ST NICHOLAS AND ST MARY'S

NOVEMBER 2026 ISSUE

Editor's email: mirrie1@sky.com

Articles for the December issue to me by 20th November 2026 please.

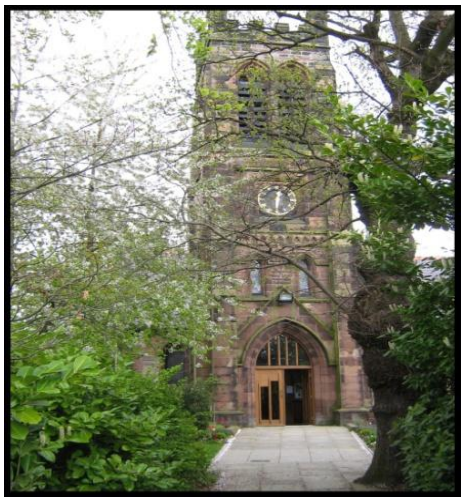
Church website www.halewoodparish.org



Please feel free to send me any articles that may be of interest to our readers.

Email address above.

Margaret



Prayer for November 2026

Dear Lord,

At this dark and dismal time, when the year is closing down and our lives get busier and the world more confusing, we can sometimes become discouraged and low in spirits.

Help us to adjust our perspective, to turn and look up, to focus afresh on You, to remember that Your name is above all names, above discouragement, above despair, above confusion.

Help us to be thankful for each day that You have made, recognising each one as a gift from You, to be treasured and lived fruitfully.

May we welcome Your powerful, healing light into our hearts and lives – Your light, which no darkness can dim. Help us to remember your words,

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Help us to follow you and walk in the light, this November and always. In your name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching.

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St Nicholas and St Mary's Ecumenical Team Ministry
PARISH OFFICE

Administrator: Jessica Forrester - Mon to Fri 9 am to 1 pm

St Nicholas Centre, 70 Church Road
Halewood Village, LIVERPOOL, L26 6LB
Telephone: 0151 487 9965
email: halewoodparish@btconnect.com

Deanery Leadership Team: (www.liverpoolsouthdeanery.org.uk)

PRIEST IN CHARGE

Phil Saltmarsh
07365279983
phil.saltmarsh@christourlight.uk

TEAM VICAR

Andrew Radford
St Hilda's Rectory
07966033648
andy.radford@christourlight.uk

TEAM VICAR

Rev Gareth Morgan
The Rectory
3 Rectory Drive
Halewood
L26 6LJ

Direct Contact:
Landline: 01518372420
Mobile: 07947318613
gareth.morgan@christourlight.uk

Friday is my normal day off

CURATE

James Hutchinson-Ferguson
07954 857058
jameshf.parish@gmail.com

ORDINAND

Helen McGuiness
07712714751
helenm.parish@gmail.com

YOUTH & COMMUNITY

Mike Sutcliffe
07867489463
mike.circuitchildren@gmail.com

Marrissa Thorpe
07955820398
marrissa.circuityouth@outlook.com

LAY READERS

Jen Radford
07966624729
parishcohhc@gmail.com

Carol Burke
07588848667
Burkie.carol@hotmail.co.uk

Adam Grey 07814727622
adam_grey@msn.com

ST NICHOLAS WARDENS

Graham Elliott
07516852066

Lesley Webb
0151 4877234/07852778839
Lawebb74.hotmail.com

ST NICHOLAS DEPUTY WARDENS

Andrew Reynolds
07776250718
andy@nadiareynolds.co.uk

Alison Shacklady
486 2415/07909652442
Alison1.shacklady@
btinternet.com

ST MARY'S

Methodist Minister/Circuit Superintendent
Rev David Goodwin
0151 309 1878
david.goodwin@methodist.org.uk

METHODIST STEWARDS

Gill Dover 07973 815190
gillian.dover@gmail.com

NOVEMBER SERVICES

Sunday 1st November	***Fourth Sunday before Advent (All Saints) (Revelation 7.9-17, Matthew 5.1-12)***
	10.30 am St Mary Morning Worship: James H-F
	11.00 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan
	6.30 pm St Nicholas Commemoration Service:
	Gareth Morgan & James H-F
	11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Phil Saltmarsh
Thursday 5th November:	9.30 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: James H-F
Sunday 8th November:	***Third Sunday before Advent (Remembrance) (Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25, Matthew 25.1-13)***
	10.30 am St Mary Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance: James H-F
	10.45 am St Nicholas Remembrance Service: Gareth Morgan
	6.30 pm St Nicholas **NO SERVICE**
	11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Andy Radford
	6.30 pm St Hilda Commemoration Service: Andy Radford
Thursday 12th November:	9.30 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Andy Radford
Sunday 15th November:	S***econd Sunday before Advent (Judges 4.1-7, Matthew 25.14-30)***
	10.30 am St Mary Morning Worship & Baptism: Gareth Morgan
	11.00 am St Nicholas Morning Worship: Andy Radford
	6.30 pm ***St Mary Full Immersion Baptism***: Gareth Morgan et al
	11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: James H-F
Thursday 19th November:	9.30 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan
Sunday 22nd November:	***Christ the King (Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24, Matthew 25.31-46)***
	10.30 am St Mary Café Church: Gareth Morgan & Helen McGuiness
	11.00 am St Nicholas: Morning Worship/Holy Communion: David Goodwin
	1.00 pm St Nicholas Baptisms: James H-F
	6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: Carol Burke
	11.00 am St Hilda Holy Communion: Andy Radford
Thursday 26th November:	9.30 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: James H-F
Sunday 29th November:	***Advent Sunday (Isaiah 64.1-9, Mark 13.24-37)***
	11.00 am ***Halewood Team Service at St Nicholas***:
	Gareth Morgan & James H-F
	6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: Adam Grey
	11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Andy & Jen Radford

