



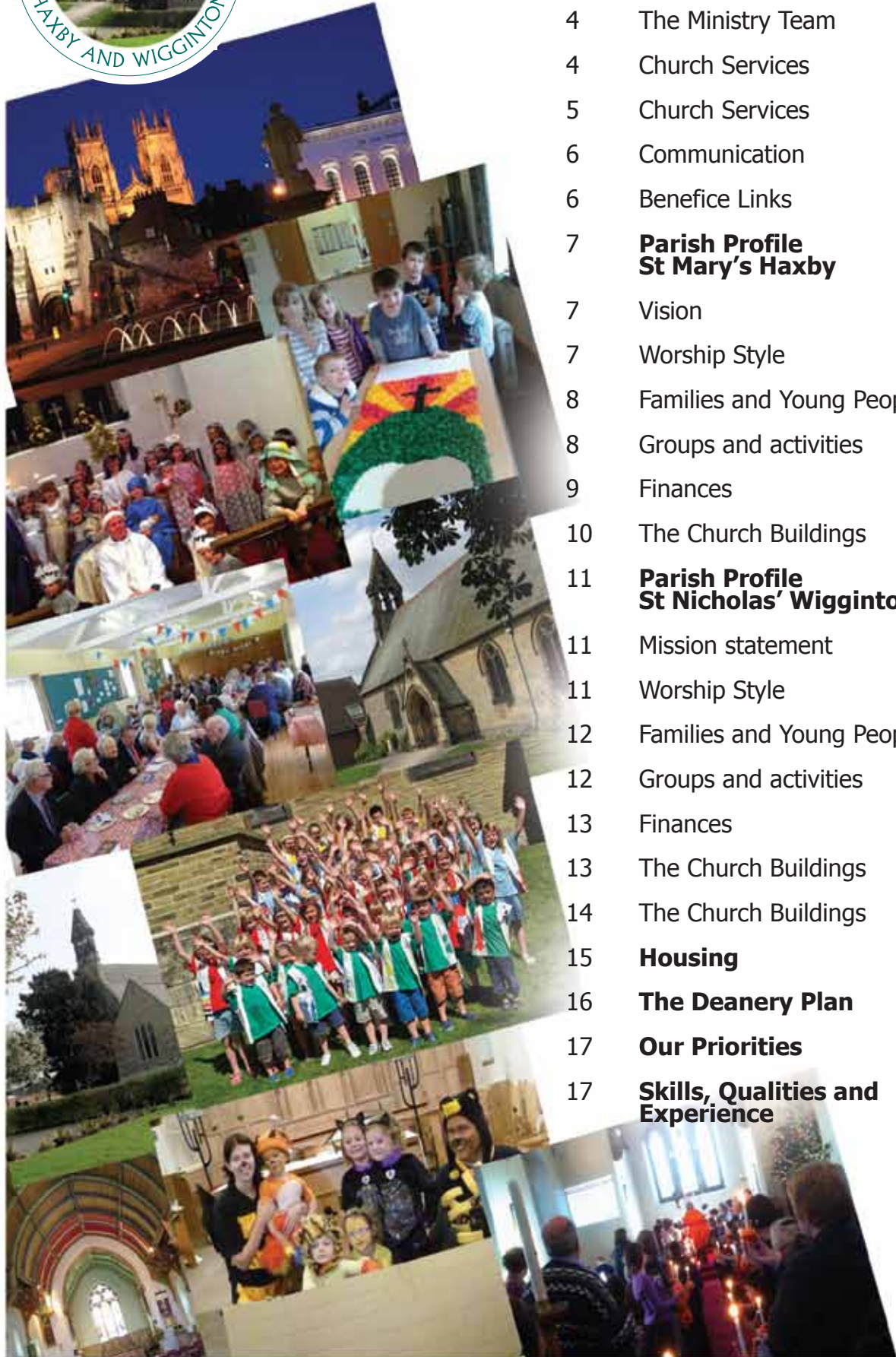
PARISH PROFILE

St.Mary's Church, Haxby, York

St.Nicholas' Church, Wigginton, York



Contents



2	Our Location Haxby and Wigginton
3	The United Benefice of Haxby And Wigginton
4	The Ministry Team
4	Church Services
5	Church Services
6	Communication
6	Benefice Links
7	Parish Profile St Mary's Haxby
7	Vision
7	Worship Style
8	Families and Young People
8	Groups and activities
9	Finances
10	The Church Buildings
11	Parish Profile St Nicholas' Wigginton
11	Mission statement
11	Worship Style
12	Families and Young People
12	Groups and activities
13	Finances
13	The Church Buildings
14	The Church Buildings
15	Housing
16	The Deanery Plan
17	Our Priorities
17	Skills, Qualities and Experience

Our Location - Haxby and Wigginton



Haxby and Wigginton are situated 4 miles to the north of the centre of York, just north of the outer ring road. Originally two separate villages, large scale residential development in the late 20th century has blurred the boundary between the two, although Haxby Town Council and Wigginton Parish Council are still separate entities.

Haxby and Wigginton benefit from easy access to York, with excellent bus links, and are on the edge of lovely countryside. A five-minute walk from Haxby & Wigginton brings you into open countryside and the area is surrounded by green belt, which has been strongly enforced by the local council. However, development is ongoing.

Haxby and Wigginton are pleasant villages, well maintained with excellent facilities. The area is attractive to families and older people. Crime rates are well below the national average. There is a wide range of local shops and other amenities.

The joint population of Haxby & Wigginton at the 2011 Census was 12,038 based on 5,270 residences, 88% of them owned outright or with a mortgage or loan. There was 66.2% employment, in a wide range of commercial and service industries, and 2% unemployment. 33% of the population was aged 60 or over, with 23% of households comprising people who were widowed or the surviving partner of a civil partnership. There were 194 lone parent households and 1,315 households where one person has long-term health problems or disability. The population was 96.5% White British and 69.7% Christian (a drop from 82% in 2001). After a period of growth, our population is now static.

