



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND DIOCESE OF LEEDS



Ripon Cathedral

**The Benefice of East Dere Street in North Yorkshire.
Brochure of information for the vacancy of Rector to
the combined parishes of:-
Barton, Crofton Tees, Cleasby with Stapleton, Eryholme,
Manfield, Middleton Tyas and Moulton,
in the Episcopal Area of Ripon**



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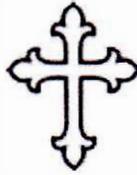
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Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to read our Benefice profile document. We extend a warm welcome to you from the 6 parishes and 7 churches which make up our Benefice. We are asking God to show us the right person to lead us forward as we seek to further unify our activities while each church and congregation retains its individual character. We are located in the north of North Yorkshire, within easy reach of bustling towns, beautiful coastline and amazing countryside.

We are praying that everyone who reads this document will be inspired to think about leading us and we look forward to hearing from you. Please take the time to visit and explore our lovely area.

The Benefice Council

The Benefice Council was formed in mid 2022, and has since met as a group with representatives from each parish. We provided secretarial support for the Rector, which was successful until the Rector retired and secretarial services were no longer required. Currently, our energies are focused on finding a new Rector who will embrace our Benefice. Although the Benefice is large, we are fully committed to becoming a unified and cohesive organization.

The PCCs wish to discuss with the new incumbent a range of organizational and process changes aimed at streamlining church business and reducing the administration load on the Rector



Our Mission

Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.

Matthew 28: 18-19

We seek, in our small way, to follow the command Jesus gave to the apostles.

We believe:

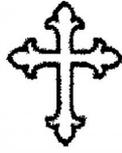
- We can do this through prayer, showing love in pastoral care, and in the way we live our lives.
- We are committed to being welcoming to all.
- Our buildings must be visible centres of regular worship and prayer, not museums.
- We are all called by God and given talents with which to serve him. We seek a shepherd who can help us individually and together to discern and develop our calling.
- We recognise that cannot all be left to the ordained ministry.

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Over the past year, we have continued our full pattern of worship with the help of our lay ministers, lay readers, and retired clergy. We now need a strong leader to take us forward on our spiritual journey, and to grow our congregations and help in delivering pastoral care.

Can you help us to build on that?





Our New Rector

We are looking for a person to join us on our continuing journey towards a United Benefice, to nurture Christian fellowship in the Benefice, and to adapt to the changing needs of the Church in the 21st Century. We believe there are many un-tapped opportunities in our Benefice which we hope you will help us to optimise, including more flexible use of our church buildings, more united administration to reduce the burden and share the load, developing new practices following lessons learned during the Covid-19 pandemic, and increasing our use of technology in our offering.

The qualities we seek for our new Rector are ...

To have strong leadership and people management skills.

To have a willingness to embrace rural ministry.

To have good communication and listening skills, being able to communicate with all ages in our communities.

To have energy, enthusiasm and creativity to work in a multi-parish ministry and unifying the benefice.

To nurture your own spiritual growth and obtain relaxation through effective time management and time off.

To be prepared to engage with all areas of our communities, learning about everyday life and local issues.

To be adaptable to work alongside both the young and old of our communities, inspiring them to join our church family and know its love and support.

To have the ability to inspire young children and their families to know God.

To be willing to support all areas of our mission, including events and activities.

To be able to guide us in turning our ideas and enthusiasm into practice.

To be open to a range of worshiping styles to attract all ages to our churches.

A driving license is essential as this is a rural Benefice.