Prayers - If you would like us to include someone in prayers on a Sunday morning and/or evening, there is a book at the back of each church to which you can add names. Please ask the duty warden/steward.

MINISTRY MESSAGE - ADVENT IS COMING

November is here already, where has this year gone! The leaves are falling, the evenings are getting darker, and there's a definite chill in the air. Before long, we'll be thinking about Christmas, but perhaps November is a good time to slow down a little and get ready for the season ahead.

At this time of year, we remember those who have gone before us, give thanks for the people who have shaped our faith, and take time to reflect on the things that really matter. It can be a time of mixed feelings, especially for those who are missing loved ones, but it also reminds us of the hope and comfort we find in God's promises.

And, of course, Advent is just around the corner!

It's easy to get caught up in all the preparations for Christmas – buying presents, writing cards, planning meals and making sure everything is ready. There's nothing wrong with enjoying all these things but, in the middle of the busyness, it's easy to forget what we're really preparing for.

Advent is a time of waiting and looking forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus. It gives us a chance to pause, make a little space for God and think about what his coming means for us today.

Perhaps we could use November to get into some simple habits before Advent begins. A few quiet minutes with a Bible, a short prayer at the start of the day, or taking time to thank God for the good things in our lives can make a real difference. We might also think about someone who could do with a phone call, a visit or a helping hand as the winter months approach. We don't need to do anything grand or complicated. Sometimes the smallest acts of kindness are the ones that mean the most.

John the Baptist's words in Mark's Gospel remind us to "Prepare the way for the Lord" (Mark 1:3). Perhaps that's a good thought to carry with us through November. Preparing for Jesus isn't just about getting ready for Christmas Day; it's about making room for him in our everyday lives.

So, as we journey through November and towards the end of this church year, let's not rush too quickly into Christmas. Let's enjoy the beauty of autumn, remember those we love, look out for one another and begin to prepare our hearts for Advent and the start of the new church year.

And, when Advent arrives, may we be ready to welcome it with open hearts, renewed hope and a little more peace in our busy lives.

With blessings

Gareth

Halewood
St Nicholas' & St Mary's
Christmas Services

Sunday 6th December

Toy Service/Morning Worship - 10.30am at St Mary's
Toy Service/Holy Communion - 11am at St Nicholas'
Carols @ Tarbock - 4.00pm at Tarbock Village Hall

Sunday 13th December

Morning Worship - 10.30am at St Mary's
All-age Worship/Parade - 11am at St Nicholas'
Evening Worship - 6.30pm at St Nicholas'

Sunday 20th December

Instant Nativity - 10.30am at St Mary's
Instant Nativity - 11am at St Nicholas'
Parish Carol Service - 6.30pm at St Nicholas'

Thursday 24th December

Christingle Around the Crib - 4.00pm at St Nicholas
First Communion of Christmas - 11.30pm at St Nicholas'

Friday 25th December

Family Communion - 10.00am at St Mary's

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH – CHURCH RD, L26 6LA
ST MARY'S CHURCH – HILLINGDEN AVE, L26 9TS

PARISH WALK

During the first week in October, we did our autumnal Church Walk over the water at Port Sunlight.

This historical model village was founded by William Lever (Lever Brothers) to house soap factory workers. It is beautiful and features over 900 Grade II listed buildings designed in diverse Arts and Crafts styles.



We arrived via Merseyrail at Bebington and embarked on foot in lovely weather, which was in sharp contrast to the terrible forecast.

It was a first for the walking group to both walk and do a quiz and it worked so well, creating an interesting and fun time for each team of 3. The quiz was provided by Alison Shacklady and we are really grateful.

First of all, we went through the stone archway leading to the Hillsborough Memorial Garden and then on to the wonderful central parkland, the war memorial and the Lady Lever Art Gallery, which was our first stop.



The war memorial highlights how 700 employees from Lever Brothers factory travelled to Chester on 7th Sep 1914 to enlist in the 13th Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment. The memorial was unveiled on 3rd Dec 1921 by two Lever Brothers employees: Sergeant Thomas Eames, who had been blinded at the battle of the Somme, and Private Robert Cruickshank, the only Lever Brothers employee to be awarded the Victoria Cross. In 1947 a further 118 names were added to the memorial after World War II.



