

Knaresborough Team Ministry

Parish Brochure 2019



**We are seeking a team vicar, a pastor, a
colleague and a friend to join us as we
continue our journey in faith.**

The Church context

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 (Knaresborough, 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 parish of Knaresborough lies in the Harrogate Deanery within the Ripon Episcopal Area and the Archdeaconry of Richmond and Craven.

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.

Loving.
Living.
Learning.

Introduction to the Parish

The historic market town of Knaresborough, and the surrounding villages of Goldsborough, Nidd and Brearton, are proof that Yorkshire is indeed 'God's own county.' Lying within the so-called 'Golden Triangle' of Leeds, York and Harrogate, we are fortunate to be close to the open countryside of the Yorkshire Dales, but also to enjoy the benefits of close access to major road, rail and airport links. The nearby spa town of Harrogate offers many commercial, retail, and entertainment opportunities, including the internationally renowned Bettys tearooms and the nearby RHS garden at Harlow Carr.

The Knaresborough Team Ministry serves both the town of Knaresborough itself (two church buildings), and the three villages of Goldsborough (2.5 miles distant), Nidd (4 miles) and Brearton (4 miles), each of which has a church, and a strong sense of local community. Annual events in Knaresborough include the 'Bed Race' each June, FEVA (the Festival of Entertainment and Visual Arts) during August, and the Christmas Market weekend. The usual seasonal services draw the wider community into our churches to celebrate the significant times of the church's year.

A wide range of sporting activities take place locally, with many golf clubs, senior and junior football, cricket and rugby teams. Knaresborough has a heated indoor swimming pool and a theatre. There are numerous pubs, restaurants and cafes in the area. The proximity of major commercial and business centres, excellent transport links, outstanding schools for all age groups, and local healthcare are what attract people to live in the parish.

Knaresborough (population 16,000) lies 4 miles west of exit 47 of the A1(M) and 4 miles east of the spa town of Harrogate (population 75,000). Trains to Leeds (19 miles to the south) run half-hourly and take 45 minutes, trains to York (17 miles to the east) run hourly and take 35 minutes. There is also a very frequent bus service to and from Harrogate.



The **Harrogate Deanery** is at the southeastern edge of the Ripon Episcopal Area, adjacent to Leeds. thus on the county boundary between mostly urban West Yorkshire to the south, and rural North Yorkshire to the north.

The Team Vicar colleague we are seeking

- ❖ A new Team Vicar who will engage fully and positively, complementing the existing team in his/her prayerfulness, approachability and openness, and who will support and encourage the ministry of the whole church. This will be achieved by continuing to move towards **a mission focused ministry, engaging all members of our community and congregation whilst encouraging all aspects of growth.**
- ❖ A Priest who is collaborative and empowering, with the confidence to trust and support others as they develop their role in the church and wider community and would play his/her part in further developing and delivering our vision and mission.
- ❖ A good communicator - friendly, open and welcoming, able to inspire and encourage others to come to faith and grow in discipleship, and support them in their own ongoing Christian journey.
- ❖ A prayerful and enthusiastic individual who is comfortable with and supportive of all styles of Anglican worship, committed to playing his/her full part in the life of the parish, wider local community, deanery and diocese.
- ❖ The Team Vicar, like the Team Rector, will work across the whole team, not having a specific responsibility for a set geographic area, but identifying where their gifts can best support ministry and mission across all the churches.
- ❖ There will naturally be an expectation that, while they will of course manage their own time and diary, they will work closely with, and be accountable to, the Team Rector. They will commit to attending daily prayer and staff meetings and generally be part of, and active contributor to, the whole team's vision going forward.