The Diocese of Leeds

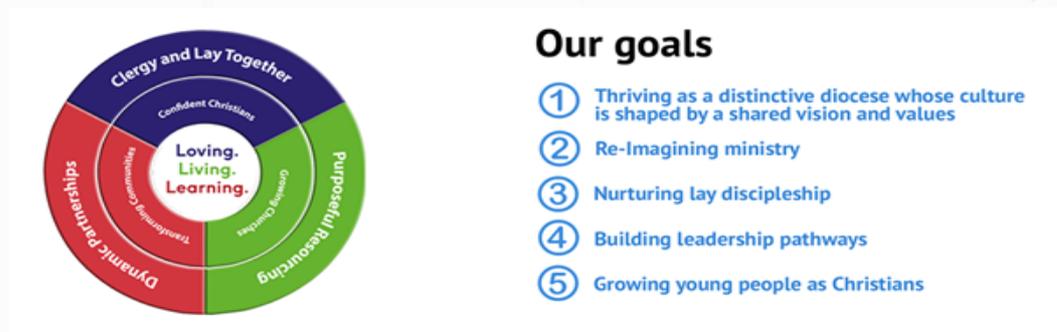
Episcopal Area of Ripon

Richmond Deanery

The Diocese of Leeds comprises five Episcopal Areas each coterminous with an Archdeacon and now one of the largest Dioceses in the country. It covers an area of around 2,425 square miles with a population of around 2,642,400 people. The Diocese comprises the major cities of Bradford, Leeds, and Wakefield, the large industrial and post industrial towns of Halifax, Huddersfield, and Dewsbury, the spa town of Harrogate, the market towns of Ripon, Skipton, Richmond and Wetherby; and the deep rural areas of the Dales. The whole of life is here, along with all the richness, diversity and complexities of a changing world.

The Diocesan Bishop (The Rt.Revd.Nick Baines) is assisted by five area Bishops, covering the five Episcopal Areas of Bradford, Huddersfield, Kirkstall, Wakefield and Ripon. In addition, there are five Archdeacons- Bradford, Halifax, Pontefract, Richmond and Craven

The Diocesan Vision, informed by the values of ‘loving, living, learning’ is: ‘confident Christians, growing churches, transforming communities and so helping share the Good News of Jesus Christ across our Diocese’. This Vision is embedded into the Diocesan Strategy and Goals and expressed in meaningful ways across the episcopal areas.

