

Newsletter

3rd December 2023

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCHES:

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:



Facebook.com/BramhamBenefice

www.bramhambenefice.org

Parish Office: 01937 844402

Mon-Thurs 8.30am-2.30pm

Emma Hunter, Parish Administrator
bramhambenefice@outlook.com

OUR CLERGY:

Rev. Nick Morgan, Vicar
revnjmorgan@gmail.com

Rev. Trish Anslow, Assistant Priest
t.anslow@hotmail.co.uk

Rev. Glenda Webb, Associate Priest
revglendabramhambenefice@gmail.com

Joanna Davies, Connections Minister
beneficeconnectionsminister@gmail.com

Emma Hunter, Benefice Safeguarding Officer
safeguardingbramhambenefice@gmail.com

Advent



Advent marks the beginning of the church year. It is a time for reflection in darkness, for renewal of hope and for a movement towards a beginning.

The season of Advent, as it first emerged in the Church in the fourth and fifth centuries, lasted, like Lent, for 40 days. Later tradition developed the Advent we know today, of four Sundays before Christmas Day.

It is a season of expectation and preparation as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming of Christ. Church decorations are simple and sparse, and purple is the traditional colour used. Advent falls at the darkest time of the year, and the natural symbols of darkness and light are powerfully at work throughout Advent and Christmas.



**Lord Jesus, Light of light,
 you have come among us.
 Help us who live by your light
 to shine as lights in your world.
 Glory to God in the highest.
 Amen.**

Services across the Benefice

Join us at:

facebook.com/BramhamBenefice

or

www.BramhamBenefice.org/online-services

10.00am Wednesday - Communion Service at St. Mary's Church,
Boston Spa

8am Sundays - Communion Service

1st, 3rd and 4th Sunday of the month at St. Mary's Church, Boston Spa

2nd Sunday of the month at All Saints', Thorp Arch

6pm Sunday—Compline Service at St. Mary's Church, Boston Spa

9.15am Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
Church, Boston Spa

OCCASIONAL OFFICES:

BAPTISM:

WEDDINGS

FUNERALS:

**Alex Hetherington
and**

Eleanor Murray

Saturday 16th December
St Mary's Church
Boston Spa

Alan Rayner

Tuesday 5th December 2023
St. Mary's Church, Boston Spa
11.30am

PLEASE HELP US PRAY

St. Mary's Email Prayer Group
If you would like to include someone
on the Prayer list please contact Niki on:
stmarysprayer18@gmail.com

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Joan Haxton, Margaret Smallwood,
Raymond Brown, Graham Walker, Ronald
Dobson and Alan Rayner

Readings

All Saints' Church, Bramham

3rd Dec	10am	Celtic Communion Service
10th Dec	10am	Communion Service
17th Dec	10am 4pm	Communion Service Carols and Lessons
24th Dec	10am	BENEFICE SERVICE at Walton

All Saints' Church, Thorp Arch

3rd Dec	9.30am	Communion Service
10th Dec	8.00am	Communion Service
17th Dec	9.30am	Parish Worship—Lessons and Carols
24th Dec	10am	BENEFICE SERVICE at Walton

St. Luke's Church, Clifford

3rd Dec	11am 3.30pm	Parish Mass Advent Carol Service
10th Dec	11am	Parish Worship
17th Dec	11am	Parish Mass
24th Dec	10am	BENEFICE SERVICE at Walton

St. Mary's Church, Boston Spa

3rd Dec	10am	All Together Christingle
10th Dec	10am	Communion Service
17th Dec	10am 4pm	Communion Service Carol Service
24th Dec	10am	BENEFICE SERVICE at Walton

St. Peter's Church, Walton

3rd Dec		
10th Dec	9.30am	Communion Service
17th Dec	9.30am	Parish Worship—Lessons and Carols
24th Dec	10am	BENEFICE SERVICE

