

# People on the Move

## Comings and Goings in the Diocese of York



**The Revd Chris Coates**, who holds the Archbishop's Permission to Officiate, has been appointed as Priest-in-Charge of Ravenscar and Staintondale, and of Cloughton and Burniston. The licensing by the Archdeacon of the East Riding will take place on Monday, 20th June 2022 at 7.30pm in St Mary, Cloughton.

**The Revd Stephen Cooper**, Vicar of Middlesbrough St Columba with St Paul and Middlesbrough St John the Evangelist, will retire on the 31 October 2022. His final service will be at 4.00pm on Sunday, 16 October 2022 at St Columba's, Middlesbrough.

**The Revd Mick Fryer**, Vicar of Elloughton and Brough with Brantingham, has been appointed additionally as Area Dean of Howden for a period of five years from 29th June 2022.

**The Revd David Tembey**, Vicar of Marske in Cleveland, will retire on the 3rd June 2022, and has been granted the Archbishop's Permission to Officiate.

**The Revd Richard Parkinson** has been re-appointed as Area Dean of Beverley for a further period of five years from 7 June 2022.

**The Revd Pauline Percy**, Chaplain, Queen Mary's School and Assistant Minister of Sessay and of Sowerby, Thirkleby with Kilburn and Bagby, will retire from her Chaplaincy post on the 1 September

2022, but remain in post as Assistant Minister.

**The Revd Matthew Pollard** has been re-appointed as Area Dean of Bridlington and will be commissioned by the Archdeacon of the East Riding on Friday, 24 June 2022 at 9.00am.

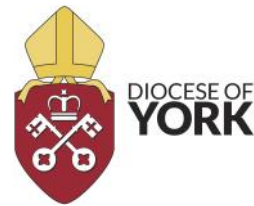
**The Revd Michael Proctor**, Vicar of South Cave and Ellerker with Broomfleet and Area Dean of Howden, resigned from both roles on Sunday, 5th June 2022.

**The Revd Glenda Webb**, Assistant Curate of the Benefices of Askham Bryan, and Copmanthorpe with Bolton Percy and Colton, has been appointed Assistant Curate (known locally as Associate Priest) of Bramham.

**The Rt Revd Glyn Webster**, who holds the Archbishop's Permission to Officiate, has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of All Saints North Street, York, and Assistant Curate of the Parish of York St Mary Bishophill.

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With regret, we record the death of the **Revd Canon David Smith**, former Rector of Whitby and of Yarm, Chaplain to the RNLI at Whitby, and a Member of the College of Canons of York Minster, on Sunday, 1st May 2022.



# TheNews

JULY 2022

## A Sunday Reflection

Videos for your church—or just for you!



**Every week, the Diocese of York offers a reflection and prayer resource on video, for personal use or for churches to use in their Sunday worship, whether it's in our church building or online.**

The three or four minute videos often follow the week's readings, or occasionally a theme suggested by the church calendar or national or international events.

You can find each week's video on the diocesan website at [www.dioceseofyork.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk), on our Facebook page from 10.00am each Sunday at [www.facebook.com/dioceseofyork](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofyork), or at [www.vimeo.com/dioceseofyork](https://www.vimeo.com/dioceseofyork).

Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell has invited contributors to join him in taking turns to offer this video resource.

Please use them and share them as you wish.

- See previous Sunday Reflections at [www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/sunday-reflections](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/sunday-reflections)
- [www.archbishopofyork.org](http://www.archbishopofyork.org)

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*...and there's more!*

## The Ukraine Road at Stokesley Parish Church

**More than 300 stones have been added to the 'The Ukraine Road' inside Stokesley Parish Church.**

Many of the pebbles are painted in the Ukrainian colours and carry messages of hope written by children from Stokesley Primary Academy. One stone reads "I stand by Ukraine", another says "Peace, respect, stay safe". Two others say "Hoping the best for you" and "Don't lose hope, may God be with you".

Over 150 children from the school visited the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul and spent time thinking about what it might be like to be a refugee.

