The United Benefice of Washburn and Mid-Wharfe is seeking a shepherd to lead the people of our Benefice.
Four parishes in the beautiful Washburn and Mid-Wharfe Valleys, North Yorkshire, are seeking an answer to their prayer: a person of God who will become part of our family, inspire us to fulfil our mission and become an increasing blessing to the community.
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Welcome to the Washburn and Mid-Wharfe Valleys, our Churches and communities

The United Benefice of Washburn and Mid-Wharfe comprises the six Churches which form the parishes of Farnley, Fewston with Blubberhouses and Leathley to the East, and Weston with Denton to the West. It is deeply rural, made up of small villages, hamlets, scattered dwellings and farms. The total population is 1377.

History of the Benefice


Our location

The Benefice is blessed to be situated in the southern part of the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and located in the Young Diocese of Leeds in the Ripon Episcopal area, the Archdeaconry of Richmond and Craven, and in the lively and extremely supportive Deanery of Harrogate. Located between Wharfedale and Harrogate, the area is home to some of the most beautiful countryside
Yorkshire has to offer, and is well placed for access to the thriving university cities of Leeds and York, and close to Harrogate, Ilkley and Ripon.

The Washburn and Mid-Wharfe Valleys are well-known for their four reservoirs which span the length of the valleys, and the gentle rolling hills. The spectacular scenery and cultural heritage of the district make it a popular tourist destination; Churches within the Benefice have already begun to share the Gospel with visitors to the area and there are significant opportunities to grow tourism ministry.

Our prayer

We are looking for a priestly leader across six Churches, each rich in history, spirituality and unique character.

Due to the size of the Benefice and the distinct needs of our communities across the area, the role will undoubtedly be challenging, but rewarding. Our Benefice is large, but so too is our hunger for Christ, and our willingness to support and walk alongside our new Vicar in inspiring our vision and mission.

The varied geographical and historical characteristics of our Benefice mean communities with differing needs and styles of worship, but united by a desire to work together in Jesus’ name. To speak of our collection of parishes is to speak of communities of people: our new Vicar should therefore not only be a dedicated teacher in faith, but someone who instantly connects with and cares about people.

If you believe this is your calling, we ask you prayerfully to consider coming to serve with us. This brochure shares more about our Benefice: opportunities, challenges, hopes and blessings.

“Let my words fall like rain on tender grass, like gentle showers on young plants.”
Deuteronomy 32:2
Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer...

Counting our blessings and recognising our challenges

Within our Benefice, we believe our strengths are:

- Warm, welcoming worshipping communities
- Our lay pastoral support and visiting, assisting in services and caring for our buildings
- A willingness to assist in services as intercessors, readers and chalice assistants
- A community of faithful people who desire spiritual and numerical growth
- A growing commitment towards change and looking forward
- Beautiful and historic Church buildings, all in good repair and well cared for by laity, situated across four picturesque parishes
- Substantive wedding ministry
- A calendar of creative events and services
- Three eucharistic ministers and willingness to develop pastoral team
- An eagerness to grow in discipleship and a willingness to support our new vicar in this growth
We recognise there are challenges within our Benefice, including:

- A long vacancy has meant long-term dependency on retired clergy
- Desire for more unity across the Benefice
- Need to increase congregation numbers in all parishes
- Develop volunteers and lay ministry in the broadest sense
- Lack of affordable housing, which means stable and ageing communities
- A population with differing needs, including a farming community whose participation is dependent on seasonal work patterns

We are seeking a priest to bring to light the things hidden in darkness, working together with our community to turn our challenges into opportunities.

We have great enthusiasm and willingness across the parishes to work together and grow in strength and faith by:

- Engaging with children and young people
- Developing mission to young people
- Encouraging volunteers
- Strengthening the unity of the parishes
- Reaching out through pastoral visits to support those in need, including people who are sick, and those who are bereaved
- Increasing the breadth and scope of outreach work
- Strengthening our relationship with the farming community
- Reaching out with the Gospel to those who would not otherwise come to Church
- Welcoming and offering hospitality to visitors to our Churches
- Growing a ministry to the young retireds (over 55s)

We will walk with each other...

We recognise that it is a diocesan requirement for the new vicar to attend the residential 'Leading your Church into Growth', and we have willing volunteers to join the vicar on this course and to assist in developing a mission action plan.

"The Lord your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

Zepheniah 3:17
My heart shall rejoice!

Special events and services

Here are just some of the meaningful ways we come together across our Churches:

- Plough service and lambing service
- Rogation service
- Harvest Festival
- 5th Sunday United Benefice Service
- Service for the bereaved
- Remembrance services
- Carol services
- Christingle
- School nativity events
- Journey to Bethlehem live nativity event
- Teddy Church
- Advent and Lent Group
- Musical concerts and art exhibition
- Gift Day Sunday
- Parish Room Teas and community lunch
- Bluebell Walk
- Flower festivals and walking festival
- Wedding Fayre with Denton Hall

Spiritual links across the community

The Benefice Churches work closely with the Methodist Church

Together we:

- hold joint bible study and discussion groups
- worship together on the 5th Sunday of the month
- have a joint Parish Magazine - 'The Washburn Valley and Mid-Wharfe Churches Magazine' published every month with a circulation of 500
- share Lent and Advent courses
- have a joint Christian Aid week campaign
- have a cross-Benefice choir
A shepherd to lead the people of our Benefice...