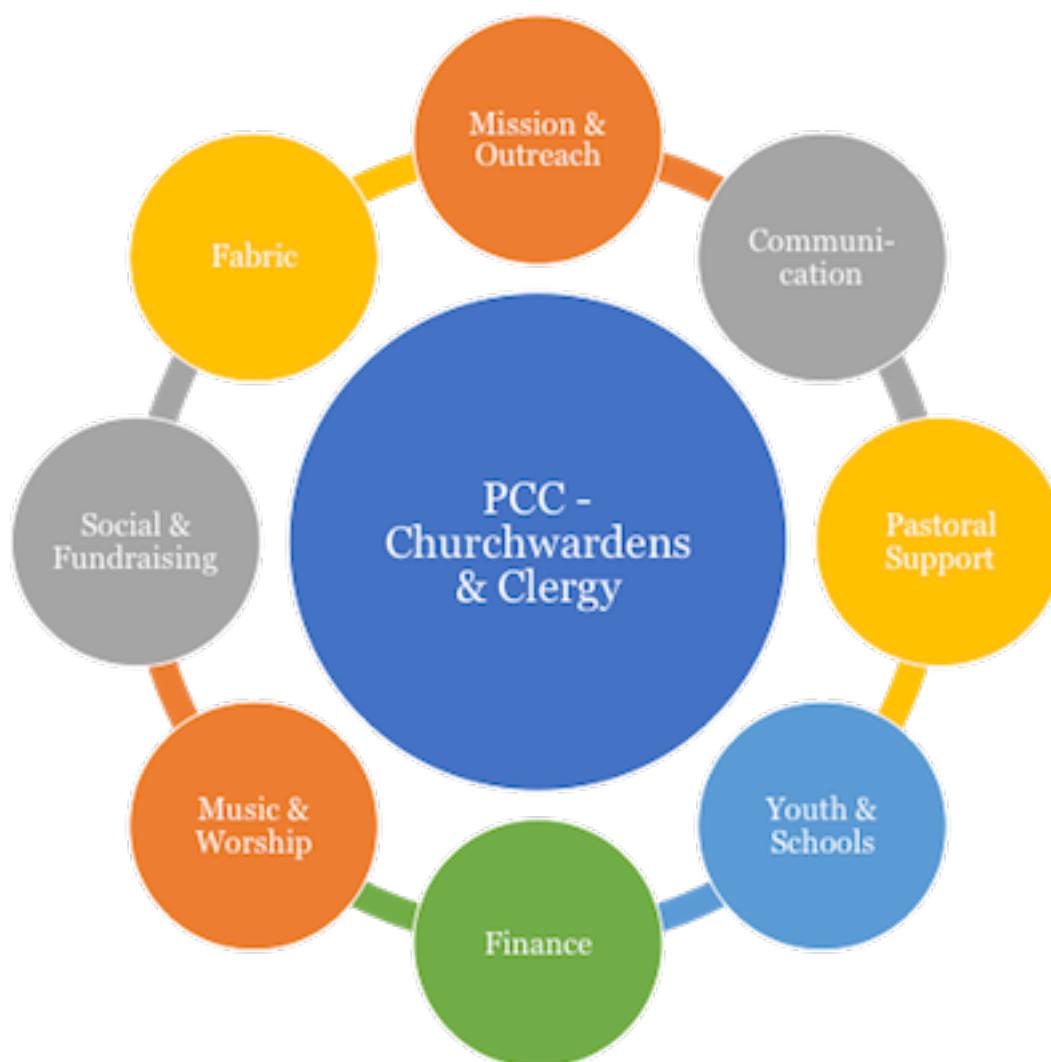


The Team

- ❖ The Knaresborough Team comprises five churches; St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity in the town of Knaresborough, St. Mary the Virgin in Goldsborough, St. Paul and St. Margaret in Nidd and St. John the Baptist in Brearton. It is therefore essential that the Team Vicar has ready access to their own means of transport.
- ❖ Our team is generally in reasonable financial health, but we are struggling with increased Share expectations from the Diocese.
- ❖ Our churches lie at the heart of their respective communities. Each has its own distinct identity, which contributes to the strength of the team. We believe that God loves variety, and that the different experiences of worship each church provides brings colour and life to our community. At the same time there is a common thread of Christian service which binds us together with our commitment to collaboration, co-operation and mutual assistance.
- ❖ There are regular Sunday Schools at St. Mary's, Goldsborough, and both St. John's and Holy Trinity in Knaresborough, as well as very good and enthusiastic choirs in all of those churches.
- ❖ The Team is normally served by two stipendiary priests who are the Team Rector and Team Vicar and it has regularly had a stipendiary curate (vacant at this time). There is also a possibility of reintroduction of a House for Duty