Head of school, Mrs Graham said she was delighted with the children's

"Thoughts of kindness and empathy". Executive Principal Mr Cowley added "Thank you to all the adults involved and well done to the pupils".



The idea came from a member of Stokesley Parish Church when she was watching refugees on the news, struggling along a half-built path with all their bags.

Priest-in-Charge the Revd Ben Gunter said "We invite everyone to come and add their stone

to The Ukraine Road as a way of remembering those who have been forced to take to the road. Our prayers are with them as we look at practical ways to help."

[www.stokesleyparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stokesleyparishchurch.org.uk)

## An 'Excellent' Church School at St Peter's, Brotton

**School Leaders, Governors and Trustees at St Peter's Church of England Primary Academy, Brotton, say they're "extremely pleased" with the outcome of their recent Church School Inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools, or SIAMS).**

"To achieve the highest rating 'Excellent' under a more demanding set of measures, is a magnificent achievement. The Inspector has rightly highlighted the many achievements the school continues to make, recognising the support we give our children inside and outside the classroom, the progress they make and the strong partnerships we have with parents, St Margaret's Church, the Diocese of York and the extended community."

Inspector Jo Warnes stated "St Peter's is a remarkable Church school; it is a place where lives are changed. It provides all pupils and adults with welcome, warmth and nurture. The partnership between church and school is a real strength.

"The curriculum provides pupils with the confidence, resilience and resourcefulness to grow and develop, both academically and spiritually. Pupils show high degrees of maturity, independence and self-motivation. St Peter's is a fully-inclusive school at the heart of the community and provides hope and aspiration for all".



[www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/education](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/education)

# "Christians do not believe in Jesus"

*Judi Pring of St Nicholas' Church, Hornsea, writes:*

**To be fair, I only received that answer a couple of times on a blustery Saturday afternoon. I was out conducting a door to door survey on behalf of St Nicholas, Hornsea PCC. Surveys are more normally used for consumer products; however the PCC had decided that it would be a useful tool to see why fewer than 1% of the town attended any of its churches.**

Rather than doorstep rejection, the majority of people were willing to answer questions which covered such ground as whether they have any belief in God, what activities would they like to attend and did they have any spiritual beliefs? Angels were particularly popular!

The areas of the town were deliberately chosen to provide a good demographic mix.

## **The results:**

- Positively the Church (both the building and the congregation) were held in great affection. One lady even changed her Facebook banner around Christmas to a photo of the Church. Many had connections when younger, either having attended Sunday School or had been a choir member. The majority believed in God; most prayed.
- But people simply did not have time in their lives for Church, though another lady astutely commented if it

was that important you would make time. Most were working full-time and cramming everything else into their days off.

As a result of the survey we can more strategically plan our outreach, and that is not leaving God out of the picture but using limited resources more effectively.

We also did an internal survey one Sunday to ascertain what the congregation thought of the church, their discipleship, giving and what direction they considered the Church should be traveling in. Most were extremely enthusiastic to fill it in, after their initial surprise. As with the external survey we were then able to identify the gaps and plan accordingly.



- The Church of England now has a ready made tool at [www.churchofengland.org/resources/church-near-you/church-development-tool](http://www.churchofengland.org/resources/church-near-you/church-development-tool). It contains similar themes as the internal survey we conducted.
- **See Hornsea PCC's external survey at [bit.ly/hornseapccsurvey](http://bit.ly/hornseapccsurvey).**

**Sixteen deacons were ordained priest in ten services across the Diocese of York over the weekend 11th - 12th June, by the Bishops of Selby and Whitby, and the Archbishop of York.**

Fifteen of the candidates had been ordained deacon a year ago in York Minster while the Revd Catherine Toase had served as a Community Deacon since 2015. The new priests will continue to serve as Assistant Curates in their parish posts as part of their ongoing growth and development in ministry.

