of the staff has been reassuring, and provision of great tutors has made the whole learning process far easier. To be able to question and think about things beyond my previously held understanding has been an intellectual adventure that has been fruitful on a personal level and to the church I serve."

During the year we have welcomed new staff to the YSOM team. Peter Rushton (Reader), the Rev Catherine Reid and Rev Jan Nobel as part-time tutors based mainly at the York and Middlesbrough Hubs and the Rev Mike Peatman, who has taken up the role of Academic Tutor for the Beverley Hub. We register our thanks to Gill Pickford, Reader at Beverley Minster, for all she has done over the last few years to manage the Beverley

Hub and wish her well in her new venture.

Alongside our usual work, as part of the external quality assurance process, YSOM was subject in the summer to Periodic External Review by Ministry Division and Durham University. Whilst we're still awaiting the official report, informal feedback on the standards of learning, teaching and provision for ministerial formation was very positive and this level of satisfaction has been backed up by feedback from the end of year national student survey where responses in all areas were well above the national Common Awards scores. We look forward to receiving the reviewers' comments and taking YSOM forward into another successful year.



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

touchingBase

York School of Ministry

YSOM Director Lynn Comer writes:

2017-18 has been a busy year for YSOM as we seek to support the formation and development of those preparing for ministry and mission in the diocese.

Student numbers have continued to grow with 80 students registering for courses at our York, Beverley and Middlesbrough Hubs. These include a mix of those in discernment for ministry, Readers in training, ordinands, RPAs and people studying for personal development, creating vibrant and diverse learning environment with students from a wide range of social and educational backgrounds.

Modules studied include Old Testament, Christian Doctrine, Pastoral Care & Ethics, Christian Worship, Mission & Ministry, Preaching and Anglicanism. Students studying for university accreditation performed extremely well, with the external examiner commenting on the high standards of work submitted. At the end of

year exam board, alongside our certificate and diploma students we are able to formally congratulate YSOM's first successful BA Hons students – all Licensed Readers: Kirsty Dennett and Garry Parkes, Shirley Hebden and Martin Adams. Their Graduation will be in January in Durham Cathedral. Kirsty says of her study:

"It's no exaggeration for me to say how life changing it has been for me to attend YSOM. I began doubtful of my academic abilities and worried I'd be found out!

YORK SCHOOL of MINISTRY



EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES FOR MINISTRY



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

THERE WILL SOON BE NEW '20S TO 40S' MINISTERS AROUND THE DIOCESE, BUT NOT HERE—SO WHAT'S IN IT FOR US?

Our strategy is a movement of the whole Diocese seeking to 'reach those we currently don't' in this age group. Inevitably some actions will focus on selected places, but we pray for a ripple effect across the whole Diocese.

During 2019 a host of new resources will become available for all churches, including a 'Toolbox' of practical 'how to' ideas; events across the diocese will envision and equip those looking to reach 20s - 40s; and a separate Fund will be available to parishes, benefices or deaneries looking to enable part-time employment of 20s-40s focused lay ministers. For parishes that would value face-to-face support, each 20s-40s Minister will 'tithe' their time to offer insights and advice.

Any parish, benefice or deanery looking to reach 20s-40s will find they have the resources and support to do so, and that we will see God inspire the 'ripple effect' across the whole diocese.

Team Leader appointed for Diocese-wide ministry to those in their 20s to 40s

Momentum is growing for fulfilling the Diocese's Goal of 'Reaching those we currently don't'.



We are seeking substantial funding from the Church Commissioners to enable us to 'Reach 20s - 40s' and our final Bid was submitted on Friday 2nd November; we should know the outcome in early December.

Progress has also been made in appointing a 20s - 40s Team Leader, the Revd John Lee, who will be responsible for

day-to-day oversight of the work and will lead a team of 13 full-time 20s - 40s Ministers, placed strategically across the Diocese of York.

John is currently Rector of St Paul's, York, Priest-in-Charge of St Barnabas, York, and Area Dean of York.

He will be joined by Dr Ben Walker as Associate Team Leader, who will oversee the 'Growth Fund' making grants possible to enable lay people to lead the creation of New Worshipping Communities.

The new team will be the driving force to build momentum for the goal of 'Reaching those we currently don't', identified as part of the Diocese's strategy development process.