We dined alfresco as we picnicked near to the Art Gallery and we still had time to view the delights inside the Gallery. Early on we met a display highlighting the wide-ranging creative output of Arts and Crafts designer and Maker, May Morris, the younger daughter of William Morris. This link provides more information on her formidable career: -

https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/lady-lever-art-gallery/exhibition/may-morris-crafting-legacy



I liked her quote in a letter to the Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw, which was made in the aftermath of her pioneering work being overshadowed by her father and other male counterparts: -

"I'm a remarkable woman – always was, though none of you seemed to think so."

I found the story behind the two statues from Greek athletic history quite interesting and sad. They depicted Creugas of Durres who fought a boxer named Damoxenos. I'll leave any further research to you, if it raises enough interest to do so.

We said hello to a lovely black cat housed on a shelf outside and then set off again to finish our 25 quiz questions, still delighted with how well the weather was treating us.

One of our last quiz targets was the frontage of the historic factory, which is also listed, and is such a delightful entrance to a workplace.

We couldn't see it, but apparently the modern, active Unilever manufacturing facilities operate right behind this historic facade.

We soon boarded the train, this time at Port Sunlight station and wandered back towards south Liverpool, having clocked about 4 miles.



Geoff

THE NEXT WALK

This month's walk is on Saturday November 21st. Meet as usual at 10.00 am at the St Nicholas Centre. Drive to Dobbies for pre walk refreshments and then on to the Festival Gardens.
From here walk through the gardens and St Michael's to Lark Lane. Then over to Sefton park for a midpoint stop.
The Christmas Artisan Market will be on in the Palm House - this has been popular with the group for the last couple of years.

Bring a drink and a snack or there will be food available at the market too.
The walk may be muddy in parts so sensible footwear is advisable.
More details from Penni on 07990953334.

Live Steaming of services on YouTube

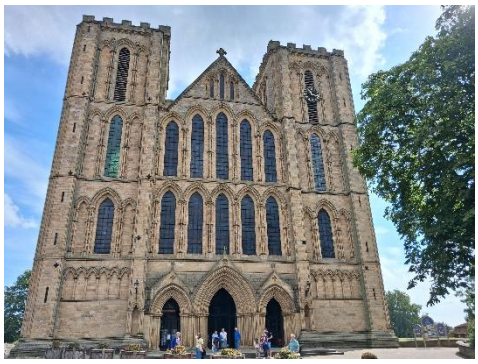
Thanks to some grant funding from Community Foundation Merseyside, we have installed cameras in St Nicholas' to enable us to live stream services on YouTube. The YouTube channel is called St Nicholas St Mary's Halewood Team and the direct link is: https://bit.ly/halewood-ecumenical

We are streaming Sunday and Thursday morning services live and it is also available for you to watch later. You may wish to make use of this if you are unable to attend church in person for any reason.

If you subscribe to our YouTube Channel (It's free) it will make it easier to access in future.

2026 PILGRIMAGE CONTINUED

Pilgrimage 2026: Day 2 Ripon Cathedral

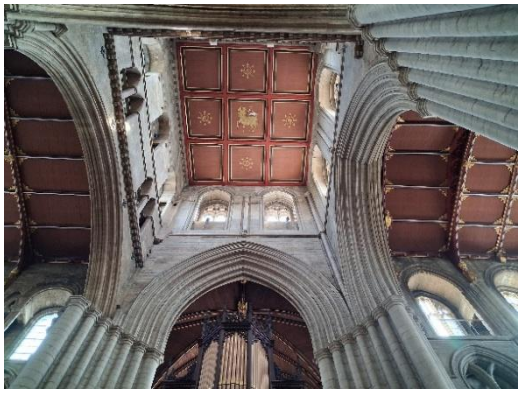


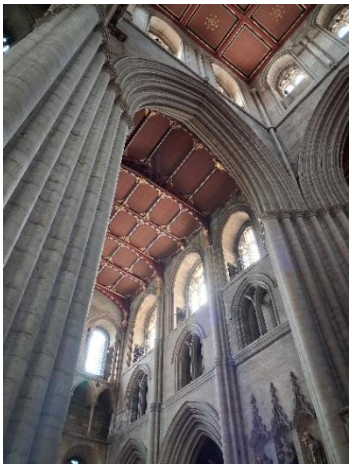
Ripon Cathedral is also known as the Church of St Peter and St Wilfrid and, until 1836 known as Ripon Minster, is based in North Yorkshire, England.

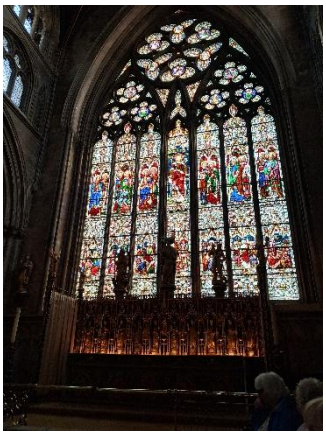
It was founded as a monastery by monks of the Irish tradition in the 660s and was re-founded as a Benedictine monastery by St Wilfrid in 672 when he brought stonemasons, plasterers and glaziers from France and Italy to build his great basilica replacing the previous timber church of the monastery with one in the Roman style.