There are four Christian places of worship within Haxby & Wigginton: our own Benefice churches, Haxby & Wigginton Methodist Church and Margaret Clitherow Roman Catholic Church.

Within the Benefice, there are 5 care and nursing homes and 6 sheltered housing complexes, both private and social housing association.

There are no church schools within the Benefice. However, there are three good primary schools:

- Ralph Butterfield School, Station Road, Haxby.
- Headlands School, Oak Tree Lane, Haxby.
- Wigginton Primary School, Westfield Lane, Wigginton.

There is a range of nursery and pre-school provision and a choice of good, accessible secondary and tertiary education, including Joseph Rowntree School in nearby New Earswick, Huntington School and Easingwold School, all with sixth forms, and York College for post-16 education. Further information on schools and colleges can be found at: http://www.york.gov.uk/education/Schools_and_colleges

There are a variety of activities on offer for children and young people and a number of clubs and societies for adults.

The Parish Electoral Rolls, updated in April 2013, stand at 145 for St.Mary's, Haxby and 138 for St.Nicholas', Wigginton. Of these, the annual returns for 2012 (taken over 4 Sundays in October) showed 92 regular Sunday attendees at St.Mary's, Haxby and 72 at St.Nicholas', Wigginton. Our congregations are ageing with very few young families and a small, but growing, number of young children. Work with families and young people is a priority area.

More information on our Benefice is available on our website: <http://www.haxby-wigginton-benefice.org.uk>

The United Benefice of Haxby and Wigginton



The United Benefice of Haxby & Wigginton was created in 2008 under a pastoral reorganisation. Previous to this it had operated as a team ministry. The two parishes operate their own PCCs and are financially independent. A Benefice Council is in place which aims to increase communication and co-operation between the two churches and to consider issues of mission. It has no executive powers and operates as a "think tank".