- **The Revd Kate Brown; Yarm, with Kirklevington, Picton and Worsall.**
- **The Revd Paul Burnett; Parish of Whitby.**
- **The Revd Melanie Burnside; the Kirkdale Benefice (Nunnington, Harome, Pockley, Kirkdale and Beadlam, near Helmsley).**
- **The Revd Caroline Comer-Stone; Sherburn-in-Elmet with Saxton.**
- **The Revd Eileen Connolly; St Andrews, Sutton Park in East Hull, working in Bransholme, Wawne, Sutton, and Kingswood.**
- **The Revd Nicola Gladstone; York City Centre parishes**
- **The Revd John Hoyland; St Philip and St James', Clifton, York.**
- **The Revd James Kenny; Market Weighton, Goodmanham, Sancton, Londesborough, and Shiptonthorpe.**
- **The Revd Peter King; Kirkleatham (Redcar).**
- **The Revd Lisa Opala; Nunthorpe.**
- **The Revd Claire Soderman; Northallerton with Kirby Sigston.**
- **The Revd Daniel Thomas; Selby Abbey.**
- **The Revd Miriam Thurlow; Bridlington Christ Church with Bessingby and Ulrome.**
- **The Revd Catherine Toase; Skelton, Shipton, Newton and Linton and the Deanery of Easingwold.**
- **The Revd Huw Waring; Filey.**
- **The Revd Louise White; Hull Minster.**

In the ordination service those present are asked: "Will you continually pray for them? Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?"

And, of course, the answer is a wholehearted "we will".

Photographs of most of the services are available to view and download at [www.flickr.com/photos/dioceseyork/albums](http://www.flickr.com/photos/dioceseyork/albums).

# Archbishop ordains eleven new Deacons to serve in the Diocese of York

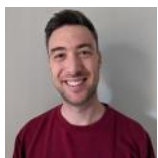
Eleven people with varied stories of God's call to serve will be ordained Deacon by the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, in York Minster on Saturday 25th June in a service beginning at 4.30pm.

The service will be livestreamed on the internet at [bit.ly/ordinationstream220625](https://bit.ly/ordinationstream220625) or via [www.yorkminster.org](http://www.yorkminster.org).

Deacons are called to work in the community and assist in church; each candidate will serve as Assistant Curate in a parish within the Diocese of York, the Church of England between the Rivers Humber and Tees and between the A1 and the Yorkshire coast.

The eleven are aged from mid-twenties to mid-sixties, and will continue their training in service alongside an experienced priest; some will be ordained priest themselves in the future.

Archbishop Stephen said, "It's going to be such a joy to ordain this group - they bring so many different experiences and skills but they're all living Christ's story according to the gifts, talents and opportunities they've been given. A Deacon is a herald of the gospel and a servant of those they meet and whose lives they touch, and my prayer is that each one of these candidates will be richly blessed and find ways to share the hope and faith that has brought them to this day."



**James Congreve-Horn** will serve as Assistant Curate at **St Michael-le-Belfrey in York**. His

twelve-year journey to ordination began at St Peter's, Brighton, in 2010 when he was healed of his eczema while taking part in an Alpha Course to explore the Christian Faith. He and Jess married in 2016 and moved to Oxford when James began his training for ordination at

Wycliffe Hall in 2019, and their son Moses was born there.

"There have been a lot of ups and downs throughout my journey which has all worked together to shape me into the person (I hope) that God is going to start using here in York.

"Training at Wycliffe has been a time of learning and growing, stretching and sharpening. As we come to York, I'm looking forward to stepping into

"This year has been one of significant change for our family, and we are so grateful to God for His faithfulness and provision through it all."



**Darius Traves** will serve as Assistant Curate at **Bridlington Christ Church with Bessingby and Ulrome**, and will also work in **York St John University Chaplaincy**.

Darius had a faith from a young age although his family didn't believe in a God. At a traumatic time of his life he says that "I needed God and God came to me."

He has been involved in schools ministry and particularly amongst those with additional needs for about five years, and has trained for ordination through St Hild College at Mirfield: "I have absolutely loved it there. I have quite often forgotten that I have a disability.