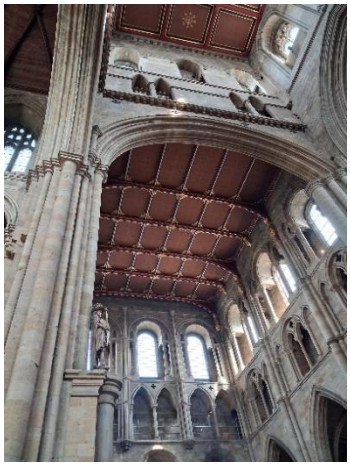


Saint Wilfrid was buried in this church near the high altar. It was devastated by the English King Eadred in AD 948 as a warning to the Archbishop of York; only the crypt of Wilfrid's church survived.









The church became collegiate in the tenth century, acting as a mother church within the large Diocese of York for the remainder of the Middle Ages. A second minster soon arose at Ripon, but it too perished – this time in 1069 at the hands of William the Conqueror. Thomas of Bayeux, first Norman Archbishop of York, then instigated the construction of a third church, traces of which were incorporated into the later chapter house.

The Early English west front was added in 1220, its twin towers originally crowned with wooden spires and lead. The rose windows were removed and the current ones added. We were told the body of the church was a market place.

The east window was built as part of a reconstruction of the choir between 1286–8 and 1330 and was described by architecture critic Pevsner as a 'splendid' example of the series of large Decorated Gothic windows constructed in Northern England. It was installed by Archbishop Roger de Pont L'Evêque, and is known as a L'Eveque window. The York L'Eveque window is based on the Ripon design.

Some Norman arches were replaced by Gothic arches…but not all, so

both exist next to each other.

Hopefully you can see the difference in shape in the arches.

The present church is the fourth and was built between the 13th and 16th centuries.

Major rebuilding had to be postponed due to the outbreak of the Wars of the Roses but resumed after the accession of Henry VII and the restoration of peace in 1485. The crossing tower was rebuilt after it collapsed in an earthquake in 1450 but was never completed. Between 1501 and 1522 the nave walls were raised higher and the aisles added.



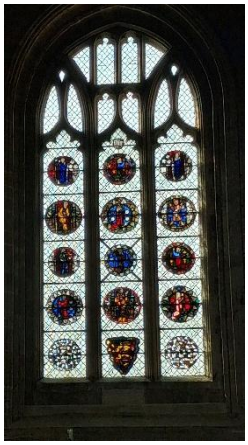
The church's thirty-four misericords were carved between 1489 and 1494. The same (Ripon) school of carvers also carved the misericords at Beverley Minster and Manchester Cathedral.



But in 1547, before this work was finished, Edward VI dissolved Ripon's college of canons. All revenues were appropriated by the Crown and the tower never received its last Perpendicular arches. It was not until 1604 that James I issued his Charter of Restoration.

A Griffin catches a rabbit while another rabbit disappears down the rabbit hole. This misericord is believed to have inspired the opening of Alice in Wonderland as Lewis Carroll's father was Cannon here from 1852 to 1868. More Alice later!

The Wild Man of the Woods (a 'wodehouse'); he is hairy, holds a club, and features in legends as a symbol of strength and fertility.



During the Civil War, much of the stained glass was smashed and some of the statues were destroyed. Not much survived the Reformation/Civil War, but broken glass was used to create circles at the bottom of one window.

In 1836 the church became the cathedral for the Diocese of Ripon. In 2014 the Diocese was incorporated into the new Diocese of Leeds, and the church became one of three co-equal cathedrals of the Bishop of Leeds.

<u>Organ</u>

The cathedral has a fine organ by Harrison and Harrison, which is a rebuild of the original Lewis instrument dating from 1878. The organ console is above the screen and has casework by Gilbert Scott. There is a second mobile console in the nave. A specification for the organ can be found on the National Pipe Organ Register. The organ last underwent a major refurbishment in 2013. These works included a thorough cleaning and repair of all pipe work. An unusual feature is a carved wooden hand, extending from the organ's casing, which can be raised and lowered using an articulated wooden lever connected to the keyboard console - it is thought to have been used to conduct the choir, after the organ was rebuilt in such a way that the organist's seat no longer afforded a view of the stalls. Unfortunately the photo has disappeared!

Bells

A ring of 12 bells with an additional 'flat sixth' bell is hung in the south-west tower. A diatonic ring of ten bells was cast in 1932, and three additional bells were installed in 2008 with two new trebles being added to give a diatonic ring of twelve, and an additional 'flat sixth' bell to give a light ring of eight.

Font



The cathedral's polished marble font dates from the late 1400s. It was made from Teesdale marble quarried at Eggleston, County Durham.

There is another much earlier font near the centre.

Clock

The 1379 Fabric Rolls of the Minster mention “le clok”. In 1453 John Ripley de Ebor was employed by Ripon Minster on the clock. In 1724, George Mills of Ripon made a new clock for Ripon Cathedral and repaired the existing chimes.

In 1891 the number of bells in the tower was increased from eight to ten, and Cambridge chimes were added to the clock tower by J. Shaw and Company of Bradford.