The Benefice Council has drawn up a list of priority areas and has been working on an action plan to address these. This has unfortunately been on hold since the Rector's absence. The areas identified as priorities across the Benefice were:

- Worship
- Growing
- Equipping
- Witness
- Prayer
- Caring
- Enthusiasm

Benefice Men's Breakfast ▶



There are a number of groups operating across the Benefice, including the Mothers' Union, the Healing Team, World Church Concerns Group and Men's Breakfast.

Both churches hold social events, various fundraising coffee mornings and concerts. PCC Away Days have been held in the past. There are Benefice Lent study groups each year and in some years there have been study groups in Advent as well.

The Ministry Team

Within this training benefice both Church communities recognise the importance of involving as many people as possible in the worship and activities of the church. Lay involvement is encouraged whether it is in reading, leading the intercessions, the ministry of communion, serving at the altar, singing in the choir or being part of the pastoral team.

Our current team provides us with a diversity of skills and traditions.

- **Rector** vacant
- **Curate** vacant
- **Associate Priest SSM**
- **Active retired clergy**
- **Readers x 4** and one Reader in training
- **Eucharistic Ministers**
- **Pastoral Visitors**
- **Administrators x 2**

Our Associate Priest SSM, Father Paul works as a paramedic for the ambulance service and brings boundless energy and enthusiasm to his work for the Benefice. At present, we maintain an open policy in response to requests for baptisms, weddings or funerals.

Church Services

Regular services are currently held three times on a Sunday at Haxby and twice at Wigginton. There is a strong Eucharistic tradition and we have recently adopted a Benefice policy on Communion before Confirmation. During the last two years there have been four confirmation candidates.

In addition, other varied forms of worship are also used including regular non-Eucharistic Sunday morning services at Wigginton and regular healing services at both churches. Worship Groups have been established at both churches to oversee worship. Children's activities are held during the 10.15 Sunday service at Haxby and the 9.30 am Sunday service at Wigginton and both of these services are followed by coffee in the church halls.

Two Benefice Bereavement Services are held in Spring and Autumn and the range of additional services includes popular Christmas Crib Services for children, Christingles and Carol Services, a Civic Remembrance Service and services each day during Holy Week.

St.Mary's,Haxby - Regular Services		
Sunday	8.00 am	Quiet Communion - traditional BCP
Sunday	10.15 am	Family Eucharist with children's activities. Incorporates Healing once every 2 months
Sunday	6.30 pm	Evensong - generally traditional BCP with occasional variations. Healing service once every 2 months.
Wednesday	10.00 am	Eucharist

St.Nicholas',Wigginton - Regular Services

Sunday	9.30 am	Parish Eucharist on 2nd & 4th Sundays, 1st Sunday All Age and Morning Worship on 3rd Sunday (both non communion) with Sunday School 'Bright Sparks' for children on all but 1st Sunday.
Sunday	11.15 am	Traditional Spoken Eucharist
Tuesday	10.00 am	Tots & Toddlers Service
Thursday	10.30 am	Eucharist - followed by Prayer Group
Thursday	7.00 pm	Come Pray with Me - reflective service on 3rd Thursday of month
Saturday	10.00 am	Healing Eucharist - 2nd Saturday of month

Churches Together in Haxby & Wigginton

'In recent times the Catholic, Anglican and Methodist ministers have enjoyed meeting up for lunch together for mutual support and holding together the pastoral concerns for Haxby and Wigginton. There are a number of activities whereby the three churches collaborate, for example, a monthly newspaper, Christian Aid Week, the



Haxby Carnival, an Advent event, Good Friday service of witness and a quarterly united Sunday evening service. There is a recognition that each church has its own character and tradition but there is a growing realisation of what might be achieved by working more closely together in focused ways.'