Our new vicar

We are looking for an inspiring, energetic, warm and caring vicar who will live alongside us, be part of our community and be a flexible and positive guide for a wide range of worshippers.

We hope our new vicar:

- will develop and inspire a mission and strategy for our Benefice
- will have a pastoral heart and will encourage people in their Christian walk
- will take a special interest in the spiritual development of all of us, including children and the 55+ age group
- can transfer their in-depth knowledge of the Bible to others in an interesting and relevant way
- will have a genuine kindness and love of others
- is someone who enjoys visiting people in their own home or place of care to share God’s hope and grace
- will nurture the skills and talents of our people
- is a collegial leader who is not afraid of managing change or initiating growth and development

Styles of worship

Our Churchmanship across the Benefice is broadly central. We value Common Worship and All Age Worship and we also value BCP and more traditional worship. We would be interested to explore Celtic, pilgrimage and Taizé spirituality.
We hope our new vicar (cont.)

- is a good communicator, who is willing to listen as well as guide, and be open, honest and tactful
- will provide inspirational worship
- has a good grasp of the financial and administrative challenges and enable us to fulfil our agreed financial commitments
- has a friendly welcoming approach and a sense of humour

In turn, we shall support our new vicar:

- through prayer
- by opening up Church and setting up for services
- by ensuring that the Churches are welcoming and in good order
- by being open to new ways of working, for example new patterns of worship and streamlined governance
- through our desire to grow together in more meaningful ways
- by active participation in pastoral activities, particularly those involving the young and the elderly
- by sharing a wide range of skills and experience
- through the provision of administrative support
- caring for the spiritual development and general well-being of the vicar
- by providing an atmosphere of care and commitment
- by respecting the personal time of the vicar and their family
- in having a presence in Church life and other communities

The current priorities of our Benefice are:

1. **Involving children and young people:** our parishes are keen to develop a Junior Church and want to explore with you how we might go forward with this. We recognise the challenges of only having a few children living in the Benefice.
2. **Our work in the community:** while we achieve a great deal in reaching out to our neighbourhoods and supporting local and international causes, we believe there is potential to offer more help to members of our community, especially those who are older or unwell.
3. **Engaging new communities with our work:** this includes farming communities, young retireds, those who do not attend Church and welcoming visitors to the area.
4. **Development of tourism ministry:** we seek to engage with visitors, walkers and pilgrimage.
5. **Engaging with 55+ age group in ministry.**

Knock and it shall be opened...

The open Church policy is mixed across our six Churches. There is a desire to move to a consistent approach across all parishes.
Our parishes

Over the subsequent pages we’ll introduce our four parishes, home to six very special Churches.

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Should you require any further information about any of the parishes, we will be happy to provide individual parish profiles.
Farnley: The ‘Little Gem’ of the Washburn Valley Churches

“This is the little Church in the valley for today, next month, next year, the future; for your children and grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, your visiting relatives and friends.”

Farnley is home to All Saints Church, a small Church with potential for growing faith and leadership within the community and growing community spirit within the parish and beyond.

Welcome to Farnley

Situated to the North of the Mid-Wharfe Valley, the village of Farnley is home to a small rural population, with a strong farming community. The name ‘Farnley’ is said to indicate that the village was first established in an area heavy with ferns. Today it remains a community enveloped in lush greenery, making it a popular calling point for walkers, cyclists, photographers and artists. Areas of the village are also occasionally used as filming locations for the TV series, Emmerdale and others.

To the south of the village lies Farnley Hall, a stately home built by John Carr. The legacy of the house includes famous visitors such as Fairfax, Cromwell, and Turner. Indeed, 17th century stained glass
All Saints is a Grade II listed Church steeped in history, and a true spiritual focal point among the spectacular local landscape.

For centuries, the Church was the centre of worship for the estate owners, workers and villagers of Farnley.

The present building is mid-Victorian, but there was a much earlier building on the site. Stones from the old building were used in the rebuilding and parts of the North wall appear to be the original. Some archaeologists have detected Roman tooling on some of the exterior stones, indicating that the mediaeval Church had itself used stones from a much earlier building.

The Church was rebuilt in 1851: part of the North wall of the 13th century chapel survives. There are the squire’s family seats at the West end, and some 17th century stained glass which was formerly in Farnley Hall, where a drawing of it by J M W Turner remains.

On the Southern end of the parish the Riverside Estate on the edge of Otley is an established development of approximately 120 houses; probably the most densely populated area in the Benefice and a substantial part of the regular Farnley congregation live there.

All Saints Church, Farnley

All Saints is a Grade II listed Church steeped in history, and a true spiritual focal point among the spectacular local landscape.

