

Saints and Holy Places of Yorkshire:

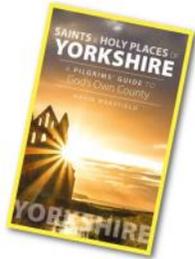
'A pilgrim's guide to God's Own County'

"A wonderful Christmas gift from Gavin Wakefield," says Ros Brewer, Lay Dean of Scarborough and a Lay Member of the Church of England's General Synod representing the Diocese of York.

What a delight to read Gavin's book especially as my mobility is poor, the opportunity to journey through this wonderful county of Yorkshire as a pilgrim certainly lifted the spirit.

Each chapter offers an historic insight into the lives of ordinary people with the depth of spirituality and suffering that has shaped the Christian heritage of God's Own County and offers great encouragement to the reader to reflect on their own journey.

As you journey across the county resting at Whitby, travelling across the moors and down the coast visiting Bridlington, Beverley and Hull you will meet with some people that are well known to you but others that am sure will be known locally but to others a fresh insight into the lives of these saints of their time. Across the Wolds to Pocklington and Howden and on the York such a richness of history and inspiration. The suffering and death of Margaret Clitherow reminds us of the personal devotion and commitment to the Roman Catholic religion; the Shrine to Margaret Clitherow can be found in the Shambles in York.



Throughout the centuries there is a great history of monastic life across the county including Whitby Abbey founded by Hilda, Rievaulx Abbey built by the Cistercian monks and Abbot

Aelred and Fountains Abbey. All three are now in ruins, but to stand on the ground of these places gives one a sense of the history and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of those who lived and prayed there, and those who still do today.

Moving to West Yorkshire we meet Richard Oastler known as the 'factory king'; he reformed the working conditions, especially of the children.

So as not to spoil your enjoyment I have not mentioned many of the saints included in the book or the suggestions of the various places of interest as you continue on your journey through this wonderful county of Yorkshire.

I thank God for all the Saints who have gone before us and to Gavin for writing this excellent book, which I recommend to you. It will make a great gift for someone at Christmas.

• Author the Revd Dr Gavin Wakefield is Director of Training for Missional Ministry in the Diocese of York.

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TheNews

DECEMBER 2020

98th Archbishop enthroned!

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Merry Christmas!

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

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

To the Saints of the Diocese of York

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, writes:

Light in the darkness

You have to get out into the more remote parts of the diocese to experience real darkness.

Even in some of our more rural communities, street lighting softens the darkness. In urban communities, light pollution means that some of us rarely encounter complete darkness at all. But there is something sobering and spectacular about the dark, not least the darkness of the night sky, because actually the more you look at it the more you see. The darkness is not dark at all. Millions and millions of stars are shining, though we know that even the light is the afterburn of that star's demise.

in the Bible, the really important things always happen in the darkness. The resurrection happens in the night-time. When Jesus died on the cross we are told that darkness covered the land. And of course we celebrate Christmas, the birth of Christ, in the middle of the night.

This Christmas and this year we find ourselves encountering darkness in other ways. COVID-19 seems to have

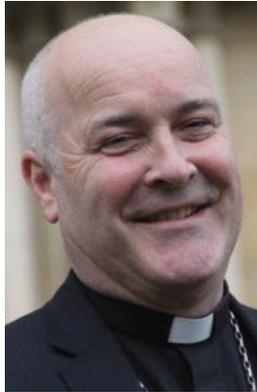
spread a blanket of darkness across our whole world. We have had to learn how to live differently. We have paid a heavy price in human suffering. As I write, a few weeks away from Christmas, we don't know how we will be able to celebrate or with whom we will be able to meet.

But the promise of Christmas, and with it the promise of the Christian faith, remain the same: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Those who lived in a land of darkness, on them has light shined." (Isaiah 9.2)

As Christians celebrating the birth of Christ, we are the ones who look for this light, the light of Christ dawning on the world. We are also the ones through whom this light must shine for others. For a present this Christmas, let us give to others our prayer and service.

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it." (John 1.5)

Yours in the service of the Gospel



+ Stephen

The Mustard Seed Team is Growing!

Two Associate Programme Leaders join the Mustard Seed team, supporting its programme, and leading the Stepping Up learning communities growing across Hull, Middlesbrough and our coastal communities.