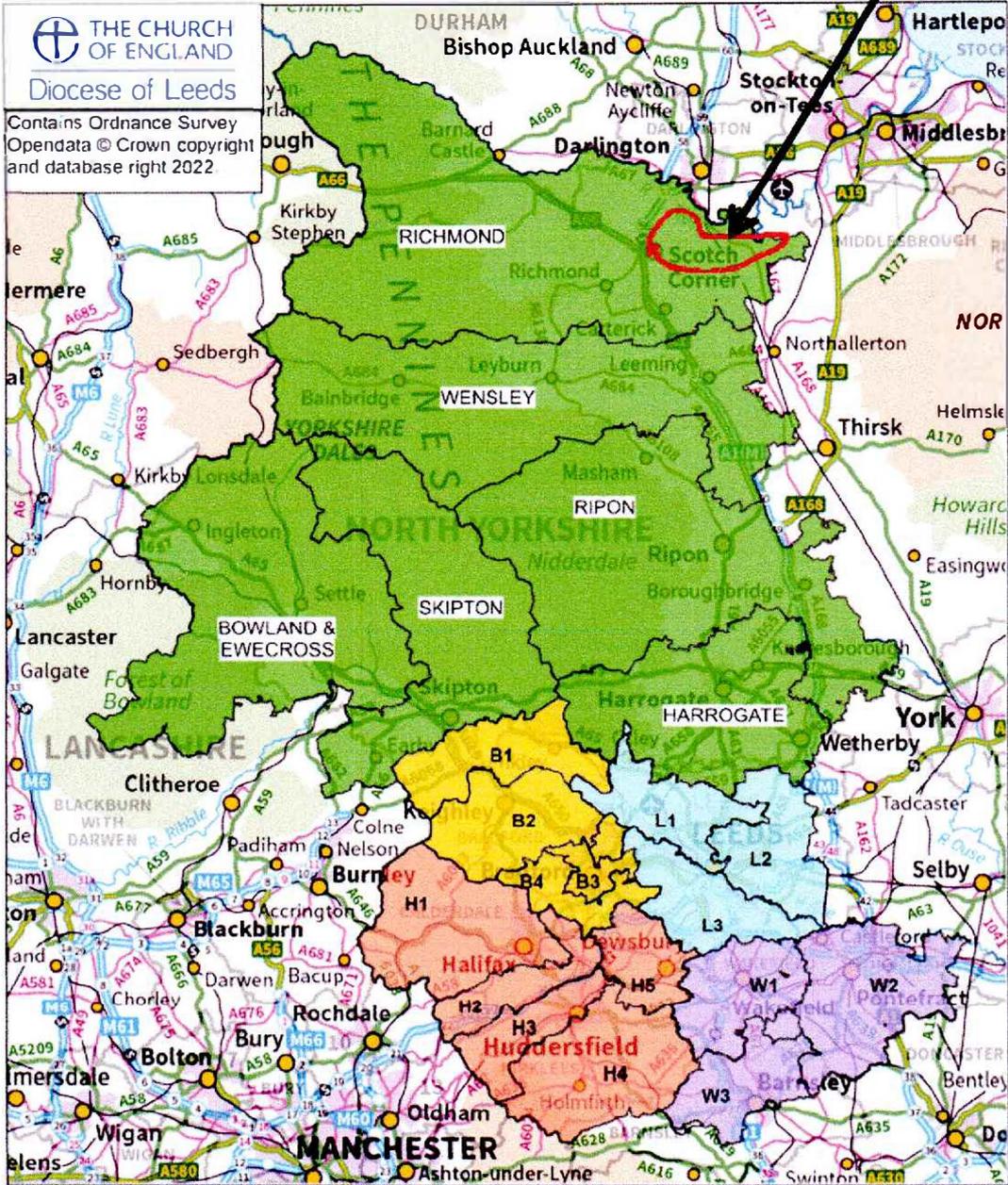


Bishop of Ripon
Rt Revd Anna
Eltringham



**EAST DERE STREET
BENEFICE**

Diocese of Leeds - December 2022



The Five Episcopal Areas
Green - Ripon (6 Deaneries)
Yellow - Bradford (4 Deaneries)
Blue - Leeds (3 Deaneries)
Pink - Huddersfield (5 Deaneries)
Purple - Wakefield (3 Deaneries)

DEANERIES KEY
 B1 South Craven & Wharfedale
 B2 Aire and Worth
 B3 Inner Bradford
 B4 Outer Bradford
 L1 North West Leeds
 L2 East Leeds
 L3 South Leeds

H1 Halifax & Calder Valley
 H2 Brighouse & Eiland
 H3 Huddersfield
 H4 Almondbury & Kirkburton
 H5 Dewsbury & Birstall
 W1 Wakefield
 W2 Pontefract
 W3 Barnsley

The Local Area

The Benefice of East Dere Street is located in the north of rural North Yorkshire, close to the border with County Durham. The Benefice takes its name from the Roman Road that runs to the west of it, and is part of the Richmond Deanery within the episcopal area of Ripon. It covers six parishes and seven churches: St Cuthbert with St Mary's Barton; St. Peter's Croft; St Peter's Cleasby with Stapleton; St Mary's Eryholme; All Saints Manfield; St Michael & All Angels' Middleton Tyas with St Andrew's Chapel of Ease Moulton.

Our Benefice was once largely a farming community but now it offers the best of both worlds lying within easy access of large towns and cities in the north, where there is a wide range of commercial and domestic industries, although farming remains important with a number of large estates. With government investment in the neighboring areas, villages are seeing an increase in commuter growth. This is offering new employment opportunities

Local Amenities and Facilities

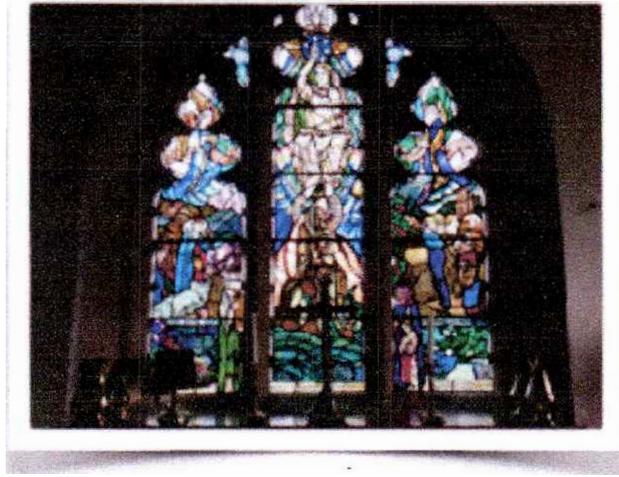
The Benefice is well situated for a range of excellent shopping facilities, both in local market towns and also in the bigger towns in the area.