A new clock was installed by William Potts of Leeds in 1906. The existing dial on the west front was retained, and a new dial provided on the south side of the tower, both dials being 7 feet (2.1 m) in diameter. The clock struck the hours of the great bell and chimes Cambridge Quarters. The escapement was based on that devised by Lord Grimethorpe.



The Crypt

We were offered the opportunity to visit St Wilfrid’s crypt and were warned it was uneven, and slightly claustrophobic, but it was worth it. We were told that if crimes were committed against the church then they could ‘try’ the accused and one way of judging innocence was if the accused could fit through a small window cut through the rock. I suspect there may have been some consideration regarding the crime itself, as I think the space would have been generous for the average person in those days!

The way down to the crypt, the crypt itself, with a 12th century alabaster figure in the alcove, and the potential escape route for the innocent.

Leaving the crypt the organ and highly decorated gilded reredos (designed by Sir Ninian Comper in 1922) were visible. The figures either side of the archway into the choir stalls showed ‘church’ to the left, and ‘crown’ to the right.





The Pulpit

It's called Arts and Crafts, but it's not really, nor is it Art Deco or Art Nouveau, but it is gorgeous. Its designer – Henry Wilson, a name that deserves to be better known, was born on 12 March 1864 at 91 Red Rock Street in West Derby near Liverpool and trained as an architect at Kidderminster School of Art, Westminster School of Art, and the Royal College of Art. Then he joined the architectural office of John Oldrid Scott, the second son of Sir George Gilbert Scott, who restored Ripon Cathedral in the 1860s.

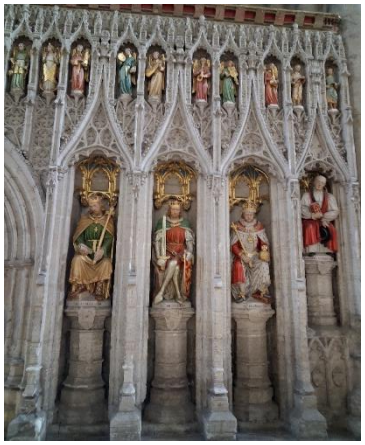




The pulpit was designed in 1913 and consists of a highly decorated copper body resting on heavily veined pale green marble columns. The hand worked tin is mounted on a wooden frame, and the figures of St Ethelred, St Chad, St Hilda and St Cuthbert were added later.







Alice's Adventures continued to feature in the story and our guide pointed out the Queen of Hearts and the Cheshire cat…a long way from ground level.

While we were in this area we were told that Gibert Scott was responsible for the roof, left hand side of the nave and the organ.



We returned to Ampleforth to enjoy the 'Ampleforth Experience' which was meant to be an escorted tour, but we looked so tired It became a talk, which was a good thing!

Then we had the excitement of Tom Beesley's birthday cake with dinner, and finished our day with the quiz.

Day 3 – Visit 1: St Gregory's



St Gregory's Minster is an Anglo-Saxon church with a rare sundial above the door. It's near Kirkdale in the Vale of Pickering and was a fairly short drive from Ampleforth. The final approach was a narrow road that did not impress our driver. We were dropped off at the end of the lane leading down to the church car park and made our way to the church for a relatively quick visit.

The minster was built about 1060 on the site of an earlier church, and is dedicated to St Gregory the Great, who was pope from 590 to 604. Major modifications were completed in the 15th century and in the 1800s. The church was restored during 1907–1909. The building is similar in style and age to that of St Hilda's Church, Ellerburn.



The church is open during the day; volunteer stewards provide information to visitors and services are offered weekly. The maintenance of the fabric of the building is helped by financial contributions from The Friends of St Gregory's Minster.

Sundial

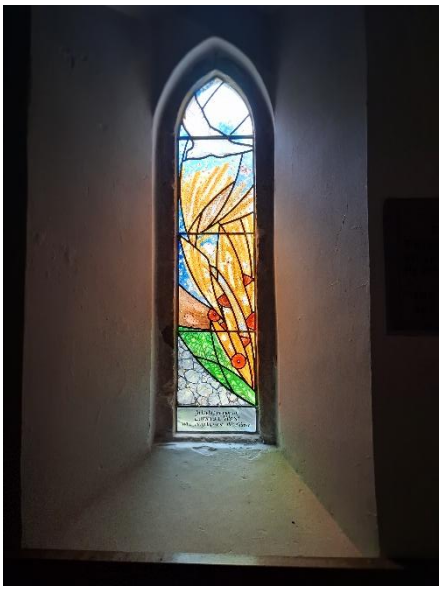


The Kirkdale sundial

The sundial above the church door dates to the 11th century (c. 1055 to 1065). The inscription is in Anglo-Saxon and is translated as follows by Historic England: "Orm Gamal's son bought St. Gregory's Minster when it was all broken down and fallen and he let it be made anew from the ground to Christ and St. Gregory, in Edward's days, the king, and in Tosti's days, the Earl. This is day's Sun marker at every tide. And Haworth me wrought and Brand, priests." The name Tosti refers to Tostig Godwinson, the Earl who rebuilt a monastery in Tynemouth Castle and Priory at Tynemouth, during the reign of Edward the Confessor, in about 1065.

