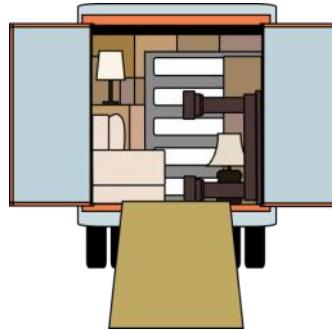


People on the Move

Comings and Goings in the Diocese of York



The Revd Gareth Atha, Vicar of Pickering, has been appointed by the Bishop of Whitby to be Area Dean of Northern Ryedale for a period of five years with effect from 8th September 2021. He succeeds the **Revd Canon Tim Robinson** who has held the position since November 2011.

The Revd Simon Bray, Domestic Chaplain to the Archbishop of York, has been appointed as Priest-in-Charge of Bishopthorpe and of York St Chad, and as Assistant Curate for York St Clement.

The Ven John Day, Priest in Charge of York St Chad and Assistant Curate York St Clement, has resigned as Priest in Charge of York St Chad from the 14th July, remaining Assistant Curate of the Benefice of York St Clement. He has additionally been appointed Assistant Curate of the Benefice of Bishopthorpe and of the Benefice of York St Chad with effect from the 14th July (a flowchart may be available on request - Ed).

The Revd Paul Jackson, Vicar of Middle Esk Moor, will resign with effect from Tuesday, 31st August 2021. His final service will be on Sunday, 29th August 2021 at 10.30am in the Parish Church of St Hilda, Egton.

The Revd Canon Terry Joyce, York

Archdeaconry Training Adviser and Assistant Curate of the Rural East York Benefice, will retire with effect from Tuesday, 31st August 2021.

The Revd Lisa Opala, Assistant Curate of Nunthorpe, has been appointed additionally as Chaplain to the James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough.

The Revd Canon Tim Robinson, Vicar of Helmsley and Upper Ryedale, Area Dean of Northern Ryedale, and Chair of the Diocesan House of Clergy, will retire with effect from Monday, 6th September 2021. His final services on Sunday, 5th September will be at 8.00am and 9.30am (All Saints, Helmsley), and 5.00pm (Duncombe Park chapel).

The Revd Canon Sue Sheriff, Assistant Curate of Fulford, York, has been appointed as Interim Priest-in-Charge of Fulford, effective until 1 August 2023.



The News

AUG–SEPT 2021

Cabbages in the Churchyard



See pgs 4-5 to see what else is growing in St Peter's Churchyard, Upper Helmsley.

Inside this month:



With Hope and Trust—
the Bishop of Whitby P2



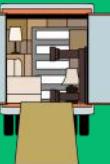
Consulting PCCs—
Living Christ's Story
Summer School of Possibilities P3



A Family-Friendly lock-down project
P4-5



Gavin Wakefield:
Training Director's farewell P6-7



People on the Move:
Comings & Goings P12

...and there's more!

To the Saints of the Diocese of York

The Bishop of Whitby,
the Rt Revd Paul Ferguson,
writes:

With hope and trust

I very much hope that the easing of restrictions has helped you to have a refreshing time this summer, as we all look to the future.

And it's with hope and trust in God that we come to the next important stage in our Living Christ's Story consultation with parishes. Each PCC has been invited to answer a set of consultation questions (or as many of them as you can manage) by 3 September, using the link at the foot of this page.

One of the glories of the Diocese of York is our variety. We have communities of different sizes, coastal and inland, industrial and farming ... As the Church of England from the Humber to the Tees it's our calling to be people of worship, celebration and prayer, of care and service, learning and growth, of good influence in civic life and responsibility for the environment. We'll do this differently in different places, and it's been wisely

said that an effective church does a few things and does them well.

PCCs have been working hard on the consultation — thank you for everything that you have been doing, with special meetings and awaydays to look at the material. I can't emphasise too much how valuable it will be to have the answers and comments from around the diocese that will help us to move to the next stage of planning.

When we're able to look at all the responses together, it will help shape mutual and diocesan-level support, and also help to decide what can be afforded for the future.

St Paul wrote about the variety of God's gifts (Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12) and the importance of mutual support (2 Corinthians 8-9). In that spirit, your response will be a key part of planning for effective shared mission into the future — thank you.

+Paul Whitby



www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PCC_Consultation_2021

During this time the Training Team has developed many things for our mutual benefit. I wonder how many of the following opportunities you have benefited from?

A whole variety of one-off and short training opportunities (some under the CMD label), extensive training for curates, the Leadership programme for incumbents, lay training for Readers and Recognised Parish Assistants

If you haven't been on any of these yourself I am confident you will know people who have!

Clearing out my files has reminded me of so many things that I've been involved in - the list above is not exhaustive - and the praying and planning and hard work that has gone into it all. But in the end, the bits of paper and the computer files are not important: it comes back to the lives

that have been changed, the communities built up, the injustices challenged, the hope given in dark times, the love that has been put into practice by meeting with God.

So I look forward and encourage all of us to rejoice in our

calling as "letters of Christ, ... written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."