The A1(M) and the trans-pennine route of the A66 are both within one mile of the Rectory at Middleton Tyas, and provide excellent links to the larger towns and cities of the region, and beyond. By road, the distance to York is 46 miles, Leeds 60 miles, Newcastle 43 miles and Darlington 9 miles.

There are options for air travel including the local airport Teesside International just 14 miles away. Newcastle Airport lies 49 miles north, Leeds Bradford Airport 51 miles south, and Manchester Airport 114 miles. East Coast mainline stations are in Northallerton and Darlington and provide links to other networks.

Health care is well covered not only by local GP practices, but by major hospitals in Darlington and Teesside.

Greater detail of facilities and activities can easily be found by using search engines, and entering searches that reflect your interests.



Our Christian Community

Our aim is for our churches to work more closely together, sharing resources, ideas and good practices, to the benefit of the Benefice as a whole.

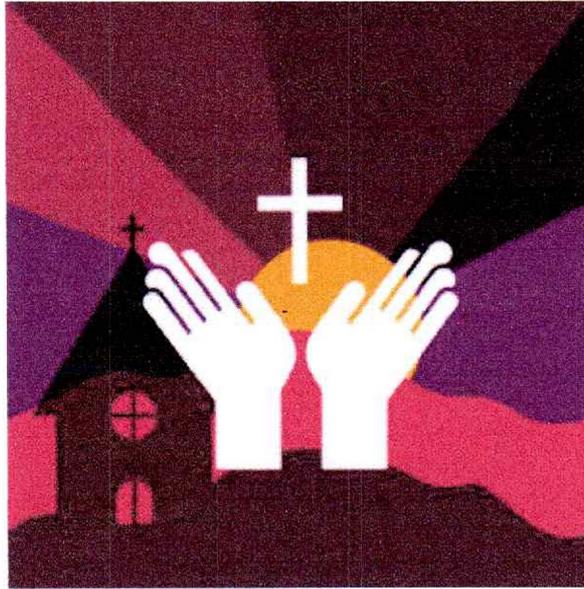
This is a relatively prosperous area with low unemployment. About 85% of local properties are owner-occupied. All age groups are well represented, although there is a high percentage of retired people in most of our villages.

Like many other churches, particularly in rural areas, our congregations are generally made up of the older members of our communities. That said, we have committed congregations. As is common these days, there are many in our communities who do not regularly worship at our churches but do, nevertheless, want to ensure that the church remains at the heart of our villages.

Weddings and funerals are frequently held in our churches as there is still a strong draw for people to mark these life events in the Christian tradition. Our churches are popular for weddings of local couples, and we welcome couples from further afield. We have strong links with our local schools in the hope that this encourages parents to join their children for services and events in our churches, and see it as part of their lives.



Our Worship



We hold joint and special services across the Benefice and are looking to increase the ways in which we can worship together. With the aim of further unifying the Benefice, we have monthly joint Holy Communion Services, rotating around the 6 parishes during the year.

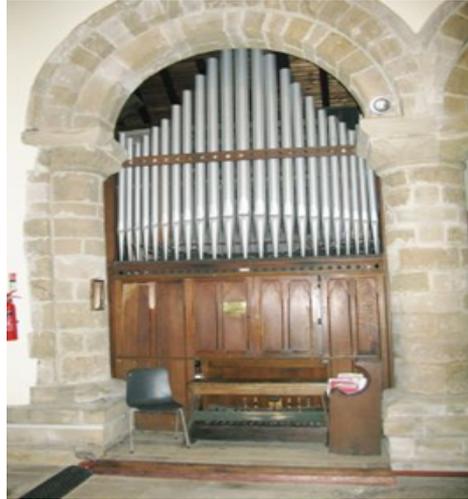
Our current worship style ranges from the traditional (using BCP or Common Worship) to the more informal, encompassing all ages, with an emphasis on fellowship.

For our Eucharist services, the priest will typically wear cassock, alb and stole with chasuble, if preferred. For services of Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, choir dress is generally worn, and for less formal services, such as those with our schools, pet services or open air services, an informal dress style is welcomed. Intercessions and readings are regularly delivered by volunteers from our congregations. We have lay members licensed to administer the cup at Eucharists.

We offer home communion to housebound parishioners, members in hospital and those who have moved into residential care.