3rd December

Isaiah 64.1-9
1 Corinthians 1.3-9
Mark 13.24-end

10th December

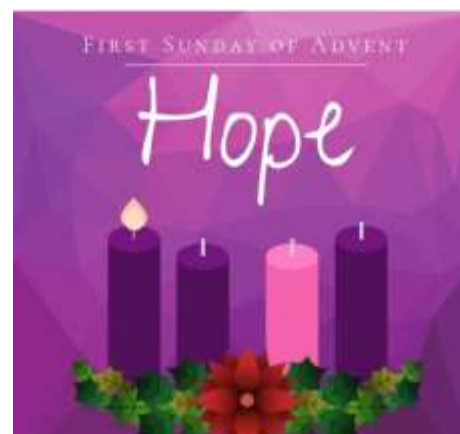
Isaiah 40.1-11
2 Peter 3.8-15a
Mark 1.1-8

17th December

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-end
1 Thessalonians 5.16-24
John 1.6-8,19-28

24th December

2 Samuel 7.1-11,16
Romans 16.25-end
Luke 1.26-38





Announcing our next curate

Rev'd Nick Morgan writes, "I am delighted to announce that Hannah Moore has been invited by The Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York to serve the Bramham Benefice as our curate from next summer. Having met and chatted with Hannah a few times now, I am confident that she will be a blessing to us, our worship and ministry, and that we in our five churches will be a blessing to her as she begins ordained ministry. Hannah's ordination will take place at 2.30pm on Saturday 29th June 2024 at York Minster, and to welcome Hannah, we shall have a Benefice service of Holy Communion with a formal welcome on behalf of all our churches and the communities we serve on Sunday 30th June followed by a light lunch at St Mary's, Boston Spa. More details on that will follow nearer the time."



Hello!

My name is Hannah Moore. I'm currently training for Ordination at Westcott House in Cambridge. I'm really looking forward to joining you at the end of June 2024 as the assistant curate following my Ordination to the diaconate.

Before training for ordination, I studied Music at the University of York and went to St Lawrence Parish Church. I've always been in and around churches and I was a chorister at Beverley Minster as a child.

I'm particularly interested in prayer and spirituality in the life of the church and how we teach and share our faith with others. In my spare time I can usually be found reading but I also enjoy baking (and eating) cake. I'm also looking forward to playing in a brass band again. Looking forward to meeting you all soon!

Hannah



The Campfire

– stories to prepare the heart for Christmas.

Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Boston Spa



28th November

The Tooth Fairy is Only the Beginning – a tale of hope

5th December

Ellen: the Girl Made of Edam – a tale of love



12th December

The Girl Who Poked Kittens With a Stick – a tale of joy



19th December

The Impossible Self-Transfiguration of Fryer Michael – a tale of peace



A series of short, seemingly secular stories by The Reverend Nick Morgan.

Wrap up warm as we gather around an imaginary campfire in a cold church as a tale is told, truth is pondered, and a pint in a warm pub is anticipated...



Through the season of Advent, we focus on themes including Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

In these tales (and a short reflection and prayer after each one) the author ponders these Advent themes. The sessions are short (half an hourish) and conclude with an optional pint with the author in The Crown.

Join us on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 6.30pm
in the Parish Room at St Mary's, Boston Spa.



Flourish is an oasis of calm reflection
in which we explore a rhythm of life which enables us
to flourish and become more like Christ.

This is an act of Christian worship lasting around an hour. It includes Bible readings, guided meditation, music, videos, stories, prayers, and teaching about aspects of life as a follower of Jesus. Tea, coffee, biscuits (and very possibly cake!) will be available from 6pm.

Led by Rev'd Nick Morgan and Jo Davies from Connections Café.