Rev. Philip Turner, Methodist Minister

◀ **Drama during Good Friday's Service of Witness March 2013**

Average Attendance at Sunday Services - Jan-Nov 2012

Sunday 8.00 am (H)	16
Sunday 9.30 am (W)	45
Sunday 10.15 (H)	87
Sunday 11.15 am (W)	22
Sunday 6.30 pm (H)	22

Attendance at Regular Weekday Services - October 2012

Tuesday 10.00 am (W)	Tots & Toddlers Service	10 adults + 9 children
Wednesday 10.00 am (H)	Eucharist	29
Thursday 10.30 am (W)	Eucharist	11
Thursday 7.00 pm (W)	Come Pray with Me	5
Saturday 10.00 am (W)	Healing Eucharist	15

The Benefice has a strong commitment to the **Healing Ministry** with regular services incorporating the Laying on of Hands and a team of dedicated participants from both Haxby and Wigginton churches. Both churches provide Communion to the Care Homes and housebound, administered by the clergy and lay people. The numbers of baptisms, marriages and funerals conducted in 2012 is given below:

2012	Haxby	Wigginton
Baptisms	31	18
Marriages	12	5
Funerals	26 (plus 14 crematorium only)	7 (plus 2 crematorium only)

Communication

We use a variety of methods of communicating with members and the public:

Weekly Pew Sheets

Both churches produce a weekly sheet incorporating information on services, readings for the week and notices.

The Benefice Website

(www.haxby-wigginton-benefice.org.uk) has been running for several years. The website is intended to be used by members of the churches, those who wish to stay in touch with life in the Benefice and residents and visitors looking to find out more about us. The website is hosted by Church Edit and we have our own website editor. Information is updated regularly.

"Outlook"

This is a monthly free ecumenical newspaper circulated throughout Haxby & Wigginton. The paper is supported by advertising by local businesses and provides details of all the local church services and a Christian editorial message. It is a financial success and regularly donates excess profits to local charitable groups and organisations.

"Talkabout"

This is St Mary's in house free newsletter. Started in 2004, it provides information, updates, articles and announcements for the congregation.

Benefice Links

The Haxby & Wigginton World Concerns Group exists to promote congregational engagement with issues beyond the parish boundaries. We foster our links with a number of Christian organisations, running events and offering prayers.

Hull Youth for Christ www.hullyfc.co.uk, reaching out to young people in the deprived Boulevard area of Hull. We have an active link, with regular visits. St Mary's supports their work with an annual Harvest appeal.

Christian Aid www.christianaid.org.uk. We hold an annual ecumenical service, coffee morning and street collection.

Us (previously USPG) www.weareus.org.uk. We collect regularly through Lent boxes and have speakers visit to talk about their work.

The Children's Society www.childrenssociety.org.uk. We hold two coffee mornings, run Christingle services and have collection boxes.

The current Rector is a governor of Wigginton Primary School and one of our retired clergy is a governor at Headlands. Regular visits are made to local schools and nurseries and they use our churches for educational visits, services and concerts.

Parish Profile: St.Mary's, Haxby



Vision

St.Mary's Vision is:

- To reach out, both within our church family and the local community, in a collaborative manner.
 - To encourage and enhance Christian worship, fellowship and pastoral work in our parish.
-
- To actively work towards emphasising young people's involvement (as the church of the future) to continue success in the long-term life of St.Mary's.
 - To work towards greater communication and co-operation between churches in Haxby & Wigginton: especially developing a relationship with St.Nicholas' Wigginton.

We also developed our '**Message for the Future**':

St.Mary's Congregation believes that the way forward involves greater integration with the local community; especially young adults (15-30 age group). The longevity of the church requires sustaining with new thoughts, ideas and expressions.

By opening Christianity to more modern cultural concepts and reflecting the needs of the 21st century society, we hope to explore these issues during the forthcoming years.

Our Vision was written some years ago now and although it still remains current, discussion is needed about how to turn words into action.

Worship Style

The worship at St.Mary's follows a regular pattern, with a strong emphasis on Eucharistic services. For our more formal services we have a server team and clergy are robed, including chasuble. For more informal services arrangements are more flexible.

