

St Luke's Church
Eccleshill, Bradford,
West Yorkshire

Parish Brochure



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds

Bishop's Statement

Our vision in the Diocese of Leeds is about confident clergy equipping confident Christians to live and tell the good news of Jesus Christ. In appointing to every post, we seek people who have a joyful and confident faith which has inspired a track record of church growth, both numerically and spiritually.



St Luke's Eccleshill is a large urban parish in north-east Bradford with six primary schools including St Luke's Church of England(VC) and a growing population through new housing development. With dedicated people who have chosen St Luke's Church for their place of worship for many years, we endeavour to welcome everybody who comes through the doors of the Church. Not only will you walk into a beautiful building you will be welcomed into a warm and friendly atmosphere. Although we are without a vicar the congregation are supportive of new ideas.

The Parish of Eccleshill has recently become vacant after a ministry of 22 years from the previous incumbent. Often, after lengthy periods of continuous ministry from a previous vicar, a congregation may have searching questions – some new, some long-standing – that must be addressed, such as how much of the whole parish is being reached with the gospel, how to build greater financial strength and whether to continue as a standalone parish.

The answers to these questions usually require considerable change which needs to be carefully managed. That is why, following the appropriate and necessary consultations locally and within the Diocese, the right of presentation of a new incumbent has been suspended at Eccleshill and an interim ministry appointment is being progressed for an initial period of three years. This will allow the space and time to focus on these and other questions and to carefully manage such change as is needed.

Among other opportunities for ministry, the church faces two challenges: engaging with people moving into the newly built homes as well as those already living in the large social housing estate of Ravenscliffe and of Fagley. New build and social housing estates are ministry contexts common to other parishes in north-east Bradford, particularly Greengates, Thorpe edge, Idle and Wrose, for which we are seeking new clergy to come and serve.

To support addressing these challenges, Strategic Development Funding from the Church Commissioners is being provided into the area through Holy Trinity Idle as a Resourcing Church.

From the perspective of the Episcopal Area, we see five specific tasks for the Interim Ministry beyond the normal demands of parish ministry:

1. To develop and implement a plan to engage with people living in the less well-reached social housing, especially Ravenscliffe estate, as well as Fagley.

2. To develop and implement a plan for mission amongst the people living and moving into the new housing developments in the parish.
3. To work ever more closely with clergy, PCCs and church congregations in north-east Bradford in taking forward the two above two tasks, and to explore possible structural changes, including pastoral re-organisation, which might support this better.
4. To determine whether the parish's finances can be built up sufficiently to sustain the deployment of a full-time vicar in future.
5. To strengthen relationships with the rest of the Outer Bradford Deanery, as well as the wider Episcopal Area and Diocese.

We envisage ministry across north-east Bradford as combining both a proper focus on the needs of an individual parish, as well as both offering and receiving particular skills to and from neighbouring parishes. Within the overall objectives of the Interim Ministry, therefore, we see the overarching responsibility of the new Interim Priest-in-Charge as:

1. To provide clear and enabling leadership at St Luke's, which will foster growth numerically as well as spiritually and in service to the local community.
2. To take the lead in Eccleshill, and more widely across the parishes of north-east Bradford, in pioneering new mission work planting and developing appropriate forms of worship and church which meet at accessible times and places **either** among people moving into new housing developments or on less well-reached social housing estates.
3. To work co-operatively with clergy and other colleagues across north-east Bradford, sharing good practice in leadership agreed in 2. above, and welcoming insights and expertise from colleagues who can contribute pioneering leadership for the other possible focus for new mission work.

In common with all our interim Ministry appointments, a monitoring process will be put in place, involving a quarterly meeting with the Archdeacon and a review point at the end of two years at the latest. This will enable a decision to be taken as to whether the arrangement should be extended, made permanent or the appointment reviewed and changed.

This will allow the decision to be implemented during the third year of the interim post. The criteria for the review would be based on the five tasks listed above.

The Deanery of Outer Bradford is comprised of parishes like Eccleshill, many of whom are experimenting with mixing new approaches to worship and mission alongside inherited patterns.

