



*HOLY TRINITY
NORTH ORMESBY
AND
ST THOMAS WITH
THE COMMUNITY
OF BRAMBLES
FARM*

PARISH PROFILE

An introduction from Barry, the Bishop of Whitby

I am delighted you are exploring applying for this hugely significant role as Priest in Charge of North Ormesby and St Thomas which includes the community of Brambles Farm where a BMO has been operating, serving the most beautiful community in part of north Middlesbrough. Be assured of my prayers and those of Archdeacon Amanda and our colleagues as you do.

In my many interactions with the parishes since arriving last Autumn, I have got to know communities full of faith, hope and life. These are not glossy magazine parishes where all appears well but beneath the surface is a different story – they are real, honest, gritty communities reflecting God's love in all the seasons of life (the 3rd and 11th financially poorest parishes of the 12,500 nationally). Such honesty appears a fruitful seedbed for the things of the Kingdom!

I've seen prophetic joy, a hat full of new vocations, and baptised and confirmed new Christians. I've seen church at the heart of community, with wide arms reaching far beyond what one might imagine humanly possible. What a wonderful opportunity for the person God is calling to be part of this!

Across Middlesbrough town this vacancy comes at an exciting time, as we are in the middle of discerning how the Spirit of God is calling us over the coming years. This vacancy is deliberately brief (the previous Vicar retired in July) to ensure ongoing support for lay leaders and so that the new Priest-in-Charge can be involved in discerning what could be. As a diocese, and with the encouragement of the national church, we intend later in 2026 to seek significant new investment from the national church to support these plans.

The role combines the substantive post of leading Holy Trinity, North Ormesby alongside oversight of a lay-led new community in Brambles Farm (as the existing pioneer role comes to an end and we discern what next in a creative context where there is no church building but people are coming to faith and there are strong relationships and significant goodwill).

North Ormesby and St Thomas Farm join with the parishes of the Diocese in seeking to invite the 1.5 million parishioners we serve to know the joy of Living Christ's Story. This means each church focusing on what it means to:

- **Become more like Christ** – knowing we are God's beloved children, that Jesus came to seek, serve and save, and actively participating in worship and witness Monday to Sunday;
- **Reach people we currently don't** - living and telling the story of God with cultural humility and faith-filled confidence, inviting our classmates and colleagues, neighbours and friends to know the love, purpose and hope which has blessed us;
- **Grow as churches of missionary disciples which are younger and more diverse** – knowing we are sent to every place and person to which we go, but being a 'community of the sent' is most effective and best reflects the Kingdom of God when everyone is known and needed, honoured and participating.

May you know the surrounding and upholding of the Spirit of God as you discern,

+ Barry Whitby



For an informal conversation about this post, contact the Bishop of Whitby, Barry Hill (bishopofwhitby@yorkdiocese.org or 01642 593273) or the Archdeacon of Cleveland, Amanda Bloor (adcl@yorkdiocese.org or 01642 706095).

Welcome from the Area Dean

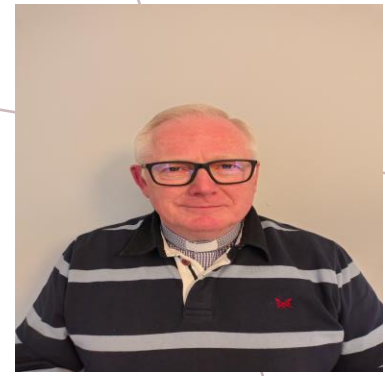
Middlesbrough Deanery is the northern most of the six deaneries in the archdeaconry of Cleveland. Just minutes away from the North Yorkshire Moors and the beautiful sandy beaches of the northeast coast.

Due to several retirements in the same 6-month period we will have 5 vacancies in Middlesbrough Deanery in the autumn of this year. We are making the most of this opportunity and will rethink what ministry should look like across the deanery in the 21st century. We will need to have 'porous boundaries' in the parishes and a generous spirit as we navigate the changes ahead. We are looking forward to working with people who will bring and embrace change and work with the plan to fill all the vacancies quickly. So join us in that discernment.

We are a deanery of many church traditions. From Society through liberal catholic and evangelical. As chapter we are looking forward to welcoming colleagues who will be as committed to working together with us when we can. To share our resources and our experience to build up all our churches as we encourage our congregations to 'live Christ's story'. Our unity can be seen in the way we are each helping to cover these vacancies and others in the recent past.

