

## Archbishop appoints registrar for the Diocese of York

**The Archbishop of York has appointed Louise Connacher of Lupton Fawcett LLP as Registrar for the Diocese of York and Legal Secretary to the Archbishop, after seven months as Acting Registrar following the sudden death of her colleague Caroline Mockford in March this year.**

Louise is currently the Registrar of the Diocese of Sodor and Man and a Deputy Registrar in the Dioceses of Leeds and Blackburn. She regularly delivers seminars

and training for ecclesiastical clients, including IME training for clergy, training for churchwardens, and workshops on GDPR/data protection in the ecclesiastical context.

Louise studied Law at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and then spent a year at York College of Law before completing her legal training at Addleshaw Sons & Latham in Manchester, specialising in employment law. In May 1996 she moved across the Pennines to join Lupton Fawcett.

She is a member of professional bodies including the Law Society, the Ecclesiastical Law Association and the Ecclesiastical Law Society.



Archbishop Sentamu said, "Louise has done exceptional work and has been a great blessing to the Diocese in these difficult months while we – and she – came to terms with the sudden death of Caroline.

"It's a great blessing too to be able to confirm her appointment now and I know that she will continue to be a source of wise counsel and sound advice."

Louise is a keen bell ringer and lover of country pubs and Yorkshire-brewed real ale. She has led a £63,000 project to restore the 18th-century bells of her local church with the help of a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, and is an avid reader of novels.

Louise said, "After 25 years practising primarily as an employment lawyer, I believe that I have been called to serve the church in this exciting and fulfilling role of Diocesan Registrar. I am very much looking forward to continuing to work with the Archbishop and the staff at Bishopthorpe and the Diocesan Office."

[dioceseofyork.org.uk/registry](http://dioceseofyork.org.uk/registry)



# TheNews

DECEMBER 2019

## COME + SEE

### Support our Mission in Prayer!

**Come and See is the Northern Bishops' Mission to the Diocese of York, led by the Archbishop of York and taking place from 12th to 15th March 2020.**

Prayer is the foundation of Come and See, and as the mission draws nearer, Sister Heather Francis OHP is kindly putting together a monthly prayer leaflet for us.

Here, you'll find a selection of weekly Bible readings and prayer topics to help you focus your prayers as the weeks get closer. There is also a short service for you to use on

your own or with two or three others.

November's focus is on the quote "Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses", as we realise we do not pray alone, and consider questions like 'who brought us to faith' as well as giving thanks for those who enhance our worship with music, poetry, dance, and drama.

We do hope you'll join in this wave of prayer as we ramp up for what is sure to be a wonderful week-end of prayer and mission.

**Find each monthly prayer leaflet as it becomes available, with other resources at [comeandsee.uk/resources/prayer](http://comeandsee.uk/resources/prayer).**

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**Merry Christmas!**

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# To the Saints of the Diocese of York

The Archbishop of York,  
Dr John Sentamu,  
writes:

*Wake Up to Advent!*

## Time is precious.

I am glad that you are taking the time to read this, and I know myself the temptation to think, especially at this time of year, "I don't have time for this!" when faced with what seems a mountain of work, engagements, carol services, emails, more carol services, school assemblies and yet more carol services.

So who's got time for Advent?

Time is, of course, a word with more than one meaning, and this is true in Scripture as well as in common English. The Greek word *kronos* means the chronological kind of time, the kind of time that is precious because there's only a certain amount of it and it passes steadily on. That's the kind of time we're tempted to want more of when we're busy. But perhaps the kind of time we should be looking for more of is *kairos*, time in the sense of a single occasion, a moment. This kind of time is precious because it is an opportunity, a moment not to be missed.

In my Advent Book, I encourage us to Wake Up, Clean Up, Feed Up and Grow Up. So, friends, as Christmas approaches, let us make these resolutions each day.

- **Wake Up!** Don't sleep through the alarm clock! The day that lies open before us, to be infused with the presence of God and the promise of his new life. Be awake to Christ's coming into each new day.
- **Clean Up!** Don't miss your turn in the shower! Allow God to wash you clean by his grace, and stand still long enough for him to do it!
- **Feed Up!** Don't skip breakfast! The most important meal of the day is God's Word, which keeps us alive and healthy
- **Grow Up!** Don't miss the chance this Advent to allow God to bring you further towards maturity, so that we may be ready to serve the Bridegroom when he comes.

So may you have a very Blessed Christmas – when it comes. May you savour the waiting and enjoy the journey along the way.



+ **Sentamu Ebor:**

# A Profound Blessing

**Ordinand Kate Wells (pictured, kneeling in the front row, with sunglasses) revelled in the simplicity of life at Taizé and learned from its discomforts when she helped to lead a group of 31 students from Archbishop Holgate's Church of England Academy, York, on the Archbishop of York's Youth Trust Pilgrimage recently.**



"Taizé is a little village in the Burgundy countryside and the Christian community there has rather taken over. Every week thousands of pilgrims from all over the world descend in this little village to pray, study the bible and serve each other, under the care of the Brothers of Taizé.

"The Brothers live a life of simplicity and that is infectious. The accommodation is simple; benches are the order of the day and you quickly discover there is a knack to getting up off a bench without tipping everyone else off onto the floor!

"Part of the simplicity is the lack of cutlery so you become very adept at spreading soft cheese on bread with the handle of a spoon whilst balancing the

tray on your knee and trying not to fall off the bench!"

There is a lot of joy at Taizé, says Kate, and part of it is the sense of coming together.

"There are no divisions at Taizé. Everyone worships together, we all try to sing in each other's languages, the bible is read in many languages.