"I now feel humble that even though I have a lot of challenges on a daily basis God has still called me to ordained ministry. My hope is that I am going to be able to help people tell their stories and walk with them on their journey."



**Dawn Ward** will serve as Assistant Curate in the **Benefice of Thirsk (including South Kilving-**

**ton, Sand Hutton and Carlton Miniott).**

She has been a Retail Pharmacist Manager for 41 years, starting in the ex-mining communities of South Yorkshire before moving to North Yorkshire. Working with Harm Reduction teams to reduce drug usage has given Dawn insight into lives considerably different from her own, and through providing end of life care she has supported people in extremely vulnerable periods.

Dawn says, "My vocation journey has been a long and winding road, but I feel that God has always pointed the way and placed people strategically at crucial moments to help and support me. Although my calling to the priesthood has come later in life, I come with life experiences which I hope will benefit others."

She has completed six years of training through both Leeds and York Schools of Ministry and gained a BA in Theology, Ministry and Mission from Durham University; she is completing a formation year with St Hild College, Mirfield.

"The last seven years have been hard work, but I have been so thankful for the full support of my husband Michael. As I approach ordination I am really excited to see what God has in store for me on the next part of my journey."



**Richard Nihill** will serve as Assistant Curate in the **Bishopthorpe Road Parishes, York (Bishopthorpe with York St Chad and St Clement).**

He will remain a teacher and chaplain, participating in God's continuing work at Archbishop Holgate's Church of England Academy, York.

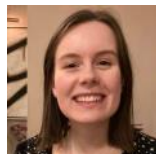
He was brought up in a Christian family and attended church through his infancy and teens, continuing at university and into adult life. Richard has worked as an RE teacher for 26 years in two Church of England Schools, also serving for most of that time as the Lay Chaplain of those schools as well.

Throughout the last decade Richard has felt a growing and unavoidable calling to ordained ministry, to which he eventually responded. His training was with St Hild's College at Mirfield; despite the challenges of Zoom learning during the pandemic he loved it.

"I have loved theological study, encountering a variety of Christian traditions, and the friendships formed - a period of real blessing.

"Throughout this time I was open to the Holy Spirit prompting that God

may want me to be a parish priest. However I originally believed, and still do at the end of my training, that my calling is to the incarnational role of being an ordained chaplain.



**Jenny Rankin** will serve as Assistant Curate at **St John's, Newland, Hull.**

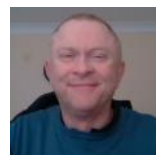
She grew up in a Christian family and gave her life to Jesus at a young age; her journey has been one of steady growth in faith over many years.

Jenny first sensed that God might be calling her to ordained ministry while she was serving as Youth & Children's Worker at St Paul's, Holgate, in York.

She trained at Cranmer Hall in Durham and says she's been blessed by the support of the community there, especially over the past year as she and husband Sam became parents in November to Kezia.

"We're so looking forward to moving to Hull and can't wait to get stuck in with community life. I'm excited about the missional opportunities on the horizon; it feels like an exciting new season in the life of the church, and we feel really privileged that God has called us to join in with what He is doing in that place.

what God has been calling me to and to where He will take me and how He will use me."



**Stephen Cox** will serve as Assistant Curate at **Rudston, Boynton, Carnaby, Kilham, Burton Fleming, Fordon, Grindale and Wold Newton.**

Steve was brought up in a Christian home so came to faith at a young age; he says the journey from then on has been one of discovery through life's many ups and downs - and more recently through his training the joy of joining in with other traditions within the Church of England. He has just retired from primary school teaching but his working life has included a variety of office-based and sales work, as well as working with excluded teenagers.

Steve has just completed two years' study for ordination at St Hild College, Mirfield.

"My upbringing was in the south of England before I came up north to train as a teacher. I am looking forward to being part of the Diocese of York, especially in the rural benefice where I will be serving."



**Richard Grant** will serve as Assistant Curate in the **Benefice of Thirsk (including South Kilvington, Sand Hutton and Carlton Miniott).**

Having grown up in a Christian family, Richard came to his own faith at university in York, and it wasn't long before a friend suggested a potential call to ministry.