AUTUMN 2023 PROGRAMME:

SEPTEMBER 10 TH	THE BIBLE
OCTOBER 8 TH	LOVING ONE ANOTHER
NOVEMBER 12 TH	ADOPTING PATTERNS OF REST
DECEMBER 10 TH	A WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY



Bramham

Crib Services

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2023

St Mary's Church, Boston Spa 4pm
All Saints' Church, Bramham 3pm



Christmas

Lessons and Carols

Sunday 17th December 2023

9.30am

St. Peter's Church
Walton



The Bible Course

Explore the BIG story

Welcome to the Bible Course

The Bible Course will help you understand the Bible for yourself. Over eight sessions you will see the big picture of the Bible storyline – from Genesis to Revelation. Along the way you will pick up tools and skills to help you read it for yourself. Each session is interactive, with sections of teaching, discussion time and personal reflection. Between sessions there are daily readings to prepare for the following week. By the end of the course you will have confidence to pick up the Bible, read it for yourself and apply it to your life.

Enjoy the course.
Dr Andrew Ollerton



Would you like to understand the Bible?

We are offering an eight week course, which will be DVD led with discussions within the group at St. Mary's Church, Boston Spa.

These sessions will begin on
Tuesday 16th January

7.30pm

If you are interested please contact:

Parish Office 01937 844402

There will be a small fee of £5 to cover the cost of the course booklet.

News from around the Benefice

St. Peter's Church,
Walton



Thank you to everyone who supported Walton Lights Switch On and St. Peter's Church, on Saturday 25th November.

Lots of mulled wine was drunk and festive cheer had. Thank you to Tingley Brass Band for their musical entertainment.

Did you spot Emma and her boys playing with the band?



**St Peter's
COMMUNION
SERVICE**

1.45pm

11th October
15th November
13th December

You've Got This

**A network for families and carers with children who have additional needs.
A safe space to share experiences and advice.**



Tuesday 12th Sept 10.30am & 7.30pm
Tuesday 17th Oct 10.30am & 7.30pm
Tuesday 21st Nov 10.30am & 7.30pm
Tuesday 12th Dec 10.30am & 7.30pm

@ The Parish room, St Mary's Church, Boston Spa
free refreshments

Contact Cassie: cassiechp@hotmail.co.uk or Jo 07783336436
jo.davies@communitymatters.org.uk for further information.

To join the Parent peer support WhatsApp group text 07912384723



"It's great to be amongst other parents who understand some of the challenges we face as a family in a relaxed place."



Boston Spa Methodist Church
presents its ninth annual

Christmas Tree Festival 2023

Friday 8th December 10.30am–7.00pm
 12 noon Our renowned pre-concert lunches

1pm Lunchtime Concert (*tickets £6 on the door*)
 with John Nancarro, Bass and David Hammond, Piano

3.00pm Organ Recital – Geoffrey Coffin
 on our fabulous Harrison & Harrison organ

5.30pm Father Christmas arrives on his sleigh

Saturday 9th December 10.00am–5.30pm

Watch out for a visit from Santa!

From 10.30am (*weather permitting*) Donkey rides

10.30am Collingham Band

12 noon Organ Recital – David Wilks

3.30pm Christmas performance by Voices of Rock

Sunday 10th December 12 noon–4.30pm

10.30am A Christmas Celebration (*a short service for all ages*)

6.00pm Festival Carol Service

• A stunning display of beautifully decorated trees

• "Get in the Picture" – Nativity photo opportunity

• Tombola and Cake Stall

• Refreshments available throughout

ENTRY to the FESTIVAL is FREE

(except for the Friday Lunchtime Concert – £6)

In aid of "All We Can" and Church funds
 Please see our website for further details:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk
 or check out our Facebook page



Charitable
not for profit
organisation



Find us on
Facebook.



St. Mary's Church, Boston Spa



**Cafe
Church**
Every Saturday

10am - 12noon

11.15am Short reflection

**There will
be no cafe
church on
the
23rd / 30th
December.**

bramhambenefice@outlook.com 01937 844402

[facebook.com/BramhamBenefice](https://www.facebook.com/BramhamBenefice)

BramhamBenefice.org



The Ark



Come and join us

St. Mary's Church, Boston Spa

warmly invite you to join us for play, stories, songs,
crafts and fun!