A large number of lay people are involved in supporting worship, including sacristy staff, vergers staff, reading the lesson and leading intercessions, making coffee after services, stewards and sidespersons, MC's, crucifers and acolytes, brass cleaning and flower arranging.



St.Mary's uses a wide range of musical sources – two modern Eucharist settings, traditional hymns (Ancient & Modern) and contemporary worship songs (Mission Praise), plus responsorial psalms.

Occasional Iona and Taizé services vary the diet.

St.Mary's has a Director of Music and a small, extremely dedicated choir who enjoy leading the worship in a blend of these traditional and more contemporary styles, both at the

Sunday morning Eucharist, and, quite unusually in York nowadays, at Evensong each week. The church also boasts a superb acoustic, and a most attractive organ which enhances our regular worship, as well as weddings and funerals.

Jacqui Edwards, Director of Music

Families and Young People

The children's work at St.Mary's comes in a variety of forms from work with the local schools through assemblies to a regular Sunday morning children's group entitled '**Stars on Sunday**'. 'Stars' happens every Sunday and caters for all children from the very tiny to teenagers. We teach themes and stories through craft, fun and laughter... with an emphasis on fun! Our numbers average

6 children but have increased to 12 at times.

The Christmas period brings Christingle and the Christmas Eve Crib service. This has recently become a nativity play with the church being full to the rafters and many of the children from the local community being dressed up or even arriving dressed in animal, shepherd, king and angel costumes! We look forward to developing our children's work further and we are dedicated to being an open and welcoming part of the church.

Rebecca Butler, Children's Work Co-ordinator



The children lead a Noah's Ark service

A recent venture, "**Cadence**", introduced contemporary worship, with a strong emphasis on the use of visual aids, on a Sunday evening at 8 p.m. The target group was young people and a small group of teenagers and young adults helped to develop and lead the worship. The leader of this group is currently training as a lay reader and it is hoped to revive it once his study is completed later this year.

Groups and Activities



St Mary's Autumn Fair 2012

St.Mary's has a wide range of active groups, including:

- Pastoral Support Team
- Charities Group
- The Choir
- Events Committee
- Fabric Committee
- Churchyard Group
- Worship Group
- Finance Group
- Prayer and Bible Study Groups

Our **Pastoral Support Team** provide a systematic and confidential support network run under a lay co-ordinator. Helpers provide a welcome and support for newcomers and visit those members of the congregation identified as "in need" e.g. recently discharged from hospital or bereaved.

St.Mary's is a **Fairtrade** Church and holds occasional events such as Fairtrade stalls and breakfasts, working in co-operation with Fairerworld, our local suppliers.

2013 is the 150th Anniversary of Haxby Parish and a range of special events are being held. There is a website specific to this at www.haxby150.co.uk

Further information on all our groups can be found in the Annual Reports of both churches, available on our Benefice website.



St.Mary's Autumn Fair 2012



Recent Parish Walk

Finances

In the accounts to the year ending 31st December 2012 the total incoming resources for the year amounted to £127,464, whilst total resources used were £146,643. The deficit of £19,179 reduces our reserves.

Planned giving increased to £57,654 compared to £54,001 last year and tax recovery followed by increasing to £12,381 compared to £12,034 the previous year. The contribution to the Diocese has continued to increase to £67,624 but a small reduction is planned for 2013 to £67,068. We have been committed to a policy of tithing but have had, with reluctance, to temporarily suspend this until our accounts come back in to balance.

The new Sound System was completed in April 2012 costing £13,110. Overall the PCC are very aware that we must be more prudent with our spending unless we can improve our income. Our Annual Stewardship Appeal asked all givers to reconsider their giving as part of this drive.

At present we employ people to carry out some Administration duties, Church Cleaning duties and Church Hall Booking & Caretaking duties and they are paid through PAYE. Our Charity Registration number is 1133727 where more information is available (www.charity-commission.gov.uk).