Volunteers from our Pastoral committees visit both existing and previous members who are sick or housebound to keep them in touch with church life.

We have a well-established musical tradition throughout the Benefice. We are very fortunate to have a number of volunteer organists who play for our Sunday services across the Benefice and also play for weddings and funerals, as required. There is an 'ad hoc' Benefice Choir that comes together for special services. We use a variety of hymn books.



St Michael & All Angels
Conacher Organ

Licensed and Lay Leaders

There is one Licensed Reader in the Benefice, Viv Waugh, who regularly delivers services and conducts funerals across the Benefice. We are also fortunate to have several Lay Worship Leaders across the Benefice who lead services within their own and other parishes.



Viv Waugh



The Rectory

The Rectory is a modern detached family house, located on a small private estate in Kneeton Park, Middleton Tyas. The property comprises four bedrooms with two reception rooms. There is a study/office, easily accessible from the front door, and separate from the main house, ensuring privacy and a separation between work and home life. All rooms are of a good size; there is a garage and private parking and a pleasant rear garden. Gas, water, and electricity services are connected to the house and garage and there is high speed broadband in the village.

The village of Middleton Tyas is a vibrant community with a good range of facilities including a primary school, pub/restaurant, play area, community hall and village shop with post office facilities.

Education

There are three excellent Church of England primary schools within the Benefice, which have strong connections to their respective parish churches.

Secondary education is available at Richmond (Richmond School & Sixth Form College) or St Francis Xavier (joint RC and C of E School), Hurworth-on-Tees (Hurworth School) or Darlington (St Aidan's C of E Academy). There is also Polam Hall School in Darlington (part of the Woodard Academies Trust) which takes children from 4 to 16 years of age.

There is also a Sixth Form College in Darlington.

The University of Teesside is located in Middlesbrough, with part located in Darlington, and there are other popular universities located in Durham, Newcastle, Leeds and York.



The children of Barton C of E Primary.

Benefice Activities

Our churches are increasingly being used for community events, such as Flower Festivals, Music Concerts and charity events.

We are keen to develop this area of our work with the local communities and would like to consider adapting some of our larger churches to allow more flexible use of the space with facilities to attract more community events to take place there, alongside our own church activities.

At Croft, we hold a monthly Luncheon Club for all ages, together with a monthly Coffee Morning where everyone is welcome.

There are Parish Newsletters which are circulated in paper form or email and have details of news. We are examining the option of combining all the parish newsletters into a Benefice Newsletter.

Barton has an email village information messaging service and a Facebook page covering Manfield, Cleasby, and Stapleton that are widely used to post notices of all village activities, including Church Services and social and fundraising activities.

More information about each church can be found on www.achurchnearyou.com website covering history, heritage, events, and notices.



CROFT OPEN GARDENS



Joint parishes working party

Benefice Administration

Currently, each of our churches has its own PCC. However, as we unite as a Benefice, this is not a practical way to manage our churches. We would like to develop simplified and more practical measures for managing the Benefice.

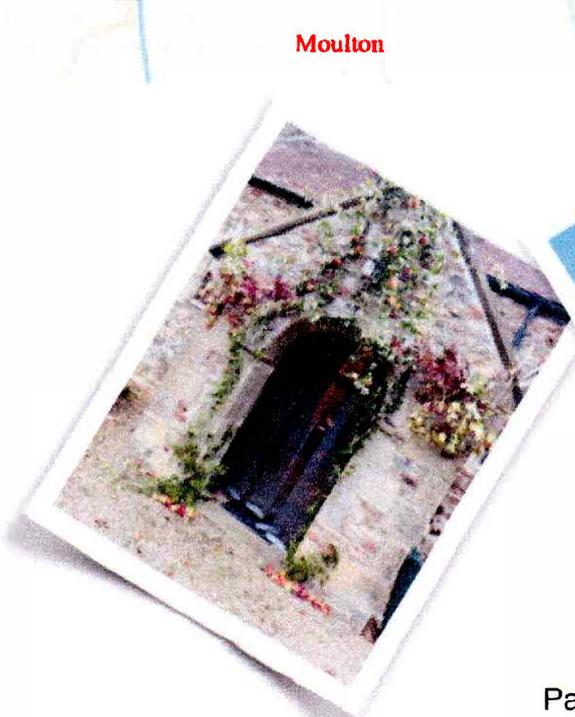
Three people within the Benefice handle the booking of weddings using a central diary. This includes checking qualifications of couples wanting to be married, recording relevant information, monitoring attendance, arranging any additional local requirements and invoicing fees.