Priest working across the benefice. The stipendiary clergy are supported by a team of Readers and by retired clergy.

- ❖ Lay ministry is encouraged and developing, and we naturally welcome the ordained ministry of both men and women.
- ❖ There is a single PCC for the whole parish with representatives from each of the churches. Due to recent pastoral reorganisation we are exploring how we can communicate and work more effectively as a team. Each church has its own churchwardens. There are strong and well-established teams of servers, sides-persons, and volunteers in each of the churches.
- ❖ The diagram below shows the new governance structure from 2019.



Ministry

- ❖ Services are held every week in four of our churches (Brearton is the exception). The schedule of services for a typical month is attached as Appendix 1.
- ❖ Team services include: a 'Fifth Sunday' combined benefice eucharist followed by a shared lunch, Confirmation, Service of Light for bereaved families, Holocaust Memorial Day Evensong, and Week of prayer for Christian unity, to name but a few. Likewise, there are occasional Taize-style worship and Wholeness and Healing services. We work closely with each other but also exercise a positive and exciting ministry within our own specific church areas.
- ❖ We have a newly formed 'Pastoral Visiting Team', which is an exciting development and supports the pastoral ministry of the church.
- ❖ Occasional offices, of which there are many, are shared between the clergy. There is also a desire and opportunity for developing strong lay ministry within these areas.
- ❖ There are a range of Bible study and prayer groups, often lay-led, held regularly within the parish.
- ❖ There is an active Mothers Union branch, a 'Parish Ladies' fellowship group and two toddlers groups (St.John's and Holy Trinity).



Community Links

- ❖ The Christian community in Knaresborough and surrounding villages is substantial and there is an active 'Churches/Christians Together' with members from Methodist, United Reformed, Roman Catholic, Anglican and Quaker traditions. A heart for ecumenism is essential.

Christians Together run a number of events including an Easter Club, a 'Light Party' for school-aged children in November, and the staging of a nativity play in the Market Square on Christmas Eve. Teams made up from church members also have competed in the Bed Race.

- ❖ There are two CofE primary schools (Knaresborough and Goldsborough) and numerous community primary schools, a high school (King James), and a school catering for pupils aged between 5 and 16 with learning difficulties. All of the schools in Knaresborough are rated by Ofsted as either 'good' or 'outstanding'. Good links have been established with all the schools. Our dynamic ministry in schools includes regular Collective Worship, Worship Clubs, and Sanctuary Weeks. This task is shared with our ecumenical colleagues.



KNARESBOROUGH ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
We strive for excellence

- ❖ Our other links within the local community include, Care Homes, Civic Services and work with Henshaws (Yorkshire) Arts and Crafts Centre in Knaresborough. We also house and help run the Knaresborough Foodbank.
- ❖ *Accord*, our monthly parish magazine, is distributed to homes, shops, schools and businesses in the area.
- ❖ We also have a team website (www.knaresboroughanglicanteam.org.uk) and a Facebook Page which are both regularly visited.