Inside the church was very interesting as it was possible to see where additions and changes had been made, and where the next changes were planned.









There were Saxon coffins with intricate carvings and a lovely old font. Some carving samples were incorporated into the ‘new’ build part.

An early later extension was visible from the back of the church, soon to be more accessible if plans go ahead.

There was a lot to see in a short time…and we did sing!











BAPTISMS – OCTOBER 2026

Sunday 27th September, St Nicholas

Phoebie Goulding
Sylvie Goulding
Jack Arthur Bradford-Robertson
Theodore Eric Bradford-Robertson
Esme Jane Carroll

WEDDINGS/FUNERALS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Funerals at St Nicholas and St Mary's in September and October 2026			
St Nicholas'			
2 October	Karen Elizabeth Halpin	Age 53	Funeral
18 October	Karen Elizabeth Halpin	Age 53	Burial of ashes
St Mary's			
16 September	Service of Thanksgiving for Irene Shipsides		

DATES TO REMEMBER AND GROUPS

Next Vestry Date for Wedding and Baptism enquiries – Thursday 19th November 2026 – 7.00 - 7.45 pm at St Nicholas Centre.

Our email address for weddings is. halewoodparishweddings@gmail.com
Please use this to contact our Wedding Secretaries -

Our Baptism Secretary's email address is halewood.baptisms@yahoo.com

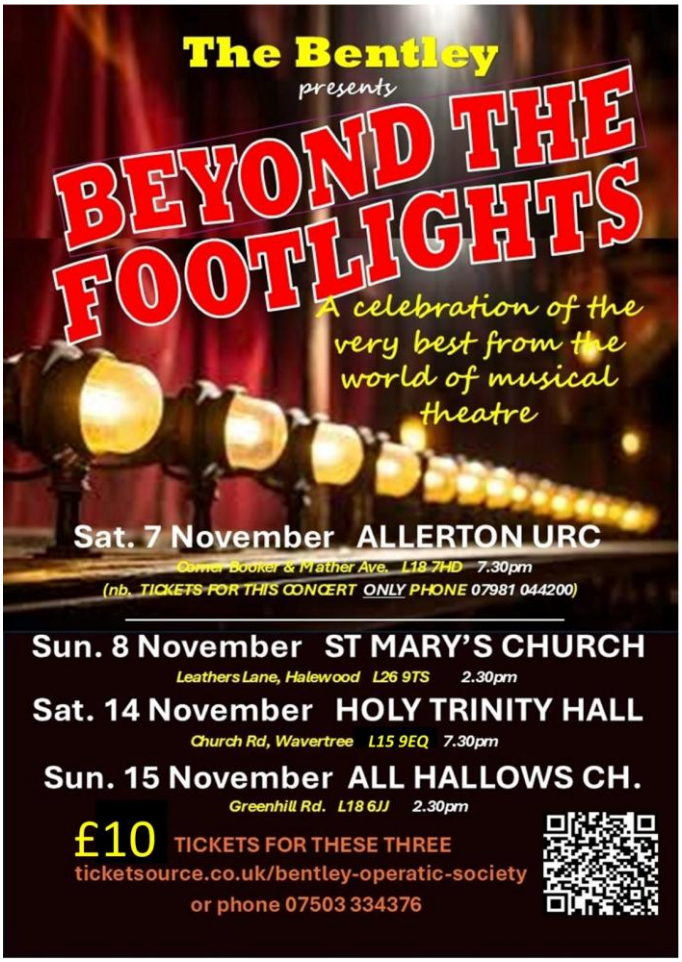


*Please note that our Grief Talk session in December will be held on **Friday 18th December**.*

The Bentley is Back- Beyond the Footlights – 8th November 2.30 pm at St Mary's

The Bentley will be presenting their autumn concert celebrating the very best from the world of Musical Theatre: with music from My Fair Lady, Irving Berlin, Nightmare before Christmas, Jersey Boys and more!

Tickets £10 - please see Alison or Kate.



CHURCH MEN'S MINISTRY: UPCOMING NOVEMBER EVENTS

Looking for great food, excellent company, and a chance to catch up with other men in our community? We have two fantastic events lined up for this November. Whether you prefer a mid-week spice night or a hearty Saturday morning breakfast, we've got you covered.

Sign up today and bring a friend along!

To help us manage restaurant reservations and catering numbers, please let us know you're coming in advance by booking through the ChurchSuite links.

🍛 Event 1: Men's Curry Night

Kick off the month with great food and a relaxed evening at one of the area's favourite dining spots. This event is aimed at working age men.

- **Date:** Tuesday, 3rd November 2026
- **Time:** 7:00 PM
- **Location:** Purple Olive Restaurant, Hunts Cross.
- **What to expect:** A selection of incredible curries and a chance to unwind mid-week with a drink and great conversation.
- **Sign Up:** https://christourlight.churchsuite.com/events/0evezzd1

Event 2: Men's Breakfast

Start your weekend the right way with a freshly cooked, hearty breakfast and brilliant fellowship. This event is aimed at all men, young or older.