James Fenton, Treasurer

Note: the 2012 Financial Accounts of both churches can be found on our website

The Church Buildings



St Mary's Church



The church candlelit for the annual service of Nine lessons and Carols

Situated in the centre of The Village, St Mary's Church was built in 1878 and extended in 1911.

Major re-ordering of the church took place during the 1980's & 1990's to designs by Ron Sims. This has resulted in a light, colourful interior which is much praised by congregation and visitors. The church is in good order and was congratulated by the Archdeacon on its 2012 quinquennial inspection.

We have an active Fabric Group which oversees regular maintenance work. Recent major work has included the rewiring of the church and the installation of a modern sound system. We have made good progress on the quinquennial action plan and no major items are outstanding.

There is a closed churchyard, which is well maintained by City of York Council and local volunteers.

The church is open during weekdays and is used regularly by people for prayer or quiet meditation. Our visitor book pays testimony to the building's feeling of peace and light.



St Mary's Church Hall in use for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in 2012

St Mary's Church Hall was originally opened as a school in 1854. Today, the Church Hall continues to flourish as a viable concern. Apart from the church users, it is a regular venue for a number of local organisations and activities.

The management of the Hall is vested in the P.C.C, but financially the Hall is run entirely independently. The building is in an excellent state of repair following an extensive internal "make-over" in 2004.

Parish Profile: St.Nicholas', Wigginton



Mission Statement

The PCC has recently adopted the following Mission Statement to give purpose and direction to our faith and activities: -

We believe that we as a Church are called by God to be a welcoming and prayerful fellowship, filled with and led by the Holy Spirit.

We will seek to: -

- Worship, glorify and serve God at all times;
- Proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and own Him as Lord;
- Welcome all with love and compassion.

We commit ourselves to: -

- Call everyone to develop and use God's gifts in working together for Him;
- Live and work for God's Kingdom, justice and peace;
- Work closely with our sister Church at Haxby and other local churches.

The next step is to review our Mission Statement in the light of the Diocese's current initiative "Generous Churches Making and Nurturing Disciples", involving the whole Church Family in developing our priorities for Mission.

(<http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/diocesan-info/generous-churches>)

Worship Style

The parish has a faithful and committed Church Family. Common Worship Order One Modern Language format is used at the Sunday 9.30am Parish Eucharist, at which Ancient & Modern – New Standard and Mission Praise hymn books are used.

We also use IT in some services, where this is more appropriate. Lay people are involved in preparing and leading the 1st Sunday All Age service and 3rd Sunday Morning Worship (non-Communion) service which allows us to explore a theme in a deeper way, using different styles of presentation.

We are fortunate to have a regular Organist and a church member who also plays. We do not have a choir at St.Nicholas' Church, although a group of singers may come together for special occasions.



First Sunday Christingle service

Families and Young People

As well as our regular services aimed at Families and Young People (**1st Sunday All Age**, Tuesday morning **Tots and Toddlers** service and Sunday morning **'Bright Sparks'** group for Primary School-aged children), we provide a **Good Friday workshop** which is well-attended, and for the last 12 years we have provided a very successful 3-day **Holiday Club** in August, for up to 50 children which ends with a barbecue celebration for all the families



Holiday Club 2012

For the last 2 years, following the increasing success of our **Youth Club**, which takes place fortnightly on Friday evenings, activities have also been offered to them during Holiday Club and the interest is enormous. Visits to a range of venues such as Marrick Priory Outdoor Centre are arranged and this year we are looking forward to the 'Big Night Out' Christian Rock Concert at Lightwater Valley theme park.



Christmas Crib service 2012

Our Easter Day, Christingle, Carol and Crib services are significant parts of our church's life and witness in our community. These services are always full and they are an important part of our contact with some families on the periphery of church life.

Following the acceptance of our Benefice Policy on Communion before Confirmation which involved much careful thought on how to approach and nurture parents, our small group of 'Bright Sparks' children

attended a series of preparation evenings during 2012 and they now take Communion. Our preparations for this brought into sharp focus the need for some very basic Christian teaching for many parents and this will be addressed when the Benefice offers an opportunity for a future course.

