

## THREE PARISHES – ONE MISSION

The Parishes of Settle, Giggleswick  
and Rathmell with Wigglesworth



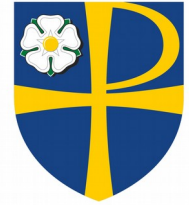
Holy Ascension, Settle



Holy Trinity, Rathmell with Wigglesworth



St Alkelda's Giggleswick



The Anglican Diocese of Leeds comprises five Episcopal Areas, each coterminous with an Archdeaconry. This is now one of the largest dioceses in the country, and its creation is unprecedented in the history of the Church of England. It covers an area of around 2,425 square miles, and a population of around 2,642,400 people.

The three former dioceses were created in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to cater for massive population changes brought about by industrialisation and, later, mass immigration. The diocese comprises major cities (Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield), large industrial and post-industrial towns (Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury), market towns (Harrogate, Skipton, Ripon, Richmond and Wetherby), and deeply rural areas (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 Rev'd Nick Baines) is assisted by five Area Bishops (Bradford, Huddersfield, Kirkstall, Wakefield and Ripon), and five archdeacons (Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Pontefract, Richmond & Craven). The parishes of Settle, Giggleswick and Rathmell with Wigglesworth lie in the Bowland and Ewecross Deanery of the Ripon Episcopal Area, in the Archdeaconry of Richmond and Craven. The Bishop of Ripon is the Rt Rev'd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley.**



*Our vision as the Diocese is about confident clergy equipping confident Christians to live and tell the good news of Jesus Christ. For all of our appointments we are seeking clergy who have a joyful and confident faith which has inspired a track record of church growth, both numerically and spiritually.*



# Welcome

The parishes of Settle, Giggleswick and Rathmell with Wigglesworth in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, are seeking a Priest-in-Charge to lead us on the next stage of our collaborative missionary journey.

The fact that you are reading this, indicates that something has led you to consider whether this might be you.

Please use this brochure to learn a little more about us and about our parishes and also study the other documentation and then, if that feeling is still here, please do get in touch.

**We are praying for the right person and you might just be the answer to our prayers.**



# Our three Vibrant Parishes

**Although they all originated from the Ancient Parish of Giggleswick, these three modern day parishes all have their own unique characteristics, whilst continuing their united Christian mission across this beautiful corner of the Yorkshire Dales.**

The parish of Settle consists primarily of the market town, although it also includes a couple of outlying farms. It has a C of E Voluntary Controlled Primary School.

Across the River Ribble from Settle, the parish of Giggleswick includes the villages of Giggleswick and Stackhouse. It has a primary school and is also home to both of the local secondary schools, Settle College and the independent Giggleswick School.

The parish of Rathmell with Wigglesworth is now separated from the other two by the A65 Settle bypass, which opened in 1988. These two villages retain their rural nature and form the hub of a local farming community; Wigglesworth still has a public house, The Plough, but the primary school in Rathmell closed in 2016.

Our three parish churches reflect the varied nature of these parishes.

## The Parish Church of the Holy Ascension, Settle



Settle's 'Ascension Church' has just celebrated its 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. It was a plant from the mother church of Giggleswick in 1838, with Settle eventually becoming a parish in its own right 60 years later in 1898.

Although it had been the market town for the farming community since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, Settle grew rapidly during the 1800s following development of water powered cotton and paper mills in the Ribble valley and the opening of the Settle to Carlisle Railway in 1876. The mills are no longer operating but there is still an active Market in the

town every Tuesday, although it is now frequented less by farmers and more by tourists and visitors, many of whom are still brought by the railway.

Settle today has a population of a little over 2500 (at the 2011 census) and includes churches of four other denominations in addition to Holy Ascension. Church attendance has been steadily declining since well before the turn of the millennium. The electoral roll in 2018 was just 56 with an average weekly church attendance of around half that number. The congregation is predominantly female and aged over 75. The PCC is very aware of this critical situation and the church members, although small in number, are very active in maintaining links with the community. In addition to the regular pattern of worship services, some of which we share with our two sister churches, we maintain an active community and social outreach programme which belies the small numbers and advanced age of many of our members. Concerts by local choirs, band and orchestra are hosted regularly and well supported.