Churches across Teesside have been working together for many years, culminating in Festival Teesside in 2024. We meet for a church leaders lunch each half term, and prayer weekly during term time.

The Holy Spirit is moving on Teesside, are you being called to join us in spreading the gospel in Middlesbrough?





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Brambles Farm, Thorntree and Netherfields

Brambles Farm, Thorntree and Netherfields

Brambles Farm, Thorntree and Netherfields

Brambles Farm, Thorntree and Netherfields

Brambles Farm, Thorntree and Netherfields

Brambles Farm, Thorntree and Netherfields

The local area



WELCOME

Welcome to Holy Trinity North Ormesby and St Thomas with the community of Brambles Farm, where a BMO has been operating and thank you for discerning whether God may be calling you to minister here.

Please be assured of our prayers as you seek His guidance. Holy Trinity is a welcoming, busy and vibrant church with a diverse and growing congregation.

We have a strong and visible presence in the community—not least because of our large and distinctive clock tower, a landmark that can be seen from many of the surrounding roads, but also through the midweek activities we have available in the Trinity Centre.

We are especially encouraged by the increasing number of children and young people who play an active and valued role in the life of our church. In recent years, we've also welcomed several Nigerian families who have moved to the area to study at the local university, and have found their place in church here, further enriching our church family. We try to reflect the diversity of our church through PCC, Children's team, as well as bringing some Nigerian Gospel songs into the service.

We hope this profile gives you a helpful insight into who we are, and we look forward to seeing where God may be leading you.

WHO ARE WE?

Holy Trinity, North Ormesby is a lively missional church with a diverse, growing congregation, with a parish population of 3266.

Serving the community of North Ormesby, the church acts as a beacon of God's light and love to the neighbourhood.

The modern church building, built after the original church was destroyed in a fire in the 1970s, provides a neat, flexible and intimate worship space with capacity for around 150 worshippers.

The shell of the previous church remains, however, creating a beautiful cloistered garden which is a haven for peace and retreat for the community, the church and the Deanery. The original church tower stands tall and proud, punctuating Middlesbrough's skyline. It is a much-loved local landmark, driven past daily by thousands of drivers on the A66.

The third physical space of Holy Trinity is the award-winning Trinity Centre. Built in 2003, the centre is a unique community facility that brings in hundreds of people each week and is a central part of the church's mission to the area. The centre kickstarted the urban regeneration of North Ormesby and continues to give developers and local leaders the confidence to invest in this area, which is one of the most deprived parishes in the country.

The style of the church is mixed with a focus on both word and sacrament. The principal Sunday service is contemporary in its style of worship with some traditional elements and sung liturgy. The congregation are open to new ideas for Sunday worship.

The congregation includes a mixture of ages including many families, and we have recently created a team who lead children's work.

Within the congregation and parish, there are a range of nationalities represented, and we like to ensure everyone feels part of the church family.





SERVICES

At Holy Trinity, we value worship which is rooted, accessible and community minded. With a rhythm that brings together tradition and creativity. We use Common worship as the basis for our service, and our main weekly gathering is our Sunday service of Holy Communion at 10:30. After the service we spend time in the hall for tea and coffee.



On the first Sunday of the month we hold Breakfast church, , an initiative that began through the Diocesan New Church Communities Strategy, known as Multiply. This informal, family-friendly gathering provides a space where people can explore faith over breakfast, conversation, and creative engagement. A short-said Communion service usually follows.

Our services are projected onto the wall for ease of participation, and a worship team leads music each week, we also use YouTube videos.



Each November, we lead a Remembrance Service that takes place outdoors on the Market Square near the war memorial. This is a significant act of public witness and is well attended by the wider community, including local groups such as the Scouts, the local councillor, Police, Fire Brigade, and other organisations, who all take part by laying wreaths.

Worshipping, Celebrating, and Caring Together

Since January 2024, our parish has joyfully celebrated: 19 Baptisms, 9 Confirmations , 3 Weddings 2 Funerals These milestones reflect the rhythm of parish life — a community that prays together, celebrates together, and supports one another in times of both joy and sorrow.

