

# St Giles Bramhope

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



## Parish Brochure

# Summary

Thank you for taking the time to look at this brochure about St Giles Bramhope and for your interest in the vacancy for a new vicar.

The brochure explains our aspirations for the new incumbent and also what we have to offer. We have tried to be honest about our strengths and also the challenges we face.

Bramhope is a village surrounded by beautiful countryside and well placed for access to Leeds, Bradford and Harrogate city centres. St Giles church is an integral part of the village and supports outreach in the local area.

**Women Priests:** In 1996, the PCC voted to accept women priests.

**Please visit our website for more information**



<http://stgilesbramhope.org.uk/>

St Giles Bramhope

## Vision Statement

**“The vision of St Giles is to be a church that worships, welcomes and shares God with all our community and beyond”**

St Giles Bramhope

## Mission Statement

St Giles Church exists in order to:

- Worship God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ
- Look for God’s kingdom in the world
- Nurture the family of the church
- Action
- Work for peace and justice

# What we would like from a vicar

At  Giles Bramhope we are looking for the following in our new vicar:

**Strong Leader:** Someone who is a motivating and strong leader using collaboration, delegation and good teaching skills. We would expect a good communicator who listens to all age groups.

**Mission and Outreach:** Someone who can promote the mission statement of St Giles church by developing new ideas to grow the church (across all ages) through the encouragement and empowerment of lay ministry. This should be done with a balanced and inclusive approach across all age groups.

**People Person:** Kind, friendly, approachable and with a good sense of humour. Open to being supportive and respectful of different styles of worship from traditional to contemporary.

# What we can offer a vicar

## Our Strengths

- Welcoming and friendly
- St Giles church is well known and visible
- Activities and events for all ages and for the whole community
- Good relationship with Bramhope Primary School
- Excellent facilities
- Modern technology (PC, sound desk, camera, projector, screen) in church and hall
- Strong culture of prayer e.g. Healing Prayer Group
- Range of services and styles of worship
- Good communications e.g. website, St Giles' Review, banners, screen adverts, posters
- 380 new homes will be built over the next few years

## Our Challenges

- From a strong base of valuing both contemporary and traditional expressions of faith and worship, harness the energy of the whole parish and turn the congregation outwards in mission
- To manage the expectations of the congregation with the time constraints of having a half time priest and by developing a strategy to meet the community's needs
- To ensure the financial stability of St Giles church (further details in Finance Section)

# Bramhope

A suburban village convenient for Leeds, Bradford and Harrogate city centres. Close to Leeds-Bradford airport and the market town of Otley.

Bramhope is surrounded by beautiful countryside. Golden Acre Park is nearby and the Yorkshire Dales a short drive away.

Well served by a range of shops, local amenities and services.

Excellent primary school with Ofsted rating “outstanding”.



Population  
3,533

**One C of E Church**

**St**  
**G**iles Bramhope

Good links  
Bramhope  
Methodist  
Church

**Suburban  
Village**

The Parish

**96% white**  
**2% Asian**  
**2% Other**

Age mix  
Children 21.3%  
Adults 53.8%  
Retired 24.9%

**Housing**  
**54% detached**  
**31% semi**  
**15% other**

Good links  
Local Primary School  
(Non C of E)  
Bramhope Primary  
School



# St Giles and its People

There are a wide range of services and music styles: from the more informal contemporary to “centrally” traditional:

- A communion service every Sunday. Once a month, the communion is shorter and more family orientated with our music band. Other communion services are traditional with organ and choir
- A said communion service twice a month on Sundays and also weekly on Thursday mornings
- A lively, contemporary, non communion, service once a month for families (All.together service)
- Evensong twice a month



# St Giles and its People

Children and young people are welcome at all our services but their attendance is highest at the All.together, the Family Communion, Mothering Sunday, Fathers' Day, Easter and Christmas services.

Christingle is very popular and two separate services are held due to its popularity with over 540 attending. Money is raised for the Church of England Children's Society.