In addition to the new ministers and the Growth Fund, the diocesan approach to reaching 20s - 40s includes the establishment of St Michael-le-Belfrey in York as a Resource Church, and the launch of a web-based Toolbox of resources.

A renewed envisioning and equipping of churches is expected to lead to a 'ripple effect' across the diocese through developing insights and growth in confidence about how to reach 20s - 40s and build them up as disciples. It is intended that church planting and replication of effective practice should be established as a norm across the diocese.

Continued...

Children and Young People's Adviser

Children and young people in our churches and schools are at the heart of our diocesan goals of reaching, growing and sustaining and with this in mind, Carolyn Edwards has been appointed to the new role of Children and Young People's Adviser for the Diocese and will begin work on the 19th November.

Carolyn is currently the Programme Lead for the Mission and Ministry degree courses at Cliff College, having previously worked with Oxford CYM training students in youth and children's ministry. She has a wealth of experience both as a practitioner and a lecturer and trainer, working for her local church as a Children's Evangelist and running events like the Scripture Union mission in Aylesbury. She has written material for Scripture Union for many years and is the author of 'Slugs and Snails and Puppy Dogs' Tails: Helping Boys Connect with God' and co-editor of 'Re-thinking Children's work in churches' which is coming out next year. She is currently completing doctoral research into children's spirituality and faith development, but in her 'spare' time loves being with friends and family, drinking good coffee, laughing, and looking at beautiful things.

Carolyn will link particularly to the 20s-40s ministry developments, Leading Your Church into Growth (LyCiG) and importantly how we hear the needs of those in poverty. She will provide the strategic oversight for our ministry among children,

young people and their families at every level throughout the Diocese and will commission consultants to work with parishes and deaneries on the things that are identified to be the priority at the local level. Carolyn will also work alongside Olivia Seymour in the Education team to support partnership working between parishes and schools and with the 20s - 40s Team Leader and the Revd Richard White, the new Director of Making and Nurturing Disciples.



Carolyn says, "I am really looking forward to joining the Diocesan team at this exciting time of re-envisioning. I love the fact that the vision is so mission focused and I can't wait to see how we can nurture and grow the churches' engagement with the children and young people in their communities."

For several years, there has been archdeaconry support for parishes with regards to children and young people's work through the use of coordinators in each of the three areas and Jon Steel was the last of these coordinators for the Archdeaconry of the East Riding.

Jon finished this role at the end of August and we are grateful for all that Jon has done over the years to support children and young people in their discipleship journey and wish him the very best for whatever comes next.

Celebrating our Readers—including eight brand-new ones!

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, will admit eight new Readers to serve in parishes in the Diocese of York, during a service at York Minster on Saturday 24th November.



Readers are lay ministers who lead acts of worship, and help reach others with the good news of Jesus Christ through explaining the Bible and Christian belief. Through their preaching and teaching and in their pastoral work, Readers help others grow through the Gospel message, and share in sustaining the Church's work of caring for people in Christ's name.

Those newly admitted on the 24th November have trained with the York School of Ministry which involves both formational training and academic study.

Those admitted as Readers, with the parishes in which they will serve, are:

- **Kathleen Brown** to serve in Kirk Levington with Picton and High and Low Worsall.
- **Jeanne Barton** to serve in Walkington, Bishop Burton, Rowley and Skidby.
- **John Bestley** to serve in Walkington, Bishop Burton, Rowley and Skidby.

- **Nicholas Gledhill** to serve at Hull Minster.
- **April Heywood** to serve at St Mary, Lowgate, Hull.
- **Jacqueline Moore** to serve at Emmanuel Bridlington and Barmston with Fraithorpe.

- **Wendy Macfarlane** to serve in the Stamford Bridge Group of Parishes.
- **Tricia West** to serve in Tadcaster, Church Fenton, Kirkby Wharfe and Newton Kyme.

In addition:

- **Julie Hay** has moved from another diocese and will be licensed to serve in Folkton, Ganton, Hunmanby, Muston and Willerby.
- **Patricia Hirst** has moved from another diocese and will be licensed to serve in Bempton, Flamborough, Reighton and Speeton.
- **David Ferguson** has moved from another diocese and will be given the Archbishop's Permission to Officiate in Danby, Castleton and Commondale.
- **Peter Oakes** will receive a renewed licence to serve at Hull Minster.