WHAT OUR CHURCH IS LIKE

We asked our congregation how they would describe church

The church
brings people
together

We are a
family
church

The church plays a
major role in
national events

Filled with loving,
accepting and
wonderful people

The church is
encouraging and
accommodating

We are diverse, fun,
caring and
welcoming

We are family and
do all we can to
show God's love in
this parish

The church has
been known for
its rich liturgical
tradition

The church is very
nice and good!

Our church is lively,
It can be busy

GIVING

We are a faithful and prayerful church community. According to Church Urban Fund statistics, we are financially, the third poorest parish in the country, yet we are committed to giving sacrificially and joyfully. Through God's grace, we aim to be as generous as possible in our giving through our Free Will Offering (FWO) and currently pay £1000 per month, a reflection of our trust in God's provision and our dedication to the wider Church. Our congregation supports the church financially in several ways:

By giving through the offering plate passed around during services,

Through a Payaz contactless giving machine,

By Direct Debit for regular giving.

We currently average at around £10400 per year in our stewardship.

However, we understand stewardship as more than financial contribution. Our church family is generous in using their time, talents, and spiritual gifts. Many serve faithfully in roles such as welcoming, hospitality, reading Scripture, intercessions, leading worship, and supporting community outreach. We are a church that gives out of faith, not abundance — and we believe that this reflects the heart of the Gospel.

Given the parish is the third financially poorest in the country, the Diocese is committed to investing significant amounts of money to make this role full-time. In 2025 that investment was over £43,000 and a new three year agreed investment of Lowest Income Communities Funding enshrines this for the years to come. The Bishop of Whitby has also made several one-off donations from an archdeaconry bequest so support the work of TYCP and the Multiply worker is paid for by diocesan monies from a previous bid to the national church.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Holy Trinity is blessed with large numbers of babies, children and young people as part of our church community. The whole community enjoys the responsibility of sharing their care when at church.

Each Sunday the children are invited to take part in 'Children's Church' during the service. This group is run by a small band of volunteers having experience with children including being a parent/carer running youth groups and primary school teaching. This is an area of the church service that we are currently developing to make worship more inclusive and meaningful for the children. We would gladly welcome more volunteers to join the leaders to support the Christian development of our children.

Currently a volunteer plans the 'children's church activity to reflect the weekly devotions in the main service. These include, stories, songs, activities and prayers to reflect the developmental age of the children. Our children have a wealth of knowledge, and this supports the weekly activities.

We look forward to welcoming someone who supports the diversity of ages in our church family and also any fresh ideas to enhance the experiences for our children.

Our youth will sometimes go out as well as stay in the service, some of our youth take an active part in the service reading or working the PowerPoint.

We also have a creche area where parents with young children can go into and still be able to hear the service.

In 2024 The churches in Middlesbrough and Stockton collectively ran 'Festival Teesside' a free weekend of fun and testimony as well as an evening music event. We took 15 families from church and TYCP with some of the youth returning the next day.



Our parish is blessed to have two primary schools within North Ormesby: St Alphonse Primary Academy, a Catholic school, and North Ormesby Primary Academy, a non-denominational school located just up the road from Holy Trinity.

Over the years, we have developed a warm, fruitful, and growing relationship with North Ormesby Primary Academy.

The school regularly visits the church to mark key moments in the Christian calendar, including Christmas, Harvest, Easter, and End of Year services. Our clergy and church members are often invited into the school—especially by Nursery and Reception classes—to share stories from the Bible and support religious learning.

Year 4 pupils come to the church annually for a Christingle service, part of their Religious Studies curriculum, and other classes visit to learn about the church building and Christian worship.

We also contribute to school life through our involvement with the Academy Council, providing a faith-led voice within the school's wider governance and support network. The Principal, Helen Charlton, recently reflected on the strength of our relationship:

"We are proud of the warm and supportive relationship we share with Holy Trinity Church, where our children and their families are welcomed, valued, and encouraged to explore faith through shared celebrations and visits. This partnership helps nurture a sense of community and belonging for our pupils."

We see this partnership as a key part of our outreach and ministry, offering meaningful opportunities for pastoral care, teaching, and community-building.

For a new vicar, this is an exciting space to develop intergenerational relationships and to be a visible and valued presence in the life of our local schools.

