

# People on the Move

Comings and Goings in the Diocese of York



**The Revd Jennifer Buckler**, Assistant Curate of Widcombe in the Diocese of Bath & Wells, has been appointed as Interim Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Norton juxta Malton for a period of three years. She will be licensed by the Bishop of Selby in the Parish Church of St Peter's, Norton at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 13th October 2021.

**The Revd Andrew Greiff**, Team Vicar of Shelf with Buttershaw St Aidan in the Diocese of Leeds, has been appointed as Priest-in-Charge of Redcar. He will be licensed by the Bishop of Whitby in St Peter's, Redcar at 7.00pm on Saturday, 27th November 2021.

**The Revd Robert Suekarran**, Multiply Minister for Brayton, has been appointed Associate Vicar of the Most

Holy and Undivided Trinity, Kingston upon Hull (Hull Minster). He will be licensed by the Bishop of Hull at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 8th December 2021.

**The Revd Danny Walker**, Priest in Charge of Easington with Liverton, will retire with effect from Sunday, 2nd January 2022. His final service will be Sunday, 2nd January 2022 at 10.00am in All Saints' Church, Easington.

**The Revd Anne White**, Priest in Charge of Aldbrough and Mappleton with Goxhill and Witherwick, will retire with effect from Sunday, 9th January 2022. Her final service will be on Sunday, 9th January 2022.

**Boris (the rabbit), Karma, Hobbit and Sky attended in person when St Mary the Virgin, Nunthorpe's monthly Café Church invited pets along to coincide with the conclusion of Creationtide and the Feast of St Francis, for a pet blessing.**

Curate the Revd Laura Wild said, "After St Mary's usual delicious breakfast, we considered the goodness of God's creation as recorded in the Creation account in Genesis before introducing our pets to one another."

"There was so much evident joy at our invited guests," added Laura.

"We prayed that we would be bold to care for all of God's creation."



# TheNews

NOVEMBER 2021

## 'Children of Light'

### Art Competition prizes awarded at Bishopthorpe

**The sun poked through the clouds as winners of the Children of Light Festival Art Competition arrived at Bishopthorpe Palace on the 9th October with their parents to receive their prizes from Archbishop Stephen.**

They were welcomed by Rebecca Cottrell and toured the Palace before the Archbishop presented prizes to the children and young people in the Great Hall. As the children received their prize, the judging panel's comments were shared about why they thought these pieces best illustrated 'being light in difficult times'.

The winners came from all corners of the Diocese and are looking forward to seeing their work exhibited alongside other shortlisted pieces as the Children of Light Festival Art Competition goes on tour.



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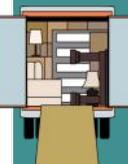
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*...and there's more!*

# To the Saints of the Diocese of York

The Bishop of Beverley,  
the Rt Revd Glyn Webster,  
writes:

## The song of the Saints

**November is a month of contrasts. It begins with the celebration of All Saints' Day and the commemoration of All Souls – we look beyond ourselves to the great communion of Saints in their endless song of praise and remember our loved ones, now at rest, joined we pray in that communion of perpetual light and adoration.**

The silence of death and the song of heaven. I know that many of you have felt a deep sense of sadness at being forbidden to join that heavenly song in our own churches in recent times, and thanks be to God that restrictions on singing are now lifting.

When Israel found itself exiled in Babylon, they too lost their song – “how do we sing the Lord's song” they asked, “in a foreign land?” (Psalm 137). The past months have felt like an exile to a foreign land, a strange and unsettling time – not only the pandemic, which has affected us all, but events in the wider world, the climate emergency, political and social upheaval, both here and abroad – these are certainly uncertain times, an exile from the familiar, one which may prove long lived. It can seem that our song of praise is drowned out by the noise of the world around us, overwhelmed by

those voices which would seek to draw us away from the truth, the truth who is Jesus Christ.