At present, we do not offer an 'Inquirers' Course' for people new to the church, although we do offer a warm welcome to families.

Groups and Activities

In addition to the Benefice groups mentioned earlier, the following specific groups operate at St.Nicholas:

- Pastoral Care Team
- Prayer Group
- Seasonal study groups
(normally led by the Rector and/or Readers)
- Church Belles
- Mustard Seeds
- Book Club
- Events / Social Committee
- Fabric Group



'Scruffs' Dog Show 2012

Book Club , Church Belles and Mustard Seeds explained!

In 2008, at St. Nicholas, we started a **Book and Cake Club**, for those ladies who not only enjoy reading, but also like eating cake.

The group reads widely and meetings are always more interesting when differing views are expressed!

Church Belles was started to keep in touch, socially, with those mums who had come to our First Sunday Service but, because of the range of activities for children on a Sunday morning, no longer came. We meet in the church hall for an evening every other month.

Mustard Seeds is relatively new and came from Church Belles, as a low-key faith discussion group, in a house situation. Our starting –point was to recognise that however much, or little, faith we had, it could grow.

These groups welcome members from St.Mary's.



Our many and varied social events, such as **Scruffs Dog Show, Race Nights, York's Charity Market** and **Christmas Fayres** are often planned as outreach to the local community and are always well-supported.

Finances

In the accounts to the year ended 31 December 2012 the total incoming resources amounted to £70,833 whilst total resources used were £72,398. The overspend is due to the cost of major Fabric repairs, which has reduced our carry-forward balance to £14,797.

We have always paid our Parish Share in full, as well as other expenses involved in the running of the church and related activities.

Planned giving as part of the income was £29,914 which was slightly up on the previous year. Fundraising (£4,484 net) remains an important part of our income, as do Tax Refunds (£8,246). When necessary, we also raise money by applying for grants and through Gift Days and Special Appeals.

Our tithed charitable giving amounted to £5,280 to various UK and Overseas charities and missionary societies.

The 2013 Budget is expected to be lower than 2012 at around £65,000. Our 2013 Parish Share is £36,472 and in 2014 we move from the Parish Share financial approach to that of 'Freewill Offering' as part of the Diocesan initiative 'Generous Churches Making and Nurturing Disciples'.



The Church Buildings

The church is a much loved, small, simple yet attractive and well-maintained Victorian building holding about 100 people seated (but held over 200 adults and children packed in at the recent Christmas Eve Crib Service!). The current structure dates from 1860, although there has been a church on the site since Saxon times.

Always seemingly short of money, in 1995 the church family took a great leap in faith in deciding to build an adjoining church hall, kitchen and toilets and this has proved to be a valuable asset.

This required the provision of ramped access to the hall foyer, which meant that the church then became wheelchair-accessible for the first time.

The hall is well-used by a number of community groups such as The WEA, Yoga, Knit and Natter. It also has an upstairs room used as a devotional/meeting area and a quiet area for the Youth Group.



The Church Hall

We have a bar licence for social events. The cooker has been replaced recently and is suited to larger-scale catering.

There is a churchyard (closed for burials), a Garden of Rest (burial of ashes allowed) and a large car park.

During the last eight years we have extensively modernised and upgraded our church by removing the pews and replacing them with wooden chairs. This allows the church space to be used much more flexibly, to accommodate a range of worship and other activities. We also fitted a new heating system, replaced and levelled the wooden floor in the nave, rewired the electrics, fitted a new lighting system and completed other general maintenance, including extensive repairs to the exterior fabric and bellcote; and skewstone repairs/minor pointing to the hall.

We also replaced the foyer patio doors with powder-coated aluminium ones. We have addressed all the major Fabric items noted in our last Quinquennial Report in 2009 and the priority items for the next decade are likely to be repair or replacement of the slates on the North face of the roof and a new gas boiler for the hall.