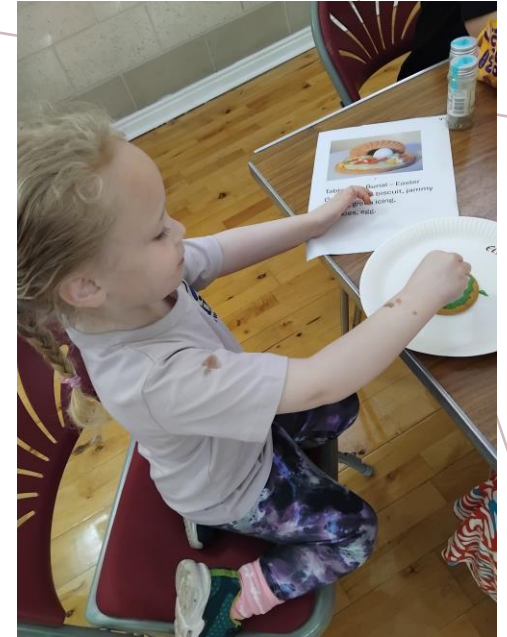
Each year, both local schools and our two nurseries participate in our Christmas Window Display, a cherished community project. Every class receives card and a festive theme. The children cut and decorate their designs, which are then displayed in shop windows across North Ormesby. This joyful initiative connects families, schools, local businesses, and the wider community—celebrating creativity and the true spirit of Christmas in a way that is inclusive, visible, and deeply appreciated by all.

OUTREACH

While we are grateful for a lively and faithful congregation, we also remain deeply outward-looking in our mission. Holy Trinity is a parish that actively seeks to connect with the wider community, offering events, worship opportunities, and pastoral care that reach beyond our church walls.

Our outreach events are designed to be accessible, creative, and engaging — especially for families and those exploring faith. These include: Good Friday Workshop – A hands-on experience using craft, story to help children and families engage with the message of the cross.

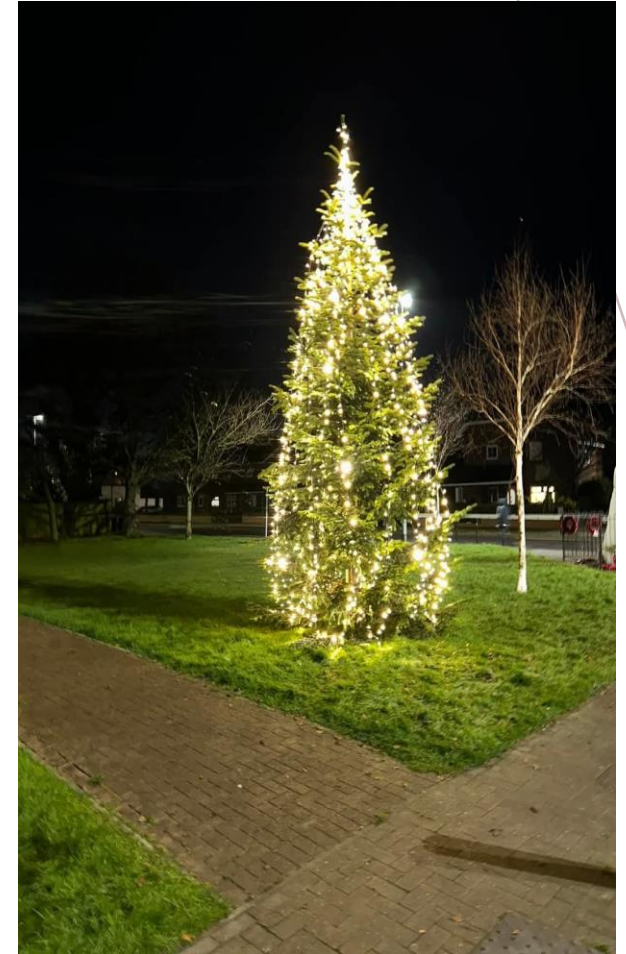
Messy Christmas Eve – A joyful and interactive celebration, bringing together families for a creative retelling of the Christmas story



OUTREACH

Christmas Tree Light Switch-On: Our Christmas tree is generously donated by the local market manager. We gather outside for a sing-along and hot chocolate, then move indoors to share food and fellowship. These events provide meaningful opportunities for faith exploration, community building, and evangelism in an accessible way.

We are blessed to see new people regularly exploring and coming to faith. As part of our discipleship pathway, we offer the 'Start' course—a relaxed, discussion-based introduction to Christianity that helps individuals take their first steps in following Jesus.