Hopes and Aspirations

Our team strengths:

- ❖ Shared Christian values, approachability and sense of common purpose.
- ❖ Differing forms of worship across the four churches which meet a range of spiritual needs, and which contribute to the witness of the team as a whole.
- ❖ The clergy team who have brought a diverse culture of experience to the ministry in the parish.
- ❖ Commitment, generosity and welcoming attitudes, coupled with excellent fellowship and fundraising on behalf of the church for charities and projects.
- ❖ We have strong links with the local community that have been further enhanced by the development of closer relations with local schools and care homes. Many of our church members are volunteers in the wider community.
- ❖ There is a large volunteer force, who co-operate across a range of tasks that are essential to the upkeep and maintenance of our churches.

Our team weaknesses:

- ❖ We need to improve greatly the levels of communication and cohesion between our churches so as to make the team ministry an effective reality.
- ❖ We have only small numbers in each of our Sunday schools and this is an area with great potential for development
- ❖ We need to work much harder at engaging with the wider community of people who do not normally attend church.

Our Vision and Mission

- ❖ To seek and serve God in the community, and to help and encourage people on their journey of faith, whatever their age, background or circumstances.
- ❖ To reach out to families, children, and young people, helping them to connect their stories with God's story.
- ❖ To broaden the range of services and teaching to provide more opportunities for people to engage in worship.
- ❖ To develop creative relationships with the various community activities associated with our churches.
- ❖ To build upon the relationships made through baptisms, confirmations, marriages and funerals.
- ❖ To further develop the opportunities enabled by recent upgrading of our facilities.



What we offer in return

- ❖ A friendly and welcoming 'home' in all five Churches to our new Team Vicar.
- ❖ Well-established congregations
- ❖ A team of volunteers committed to the service of Christ and our churches.
- ❖ Administrative support across the team (a part-time parish administrator, based at St John's, works three days a week)
- ❖ An established ministry team who are respected and valued across the parish as a whole.
- ❖ Our support, both practical and in prayer, in building upon the solid foundations that are already in place, and to do everything that we can to assist and support the new Team Vicar in taking our Churches forward and to secure their long-term future.
- ❖ A good modern detached four-bedroom vicarage in the northern part of Knaresborough, is available for the Team Vicar.
- ❖ A wonderful place in which to live and to serve God!





More detail on the five churches and their congregations

St John the Baptist, Brearton

Built in 1836, St. John's is a small and intimate Grade II listed building with a capacity of just 70, at the heart of a small rural community. The village population is about 150. Although the regular congregation is small numerically, there is great support for church maintenance and fund-raising across the village. At present, six services a year are held here (four eucharists, a Harvest Festival, and a Christmas Carol Service). It is hoped that Imaginative 'special' services and activities will encourage increased attendance and participation in church life.



St Mary the Virgin, Goldsborough

The area served by St Mary the Virgin, Goldsborough appears agricultural, but is in fact a dormitory area for people working as far afield as Middlesborough, Leeds and York, due to the proximity of the A1(M) and the A59. There is also a high proportion of retirees. There are at present 220 houses in Goldsborough, but planning permission has been granted for 450+ more within the parish boundary. There are 40 properties in Flaxby, but long standing discussions are in place for a very large development of 2,700 houses there.

St Mary's is the oldest building in the village, dating from 1150. It is grade 1 listed, and contains three monuments of national importance. These are two crusader tombs, with effigies of Sir Richard de Goldsborough, father and son, and the Byerley Memorial, a sculpture by Joseph Wilton, a founder member of the Royal Academy in 1769. There is a ring of three bells, the oldest from 1380 and two cousins from 1407. The Organ is also listed as of historic interest.



Families from the villages of Coneythorpe and Clareton worship at the church as do others from Knaresborough and Harrogate. We are also pleased to welcome guests who are staying at Goldsborough Hall. Very many visitors have commented on the warm and friendly atmosphere of the Church,. The village primary school is closely linked with St Mary's, and uses the Church for special services at Easter, Harvest, Christmas and End of Term. The beauty and atmosphere of the church, and its idyllic surroundings have made it an increasingly popular venue for weddings.