We have a treasurer who manages the Benefice fund. Each Parish contributes a monthly amount towards the costs. We plan to create a website for the Benefice.

We will provide administrative support to the incumbent.

Churchwardens

Parishes have churchwardens together with PCC members, secretaries, and treasurers, and each parish has its own PCC holding a minimum of 4 meetings each year that may be chaired by a lay person. The churchwardens from each parish hold regular joint meetings.



Our Benefice

Our Churches

Barton.

St Cuthbert with St Mary's Church serves Barton and the hamlet of Newton Morrell. Community support made it possible to install two new bells to mark the centenary of the Armistice of 1918, to make a ring of six, and a band of regular ringers has been formed. The churchyard remains open for burials. There is a 13th century cross on the village green commemorating the passing of St Cuthbert's body through the village around 870 AD.

The village has a population of over 800, with a strong community spirit. The award winning Barton Village Store, which includes the Post Office, is the hub of the village. The Village Institute is busy with clubs and organizations, including the Mardi Club, an all-age coffee morning with a regular weekly attendance of 30-40.



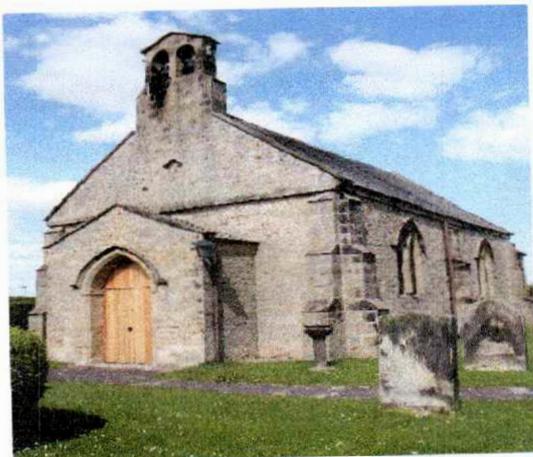
Cleasby with Stapleton

Various group activities for both villages and fundraising events take place in the Church and neighbouring Village Hall. Summer and Christmas Fairs have been held annually.

The Parish Church of St Peter covers the two villages of Cleasby and Stapleton, both situated on the south bank of the River Tees, marking the boundary between North Yorkshire and County Durham.

The combined population is about 350.

St Peter's Church was originally built in 1712, possibly as a wooden building. This was demolished, and the present church was built in 1828 by public subscription. Bishop John Robinson of London, a leading Diplomat of Queen Anne, was born in Cleasby in 1650. He was a generous benefactor to his native village and endowed the original church.



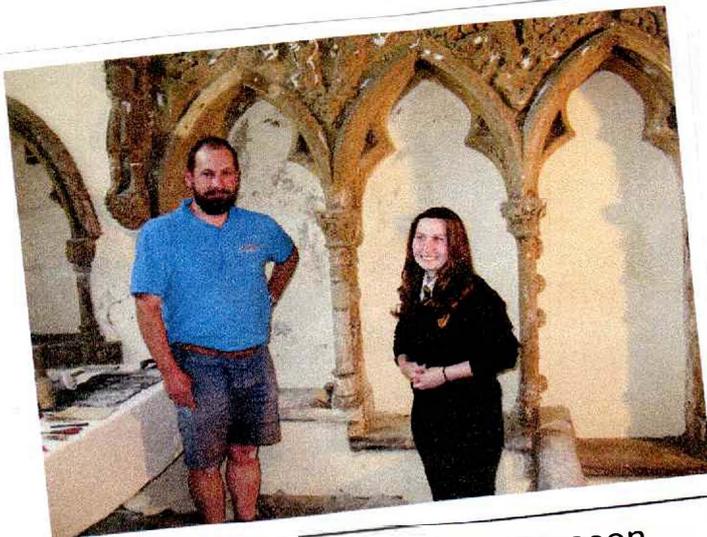
Croft on Tees

The parish covers two villages Croft and Dalton on Tees, that sit on North Yorkshire side of the River Tees. The population of the two villages is around 1,600, many of whom are either commuters or retirees.