LIVING CHRIST'S STORY

Holy Trinity is actively engaged with the **Diocesan vision**, 'Living Christ's Story', working to reach those in our community who are not yet connected with church. Our desire is to be a **parish where people encounter the love of Christ through relationship, hospitality, and practical support**.

As part of this, we have a **Lay Multiply Worker** whose focus is on **building relationships with families**, both inside and outside of the church, helping them explore faith at their own pace.

We are also heavily involved in the **Mustard Seed programme**, who run **Stepping Up**, a year-long programme of missional discipleship at the heart of the Mustard Seed programme in York Diocese. Lay people from Low Income Communities gather each week in a local learning communities, and each person has a mentor who offers prayer, guidance and support. The year of nurture and development helps people to grow deeper in their relationship with God, in listening to and understanding their local community, and confidence and skills to share faith. At the end of Stepping Up each person is commissioned locally as a Community Minister to develop new or existing mission in the local community.

To date, **eight individuals from Holy Trinity have completed the programme**, and most have gone on to be commissioned as **Community Ministers**. Each year, we celebrate this ministry with our annual '**Stepping Up Sunday**', where we hear testimonies and stories from those serving in our parish.



LIVING CHRIST'S STORY

Community Ministry in Action

Our **Community Ministers** are central to the life and outreach of Holy Trinity, helping us build relationships, offer pastoral care, and gently share faith in the everyday.

- **Tracy**, one of our Community Ministers, plays a key role in our **Tuesday Community Café**. While Tracy is known for making a great cup of tea or coffee, she also offers **a listening ear and spiritual support**, connecting personally with visitors. Many of the café guests are then invited to join us for **festival services**, which have been warmly received.
- The café is run by a dedicated team of **volunteers** – some welcoming at the door, others preparing **toasties, quiches, and pies**, and others helping at tables. It's a team effort that brings people together and creates a space of welcome and belonging.
- **Richard**, another of our Community Ministers, leads our **3Ws (Warm, Welcoming Wednesdays)** – a **safe, friendly afternoon group** designed for adults who may be socially isolated. He describes it as:

“A space for adults who may otherwise be socially isolated, to chat, have a cuppa, with games or crafts as an option too.”

A Church Ready to Grow

This work reflects our heart as a church — to **walk with people at every stage of their journey**, whether they are just beginning to ask questions, or rediscovering faith later in life. We are excited about how God is moving through the gifts of lay leaders and the **support of a vicar who will nurture, envision, and grow this work** with us. At present our focus of Living Christ's story is the aspect of growing Missional disciples and reaching those who are currently not connected with church, however in the future our prayer and hope is to develop other elements of Living Christ's Story



**We Are Praying for a
Vicar Who Will Lead
with Faith, Vision, and
Joy**

We are a warm and welcoming church community, looking for a **proactive and accesible** vicar who will walk alongside us as we grow in faith, deepen our relationships, and serve our wider community.

We seek someone who
is:

Forward-thinking – open to new ideas, with a clear vision for the Church in today's world

Engaging – a natural communicator who connects with people of all ages and backgrounds

Hospitable and accommodating – someone who values presence, welcome, and listening

An enabling leader – confident in guiding others, while empowering the gifts of the whole church

Adaptable – ready to respond creatively to change and challenge

A team builder – committed to collaboration and shared leadership

Happy and cheerful – someone who brings joy, laughter, and positivity to ministry

Challenging – someone who calls us forward in faith, growth, and discipleship

Inclusive – open-hearted and embracing diversity in all its forms

Proactive – not waiting for things to happen, but making and enabling things to happen

If this sounds like you,
we would love to hear
from you.



TYCP

The role of the parish priest in North Ormesby carries the vital responsibility of overseeing the mission of the Trinity Youth & Children's Project (trinitycentre.org/youth)—a well-established and much-valued ministry serving children, young people, and families in North Ormesby.

TYCP is led by a small team of part-time staff and supported by a committed group of volunteers, two of which are parents whose children attend the sessions, the Parish Priest will take the role of the Chair of Trustees for TYCP for at least the first 12 months during a time of transition.

TYCP currently runs five after-school sessions each week in North Ormesby and as well as sessions during holidays including trips.

In a parish where 46% of children are born into poverty—we are passionate about showing God's love in action.