In 2010 as part of our 150 years' celebration of the existing church building, we commissioned a new stained glass window which depicts Wigginton as a rural village now interwoven with modern urban life. On St. Nicholas' Day we held a special service of dedication which was led by The Archbishop of York Dr. John Sentamu.



Service of dedication of the new window to celebrate 150 years of the church building

Housing

There are two clergy houses in **Back Lane, Wigginton** and **Westfield Close, Haxby**

Both are located in pleasant residential areas, and are modern, well-maintained houses within easy walking distance of both churches, local amenities, schools and bus routes.

The **Rectory** in **Back Lane** is a four bedroom detached house with two good sized reception rooms, a large study which can accommodate small meetings of 5-6 people, a recently refurbished kitchen and utility room, cloakroom and WC, double garage and a large enclosed rear garden. On the upper floor there are four good sized bedrooms and a family bathroom. The house is close to the local primary school and within walking distance of both churches.



The Rectory at Back Lane, Wigginton

The **Curate's House** at **Westfield Close** is a detached house. On the ground floor there is a cloakroom and W.C., a dining room overlooking a rear patio area, a good size living room, kitchen and study. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and a bathroom. There is a good sized garage and pleasant, easily-maintained gardens to the front and rear of the property

The house at Westfield Close, Haxby 



Deanery Plan

In 2012 the 3rd Deanery Plan was produced by the Deanery of York which built on previous Deanery Plans. When the first Deanery Plan was written in 2005 the exercise may have been viewed as how, as a Deanery, we would deal with the reducing numbers of Stipendiary Clergy. Subsequent Deanery Plans have moved from such a narrow focus.

Our current Deanery Plan unequivocally focuses on mission and takes up the current buzz phrases we are hearing of 'Generous Giving' and 'Mutual Support' and provides a framework for these to be experienced and enjoyed.

A copy of the 2012 and previous 2009 York Deanery Plans can be found on the Diocesan Website under Diocesan Info.

<http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/diocesan-info/york-deanery-plans/>

The parishes of St.Mary Haxby and St.Nicholas Wigginton have a very important part to play within the Deanery of York.

Since becoming a United Benefice, and during the last year, the established leadership teams of the churches have demonstrated the emphasis within the Deanery Plan of partnership and working together in mission.

Through its Parish Priest the parish has also had contact with Easingwold Chapter.

Terence McDonough, Rural Dean





Our Priorities May 2013

- Outreach to the community
- Offering new forms of worship to attract newcomers to the churches
- Work with youth and young families
- Pastoral care to the Benefice
- Spiritual nurturing of the whole Church Family

Skills, Qualities and Experience

The Benefice is made up of two very different churches. We need to have our differences respected. However, we also have the potential and desire to grow together, so we need a communicative leader who will act as a catalyst to build on the positive work we are doing already.

We need an Incumbent who has the ability to challenge, teach and inspire us so that our Mission Statements and Vision are turned into action.

We seek an Incumbent who is able to move us forward spiritually, as individuals and as church families. We acknowledge that we need help to increase our impact and involvement beyond our regular church families.

We are looking for someone with compassion and a good sense of humour who is committed to outreach in the community and who can get on well with people from a variety of backgrounds and ages, from the single elderly to young families and with a particular interest in supporting, facilitating and encouraging youth work. For our part we are resilient, always willing to change and respond to new ideas.

Across the Benefice on Sundays there are lots of secular activities on offer for young children and this has had an effect on Sunday morning attendances. We would like someone with proven experience to help us nurture and keep young families within our church communities.

We recognise that lay people have talents to offer and we pray for the appointment of someone who can develop our lay ministry, e.g. the leading of non-Eucharistic services and the Reader ministry, with full involvement of our SSM; and is supportive of our Healing Ministry and Pastoral teams, especially as we have a growing number of church members who are unable to attend church regularly due to health and mobility issues.

The Benefice is currently a Training Parish for Curates and we would wish to maintain this.