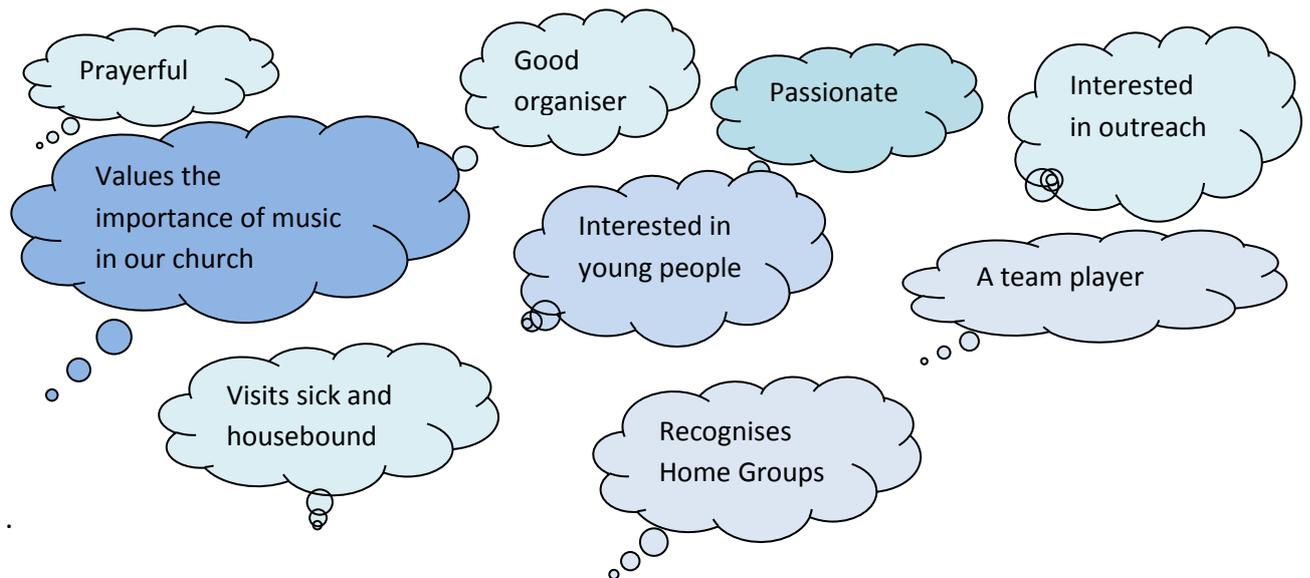
The new interim Priest-in-Charge will therefore find a group of creative and supportive colleagues in the Deanery chapter, all of whom will be deeply familiar with the joys and challenges that each other faces. The new post holder will therefore be expected to work with a spirit of generosity in sharing wisdom and insights about ministry within the Deanery of Outer Bradford and across the Episcopal Area.

+Toby Bradford - 1 June 2023

Our New Priest

We need a passionate, enthusiastic person who is a good communicator with new ideas to encourage our Mission and growth and assist our congregation through life's difficulties. We would welcome guidance to help us become more Spiritually active so better enabled to work within the community and with other parishes.

The congregation has been involved in deciding which qualities and skills they would like to see in a new priest:



We acknowledge that no priest would have all the above qualities so, the congregation as a whole feel what we need most is someone who can help our church to grow, not just in numbers but in faith and one who values the importance of team ministry.

About us

We are fortunate enough to have a very proactive team of worship leaders, two of whom are Licensed Lay Ministers, one of whom has Permission to Officiate. We also have two more trained Lay Worship Leaders. All play an active part in leading, teaching, intercessions, and planning worship for each service, including our lively Family Worship Service once a month. Therefore, we would welcome applicants who value lay ministers and their ministries as an integral part of our church and its growth.

Since going into a period of interregnum 9 months ago, we have not stopped. With support from the Diocese, we have continued to hold our weekly services, with input from Bishop Toby, the Archdeacon, visiting priests and our LLM's. We have also welcomed working alongside other churches nearby for times of prayer and social activities. Holy Trinity church Idle, a Resourcing Church very close to us has been very supportive with advice on various occasions.

There has been a warm welcome by the congregation for all who have preached and led our services and our attendance has not only remained consistent but also has begun to increase on certain services.

Bradford is a city of small villages and Bradford North/East is no different. The churches seeking support in our area are close to one another, though we are seeking someone for St Lukes Church first and foremost.

We are a prayerful church and believe that our prayers will be answered. A positive approach is something we try as a church to embed in all we do even in these challenging times. With God's strength, love, our prayers, and our faith, we are sure, that if you are reading our prospectus, you will want to come and find out more. You will receive a warm welcome from us all at St Lukes Church, Eccleshill.