TYCP provides access to lots of opportunities in a safe, fun and nurturing environment, where children, young people, and parents can grow in confidence, develop life skills, and experience care, belonging, and hope.

The Trinity Centre



The Trinity Centre was built and opened in 2003. The building of the Trinity Centre was a catalyst for the local authority's regeneration of North Ormesby. Our heart for Christian hospitality is expressed through the activities of the centre where everyone is welcome. Each week, many people visit our community café, use our foodbank and take part in activities for all age groups. Described by residents as 'the heart' of the community, the centre has become a hub of outreach, responding to the many challenges that local people face. Customers are impressed by the quality and design of the building, which provides a comfortable and pleasant space for any event.

The Cloister Garden adds a unique dimension to the Trinity Centre and is greatly admired. Several of our regular bookings have been attending for many years. The Trinity Centre is equipped with sound and projection system, including a loop in the Hall, and Wi-Fi throughout. The centre offers a good level of accessibility for wheelchair users. We have rooms to fit different requirements, from small, personal meeting rooms and board room to our function hall which is ideal for conferences and larger events. Ample free public parking is available on the Market place. In 2016, the Trinity Centre was registered as a Community Interest Company (CIC), with directors appointed by the PCC. On a day-to-day basis, the centre is run by an administrator, who oversees bookings, with a cleaner/caretaker and a dedicated team of volunteers.





WHO USES THE TRINITY CENTRE



We have many regular bookings in the centre as well as ad hoc bookings.

Our TYCP groups are run in the Centre as well as The Cloister café and 3 W's.

We also rent out some office space to another charity Clean Slate Solutions, Clean Slate Solutions ♦ ♦ ♦ who work with ex-offenders helping them to find a brighter future and find work.

The North Ormesby Minstrels, an Amateur dramatics group use the hall to rehearse and for their performances twice a year.

We have two Christian Churches who hire the hall over the weekend, a Romanian Church and Middlesbrough Christian Church.

Teesside Flower club and Teesside Symphony orchestra are long standing bookings at the centre.

NHS, York Diocese, Teesside Leaders, Reed wellbeing and Carers Together to name a few are just some of the groups who use the centre throughout the year.

Whos who?

We have a PCC made up of the following

Rev Victor Alleh who has overseas PTO
Ifeanyi Egwim Churchwarden
ChiChi Dagogo-Wariso Secretary
Sarah Collyer Treasurer
Blessing Ohaya Lay Chair
Andrea Jenkinson Parish Safeguarding officer
Marion Cook
Ian Rose
Tracy Hurd
Richard Hurd
Jane Holliday

Directors of the Trinity Centre

Ifeanyi Egwim
ChiChi Dagogo-Wariso
Marion Cook

TYCP Trustees

Jay Charlton Chair
Marion Cook
Jo Falloon - Shakespear
Andrea Jenkinson

TYCP Staff (All part time)

Lee-Anne Rose Children and Families worker
Chris Bloomfield Youth development worker

Trinity centre Staff (All part time)

Cam Simden Administrator
Gary Catterick Centre cleaner
Callum Steed Caretaker

THE VICARAGE

The vicarage is a spacious and welcoming four-bedroom detached home in North Ormesby, close to the church, thoughtfully designed to offer both comfort and practicality for modern ministry and family life.

Nestled within a quiet residential area, the property is secure and well-maintained, featuring CCTV and a gated driveway that comfortably accommodates two to three vehicles. An attached electronic garage provides additional convenience and storage.

Inside, the ground floor offers a warm and versatile living space. Just off the entrance, a dedicated study provides a peaceful environment for work or reflection as shown in the image. A generously sized living room flows into a separate dining room, perfect for hosting guests or enjoying family meals. The kitchen is well-equipped and light-filled, and there's a handy downstairs toilet for everyday use.

Upstairs, the property boasts four comfortable bedrooms and a modern family bathroom, providing ample space for a family or visiting guests.

The outdoor space adds to the charm of this property, with a neat front garden and a larger, private garden to the rear—ideal for relaxing, entertaining, or simply enjoying some quiet time in nature.

Overall, the vicarage offers a wonderful balance of privacy, functionality, and hospitality—an ideal home for nurturing both personal and pastoral life.

The EPC energy efficient rating of the vicarage is an EPC D.