***The weekly 'Tuesday Lunches' served by our 'catering team' are very popular with locals and visitors alike.***

***The Narthex area and kitchen was the result of a re-ordering in 1998. It has been well used but has now been outgrown by its own success.***

***A Faculty was recently approved for a much larger and better equipped catering kitchen and other improvements to enhance the facilities for community use of the church building, dependent on funding.***



A "Mums and Tots" group meets on Monday mornings, in the Upper Room, supported by a dedicated church member and on Thursday mornings the joint Mothers' Union branch runs "Stepping Stones", a music and story based group for parents and pre-school children. A joint team delivers 'Open the Book' to both Giggleswick and Settle Primary schools, and we are pleased to welcome our church Primary School for all their end of term services, which fill the church with children and their parents. At the other end of the age range, a dedicated team takes out Holy Communion regularly to local care homes.

The church building, designed by Thomas Rickman, is notable for being aligned unusually on a north-south axis in order to fit the original plot of land. It has a wide spacious interior with some interesting stained glass, including a William Morris design, and a particularly fine Binns organ dating from 1913, still with its original pneumatic action.

The churchyard and burial ground, well maintained by volunteers, is much valued and frequently visited by local people who also value their church, as a place to come to for funerals and, increasingly, for weddings. The church has a ring of 8 bells with an enthusiastic band of local ringers.

The annual Civic Service for Remembrance Sunday, takes place in Holy Ascension Church. This is ecumenically organised and includes participation by the local schools and uniformed youth organisations as well as the civic leaders. Holy Ascension is an active member of Churches Together in Settle and District, and their annual 'travelling' Passion Play, "Journey to the Cross", has its Crucifixion scene in the churchyard. Members of the Mothers' Union serve hot cross buns to the followers afterwards.

During last year's 'Ascension 180' celebrations, events and activities were organised to encourage community involvement with both the building and the church members and to celebrate this church's place in the life of Settle over the past 180 years.



The church 'Facebook' page is a recent innovation, which has proved very popular and now has followers, well in excess of the church attendance figures.

There is much scope here to develop our faith and our ministry to the community we seek to serve.

***"We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming a spiritual pastor and dynamic leader who will take us forward in this mission."***

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

[www.facebook.com/Settle-Parish-Church-Holy-Ascension-1320210961416958](https://www.facebook.com/Settle-Parish-Church-Holy-Ascension-1320210961416958)

# The Parish Church of St Alkelda, Giggleswick

St Alkelda's was the mother church of the Ancient Parish of Giggleswick which, until the mid-19th century, comprised the five townships of Giggleswick, Settle, Rathmell, Langcliffe and Stainforth. There has been a church here for a thousand years, with the first known incumbent listed about 800 years ago. A Norman church was built on the site of an earlier Saxon building, but the church surviving today dates largely from Tudor times. It is one of the two focal points of the village, the other being Giggleswick School, founded in the church by James Carr, probably in 1504 (the first school building was opened next to the church in 1512).

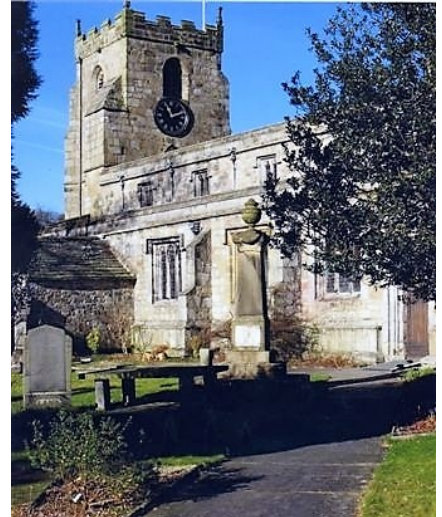
The church was the school's centre of worship until its own domed Chapel was opened in 1901 to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

St Alkelda's is a Grade 1 listed building, situated in the heart of the village within a Conservation Area.