Our church family is involved in many activities:

- Home Nurture Groups and Lent Groups
- Healing Prayer Group
- Choir
- Music band
- Kids Club (held at Bramhope Primary School)
- Messy Church
- Craft Mornings



**One Lay Reader  
Jonathan Slater**

**Two  
Churchwardens  
Joanne Dawdry  
June Pickles**

**PCC (meets 6 times per  
year)  
PCC Secretary Miranda  
Reynard  
PCC Treasurer  
Bernard Williams**

**Administrator/  
Verger  
Mary Mumby**

**St  
Giles Bramhope**  
**The People**

**Twelve Lay  
Assistants (two  
take communion  
to the sick)**

**Safeguarding  
Coordinator  
Matt Laird**

**Lay Leadership  
of Home Nurture  
Groups & Lent  
Groups**

**Healing Prayer Group  
who pray with  
individuals (part of  
main service once a  
month)**

# St Giles and the Community

St Giles is an attractive venue for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

We offer a wide range of activities for all age groups:

- CATS (Carers and Toddler Group)
- Social evenings
- Lunch club
- Open House

The following groups associated with the church meet regularly and include people both from and outside the congregation:

- Mothers' Union
- Men's Supper Club
- Women's Fellowship



# St Giles and the Community

Home communion is offered to sick and housebound people and we have two lay assistants who are authorised to do this.

St Giles has good links with Bramhope Primary School (non church school). Activities include Kids Club at the school, regular assemblies and some services in church for the pupils, parents and staff.

We hold a monthly service of readings, hymns and prayers at the local residential home, Ashcroft House. The choir also sing carols there at Christmas.

The vicar works closely with the Methodist Church and the British Legion for a Remembrance Day service at the village memorial.

There are also good links with Bramhope Methodist with some joint services throughout the year.

St Giles supports many charities including Christian Aid, Children's Society, Leeds Social Services, South & East Leeds Foodbank, St George's Crypt, Caring for Life and Wheatfields.



# St Giles and its Buildings

Some details about the buildings:

- The church was dedicated in 1881
- There is a small side chapel which is used for some services and private prayer
- The church hall is attached to the church and was built in 1977
- The 'new' vicarage has recently been purchased by the Diocese and is a short distance from the church

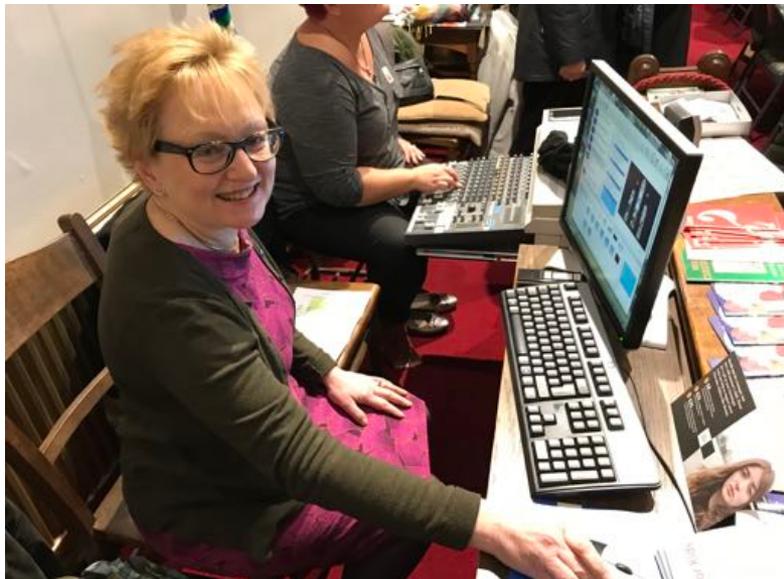
The church grounds are well maintained by a team of volunteers. (There is no graveyard).



There is disabled access to the church, church hall and chapel.

There are some excellent facilities:

- Commercial standard kitchen within the church hall
- Modern technology – camera, sound desk, PC, screen and projector in church; projector in church hall; facilities to project church services (sound & vision) from the church into the church hall



# St Giles and its Buildings

The last Quinquennial Report for the inspection carried out in October 2015 states: “The general condition of St Giles is considered good. The PCC have an ongoing programme of repairs and are proactive in working through the advice of the previous quinquennial inspection.”