BRAMBLES FARM, THORNTREE AND NETHERFIELDS



An exciting development in recent years is the work of St Thomas' Parish, which is being combined with the Parish of Holy Trinity, having previously been a Bishop's Mission Order (BMO).

This work has been led by Rev. Jane Emson, who is currently planning for how the work will continue when the funding for her role comes to an end in December 2025.

We are praying for a Vicar who will oversee the next chapter in the life of our New Worshipping Community (NWC). The role of the new Vicar would be to continue Connect Church Service and to support, encourage and oversee Linda in leading connect and the Discipleship group; to have a monthly Communion service and shared meal. To meet with Linda every 6 weeks to support her in leading the service and meet for prayer. To get to know and support the people who are attending. To encourage and delegate people to take part in the service to help build confidence and belonging so that they feel valued and able to take part in the life of the Church.



BRAMBLES FARM, THORNTREE AND NETHERFIELDS

Sunday Congregations

We have been meeting as a church in two community buildings on Sundays; are at Thorntree Hub 11.15 Breakfast Church which has been meeting for a year and at Markby Green at 5.00 for nearly 2 years. The two services will eventually be combined to just one and meet at Markby.

The church services hold a special place in the life of our community, offering a warm welcome to all who attend especially those attending for the first time. It is a place where people feel welcome accepted and encouraged and are made to feel part of the Church family.

Our services are very informal. For the first 15 minutes we begin with refreshments which allows people time to connect, share and feel at ease with each other and for newcomers to feel welcome.

People who attend are mainly those who have never been to Church or who have had negative experiences from their previous church. So, there's no pressure to join in and people can get involved at their own pace. There's no complicated liturgy to follow, we use power points for the whole service which includes confession, worship, Bible reading, short reflection, intercessions, the Lords prayer. Recently, Sarah and Leanne have started preparing the craft which links to the Bible reading.

Everyone stays in the same room and the service lasts for about an hour (5-6pm). We share a meal on the 2nd Sunday of the month as this is a way of living out the fellowship and hospitality that Jesus showed. It also is a chance to deepen friendships, share stories, and grow together as a Church Family. There is a Communion service once a month. People in connect take part in the services such as leading prayers, worship, crafts setting up and packing away. Mel, who is on the team, prepares the food. Community Minister (Linda) leads and sometimes speaks and plans the service.



BRAMBLES FARM, THORNTREE AND NETHERFIELDS

Midweek Activities

Our Mission Statement is Sharing God's love in our community. There is an Eco-shop every Wednesday 12.30-1.30 which is well attended (15- 20 people). People pay £3 and get to choose 10 items of food plus free bakery which is donated from a local supermarket. The eco shop is an important component as it acts as a springboard to meet people in the community and build relationships and gently invite them to discover more about church and faith in a natural welcoming way.

There are other outreach projects connected to the Church, such as Community litter picks/ Carols by candlelight at Christmas, and seasonal events like those at Easter. Jane previously led Tommy's Youth Club, which is now overseen by Youth Focus however she continues to attend every other week to provide a consistent Church presence and maintain relationships. Jane is also part of a monthly rota that provides welcome and food, in a warm safe environment at the Salvation Army in Middlesbrough for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless she also works partnership with SVP Saint Vincent De Paul Society. She meets with Linda weekly for pray offering mutual support and encouragement in ministry.



BRAMBLES FARM, THORNTREE AND NETHERFIELDS

There are 7 people on team. Two people have completed stepping up programme and two others are due to finish and 1 person is to start in September.

Linda who was commissioned as a community minister in January 2024 has been running a Discipleship group on Tuesday mornings term time with up to 5 people attending. All who come attend Church.

Team meeting takes place every 6-8 weeks where everyone feels free to contribute, Linda takes the minutes.

New Disciples New disciples are beginning to emerge, showing signs of faith and desire to grow in their journey with Jesus. This is evident in the number of faith conversions, baptisms and 13 confirmations which have happened over the 2 years. Many of these individuals now attend and serve as part of the church community.

Average weekly Over the last year, across both services, there have been 19 regular attendees. In recent months, the church attendance has been on average around 16 adults 8 children.

About the Area Who lives here? At the heart of all is a desire to share the good news of Jesus in ways that are real, gentle, and accessible, being passionate about reaching new people especially those who may never have stepped into a church before. This may be through conversation, or community outreach, such as the eco shop. The desire is for everyone to know they are loved by God, welcomed just as they are, and invited into a relationship with him. We believe that the gospel is best shared through both words and actions and through lives that reflect Jesus' love in everyday ways.