Liz Holdsworth and Angela Bailey join Programme Leader Heather Black in the Diocese of York's project growing disciples in places where life is tough; part of the Diocesan Goal to 'Reach those we currently don't'.

In Stepping Up, lay people from across a Deanery meet weekly to grow as disciples of Jesus, exploring what mission looks like in their parish and supporting each other to Step Up into what God is calling them to do in local mission.

Heather Black said, "Angela and Liz are a great gift to us. I look forward to working with them, serving the churches and communities along the edge of our Diocese, where people face many challenges and life is tough."

Liz Holdsworth has worked in teaching and adult learning, helped run a small family business, and most recently worked for East Riding Council. She was Director of Training, and Director of Mission and Development in the Diocese of Peterborough, and is a Training Partner with Bridge Builders,

which specialises in conflict transformation and mediation.

"I am passionate about lay ministry and taking the good news into the world and our everyday lives. I am very excited about joining the Mustard Seed team, and working alongside churches in the East Riding."

The Revd Canon Angela Bailey is well-known in the Diocese; she has taught in York School of Ministry in Beverley and in Middlesbrough, and in the Diocesan Training Team particularly in Cleveland Archdeaconry. She has been involved in Recognised Parish Assistant training from the outset, and

enjoys helping parishes develop their ministry and mission.

"I am really glad to have the chance be a part of this work with Mustard Seed, working with people who are

Stepping Up, answering the call to follow in the way of Jesus and serve in their neighbourhood."

Bishop of Hull the Rt Revd Alison White who leads development of the Mustard Seed programme, said:

"It would be hard to imagine better appointments than Angela and Liz! They both bring generous personalities, full of experience and wisdom."



Parish Giving Scheme rolls out

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is now available to parishes across the Diocese, and many have started using this inspired mechanism of regular planned giving in their churches.

PGS is a method of planned giving using Direct Debit, with many benefits for individuals and parishes. Claiming Gift Aid on the church's behalf each month, the Scheme cuts administration, helps cash flow, and offers the popular option of increasing gifts by inflation each year. Giving through PGS is safe and secure, and helps our churches towards a sustainable future.

Archbishop Stephen says, "We're launching this Scheme which is quite simply the simplest and most efficient way for people to give as generously as they can to the work and witness of the Church.

"You don't need me to tell you that we are all facing great financial challenge, so if we can find a way of giving more efficiently, more sacrificially and more generously, and also to do it in an easy way then that's going to help all of us – so please look into using the Parish Giving Scheme in your church."

Registering with one of our Giving Advisers is very easy, as is setting up individual gifts, either through dedicated phone lines or through a paper Gift Form. Lots of resources are available to promote PGS, including letter templates and prayer cards.

Nick Barnard, Treasurer at East Harlsey, says, "The process of signing up was really easy and the person I spoke to at PGS was fantastic.

"My experience of that has been excellent, I see it very much as a positive, making the Treasurer's life and the Church's life much easier.

"The PGS team are lovely to chat to and well informed, it was all done in a clear and concise way – its ease of use will give everyone confidence that it's the right thing to do.

"We can receive the Gift Aid in real time, and that means that from a cash flow and resource point of view, we have more money in the account and we're up to date.

"Perhaps although the timing of this was not deliberate, it's good for all of us to be joining a Scheme like this for sustainability – but also, on an annual basis we can keep this money flowing in so that we can go out and sustain our parish, our message and mission."

- **If your church is interested in finding out more about the scheme, contact the Generous Giving Team at generosity@yorkdiocese.org.**



Photo albums: ordination of new priests in October

Delayed by the Coronavirus measures earlier in 2020, we were finally able to celebrate the ordination of new priests in a series of services around the Diocese over the third weekend in October.

Unable to be ordained in York Minster in June, the candidates have continued their ministry as Deacons until the autumn.

As Priests they will be able to carry out the full sacramental ministry of the church, including presiding at Holy Communion.

In a return to the practice of some years ago, each was ordained in the parish church where they serve as Curate, by the Suffragan Bishop who oversees the churches in their Archdeacons.

Services took place from Bridlington



Priory on Friday evening through to Hull St Cuthbert on Sunday evening, making for a weekend of great rejoicing in the Diocese of York as Archbishop Stephen was finally enthroned in York Minster as the 98th Archbishop of York on Sunday afternoon.