"I laughed at the idea then, and settled down to finish my Maths degree and start work in the financial sector."

He grew in his faith in York Community Church and later at St Paul's, Holgate; it was here that Richard realised God was calling him to ordained ministry, and was guided in his first deliberate steps on this path.

"I've spent the last three years training at Cranmer Hall in Durham and have been thoroughly blessed by the diverse community of faith there.

"I'm excited to be joining the team in the Thirsk parishes: I look forward to applying some of what I have learnt in the past few years, and also to learning lots more from those I meet there!"



**Jonny Guy** will serve as Assistant Curate in **Drypool, Hull.**

His faith journey has had many unexpected twists, and he says he's as surprised as anyone that God has led him to ordination.

"As a teenager I was in a difficult place, felt a need to pray to Jesus and became a Christian almost overnight, much to the surprise of family, friends and indeed myself.

"I later moved to York to work with Christian Unions and sensed a calling towards ordained ministry."

After years of questioning and discerning and being unable to shake it off, Jonny ended up at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, for ministry training.

"College has had ups, downs and many changes for me and my family, and I'm coming out the other side feeling (a bit) better prepared for ministry.

"I'm grateful for the support of my wife Suzi, and we're excited to see what God has in store for us and our son Joey as we begin our life in Drypool."



**Andy Hagon** will serve in York as Assistant Curate at **St Thomas' Church, York.**

Having working worked for Tesco and in education, Andy says he's not sure how he finds himself on the brink of ordination, "But as long as God knows that's OK!"

He trained for ordination with St Hild College, and has volunteered at two churches in York over the last year.

"I hope that in the future I can really listen to God, and then do what He wants me to do."



**Alison Hutchinson** will serve as Assistant Curate in the **Wolds Valley benefice (Weaverthorpe, Helperthorpe, Luttons Ambo, Kirby Grindalythe and Wharram).**

After licensing as a Reader (a lay minister) in 2015 she was given what she describes as "a huge opportunity" by Bishop of Selby Dr John Thomson of being licensed as Focal Minister to the Howardian Benefice.

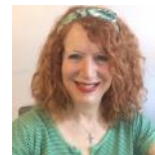
"This has been an honour and I have grown so much as a result but there were frustrations due to Covid lock-

downs, working full-time as well as embarking on my own discernment journey towards ordination."

She has studied for ordination for the last two years at St Hild's College, Mirfield as well as continuing to work full-time and minister to the Howardian Benefice.

"I have had huge support from my husband, Andrew, daughter Hannah and my cats who can be great critics when rehearsing sermons.

"Going forward, I hope I will be able to discern what God is doing in order to empower and encourage whichever community I am in, to join in so that we can share the Good News with those who have yet to hear it."



**Michelle (Shelly) Jones** will serve as Assistant Curate at **St Mary the Virgin, Cottingham (Hull).**

She says she's "A mother of two wonderful sons, Mother-in-law to two stunning daughters-in-law, as well as 'Nanna Ginger' to five beautiful grandchildren and an adorable grand-dog boy, who is Rollo, the golden doodle!"

She now works as school Chaplain at an alternative Academy in Hull, with

30 years' experience in teaching, education and youthwork, as well as being a fitness instructor, professional singer, dancer and musician. She has also worked at sea as a children's entertainer/youth worker on board luxury cruise ships.

Shelly trained in Chaplaincy at St John's Bible College, Nottingham, then in Theology and Ministry for a year at York School of Ministry, followed by two years of Ordination training at St Hild Bible College, Mirfield.

"I am very excited about being ordained and am looking forward very much to returning to my home village of Cottingham to serve at St Mary's Church. Last Sunday I was asked to take a newly-lit candle down the aisle of the church and out through the open door. This represented not only the spreading of God's light and love to all people everywhere, but also it symbolised, for me, my forthcoming ministry as a proclaimer of the good news of Jesus Christ and faithful servant of all the people!"