A major restoration of the church was undertaken in 1890-92, including the completion of the organ by Abbott & Smith in 1893. There is a peal of 8 bells. The organ, bells and bell chamber were completely restored in 2003-5. From 2011-13 a modern re-ordering of the church was carried out, including removal of pews from the West End and North Aisle, to open up these spaces for greater church and community use, the installation of new kitchen and toilet facilities, glazing and enclosure of the Memorial Chapel for use by small groups; plus improved storage facilities. The church is in an excellent state of repair, the latest Quinquennial Report, carried out in August 2018, recommends that only minor works are required. Recently, a stained glass panel depicting the martyrdom of St Alkelda was discovered in the Parish Rooms. This is currently being restored and will be inserted into one of the plain glass windows on the south side of the church.

The Parish Rooms, owned by the PCC but almost entirely used for community purposes, are 200m from the church, adjacent to the vicarage and have recently undergone substantial roof repairs and interior decoration. However, considerably more restoration is needed, plus a decision on their future role.

The population of Giggleswick was estimated at 1300 in 2015; however, much recent house building means it will be higher than that now. The surrounding area is rural, with tourism, farming and education the main sources of employment. The church Electoral Roll is 76, currently undergoing its 6-year renewal. Average combined church attendance at both Sunday services is 45-50, but considerably more at major church festivals. The congregation is mixed, though mainly elderly and female. Three families with young children worship with us regularly.



We have active links with the Primary School, although it is not a church school. A dedicated team from the church runs an After School Club weekly during term time and the school uses the church for its major events, as well as at Harvest and Christmas. The whole school spends a day in church in the run-up to Easter, at which they hear the Easter story, make various craft items and all take away an Easter garden.



Other church members are currently delivering 'Open the Book' to children in the school. Settle College also uses the church for its annual Christmas service and for its Prize Giving.



A very active group maintains the churchyard, we have an annual Garden Party and an Autumn or Christmas Fair, we participate in the activities of Churches Together in Settle and District; there is a Giggleswick and Settle Mothers' Union branch; lots of volunteers (not all regular churchgoers) are on the cleaning and flower rotas. Lay involvement overall is excellent.

*Reaching out to the community in the service and worship of Christ.*

## The Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, Rathmell with Wigglesworth



Holy Trinity is the Anglican Parish Church serving Rathmell with Wigglesworth. It is in the heart of this rural community. It was built in approximately 1835 having been funded by general subscription from the local community, and was consecrated in September 1842. The church is listed Grade II. The construction and format are typical of many domestic, agricultural and ecclesiastical buildings in the surrounding area of the Yorkshire Dales.

The church contains a number of important features of artistic merit and national heritage importance. The most notable of the contents are the very fine stained glass windows, two of which are by the internationally renowned Belgian glass maker Jean-Baptiste Capronnier (1814-1891). A further stained glass window was added in 1992 to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration. The church also has a beautifully carved reredos and carved panelling in the chancel. This was carved in local oak by Rathmell craftsmen.

There is a very scattered population, across a wide rural area, with many outlying farms. There is a wide social mix through the population, and although unemployment is low, rural deprivation and poor access to services are significant. Both villages have an ageing community and our local CE primary school closed in July 2017 due to declining numbers.

There is a strong sense of community in both villages. Rathmell is the location of the church, a small Methodist chapel, a Reading Room (Community Hall) and Rathmell Old School which is also used for village activities. Wigglesworth has an Inn and a well-supported Community Hall. There are various activities in the villages, a newly formed parent and toddler group, Young Farmers, weekly Bacon Butty mornings, a craft group, a Thursday Club and a monthly lunch for older members of the community,

line dancing, whist and dominoes, a monthly quiz and from time to time visiting Rural Arts productions.