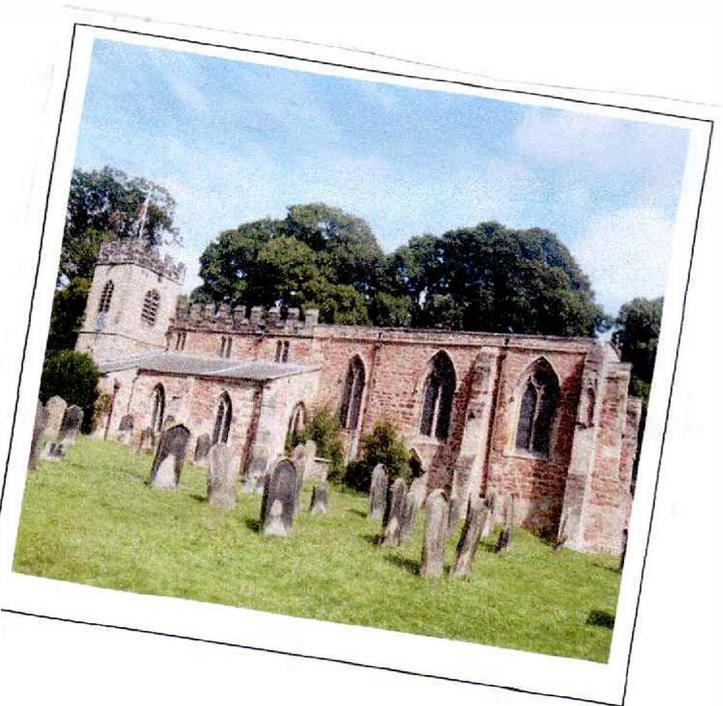
Both villages have very active communities with classes and organizations using their village halls and the church.

St Peter's is a Grade I listed building built in Norman times with later modifications in the 14th century. The churchyard was closed for burials some years ago but there is a local authority graveyard nearby.

The church has close historic connections with Lewis Carroll.



Interview of Master Stonemason



Eryholme

Eryholme is a small hamlet on the southern banks of the River Tees. There are currently no issues with the condition of the building. It stands on the highest ground in the village and is built of multiple coloured sandstone. It can seat 80. The churchyard is still open for burials. The community of Eryholme consists of around 55. The children travel to school in nearby Croft. As this is such a small community, we all look out for each other and provide assistance, when necessary. Events in the village largely evolve around the farming calendar as that is the primary occupation in the community. There is an active Cricket Club in the village. A resident has recently written a book about the village, 'A Perfect Paradise - Eryholme from 1066 to the Present', that provides a good picture of life past and present.



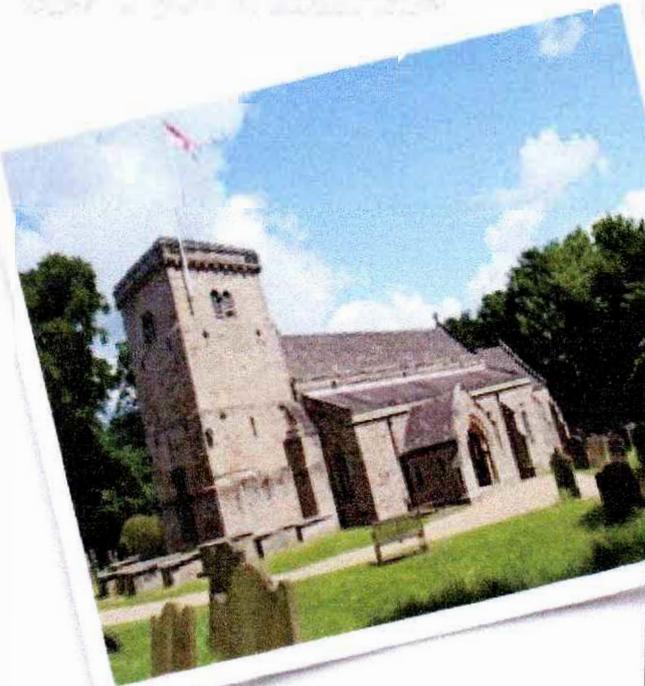
Manfield

Manfield sits on the site of a medieval village whose presence can still be seen in the mounds of the surrounding fields. All Saints, Manfield is a Grade 2 Listed building of medieval construction and stands at the entrance to the site of the medieval settlement which now forms the basis of today's village. The Quinquennial Inspection, undertaken in 2020, has shown the church to be in a good state of repair, with no major issues to address. There is a preaching cross located in the church grounds. There is an active community village hall where regular social events are held. Carol singing around the village is a popular event and good fundraiser. There is also a pub in the village, serving real ales and occasionally featuring live music.