- **Date:** Saturday, 28th November 2026
- **Time:** 8.00 AM
- **Location:** St Mary's Church, Hillingdon Avenue, Halewood.
- **What to expect:** A breakfast spread, unlimited tea and coffee, a relaxed morning catch-up and good fellowship.
- **Sign Up:** https://christourlight.churchsuite.com/events/xarvnu7c
-

For more information about the Men's Events you can speak to Mark Harrison (markharrison.theshark@gmail.com), Rev Gareth (Gareth.morgan@christourlight.uk) or Jason Phillips (at St Mary's). Please feel free to invite friends to these events, just make sure they sign up.

Full Immersion Baptism On Sunday 15th November we'll be holding a Full Immersion Baptism at St Mary's at 6.30 pm. If you'd like to be baptised by full immersion or reaffirm your baptism vows, please speak to Gareth or James as soon as possible.

Halewood Church Ladies Social Events - Cheese & Wine Evening

We're delighted to invite you to our next ladies' social event on **Friday 20th November 2026** at **St Mary's Church, Leathers Lane, Halewood, Liverpool L26 9TS**.

Join us for an evening of friendship, laughter, delicious cheeses and a selection of wines, with alcoholic and non-alcoholic options available.

Doors open at 6:30pm. Tickets £10 per person.



Places are limited to 50, so please reserve and pay for your place as soon as possible. Paper tickets will be issued for entry on the evening.

When buying your ticket, please let us know your wine preference, including whether you would prefer alcoholic or non-alcoholic wine, and any dietary requirements.

A change from last year: **please bring along your favourite wine glass to help you savour your wine of choice!**

For more information or to buy tickets, please contact **Tracy, Amii, Vanessa or Jane**. You can also text or WhatsApp **Tracy on 07515 759833 or co**ntact the Parish Office on Contact@christourlight.uk**.**

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Please check the details of the groups and volunteers below and let me know if any of them have changed. Thank you, Margaret.

Bible Study

Bible study meetings are held on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm at the home of Mark and Vanessa Harrison. The study runs weekly and is on the Old Testament book of Daniel, a book that will equally challenge and encourage.
All are welcome to come and see what God has to teach us through the reading of his word.
For details please contact Mark and Vanessa personally or via the parish office email : (Halewoodparish@btconnect.com)

Community Connect (formerly Warm Hub)

Join us every Thursday at 10.00 am in St Nicholas' Church for tea, coffee, juice and toast!
And every Monday 1.00 – 3.00 pm at St Mary's Church.

You will receive a warm welcome! Volunteers always needed! Please speak to James.

Elevate - Youth Club for school Years 5 - 8

Elevate is a youth club for those in Years 5 - 8 on a Sunday night from 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm in St Nic's Parish Centre. There are games and activities, real talk and faith discussions and a space to belong. For more information contact James on jameshf.parish@gmail.com or just turn up on a Sunday night. Parents will still need to attend the evening service to obtain a scan-in for schools' applications.

THRIVE — youth group for school years 9 - 13

We have a youth group for **Years 9 – 13** called **Thrive**. It's a place to hang out, have fun, and explore life and faith together. We have been running the **Youth Alpha Course** — real talk, good vibes, and plenty of snacks!

📅 **Sundays, 7:30 – 9:00pm** 📍 **St Nicks Centre, Halewood**

Please pray for this exciting group — and spread the word to any teens who might want to come along!
Contact: James – **jameshf.parish@gmail.com** | **07954 857 058**

HALEWOOD ART CLUB –

EXPERT GUIDANCE AND TUITION FROM LOCAL PROFESSIONAL ARTIST, ANTHONY SMITH. BEGINNERS WELCOME! WEDNESDAYS 1.00 – 3.00 pm, Environment Centre, Okell Drive - BOOKING ESSENTIAL - £5

PLEASE CONTACT RANGER TONY on 07717301355 or 0151 488 6151

Run by Halewood Town Council, ***Women`s Wellness Group, Self Care for You!***

Relaxation exercises, creative writing, fun quizzes, group discussions, and more!
£ 7.00 per session with refreshments included, 11.00 am - 12.30 pm at Hollies Hall, Hollies Road, Halewood. Please contact begertoncoaching@gmail.com to book a place.

Halewood Mothers' Union

Our Mothers' Union meets on the first Thursday afternoon of each month from 2.00 pm at the St Nicholas' Centre. We would love to welcome some new members. The group has a programme of guest speakers and other events throughout the year. You don't have to be a mother to be a member and men (known as Muscle men) are also welcome. For more information, please speak to Georgina McQueen.

Knowsley Older People's Fun Olympics (K.O.P.F.O.)

Are you aged 50 or over, looking to take part in an activity, and meet new friends? Why not come and join us at our weekly activity sessions held at the Halewood Leisure Centre, Baileys Lane, Halewood, L26 0TY.