See photo albums of the services at www.flickr.com/photos/DioceseofYork/albums.

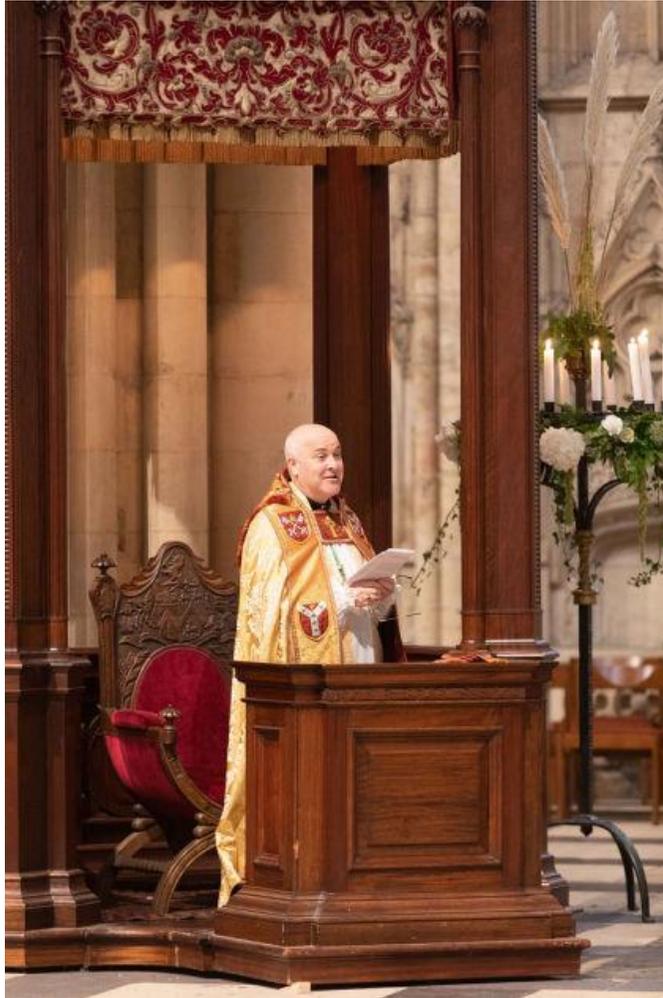
You are welcome to download, keep or use the pictures as you wish.



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98th Archbishop takes his throne and reminds us of 'a set of ideas that are very dear to us'



The Most Revd Stephen Cottrell was enthroned as the 98th Archbishop of York on the Feast day of St Luke, Apostle and Evangelist, Sunday 18 October at York Minster during Choral Evensong.

Elements of the service were based on previous historic enthronements and Archbishop Stephen took his oath on the York Gospels.

Three months into his role and with the country still on high alert, Archbishop Stephen completed the final stage of becoming Archbishop of York, taking up his seat in the Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of St Peter in York, in a simple service of Evensong.

During his sermon he said, "This is a time of huge challenge, uncertainty and fearfulness in our world. I am conscious that I'm standing in the shoes of some very great forebears, not least a man like William Temple who during the darkest hours of the Second World War with others dreamed of what the peace may look like and how literally devastated cities would be re-built, but

also a moral vision for the rebuilding of a nation. He was one of the architects of that post-war consensus that gave birth to a welfare state and to that NHS that we stood out on the streets and clapped every Thursday Evening during the hardest days of lockdown.

"What were we clapping? Well, yes, all those who worked in our health service, but also all the others whose labour kept us going: those who stack supermarket shelves; volunteer in foodbanks; drive delivery vans, or collect prescriptions. But I also think we were clapping a set of ideas that are very dear to us: a belief about our common humanity which says that we belong to each other and have a responsibility to each other and that we are at our very best when we

build communities of love which look out for and cherish each other, so that there is healthcare for everyone, not just for those who can pay.

"It is easy to take these ideas for granted. But they have an origin. They don't come from our observation of nature nor from the customs and cultures of most human communities. They flow directly from the revelation of God in Jesus Christ who by his sharing in our life and through his death and resurrection has formed us into a new humanity, and brought us into a community of giving and receiving love."

- **Read the Archbishop's sermon in full at www.archbishopofyork.org**