Middleton Tyas

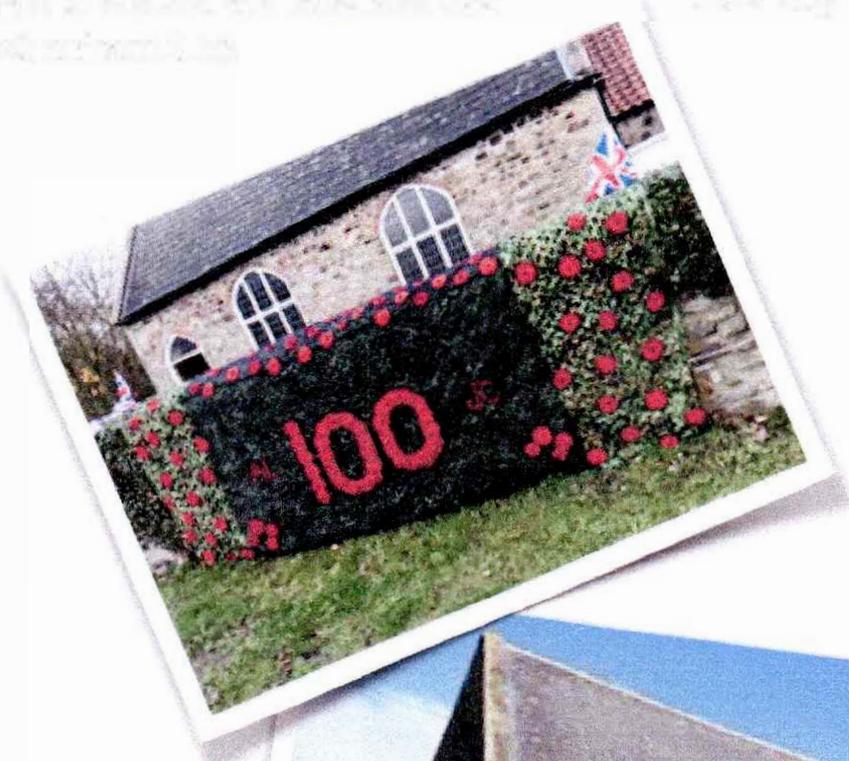
The Church of St. Michael and all Angels is situated about 3/4 mile outside the village, adjacent to where the original village was sited. The church is approached along an avenue of lime trees, and sits within a beautiful walled churchyard. Many people visit the Grade 1 listed church as a place of historical interest. In recent years the building has been upgraded with disabled access, and there are now catering and toilet facilities, enabling a wider use of the church building. The church serves a thriving village community of around 590 residents. St Michael's is a very popular wedding venue.



Flying Officer Peter Pease
Commemoration

Moulton

The village of Moulton is a near neighbour of Middleton Tyas, with St. Andrew's Chapel of Ease at its centre. This is the smallest church in the benefice, but it has been modified to become both a church and a community meeting place, and it is well used by the whole community. A service is held once a month, with other occasional services during the year. The small but well tended church garden hosts community events in the summer months. The two villages of Moulton and Middleton Tyas work very closely together in both church and social life.





OUR MISSION PRAYER

Dear Lord, our mission is to channel your love and compassion in a way that enriches the lives of others.

Help us to work as a United Benefice and serve our communities in your name, to reach out to young and old, and support them in continued growth and awareness of faith.

Sustain us as we seek to grow and nurture our Christian faith through your teachings.

We commit ourselves to serving you through Christian love, fellowship and worship.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OUR HOPE

is that you feel called upon by God to come and serve alongside us in the Benefice of East Dere Street.

A very warm welcome awaits you!