But amongst all this, the “still small voice” (1 Kings 9:12) remains – that which is in our hearts and on our lips as people of faith, the voice of Jesus, who calls us into a living relationship with Him. This song is a song of hope for something better – both in this world and the next.

Perhaps this is a chance for us all to sing to the Lord a new song (Psalm 96), and I think here of Mary's song too – her “soul magnifying the Lord” and a life given over entirely to God. A chance to renew, not only ourselves but, in our own small way, the world around us – to be love and mercy itself in a confused and hurting world.

When we sing such a song, our voice does not seem so small, for we are joined to that eternal hope, the song of heaven which no pandemic, no earthly power, nothing can silence – the song which endures forever, the song which brings us life and conquers death. We are not alone, for our song is that of the Saints, too – an eternal hymn of praise to God.



+Glyn

# Welcome to the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name

**The sisters of the Community of the Holy Name (CHN) have recently moved into Hessele, East Yorkshire, in the Diocese of York after thirty years based on the outskirts of Derby.**

CHN is a Community of Anglican religious sisters who live, work and pray together combining a life of prayer with service to others. Their outreach and mission is expressed in many ways: parish work, volunteering, working alongside others, retreat giving and spiritual guidance. The order originated in Vauxhall, south London in the 19th century, and from the outset has worked alongside the local church communities.

In 1879 the Mother House of the Community moved to Malvern in Worcestershire where it remained for 100 years, with sisters also working out of various branches houses across the country from Newcastle to Torquay.

The order has houses in Kwa Zulu Natal and Lesotho which developed from work including witnessing in the face of the divisive apartheid regime being set up in South Africa, nursing, teaching and caring for those affected by HIV/AIDS.

Assistant Provincial Sister Catherine writes: “On 24th August 2021 the Community was pleased to welcome Arch-



**Archbishop Stephen with the Sisters of the Holy Name on the 24th August. The only Sisters not on the photo are Sisters Lillias and Vivienne Joy, who live in a care home nearby, and Sister Brenda, who remains in hospital.**

bishop of York Stephen Cottrell to our new home. Archbishop Stephen welcomed the Community to the Diocese of York and celebrated the Eucharist before joining us for lunch and the after-dinner crossword.

“On Wednesday 8th September 2021, Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sister Diana CHN was installed as Provincial Superior by the Community's Bishop Visitor Humphrey Southern during the Eucharist. At the end of the Eucharist Bishop Humphrey blessed the Community's new home.”

[www.comholyname.org](http://www.comholyname.org)

## New Readers *continued...*

my journey; I pray to serve God and the church as long as I am able. "

**Pauline Giddings** will serve at **St Mark's, Newby** (Scarborough). She trained as a Recognised Parish Assistant (RPA), but felt that this pastoral role continued shaping and challenging her faith. "I tried to ignore the times that I felt I was being called realising that it's impossible to ignore God, finally acknowledging that God's been 'nagging me' for some time. So I finally decided to listen, give in and follow his plan for me!" Pauline is a semi-retired registered nurse, having worked in different areas of healthcare throughout her career. Married to James, they have three children and four beautiful grandchildren. Two years into study with York School of Ministry, Pauline applied for Reader training; she says she's enjoyed all the studying and her faith has become much deeper. "I hope and pray that my ministry will flourish in the community and in pastoral care."



**Liz Russell** will serve at **St Helen's church, Welton**, where she's worshipped for the last 36 years. She has been involved in Children's ministry and now leads Messy Church, while enjoying study groups and becoming an RPA worship leader. Liz had always felt called to be a teacher and taught maths in secondary schools, dropping to two days a week at the age of 60

and beginning to study with York School of Ministry. Two years in, she could not ignore the call to Reader ministry. Now fully retired from teaching, she is still studying, looking after her grandchild and involved in activities at church. "As a Reader in training, preaching has been my new challenge and I have learnt to trust that the Holy Spirit will intervene to transform what I read on a Monday into a sermon by Sunday."