BRAMBLES FARM, THORNTREE AND NETHERFIELDS

How We Got Here

In the Autumn 2016 Middlesbrough Deanery 'Renew and Inspire' conference, Brambles Farm and Thorntree Estates came out as the top deanery priority for re-evangelisation and church planting.

Jane Emson arrived in Middlesbrough as a Lead Evangelist in 2019 initially for 5 years. This was as a new Centre of Mission partnership between Church Army and York Diocese to evangelise one of the most socially deprived communities in the country, to re-establish one or more worshipping communities.

The Diocese of York set the goal of 'Reaching Those We Currently Don't' and one clearly identified group is those in their 20s – 40s. For more information see www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/reach-grow-sustain.

Jane's role was created with a **Clear Purpose**: to reach those aged 20s – 40s Brambles and Thorntree with the view to them becoming disciples of Christ.

Jane was ordained Deacon in 2020 and in 2024 ordained Priest.

Over the years we have moved in and out of a number of buildings across the community set up various after school clubs, community events at Easter and Christmas (Carols by Candlelight) in order to address the needs and get to know the people in the community and relationships.

Future Plans

Jane will be moving on shortly due to her funding coming to an end. And her plans are for Linda to take on leadership of both the church and the discipleship group. That Linda will be well supported by the new Vicar as she steps into this important role, and that together they will help the church continue to grow in Brambles Farm, Thorntree and Netherfields as a welcoming, Christ centred Community Church

Jane's hopes and prayers would be to see the Church at Markby Green continue to grow as a place of welcome, faith and outreach. Where people from all backgrounds feel at home, the gospel is shared with grace and clarity, where are the opportunities to grow?

In the next few months, I intend to stop breakfast Church as there will be no one to lead this but will continue with the 5.00 service at Markby Green who in the last few months in both services 16 adults 8 children all who attend every other week.



BRAMBLES FARM, THORNTREE AND NETHERFIELDS

About the Area

Who lives here?

9,463 people live in our parish. Most people 95% are white with 5% of people from Asian, black, and other ethnic groups.

Homes and Housing

There are 3,587 occupied households in total in the parish. 23% of people live on their own. 25% of families are lone parent households. 32% of people live in local authority housing or housing association properties.

Income and Employment

56% of children live in a low income family. 46% of working age adults receive some form of income based benefits.

45% of pensioners experience income deprivation

Health and well-being

Life expectancy for females is 79 years and for males is 75 years compared with the average for England of 82.7 and 78.7. 10% of people experience bad or very bad health in Middlesbrough.

Age

18% of people are aged 65 years and over compared with 24% of children and young people under 18 years.

Education and Learning

Less than 32% of people living in your parish hold no academic, vocational or professional qualifications (31.8%). 16% of people have a higher education qualification (compared to 27.4% in England)

Data taken from Church Urban Fund, and 2021 Census Diocese of York Data

A quick note: The ethnicity data shown comes from the 2021 Census, which is the latest official data we have. That said, we've noticed that our parish feels much more diverse now than it did then. Things have changed a lot in the last few years, and we believe our community today is more varied than these numbers might suggest.

THE LOCAL AREA



Within close walking distance of the church in North Ormesby is a large parade of shops on King's Road, including a Post office.

There is also a twice-weekly market which takes place literally on the church's doorstep in the marketplace.

The market brings many visitors to North Ormesby, with some dropping into enjoy the weekly Café in the Trinity centre.

The community is home to an 'Outstanding' community primary academy with which the church has very good links.

Also within the parish is Middlesbrough FC, a Championship football side. Middlesbrough Town Centre is just a fifteen-minute walk away, as well as the transporter bridge.

There are excellent public transport links in North Ormesby, and with its close proximity to the A66, the church is ideally situated.

Middlesbrough is a wonderful place to live. With its warm and affectionate people, there is so much to see and do in this large town. Within an hour's drive, there are some fantastic places to visit, such as Newcastle-upon-Tyne, the historic cities of Durham and York, and the coastal port of Whitby. The Cleveland Hills, Teesdale and North York Moors offer places of solitude, perfect to escape for a day of walking in this magnificent part of God's creation.