"You find yourself having conversations about culture and stereotype, and find common ground.

"Somehow the whole effect is relaxing – a realisation that your way isn't the only way of doing things."

But for Kate, as for so many other Taizé pilgrims, the highlight was the worship.

"Three times a day you all come together to pray, sing and hear God's word in the church.

"The singing is beautiful – thousands of voices praising God in four-part harmony. It's what I imagine heaven sounds like!

"There is always a time of silence incorporated into services in Taizé. I found it a time of profound blessing. Sometimes I prayed for individuals at home; sometimes I just sat and waited on God, and sometimes I fell asleep. But those precious minutes, three times a day, fed me and sustained me."

[dioceseofyork.org.uk/vocations](http://dioceseofyork.org.uk/vocations)

# Welcoming the Archdeacon of York

**“Praying with you, encouraging you, and working alongside you in the power of the spirit... so the word can find a place to settle and bear fruit...”**

This was part of Sam Rushton's description of her task as Archdeacon of York, as she preached during the service in Selby Abbey on the 19th October to celebrate her new appointment and commit her ministry to God.

“We try to clear the obstacles from your path so you are free to scatter the words of God far and near,” she said.

Sam knows what she's talking about, having served four years as Archdeacon of Cleveland before her move south.

Bishop of Selby Dr John Thomson, who led the service, said, “Sam is already an experienced Archdeacon with a firm faith and a passion for sharing it, as well as a background in banking that gives her a firm grasp of the practical challenges facing parish churches in the 21st Century.

Sam continued, “I promise to stand alongside you when you fall out with one another... to disentangle the nettles and thorns of mishearing and misspeaking!”

- See online photo gallery from the service: [bit.ly/selby191019](http://bit.ly/selby191019)



# Trained and Recognised!



**Malcolm and Helen Lloyd were formally Recognised as Parish Assistants (RPAs) in the Mulgrave Benefice (west of Whitby) during a service in St Mary's Church, Sandsend, on the 3rd November.**

RPAs share in the public ministry of the local church, as they serve their local parishes, working with their parish clergy, and other licensed ministers (Readers and Church Army officers) seeking to encourage and develop the gifts of others.

Helen and Malcolm describe the RPA course run by York School of Ministry (YSOM) as "hugely beneficial" and urge anyone who would like to do more in their church to consider it.

In addition to learning about some doctrine and listening skills, the course offers a choice of modules including pastoral visiting, leading worship, mission and working with children.

- If you might be interested in becoming a Recognised Parish Assistant, speak in the first instance to your Incumbent or see the YSOM website at [www.ysom.org.uk](http://www.ysom.org.uk).
- Pictured: Malcolm and Helen Lloyd with Rector of the Mulgrave Benefice the Revd Capt Malcolm Jackson CA.

# Growth Fund gets to work as first three grants are awarded to churches



**The first Growth Fund grants to help churches reach younger adults have been awarded to three churches in different parts of the diocese - in Middlesbrough, Bridlington and the outskirts of York.**



The grants, initially £5000 for the first year for each church, have been awarded to West Hill, Bessingby near Bridlington (East Riding Archdeaconry), Holy Trinity, North Ormesby (Cleveland Archdeaconry) and Huntington Benefice (York Archdeaconry).

The Growth Fund has been made possible by central Church of England 'Strategic Development Funding' with a total of £500,000 available over the next five years for around 25 churches or benefices in the Diocese of York to develop lay-led new worshipping communities aimed at those in the 20s to 40s.

## Moving On

At one of the first three churches to be awarded a grant, Holy Trinity Church, North Ormesby, Lee-Anne Southon will

be supported through the fund. Lee-Anne has already begun a new worshipping community, known as 'Moving On' which extends from her work in the church and local community with Tots praise, Messy Church, nurture courses

and holiday activities. The community meets on a Wednesday morning to explore the Bible and key aspects of Christian faith together.

In Huntington Benefice, York, James

Simister will be building on his work with children and youth, and contacts through Forest Church, Messy Church and an online cell group. From January, James plans to form a team, beginning to pray around the local area, and exploring where and when a new worshipping community focused on reaching younger adults can be started.

## Encouraging

Meanwhile, in West Hill, Bessingby (Bridlington), Emma Miles and a core team have begun to form a new worshipping community. They are praying and exploring where they can serve and bless local people, build on com-



munity development initiatives, and further their links with community organisations.

Archdeacon of the East Riding, Andy Broom, who is the lead 'Ambassador'

for the 'Multiply' project, says, "To know that the first grants have already been made from the Growth Fund is very encouraging - it reflects that God is already at work and that lay leaders are going to be an essential part of reaching those in their 20s, 30s and 40s.

"We look forward to many others to establishing New Worshipping Communi-

ties and reaching those beyond our existing congregations."

## Self-Supporting

Other churches in the diocese are encouraged to take advantage of the Growth Fund which enables part time lay pioneers to be employed by a parish or benefice where there is already existing ministry and mission to 20s to 40s or families. Funding is on a gradually decreasing sliding scale with the expectation that after five years the work will be self-supporting.

Overseeing the Growth Fund is Dr Ben Walker, Associate Team Leader of the Multiply initiative: "If you're interested in beginning a new worshipping community in your parish or exploring ways of reaching younger adults, then do contact us at [multiply@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:multiply@yorkdiocese.org) or alternatively, sign up to the vision workshop and find out more about the wider project."



- We'd love to hear more about your hopes for your area and what you think might be possible: [bit.ly/multiplyworkshopwydale](https://bit.ly/multiplyworkshopwydale).
- For more information email Ben: [ben.walker@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:ben.walker@yorkdiocese.org).