Pictured after a dinner at Wydale Hall to mark the retirement of both Gavin and Terry, from left: the Revd Canon Terry Joyce (Clergy CMD Adviser and York Archdeaconry Training Adviser), Debbie Joyce, the Revd Fran Wakefield, and the Revd Dr Gavin Wakefield.

(RPAs), listening courses, York School of Ministry, Leading your Church into Growth (LYCIG), developing Deaneries, SPIDIR, and any number of events and days for parishes and other groups.

Letters of Christ

The Revd Dr Gavin Wakefield writes
on his retirement as our
Diocesan Director of Training for Missional Ministry



In the end, it's all about people (well, and God!).

I've had the privilege of serving across the diocese of York as the Director of Training for more than a dozen years and what I take away as I retire are memories of so many people. And first, it is those people whose faith in God has begun, deepened, grown, been transformed. Those people who have discovered that God has called them into new life and new ministries, and given them confidence to live this out. These words of St Paul have encouraged me as I look back:

"You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all; and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."

(2 Corinthians 3:2-3)

There are my wonderful colleagues, past and present, in the Diocesan Training Team. They give so much of themselves to serve and support oth-

ers. To mention them all here would make this very long, but I want to thank Terry Joyce - who is also retiring - for his wonderful work in the Archdeaconry of York and in developing continuing ministerial training opportunities for clergy and lay people in the whole diocese. Besides those folk officially in the team, so many more of you have contributed to this work and every Zoom call seems to remind me of this!

It has been very special to be a member of the wider diocesan team. We have such dedicated and capable people in each department who work hard serving the parishes, and also make for a great working environment in the office. I have enjoyed working closely with the team at Wydale Hall, and more recently with the Safeguarding team. I remember with thanks the diocesan leadership team in its various configurations: we have been blessed with wise and godly bishops, archdeacons, Deans, and the one Diocesan Secretary throughout this time! I have been fortunate to learn from them all.

Living Christ's Story: A Summer School of Possibilities

Our current diocesan consultation is creating a lot of interest and questions about various ways to develop parish life, many of which have been stimulated by the 'Toolbox of Possibilities'.

Over the summer a series of online workshops will be run every Thursday evening from 7.00pm – 8.00pm. Each will include input on a different theme

- **22 July:** Reaching Younger Adults
- **29 July:** Creating Festival Churches
- **5 August:** Growing churches in a Mustard Seed Way
- **12 August:** Being creative with PCC structures
- **19 August:** Encouraging giving in your church
- **26 August:** Developing our Online Ministry
- **2 September:** Working collaboratively across larger parochial groupings

from an archdeacon or diocesan officer; real life stories and lots of time for questions and discussion.

The programme is below:

To book onto any of these webinars please contact Jacqui Gunter, PA to the Archdeacon of Cleveland: jacqui.gunter@yorkdiocese.org.



Cabbages in the churchyard

– how a family-friendly lockdown project took off

Upper Helmsley is a tiny village of only a handful of households, 8 miles northeast of York.

Hidden behind mature trees just north of the village, St Peter's church would be easily missed, if it were not for the cheerful roadside signs pointing to the 'churchyard allotment' and the vegetables for sale.

Where a year ago there was an uncared-for corner of the churchyard, now there are eight raised vegetable beds, brimming with produce. Children & Family worker Rachael Harrison explains: "When we were forced to close the churches in the Benefice due to COVID19, we started thinking about ways in which we could bring families together outdoors. A plan was hatched to start an allotment club for youngsters, as a Covid-safe



alternative for Messy Church in the benefice. We thought the produce could be distributed to older or housebound residents in the community, or perhaps sold at the roadside."

The project caught the imagination of the local community. Two farmers provided fertile soil, friendly villagers brought spare gardening tools, the vicar donated an old greenhouse, local gardeners shared plants and good advice, and a churchwarden salvaged wood to create the vegetable beds and produce stall. Even



the Fire Brigade volunteered their help, filling the water storage tank behind the church (St Peter's isn't connected to the mains). "The response from the local community has been incredible", say churchwardens Phil and Mari Richards, "everyone has been so positive and helpful!"

Throughout the churchyard allotment verses from 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' are displayed on colourful A4 posters. A simple log seating area surrounds a wooden cross. Meetings start with a prayer: "Dear Lord, bless this sacred place, our precious church allotment space. Show us your care from up above, help us to work with united love." The work at St Peter's churchyard has been blessed: the vegetable beds are overflowing with produce, and since the start of the project three months ago, no fewer than 21 families and over 30 young people aged 1 year to 14 years have visited and taken part – tilling, planting, weeding, and finally, harvesting!

Recently, the allotment team has sought advise on how to make other areas of the churchyard more wildlife friendly.

Some areas are now left uncut, to encourage wildflowers. The next project is to build a 'bug hotel'. The church building itself is not forgotten – planned improvements to the facilities will make the building more accessible and user-friendly. The allotment project has given the church a great reputation - no doubt the local community will respond positively to fundraising initiatives.

- **Inspired by St Peter's story? Visit Upper Helmsley to take a look yourself, and contact the Diocesan Green Ambassador, Revd Johannes (Jan) Nobel (jan.nobel@yorkdiocese.org or 01904 870814) for further advice.**
- **Please note that faculty approval may be needed for changes to churchyards.**