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. We hope to see you soon.
God Bless



Our Music group and choir at a Coffee Morning to support Ukraine

Our Church

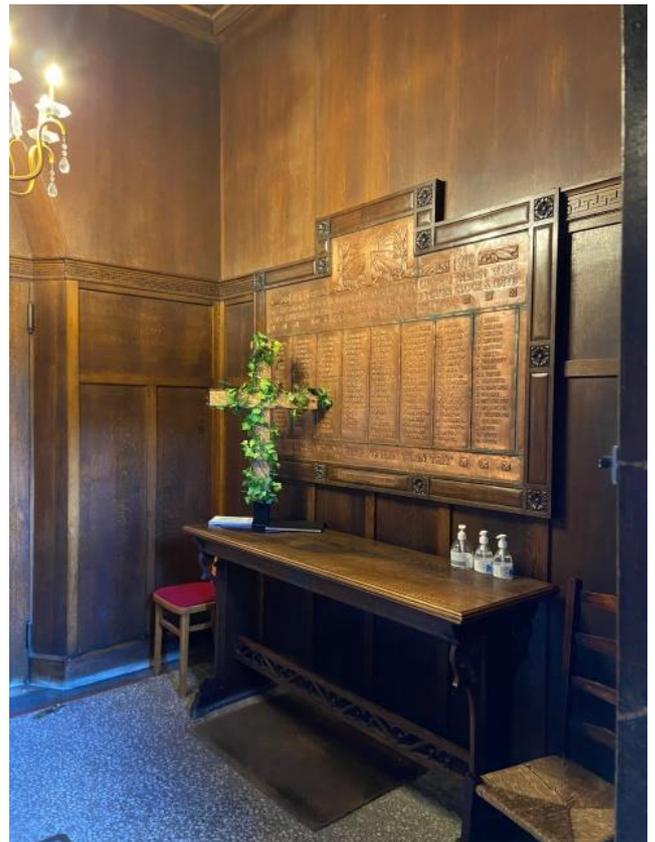


St Luke's Church Eccleshill is sited on busy Harrogate Road (A658) leading out of Bradford and now marks it's, junction with the A6176 at a prominent position.

The Church building was built at the instigation of Dr William Scoresby, vicar of Bradford 1839 – 47. It is built in the Perpendicular or Gothic Style of the 14th century. The present East Window was inserted in 1874 as a memorial to George Stott Stanhope.

In 1919 a brass memorial plaque was installed in the then baptistery under the Tower to commemorate the fallen of the Great War, and in 1945 a Lych Gate was built in the Church yard to commemorate the fallen of the 2nd World War. There are three War Memorial graves in our churchyard.

Every year we have a remembrance service on the Eccleshill recreation ground. This service has been supported by St Luke's congregation and it was originally initiated by us.



Our Area

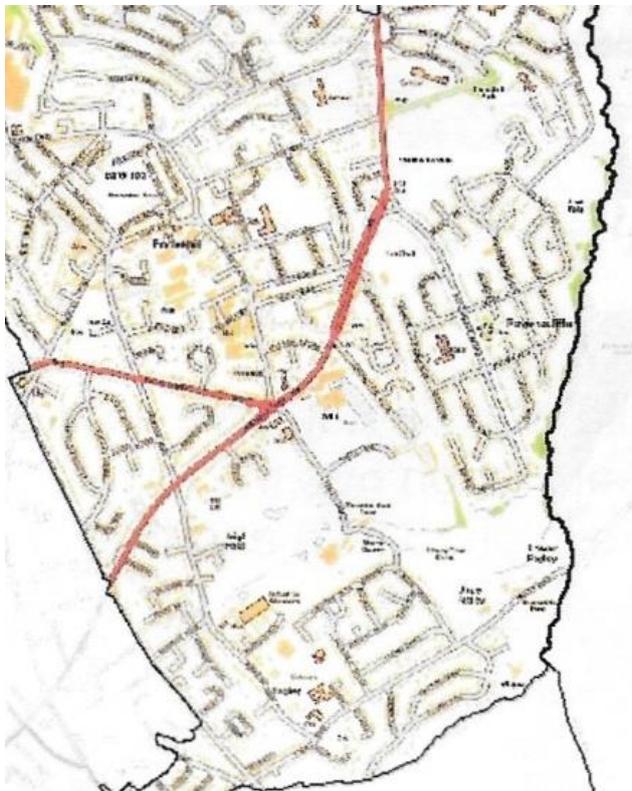
Eccleshill, Idle, Wrose, Thackley, Greengates and Undercliffe fall in the Diocese of Leeds.

The Leeds Liverpool Canal is close by and pleasant to walk along, especially in summer when the canal boats are passing, possibly heading to the “Five Rise Locks” at Bingley.

Apperley Bridge Marina, Fagley Woods, Bradford Industrial Museum, Yeadon Tarn, Shipley Glen, Saltaire and Otley Chevin are on the doorstep.

And, if that isn't enough, we are close to The Yorkshire Dales.