St Mary's Church, Boston Spa

1.30pm–3.00pm

Dates for Autumn 2023

7th September

21st September

5th October

19th October

9th November

23rd November

7th December

21st December

CONNECTIONS CAFE
Pop-up

Christmas Cornucopia

10am - 2pm

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER
ST MARY'S CHURCH, BOSTON SPA

Are you having a pre-Christmas clearcut?

Would you like to donate any unused items to our pop-up Christmas fundraiser?

We need prizes for hamper, raffle and tombola.

Items may be left with Revd Glenda at any point leading up to the fayre.

For fresh items, please leave with the Parish Office, 9-12 on Thursday 7th December, or in St Mary's church 9-12 or 1-4 on Friday 8th December.

We look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Cornucopia!

St Mary's Church



CHRISTMAS
CHOIR

Join our
Christmas Choir!

Be part of our annual
Community Carol
Service

Rehearsals will begin on 9th November
at 7pm until 8.30pm
(every Thursday until the Carol Service)

The Carol Service will be on
December 17th at 4pm

Register your interest now by calling The Parish Office
on 01937 844402



St Mary's Church Christmas Decorations

We appeal for some well-watered pieces of evergreen to decorate the Church window cills for Christmas, please.

It is so amazing to keep this tradition going, as it gives the Church a very special sparkle in the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

This can be brought to Church at 10.00am on Friday 15th December - we would be very grateful!

If you would like to help decorate the Church for Christmas (and have a coffee and chat, then we would be delighted to also see you at 10.00am on the 15th December.
Many Thanks Sandra

01937 844402



FRIDAY
15TH
DECEMBER
FROM 7PM

Join us for
Christmas
CAROLS IN THE
CHURCHYARD

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
BRAMHAM

DONT FORGET TO
BRING A TORCH

Kippax Brass Band

Christmas Concert at Bramham Park



Thursday 14th December 2023

7.30pm

Proceeds for
All Saints' Parish Church, Bramham

Tickets £25 each

Contact Anne Palmer for tickets on: 01937 842850



Christmas in Boston Spa

<p><u>St. Mary's Church</u></p> <p>3rd December 10am All Together Christingle Service</p> <p>17th December 4pm Carol Service</p> <p>24th December 4pm Crib Service</p> <p>24th December 11pm Midnight Service</p> <p>25th December 10am Holy Communion Service</p>	<p><u>King's Church</u></p> <p>17th December 4pm Carol Service</p> <p><i>Wishing you a joyful Christmas from all churches in Boston Spa</i></p>	<p><u>Boston Spa Methodist Church</u></p> <p>10th December 10.30am Festival Christmas for All</p> <p>10th December 6pm Festival carol service</p> <p>25th December 11am Family Christmas Service</p> <p>7th January 2024 10.30am Covenant Service</p>
---	--	--

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
THORP ARCH

Carol Service

on
Sunday 17th December
at
9.30 am

ALL WELCOME




Many thanks to all who have donated umbrella's so far. **We are still collecting!!!!** Please donate umbrellas to help the asylum seekers who are staying in the Gateway Hotel. They have a 30 minute walk to the nearest bus stop. Donations can be dropped off at St. Mary's Church



YOU ARE INVITED TO
COMMUNITY CAROLS
AT THE ALBION PUB
CLIFFORD

LED BY REV. NICK MORGAN

MONDAY AT 6.30PM
11TH DEC 2023



November 2023 Foodbank Wish List

TOP 3

- Long-life milk - semi-skimmed
- Long-life fruit juice - cartons **URGENT!**
- Instant hot chocolate
- Tinned 'hot' meats: mince/hot dogs/stew
- Tinned cold meats: corned beef
- Tinned potatoes
- Instant mash
- Sponge puddings
- Custard - tinned or cartons
- Tinned fruit - all types
- Instant coffee
- Tinned fish - NOT tuna
- Pasta 'n' sauce sachets
- Pot noodles
- Instant porridge

Thank you!