Our electoral roll is currently 15 and the average church attendance is between 15–20, although at Easter, Harvest and Christmas the number can rise to 40+. The congregation is predominantly over 50 years of age with approximately half of those being over 70. Under 16's attendance is infrequent at regular services but is greater at festival and special services.

Following the closure of the village school we are keen to keep in contact with, and develop further, our links with local young families and children. For young people we currently hold an Easter Egg Hunt, a Crib Service and there is a Children's Trail in church. There is also a pleasant children's area in church. Seasonal rural services have included Rogation, Lambing and Welly Services involving the local farming community; these are generally well supported. There are links with the local Methodist Chapel and we have a joint Remembrance Service.



To help raise funds in the past year we have had our annual BBQ, an Organ Recital and held our first Christmas Tree Festival. The latest Quinquennial Report, carried out in January 2018, said that the church is in good general repair but noted the Tower roof and the stained glass windows required attention. The church is warm and welcoming and loved by the local community. In 2016 we undertook a major building project to replace the roof, refurbish the rainwater goods and install a new heating system. The church and local community raised funds and we also obtained a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The project reignited a passion within the local community to maintain the heritage of the church and it enabled the church to expand its outreach into the local community. Since the project there has been an increased sense of ownership of the church within the local community.

***This “Little Church with a Big Heart” was built on the goodwill and generosity of the local community and the current 21st Century generation is working hard to make sure it will be here to serve the villages of Rathmell and Wigglesworth for at least another 100 years.***

## Lay Ministry in the three parishes

Lay leadership for worship in our three churches is strong. There is one Reader and five Worship Leaders at Giggleswick, and one Worship Leader at Settle, all of whom work across all three parishes on a regular basis.



# Our present 3 Parishes monthly Service Pattern

## Sundays

	Time	St Alkelda's, Giggleswick	Holy Ascension, Settle	Holy Trinity, Rathmell
week 1	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
	10.00am	Shared 3-Parishes Holy Communion (rotates between the three churches)		
	6.00pm	Evensong		
week 2	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
	10.00am	Parish Communion	Morning Worship (Eucharist if Priest is available)	All age Morning Worship
week 3	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
	10.00am	All age Morning Worship	Parish Eucharist	
week 4	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
	10.00am	Morning Worship	Morning Worship	Parish Communion
week 5	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)		
	10.00am	Shared Holy Communion (alternates between the two churches)		

## Weekdays

There are Holy Communion services at Holy Ascension, Settle at 9.30am on Tuesdays and at St Alkelda's, Giggleswick at 9.30am on Wednesdays.

*(Coffee and refreshments are served, after the Settle service, on Tuesday followed by lunches from midday.)*

Numbers and Profile	St Alkelda	Holy Ascension	Holy Trinity
Electoral Roll	76	56	15
Average service attendance	Sunday 45-50 Weekdays 6-8	Sunday 35 Weekday 11	Sunday 15 Weekdays n/a
Age Profile of Electoral Roll	24% under 65	12(25%) under 64	9 (60%) under 65

## Our Churchmanship.....

Our three churches bring with them a good mix of service styles:

**Holy Ascension Settle .....** has had quite an Anglo-Catholic past, although over the last two or three decades the churchmanship has become much more relaxed and middle of the road. The main Sunday service remains the Eucharist and the celebrant normally wears vestments but over recent years we have introduced some very successful non-Eucharistic Morning Worship led by both clergy and Lay Worship Leaders and interest has also been shown in Taizé style evening worship during the Christmas and Easter festival seasons.