Our Parish



Eccleshill is a predominately residential area with a population of around 19,600. 57% of homes in Eccleshill are semi-detached houses and they surround the village of Eccleshill with its Victorian properties. 22.8% are terraced homes, 13.1% are flats and 6.4% are detached. We have two Council Estates, Ravenscliffe Estate and Fagley Estate with varying degrees of deprivation.

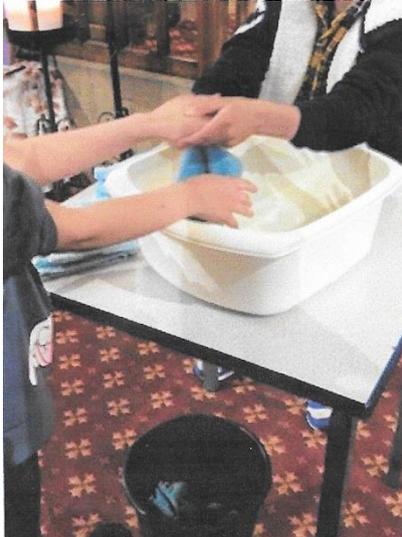
There is a local Library and a Mechanic's Institute. The Institute supports the community by serving lunches and social events throughout the year. Apperley Bridge railway station, Kent's Gym, and major supermarkets are in the vicinity with coffee shops and restaurants.

Our Parish Community

Our Sunday service is at 10am

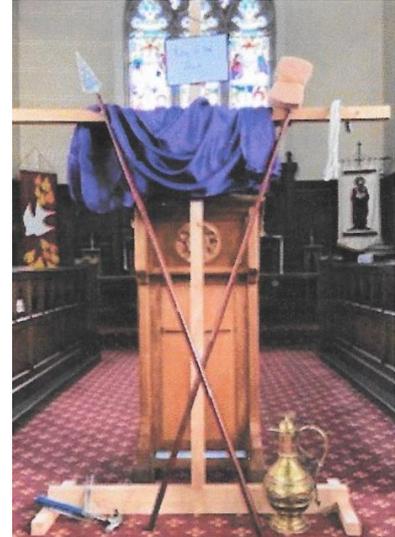
Family Worship is on the first Sunday in the month. This is a three-part service with a Zone time in the middle so the congregation can choose activities for themselves.

We have Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sunday and Morning Prayer on the third. The third Sunday is also kept for Baptisms and Thanksgiving services within the normal service. So far this year we have had three baptisms and one Thanksgiving and Blessing service.



For the first time this year we added a Maundy Thursday meal with bible readings and hymns before our usual hand washing and communion.

For the first time our Good Friday service this year was "Dressing the Cross"

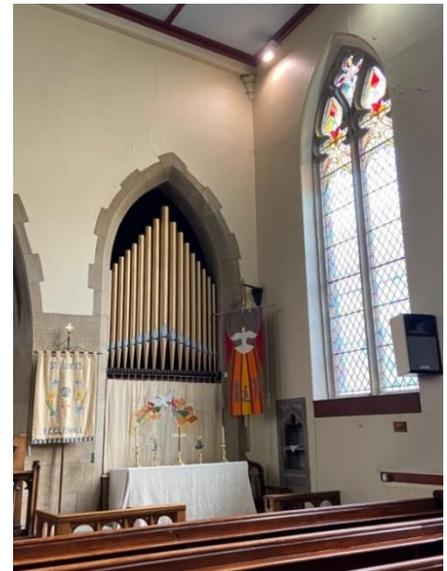


Holy Communion is regularly delivered to housebound parishioners and a local Care Home. We have one committed "Home Group" and an active "Prayer Chain". The children of St Luke's Primary School attend a service in church on a Tuesday morning taken by the Headteacher and the Licensed Lay Minister alternatively.

We are a traditional church (Cassock, Surplice, Stole) for Morning Prayer and Holy Communion. Our Choir is robed. For Family Service we are more informal.

Our church is furnished with original wooden pews and has two beautiful stained-glass windows. Also, we are extremely fortunate to have our own organist and choir. Our piped organ is the envy of many. Our Church Bell is tolled every Sunday.

Our wayside pulpit is easily seen from the cars and buses that are frequently passing by.



The Congregation

Since the start of the new year, we now have some new families with children attending weekly. Recent enquiries for baptism have made a difference to the numbers at most services. The electoral roll numbers 80.

Church Activities

The Mother's Union meets on the first Monday in the month and has been strong for 50 plus years with a guest speaker each month. Annual outings and meals are also arranged.