Holy Trinity, Knaresborough

Our 166 feet tall spire, the highest structure in the town, is a landmark visible to motorists driving into Knaresborough from every direction. But the Victorian Grade II listed building, consecrated in 1856, is set back from the street, and despite its size is quite hard to find. Holy Trinity has interesting mural paintings and is home to some very fine examples of stained glass, including a work of the noted York glazier Harry Stammers and a beautiful William Morris window.

Today, Holy Trinity is home to a friendly congregation whose members worship God weekly in the Eucharist, and who also seek to serve our community as 'living stones', building on the foundations of generations of faithful pilgrims who have found a spiritual home here. The building provides a 'sacred space' for us to connect with God, wherever we may be in our faith and life. Our church has excellent acoustics, and is sought after for musical events, including the annual "Come and Sing" Nidderdale Messiah".

The spire of our church, added by public subscription in 1864, and recently restored, now houses mobile telephone transmitters, which provide a valuable source of income.



St Paul and St Margaret, Nidd

Nidd is a village with a population of about 175. The church is located in the grounds of Nidd Hall, a country house rebuilt in 1825, which is now a four-star hotel. The regular congregation is very small but is usually joined by up to two dozen hotel guests.

Each year the church runs a series of seven weekly carol services from November to Christmas. These are largely for the benefit of Nidd Hall Hotel guests on three-day festive breaks, and result in near-capacity congregations each week. Some guests return year after year to comment on the AV readings and traditional nature of the service

Our church is one of the few in the diocese which uses the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) almost exclusively. The pattern of worship is simple: always 10.30 am, Holy Communion 2nd and 4th Sundays, all others - Mattins. For Mattins we sing the canticles to familiar chants plus four hymns. For Communion we just sing four hymns. We have a two manual pipe organ in excellent condition. All singing, good and not so good, is much appreciated.



St. John the Baptist, Knaresborough

Perched above the Nidd Gorge, St John's looks out to the town of Knaresborough and its ruined castle. Simon Jenkins gives it three stars in his 'England's Thousand Best Churches'. People have worshipped on this site for some thousand years. The present building was initiated in the late twelfth century, but it has been rebuilt, much modified and adapted to suit evolving needs over the years. It has fine mediaeval features and impressive monuments and tombs of the local Slingsby family. Last year we were delighted to commission and consecrate a modern oak altar in the nave and a striking frontal for the high altar.

Above all, St John's is a focal point for Anglican worship in the centre of the town. We welcome locals and visitors to a full range of regular services as well as special civic ceremonies and events reaching out to the whole community.

The church hall - the Hub - has been completely refurbished to provide an attractive and popular venue for a wide range of social and spiritual activities. Its terrace has one of the finest views in Knaresborough overlooking the famous railway viaduct, castle and river gorge where tea and cakes are served in the summer.



Typical Month	St John's	Holy Trinity	Goldsborough	Nidd
First Sunday	8am – Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am – Holy Communion	10.45am – Sung Eucharist	9am – Holy Communion (BCP)	10.30am – BCP Mattins
Wed	11am - HC (BCP)	10am - HC (BCP)		
Second Sunday	8am – Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am – Second Sunday Service Baptisms	10.45am – Sung Eucharist	9am – Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School	10.30am – BCP Holy Communion
Wed	11am - HC (BCP)	10am - HC (BCP)		
Third Sunday	8am – Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am – Choral Eucharist	10.45am – Sung Eucharist (Sunday School)	9am – Holy Communion	10.30am – BCP Mattins
Wed	11am - HC (BCP)	10am - HC (BCP)		
Fourth Sunday	8am – Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am – Holy Communion 4pm – Choral Evensong	10.45am – Sung Eucharist	9am – Holy Communion	10.30am – BCP Holy Communion
Wed	11am - HC (BCP)	10am HC (BCP)		
Fifth Sunday	8am – Holy Communion (BCP)		10.30am – 5th Sunday Holy Communion for whole Benefice <i>Followed by Faith Lunch</i>	10.30am – BCP Mattins