**St Alkelda's Giggleswick ....** has a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. The worship style is middle of the road, with the main Sunday morning services alternating between all-age Family Communion and Morning Worship, led by Lay Worship Leaders. There is a BCP Holy Communion at 8.00 am every Sunday and Choral Evensong on the first Sunday of each month. We have used Taizé-style services occasionally and for a number of years we had Informal Worship services on some Sunday afternoons, but the leaders of these have now all moved away from the area. There is a small, but dedicated, four-part choir which sings every week and is augmented for special services at major church festivals.

**Holy Trinity, Rathmell with Wigglesworth ....** being a smaller building it has an intimate atmosphere. Our worship here follows a traditional style but the people are willing to explore different styles of worship and there is a relaxed, informal ambience. At present we have two services a month, one being Morning Worship and the other Holy Communion.

### Our challenges...

- Nurturing the green shoots of growth into vibrant church communities that are inclusive, welcoming and places of spirituality and peace that draw people to worship with us.
- Looking beyond the confines of our church buildings and reaching out into our communities.
- Exploring new ways of encouraging young families to worship with us.
- Encouraging and nurturing disciples.
- Developing lay leadership, including worship leaders.
- Working with our clergy to support the mission and ministry of the church.

### We believe we are good at...

- Working together, sharing and using our talents.
- Hospitality and welcoming visitors.
- Ecumenical links with other churches in the town through 'Churches Together'.
- Maintaining links with the Primary Schools in Settle and Giggleswick.

### We would like to be supported and encouraged to .....

- Explore and try new forms of worship
- Be more open to new ideas and models of ministry
- Strengthen our community links

## Our Parish Finances

Finances (2017)	St Alkelda	Holy Ascension	Holy Trinity
Voluntary Giving	£38K	£30.1K (inc. £9.6K legacies)	£8K
Parish Share	£46,675.00	£25,812.00	£4,124.00
Restricted Funds	£8.9K	£40.9K (inc grant for repairs completed in 2018)	£28.8K
Unrestricted Funds	£69.7K	£31.4K	£9.8K
Total Funds	£78.6K	£72.3K	£38.6K





## Our Beautiful Local Area

The parishes of Settle, Giggleswick and Rathmell with Wigglesworth are on the southern edge of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, in the Craven District of North Yorkshire, on the western slopes of the Pennines. The Lancashire boundary is just a few miles away. The area is located mid-way between the large Leeds/Bradford conurbations of West Yorkshire and the Cumbrian Lake District. The 2011 census lists the population of Settle as 2564, Giggleswick as 1270 and Rathmell with Wigglesworth about 680. However, there have been significant new housing developments in both Settle and Giggleswick in the last few years which will have increased these figures.



***The famous Settle-Carlisle railway line is a major feature of the area and a strong attraction to railway enthusiasts, with regular sightings of steam locomotives. It continues to deliver many visitors into the area, and also provides local people with a major link to the rest of the country via Leeds and the East Coast rail network; whilst from Giggleswick station, the line to Lancaster and Morecambe Bay provides a link to the West Coast mainline. The A65 provides the main road links and there are regular bus services to Skipton and Kirkby Lonsdale. So we are able to enjoy the peace and tranquility of life in the Yorkshire Dales, without being isolated from the world around us.***

Historically, the area has been dominated by the farming community with mainly sheep on the hill farms and more diversity in the lower land towards Rathmell. However, the area now also provides home to commuters working in Skipton or further afield in northern Lancashire or Leeds and Bradford and also a growing number of home based workers.

The area's topography is a magnet for hill walkers, cavers and cyclists, providing a strong base for tourism and leisure-related businesses including cycling and outdoors shops and a wide range of hotels, inns, guest houses, holiday cottages and campsites. There are a few local industries of which quarrying is one of the strongest, supported by a significant number of road haulage companies. Others are focused on supporting farming and there are a number of independent motor repair garages. The area also boasts a strong cohort of tradesmen who are kept well employed renovating

and building housing stock. Giggleswick Independent Day & Boarding School is also a significant local employer. The River Ribble forms the boundary between Settle and Giggleswick, which are very close communities, both geographically and socially. Rathmell village is about four miles away to the south east.