We meet every Thursday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Amongst the activities we play are:

- *Badminton*
- *Boccia (a game like bowls but played sitting down with soft leather balls)*
- *Indoor Bowls*
- *Curling*
- *Table Tennis*
- *Dominoes*
- *Draughts*
- *Scrabble*
-

The sessions are aimed at encouraging you to be active, socialise and having fun at the same time, so please come along where you will be made very welcome and quickly become one of the group. Cost is 90 pence per week. For further information, please ring Sue, a member of the team, on 0151 487 0974.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Both of our churches rely on the generosity of members of our congregation in giving up their time to volunteer in all kinds of ways. At St Nicholas and St Mary's we are very blessed with the number of volunteers we do have but there is always room for more.
Below is a list of some of the volunteering opportunities you might like to consider, a rough idea of what the time commitment might be and, where possible, details of whom to contact for further information. The list is not exhaustive and doesn't include roles which might require some specialist knowledge, such as finance skills, HR skills etc.

Reading and Leading Prayers at Services - Both Churches
On a rota, approximately once or twice a quarter.
Speak to Gill Dover at St Mary's or Alison Shacklady at St Nicholas' .

Sidespersons - Both Churches
Meeting and greeting people, giving out and collecting in service sheets, taking collection, tidying up after services. On a rota approximately once or twice a quarter.
Speak to wardens/steward.

Communion Stewards (St Mary's)
To help set up Communion and assist with administering Communion (2nd Sunday).
On a rota once a quarter.

Baptism Sponsors
At the moment just at St Nicholas' (but we would welcome a couple of volunteers for this role at St Mary's for the occasional baptism services which happen there). Support families during Baptism services (1.00 pm on fourth Sunday of the month).Approximately 3 or 4 times a year. Contact Sally Moore, Baptism Secretary on halewood.baptisms@yahoo.com
Tea and Coffee before morning services at St Nicholas' and after morning services at St Mary's
On a rota, approximately two or three times a quarter.
Speak to wardens/steward.
Church Cleaning
St Nicholas' Friday mornings approx. 10.15 – 11.00 am.
Speak to Graham Elliott.
St Mary's – date and time can be arranged to suit.
Speak to Gill Dover.

Work with Children and Young People - All roles need a DBS check and Safeguarding training
Creche and Junior Church at St Mary's and St Nicholas' operate three Sundays per month during term times.
Help required on a rota basis.
For St Mary's contact Laura Fisher- laura_burke_09@hotmail.co.uk or Emma Rooney emma.creasy@btinternet.com
For St Nicholas Junior Church contact Hayley McShane hayleymcshane84@gmail.com
After School Clubs at St Mary's contact Mike Sutcliffe mike.circuitchildren@gmail.com
Sunday evening children's and youth groups, Elevate/Thrive contact James Hutchinson Feguson jameshf.parish@gmail.com
Volunteers are also often needed to help with Uniformed Organisations (Rainbows/Brownies/Guides).
Contact via http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/

Gardening/Churchyard clearance
Occasional gardening working parties at both churches.
St Nicholas' contact Geoff Bullen geoffbullen@btinternet.com
St Mary's contact Pam Boffey pam.boffey@hotmail.com or Dave Crerar d.r.crerar@btinternet.com

Community Connect
St Mary's Church Monday afternoons 12.30 - 2.30 pm on a rota basis approx. once a month.
St Nicholas' Church Thursday mornings 10.00 am - 12 midday on a rota basis approx. once a month
Serving tea/coffee and toast and chatting to visitors.
Speak to James Hutchinson Feguson jameshf.parish@gmail.com

Baby Bank
Every Saturday Morning at St Mary's Church, the Shining Lights Baby Bank is open from 10.00 am -12 noon providing pre-loved baby items (clothes, toys, baby equipment etc) to families with babies and young children, all free of charge. Nicola Lamb who is currently staffing this, urgently needs some additional help to sort and organise donations as they come in.

If you are able to spare the occasional Saturday morning to help out with this or know anyone else who might be able to help, please contact Gill Dover on gillian.dover@gmail.com.
Please note that all volunteers must follow the Church's Safeguarding Procedures.

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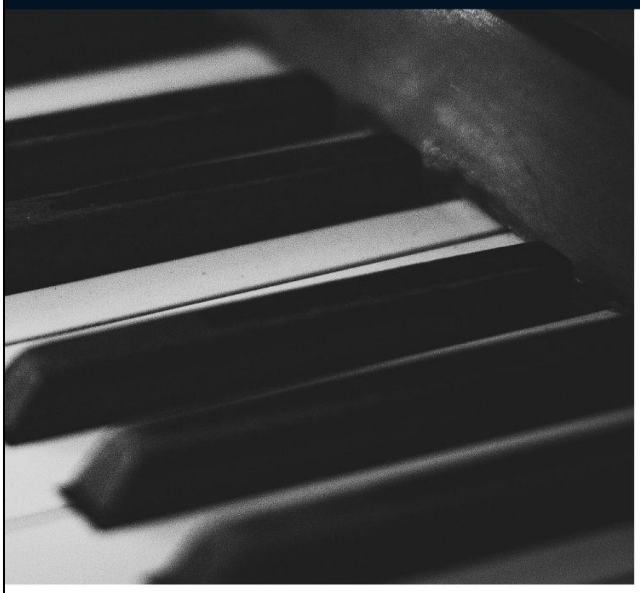

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