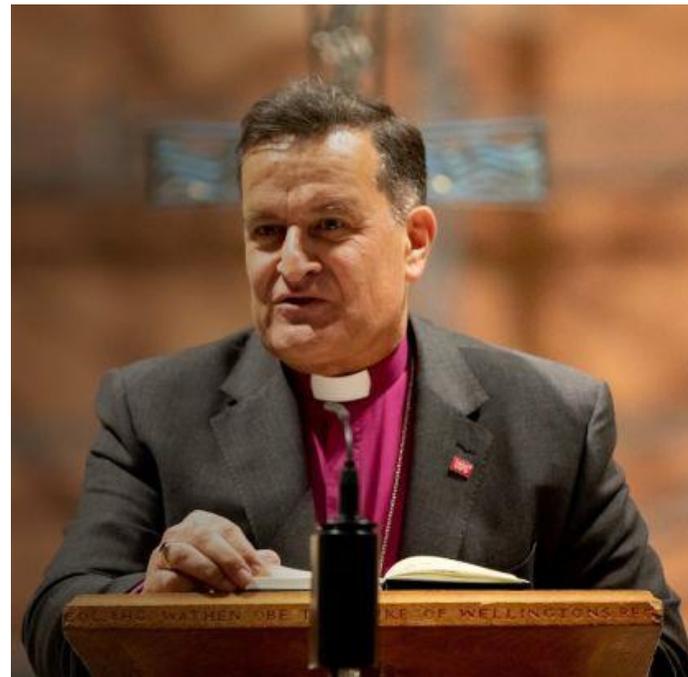
**Dean Smahon** will serve in the **Parish of Rural Ainsty**, west of York. Married with two young children, Dean has a passion for mission and evangelism, particularly within Rural communities, and he will take a principal role in developing and leading a new service at the local agricultural college.

Additionally, five existing readers who have moved from other dioceses will be licensed to serve in the Diocese of York:

- **Allison Dean** will serve as Senior Site Chaplain for **Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust**
- **Ian Fletcher** will serve in **Rudston, Boynton, Carnaby, Kilham, Burton Fleming with Fordon, Grindale and Wold Newton** (East Yorkshire)
- **Michael Udeagbara** will serve at **St Martin with The Transfiguration, Hull**
- **Martin Bailes** will serve at **St Edward the Confessor, Dringhouses** (York)
- **Gareth Denby** will minister in the Benefice of **Derwent Ings (Wheldrake, Thorganby, Elvington, Sutton-on-Derwent and East Cottingham, south of York)**

## Dean of York to be Bishop of Portsmouth

**10 Downing Street announced on the 8th October that Her Majesty the Queen has approved the nomination of the Right Reverend Dr Jonathan Frost, Dean of York, for election as the 10th Bishop of Portsmouth, in succession to the Right Reverend Christopher Foster, following his retirement in May.**



He will lead the Church of England's Diocese of Portsmouth, which covers 133 parishes across south-east Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Jonathan was appointed Dean of York in November 2018 and has led the community of York Minster, the 'mother church' of the Diocese of York, since his installation on 2nd February 2019.

Commenting on the announcement, the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell said:

"Jonathan Frost has been an outstanding Dean of York. He is a leader who knows how to be led, a man of prayer and a servant of the gospel. He has very successfully steered York Minster through difficult and challenging times. But he has also enabled it to focus on its primary purpose as a place of prayer and a centre for mission. Although we are very sad to see him go, we are delighted that he has been called to use his considerable gifts of leadership, pastoral care and missionary endeavour as the next bishop of Portsmouth."

Jonathan will lead York Minster's community through the Advent and Christmas season.

He will be installed in his new post next year.

The recruitment and appointment process for the new Dean of York is the responsibility of the Archbishop of York and the Church of England. An Acting Dean will be announced in due course.

# New Readers to minister in the Diocese of York

**Dean of York, Bishop Jonathan Frost, is due to admit eight new Readers to serve in parishes in the Diocese of York in York Minster on the 16th October.**

Readers (often identified by the blue scarf worn with their robes at some services) are unpaid 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.