Local amenities include a library and a small local swimming pool, both supported by volunteers, as well as a well established cricket club, a football club, at least one fitness suite and the North Ribblesdale Rugby Club. The Settle Victoria Hall is a Victorian Music Hall still providing local theatre, cinema and concert hall facilities, also with local volunteer support and Giggleswick School has the Richard Whiteley Theatre which also stages professional productions. The area provides a variety of musical opportunities including an orchestra, a brass band and various choirs to suit all tastes and abilities.



**Settle has a weekly outdoor market, every Tuesday as well as range of independent shops, and a branch of Booths, a renowned north west based independent supermarket. There are two Co-op branches, one of which includes the petrol station. The area is generally well served with good places to eat out, including a number of excellent local hostelrys.**

There are good primary schools in both Settle and Giggleswick, the one in Settle being C of E Voluntary Controlled. Settle College provides the principal local secondary and 6<sup>th</sup> form provision and has a good reputation. The selective schools in Skipton, Ermysted's Grammar School for boys and Skipton Girls High School are possible alternatives. Giggleswick School provides an excellent boarding and day independent education option and there are other independent schools within reach.

In addition to the sporting provision, there are local clubs and societies to suit many interests, including, by no means exclusively, a gardening club, a bridge club, two WI branches, a Rotary Club, an amateur operatic society and a photographic society. Settle also has an active U3A with many interest groups, including a family history group which recently organised a fascinating graveyard project in association with Settle church's 180th Anniversary.



**Some links to local websites:**

**[www.visitsettle.co.uk](http://www.visitsettle.co.uk)**

**[www.settle.org.uk](http://www.settle.org.uk)**

**[www.settletowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.settletowncouncil.org.uk)**

**[www.settlebusinessandcommunityhub.org.uk](http://www.settlebusinessandcommunityhub.org.uk)**



# Giggleswick with Settle Mothers' Union

Giggleswick with Settle, a joint Mothers' Union branch, meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Meetings generally alternate between the two parishes.

Mothers' Union members are involved with many initiatives across the two parishes and in the community. Initially they provided support and hospitality for "Rocking Rhymes", a weekly music-based group for families with babies and pre-school children in Settle church. Since September 2018 Mothers' Union members have taken over the running of "Stepping Stones", the successor to this group. Thursday mornings, during term time, sees tots and carers enjoying a chat, songs, a story, snacks and craft activities. At noon, after this busy morning, the Mothers' Union members and helpers meet for 'Midday Prayers'.

Mothers' Union co-ordinates the record keeping for baptisms and weddings in the parishes, gives baptism cards and small gifts and also delivers anniversary cards on behalf of our church families.

Each year Mothers' Union hosts a 'Light Party' (an alternative to Halloween). 'Baptism families' are invited and, in 2018, the Churches Together 'Merry Church' team were invited to join in. This was the most successful party so far.

**Another popular Mothers' Union initiative is the 'Travelling Crib' and bag of 'Christmas' story books which travel to local playgroup, nursery, Primary Schools and homes throughout Advent.**



True to stereotype, the Mothers' Union members also supply refreshments throughout the year!

Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday provide an opportunity to publicise and raise the awareness of the Mothers' Union's worldwide work as well as raising funds for Mothers Union projects.

The branch also serves coffee and Hot Cross Buns in Holy Ascension church on Good Friday after the Churches Together travelling Passion Play.

# Membership of Churches Together in Settle and District

All three of our churches are members of Churches Together in Settle and District, which also includes some of our neighbouring Anglican Churches, as well as the Methodist, Roman Catholic and Pentecostal churches in Settle, and the Settle Society of Friends (Quakers).