All significant work identified at the last QI inspection has been carried out with the exception of :

- Some external painting - Budget quote £7,200
- Replacement of hall boiler (not safety related) and its gas supply line – Budget quote £5,000
- Consideration to insulating the hall roof

There is a “Fabric Team” and a “Grounds Team” connected to the PCC who look after the buildings and the church grounds.

The church hall is in frequent use by church groups and is rented out to non-church users for parties, classes, uniformed organisations and many other activities.



- Financial position satisfactory in past
- Parish Share paid in full
- Small surplus generated
- Reserves currently £85,000
- Clergy expenses paid in full

**101 people in planned giving scheme (Gift Aid claimed on 95%)**

**Average planned giving £9 per person per week**

**Additional income streams:**

- Hall activities £3,000
- Social events £2,300
- Advertising space £3,100
- 50 50 Club £2,000

**Successful & well supported appeals for special projects:**

- LED lights in church
- Asbestos removal
- Hall kitchen

**St Giles Bramhope**

**Finances**

**New initiative in reserved “Children’s Fund” Encouraging a culture of sharing and drawing together the funding for all strands of children’s work**

**Future challenge:**

**PCC unrestricted income  
£107,012**

**Future challenge:**

**Share requested in 2018  
(capped at 80% of income)  
£85,610**

**Future challenge:**

**To grow our income in order to sustain and increase our mission**

# The Diocese of Leeds

In this new diocese, less than three years old, we are working with three core objectives:

**Confident Christians:** Encouraging personal spiritual renewal with the aim of producing clergy and laity who are confident in God and in the Gospel.

**Growing Churches:** Numerically, spiritually and in their mission to the wider world.

**Changing communities:** For the better, through our partnership with other churches and faith communities, as well as government and third sector agencies.

The Diocese came into being at Easter 2014 following the dissolution of the historic dioceses of Bradford, Ripon & Leeds and Wakefield. This followed a three-year process of debate and consultation driven by the Dioceses Commission. Background papers to the reorganisation process can be read at [www.wyadtransformation.org](http://www.wyadtransformation.org)

The Diocese 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 Diocese comprises major cities (Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield), large industrial and post-industrial towns (Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury), market towns (Harrogate, Skipton, Ripon, Richmond and Wetherby), and deeply rural areas (the Dales). The whole of life is here, along with all the richness, diversity and complexities of a changing world.

The Diocese is dissected by major motorways (M1, A1M, M62) and major trunk roads (such as the A650, A59), making road communications good. Access to other forms of transport is also good, with rail links to London and many Northern towns and several airports in easy reach.

The Diocesan Bishop is assisted by five Area Bishops (Bradford, Huddersfield, Richmond (with responsibility for Leeds), Ripon and Wakefield) and five archdeacons (Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Pontefract, Richmond & Craven).

Within the Diocese, there are 323 stipendiary clergy, 165 self-supporting clergy and 398 clergy with PtO along with 408 Readers, 125 lay pastoral ministers and 52 chaplains in 656 churches with 256 church schools.

The Diocese is unique in having three cathedrals, Bradford, Ripon and Wakefield, and over the past year the cathedrals have begun to work together on the key diocesan services as well as developing three strands that they will offer to the diocese – pilgrimage, civic engagement and apologetics. This new diocese, led by the bishops, is working out how best to create a diocese with more than one cathedral, and to develop the ministry and outreach of these cathedrals in a way that secures their future and recognises their distinctiveness.

The Diocese has inherited strong partnership links with the Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Southwest Virginia, Skara (Sweden) and Erfurt (Germany).

**Thank you for taking the time to read about**

# St Giles Bramhope

You can find out more information on our website and Facebook page



<http://stgilesbramhope.org.uk/>



[@stgileschurchbramhope](https://www.facebook.com/stgileschurchbramhope)