Diocesan Warden of Readers the Venerable Dr Amanda Bloor said, "It's marvellous to be celebrating as we licence new Readers to minister in parishes across the Diocese. I'm inspired by their commitment to the communities that have helped to shape and encourage their ministries, and by the excitement they feel in sharing God's love to the people they'll meet. Their stories are often as much about being surprised by God's calling as they are about study and formation and I'm thankful for each one of them and for their joyful witness to Jesus Christ."

Those admitted on the 16th October have trained with the York School of Ministry which involves both formational training and academic study.

The new Readers, with the parishes in which they will serve, are:



**Margaret Cooper** will serve in Mowbray Deanery in the parishes of **Brompton, Deighton, Welbury and the Rountons**. A vicar's

daughter and a vicar's wife she has lived her life in houses lined with theological books, but never expected she'd actually read them! After a career in Mental health nursing and as a Franciscan tertiary Margaret was praying on retreat and John 1 verse 39 spoke to her about staying with Jesus for the rest of the day. Now semi-retired from nursing though working two days a week in the Memory Service, Marga-

ret is a chaplaincy volunteer for her local hospital (although not yet back there after COVID). "I have been hugely supported by the congregations of the benefices, York School of Ministry, my husband (who has also been my training incumbent) and by God our Father. I thank them all and my prayer for the future is in Psalm 71 verse 18."



**John Edmond** retired as a Solicitor after 38 years in 2018 and moved to Beverley with his wife Jill the following year. John had started Reader

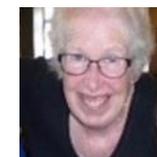
Training at Leicester Cathedral in September 2018 and transferred to York School of Ministry in December 2020, completing his training at the Beverley Hub. As a Reader he will continue to serve as a member of the Ministry Team at **St Mary's, Beverley**. "I grew up in Hull in a close-knit and caring family who had little money. For a long time I have felt God calling me to help the poor, those in need and disadvantaged in life. My hopes and prayers are to bring the invitation to be part of the God's kingdom to all who wish to hear the good news; that they may experience the embrace of His love, compassion and mercy. I want to develop, through my Ministry, my spirituality, commitment to prayer and service and glory of God."

**Paula Evans** works as a teacher for the Schools Music Service, delivering music lesson to pupils across the East Riding. She is also a Foundation governor and works regularly with three Church schools within the Deanery. Paula has completed her initial training for Reader Ministry with the York School of Ministry and will serve in **Skirlaugh, Catwick, Long Riston, Rise, Swine with Ellerby and Sigglesthorne with Nunkeeling and Bewholme**.



**Christine Fairless** will serve at **St Cuthbert's, Wilton-in-Cleveland**; while she doesn't know when she first recognised her faith, she was always encouraged and supported and took on various roles and responsibilities in

her church. Following a fallow period of some years she found the desire to return to church had been niggling for some time but Christine didn't know where to worship. "Then one afternoon six years ago I attended the graveside funeral of my neighbour. After the committal and on the way back to my car I noticed that the door of St Cuthbert's Church was open, and I was given a gentle nudge to go in. I immediately felt that this was the right place and returned for the Sunday service a few days later. I am thankful to God for that nudge and for all the love, support and fellowship shown to me by everyone there." Christine's hopes and prayers for the future are that "Whatever I do in the parish or further afield, I may show and live God's love and be guided by His will."



**Elizabeth Furnell**, born of a Christian family and now in her seventh decade, is still praying and still praising. She is a widow "with three wonderful

daughters and three gorgeous grandchildren". "I worship and serve at **St Cuthbert's church Ormesby**. Together with a group of talented ladies we visited residential homes for the elderly for a short service and sing-along; visits were stopped by lockdown." It was during her service in the homes that Elizabeth felt called to be a reader: "Bringing the love of Christ to those who were unable to attend church was humbling. "The training course was hard and I thank all who helped me on