***The biggest event of the year, organised by Churches Together, is the 'travelling' Passion Play, "Journey to the Cross", on Good Friday morning, with its four scenes taking place at different venues in Settle, including the dramatic trial scene in the Market Place, and finishing at Holy Ascension Church.***

In addition to the Passion Play and a Sunrise service on Easter morning, we come together for joint services and activities to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Christian Aid Week, the World Day of Prayer, and One World Week. A social 'Barn Dance' is also a regular annual event.

CTISAD also has a Justice and Peace Group which meets monthly throughout the year. Representatives from all the member churches meet together about four times a year.

The member churches all co-ordinate their publicity materials for Christmas and Easter, helping to give a unified Christian message to the community

A small group meets together every month, in Holy Ascension Church, to pray for the activities of Churches Together and its member churches.

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION IN 4 PARTS

## JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

THE MEANING OF GOOD FRIDAY



FRIDAY 30 March, 2018

10.30 *The Last Supper* St. John's Methodist Church  
10.50 *Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane* Millennium Garden  
11.10 *The trial of Jesus* Market Place  
11.40 *The death of Jesus* Parish Church grounds



followed by tea/coffee  
and hot cross buns  
at Settle Parish Church

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

## Our New Priest

*The qualities and skills we should like to see in our new Priest-in-Charge*

- Prayerfulness, vision and leadership to develop the mission of the Church in our three parishes.
- A sound knowledge of Christian theology and a strong focus on preaching the gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The ability to engage with congregations in teaching, preaching and prayer.
- Enthusiasm to connect with people of all ages and to support and encourage them in their Christian journey.
- A willingness to embrace a range of worship patterns and, if necessary, to initiate change in a sensitive manner.
- To increase the awareness of the role of the Church in the community by being a visible presence and engaging actively with people.
- To interact positively with the Christian communities in the area and work with the other local clergy.
- To be active in taking forward the work already being done with children, including the successful toddler groups and After School Club. To grow the relationship with schools and develop work with young people.
- To be aware of and approach positively the challenges of rural ministry.
- To be a strong leader, well organised, able to listen sympathetically and to delegate when necessary.



# The Vicarage



Settle Vicarage is a well-proportioned modern house, about 50 years old, in an elevated location on Townhead Way, just a short walk from Holy Ascension Parish Church and from the centre of Settle.



With open views across the valley towards Giggleswick, the vicarage overlooks Holy Ascension church and the Settle-Carlisle Railway line and has extensive views across to Giggleswick Scar and the Forest of Bowland.

The main living accommodation consists of a Living Room, Dining Room and a good sized Kitchen/breakfast room downstairs and three double bedrooms plus one single upstairs, together with bathroom and separate WC.

The house was purpose built as a vicarage and has an integral, single storey, unit containing a study, downstairs cloakrooms and a utility room, located between the main accommodation and the attached garage.



There is a manageable garden with established shrubs and bedding plants and a small lawn area is accessible by patio doors from the dining room.

# Looking Forward

We are conscious of the changing landscape in the Anglican Church, with a range of pressures driven by changing times, technology, reductions in the number of priests and parish finances.

Our three parishes have already begun to work more closely together. We hold four joint PCC meetings per year where agenda items relevant to all can be discussed and external speakers invited to join us. We also share some office facilities and equipment at Settle.

## **Administrator**

The joint PCCs have agreed the requirement for an administrator to assist the Priest for about 10 hours per week. This post has not yet been filled, but is seen as vital in order to enable the Priest's valuable time to be used more constructively in furtherance of the Church's mission.

## **Relationship with our neighbouring Parishes**

Proposals have previously been discussed for closer working with the three parishes to the North of Settle in the upper Ribble valley: Langclilffe, Stainforth and Horton in Ribblesdale; and indeed Rev Stephen Dawson, the Priest in Charge of those parishes, is also licensed as Associate Priest for our three parishes. There have been discussions about wider teamwork with some of the other parishes to the West including Austwick and Clapham. Although these proposals are in an early stage, we believe there is a clear opportunity for Settle/Giggleswick to act as a local hub in a wider community of Anglican parishes.