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/readers



John Lee has been Rector of St Paul's, Holgate Rd, York since 2002 and in 2018 took on additional oversight of St Barnabas, Leeman Road, and became Area Dean of York - in effect the convenor of all the Church of England clergy in the City of York.

John began his working life in the pensions industry but spent a couple of years in youth work and ministry to the homeless in Bristol and Leeds before training for ordination. He is married to Nicola who is an artist and they have three grown up daughters.

Ordained in 1990, he served as Curate in Norbiton (south London) and then Leicester before coming to York. He is currently Chair of One Voice York, an umbrella organisation of churches in York who cooperate together in prayer and mission.

Archdeacon Andy Broom leads development of the 20s-40s initiative in the Diocese of York: "I'm very encouraged by John Lee's appointment - he brings the experience of leading a church which has effectively reached and disciplined those in this age range and he also has an impressive track record in growing and developing young leaders."

John Lee said, "I've always believed that ministry is fundamentally an adventure and this new role certainly fits that description. It will be a wrench to leave St Paul's but I'm looking forward to working with the excellent team that's beginning to form to address this great challenge."

John will take up his new post in January 2019.

Dr Ben Walker is a Senior Leader at G2 York, an innovative, creative and missional fresh expression of church particularly reaching younger adults; with his wife Holly, Ben is also the Service Leader for G2 City which is one of G2's two sites.

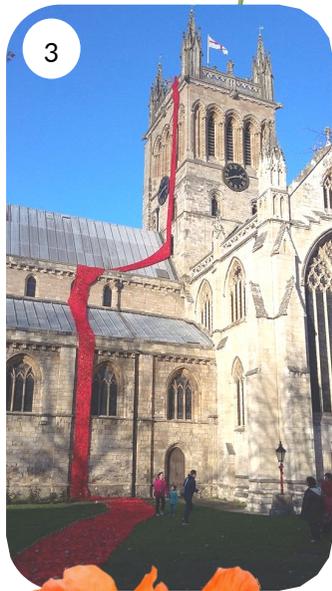


This role has given Ben invaluable experience in pioneer ministry in the Church of England, and he is also one of the leaders of 'Grit', a regular men's ministry which has focused on growing discipleship for younger adult men.

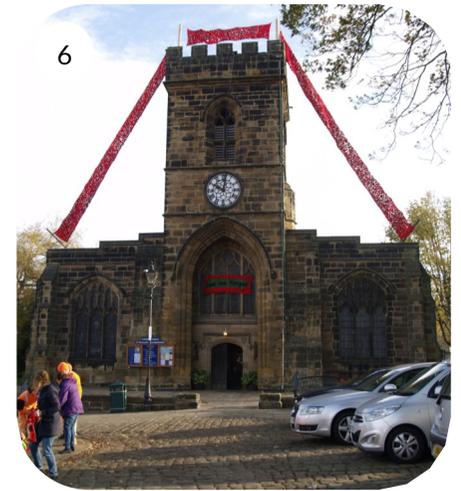
Ben holds an MPhil in African Studies and a BA in History from the University of Cambridge, and recently completed his PhD in History at the University of York where he is also a Teaching Fellow. Funded by the Wellcome Trust, he conducted original research across the world into Christian mission and healthcare in Ghana since 1919, and he presented his findings in the USA, China and at the World Council of Churches in Geneva.

Ben and Holly both grew up in Leeds, met in a choir at St Aidan's Church of England High School in Harrogate and now live in York; Holly is currently in the leadership academy of the NHS.

We remember



1. St Peter & St Paul, Drax
2. St Wilfrid's, Brayton
3. Selby Abbey
4. All Saints, Pavement, York
5. Hull Minster
6. Guisborough Priory
7. Beverley Minster
8. St Mary's and Holy Apostles, Scarborough



A Prayer of Remembrance

Almighty and eternal God,
 from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,
 either by death or life:
 hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all who we
 remember this day
 fulfil in them the purpose of your love;
 and bring us all with them, to your eternal joy;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

All across the Diocese of York, churches have become a focal point for commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the Armistice that ended hostilities in the First World War at 11.00am on the 11th November 1918.

We present a selection of pictures of artworks on the theme of poppies, created by church members and wider communities as the nation falls silent.