Our friendship Group meets every Tuesday afternoon and Choir Practice is held on Wednesday afternoons. Warm Spaces took place between October 2022 and March 2023.



The Social Committee organises Afternoon teas, Pamper, evenings, Jumble and Tabletop sales, Beetle drives, Felting and Craft demonstrations, Shopping trips and a Christmas Tree Festival.

Our monthly coffee mornings, Tabletop Sales, Seasonal Fairs and Jumble Sales are well supported by the local community. We also have an Autumn Fair, and we give everyone a warm welcome.



Getting ready for the Christmas fayre

Christmas lights on the Church Tower to herald our Christmas Services



Finance

We have been pleased to pay the Church share in full for several years until Covid. We also have a planned giving scheme with envelopes or standing order.

Roof Fund

We are currently fundraising for a new roof. Some areas have already been replaced but the main body is in dire need. Currently we have raised around £94K and hope to continue with the fundraising to start work as soon as possible. We are currently in the process of beginning to apply for grants.

Foodbank



St Luke's Church supports and hosts the Bradford North Foodbank, under the umbrella of the Trussel Trust. The Foodbank was launched in January 2015, and it has opened every Thursday morning giving food parcels and signposting local people in crisis to other places where they can find help. We also have a 200 club for people to regularly give money to the Foodbank monthly.

St Luke's Church of England Primary School

The school is next door to the church and is a one form entry. The children come into church on a regular basis for a service but also to have a conducted tours of the building. The school also holds their Harvest, Christmas, Easter, and end of year services in church. We also incorporate a blessing service into the end of year service especially for the year 6 children. This year the staff and one of the Licensed Lay Ministers have planned a Creative Prayer club in church for years 3 to 6 after school starting in November. One member of the congregation serves on the Governing Body.

School Basement

The Basement below the school is owned by St Luke's Church and this area is rented out to YACAD. (Yorkshire Academy of Creative Arts and Dance) YACAD Academy acts as a resource for socially/disadvantaged communities by providing activities and promoting positivity for children and young adults 25 years and under and has now made more links with church through our Family Worship. Vitality, a branch of YACAD, is an exercise club for senior citizens promoting their health and fitness.

Terms of Appointment and Accommodation

This is a full time 3-year Interim Incumbent status post under Common Tenure. Provision of the house includes water rates and Council Tax. All expenses are paid. Removal costs and a resettlement grant are available.

The appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the DBS.

There are six weeks holiday per annum plus Bank Holidays (or time in lieu) pro rata

Participation in an annual Ministerial Development Review and in-service training is required and an annual retreat is strongly encouraged

Is God calling you to this post?

To arrange a visit or conversation, contact:

Archdeacon of Bradford, Ven Dr Andy Jolley, andy.jolley@leeds.anglican.org , 01274 405720; 07973 458403 or Carmel Dylak: carmel.dylak@leeds.anglican.org (0113 353 0290)

Parish Representatives: Carol Beardmore, carol4ian@hotmail.com, 07776 150900

Closing Date: Midnight **on Sunday 19th November 2023**

Interviews will be held on **Friday 1st December** followed by a further meeting with the Diocesan Bishop prior to a final offer of the post.

The Vicarage

The Vicarage stands behind the Church on Fagley Lane. It is a large detached four bedroomed house with garden and garage.

Website: www.stlukeschurchbradford.co.uk

Facebook: St Lukes CofE Church Eccleshill



The Diocese of Leeds

The Diocese of Leeds was formed at Easter 2014. It is one of the largest dioceses in the country covering an area of around 2425 square miles and a population of around 2642400 people. The diocese comprises five Episcopal areas, each served by a suffragan Bishop. Each Episcopal Area is coterminous with an Archdeaconry.

The Diocesan Vision is 'confident Christians, growing churches, transforming communities and so helping share the Good News of Jesus Christ across our Diocese'. This Vision is embedded into the Diocesan Strategy and Goals.



Our goals

- ① Thriving as a distinctive diocese whose culture is shaped by a shared vision and values
- ② Re-Imagining ministry
- ③ Nurturing lay discipleship
- ④ Building leadership pathways
- ⑤ Growing young people as Christians

The Diocese is a mix of urban and rural. The area includes the major cities of Bradford, Leeds and Wakefield; the large industrial and post-industrial towns of Halifax, Huddersfield and Dewsbury; the market towns of Harrogate, Skipton, Ripon, Richmond and Wetherby; and the deeply rural area of the Yorkshire Dales.

The Diocese is unique in having three cathedrals; Bradford, Ripon, and Wakefield. The Deans of the Cathedrals work together to provide key diocesan services.