For centuries, the Church was the centre of worship for the estate owners, workers and villagers of Farnley.

There are several footpaths radiating from the Church within the Washburn Valley and its reservoirs.
What’s special about our parish?

The traditional interior of the Church and the magnificent surrounding landscape make it a popular venue for couples to marry in the presence of God.

All Saints enjoys bringing the community together as part of various events, among these we have organised BBQs, craft events and a visit from a Gospel Choir. We are always open to new ideas to engage local people in our mission.

Worship at All Saints

All Saints opens its doors to a wide variety of visitors; it is a place for regular worship, country weddings, a place where walkers, bird watchers and cyclists stop and rest, and where photographers and artists come to find inspiration.

Find out more: www.farnleyallsaints.org

Our parish hopes that...

“Our new priest will help All Saints continue to be a welcoming Church where the good news of the Gospel is proclaimed and people are able to find support and encouragement to enable them to grow in their Christian faith and be ambassadors for Christ in their daily lives.”
"Both our Churches are kept open, and visitors are welcome at all times. In addition there are two other parish buildings at Fewston: Fewston Parochial Hall and the Washburn Heritage Centre."

The parish of Fewston with Blubberhouses has two beautiful and historic Churches – St. Andrews Church, Blubberhouses and the Church of St. Michael and St. Lawrence, Fewston.

Welcome to Fewston and Blubberhouses

The parish covers much of the beautiful Washburn Valley, including Fewston and Swinsty Reservoirs, which were built in the late 19th Century and attract many walkers, cyclists and other visitors. The area is famed for its tranquility, spectacular views, a rich variety of wildlife and many species of wildflowers. The scattered rural population live on farms and other individual houses, in hamlets and in the village of Timble. The parish encompasses the civil parishes of Norwood and Timble. Former centres of population such as those at West End and Fewston were displaced by the building of the reservoirs.

Traditional employment in the area is agricultural. Other people work from home or commute into the nearby towns of Harrogate & Otley or the cities of Leeds or Bradford. There is a significant retired population who bring their expertise and professional skills to the community.
The Church of St. Michael and St. Lawrence, Fewston

Fewston Church is listed Grade II, and is a rare example of a 17th Century Church not built on a rectangular plan. The tower dates from the 14th Century, but the rest of the Church was destroyed in 1696 and soon rebuilt. There are various interesting features such as the visible lines of the former thatched roof, the bells, stained glass, font, font cover and the Georgian panels and coat of arms.

The Church is generally in good repair and well cared for. It is accessible by wheelchair. The bells (which are rung regularly by our bell ringing team) and the organ have been renovated, the car park has been extended and redesigned and a new lighting scheme is currently being installed. Further improvements are under consideration. There is a children's play area. The attached Washburn Heritage Centre provides lavatory, refreshment and meeting facilities, making the Church a comfortable and welcoming venue for all sorts of Church events and activities.

A footpath links the Church with the popular Yorkshire Water path around Swinsty Reservoir, and brings many visitors to the Church, especially at weekends when the Washburn Heritage Centre tearoom is open.

St. Andrew's Church, Blubberhouses

St. Andrew's Church, which is Grade II listed, dates from the 1850s and was built by Lady Frankland Russell as a chapel of ease for workers in the Blubberhouses area. The architect, Edward Buckton Lamb, was known as the Rogue Gothic Architect, and four other examples of his distinctive Church work can be seen in Yorkshire. Blubberhouses Church sits well in the landscape and is a prominent feature of the area where the top of Fewston Reservoir meets the busy A59 Skipton to Harrogate Road.

The two congregations of St. Michael's and St. Andrew's are considered as one for administrative/financial purposes. This is also true for the congregation, although the regular congregation at St Andrew's is small.

In 2016 a LPOW Roof Repair grant was secured, work carried out in 2017. In 2018 two grants were awarded for conservation of the distinctive windows – all of which are original. Work commences mid July 2018. Architect's plans for small kitchen, toilet and disabled access are approved by PCC and progressing to DAC and funding.

Fewston Parochial Hall

The building is leased from Yorkshire Water on a peppercorn rent. It serves Fewston and the surrounding area as a centre for a variety of social activities. A sports club who play badminton, billiards and snooker, two exercise groups, theatre nights, themed meal evenings and a Summer BBQ.

On the last weekend of each month it is hired out to charities who fundraise by selling refreshments and goods. These include five of our Benefice Churches, two local schools, national charities and two local hospices. It is also available to be hired for private functions. During the last 10 years it has had a total refurbishment and is in a good state of repair.
What’s special about our parish?

A unique feature of our parish is the Washburn Valley Heritage Centre, which you can find out more about on p19.

The Friends of Blubberhouses Church Committee is drawn from the local community. It has initiated successful community social and fund raising events to support the ongoing improvements of the Church, including a very successful Flower Festival to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday. With its prominent position above A59 it has been a refreshment stop for spectators of Tour de France and Tour de Yorkshire cycle races. The Church hosts the Nidd Art Trail for two weekends in August.

Hosting many concerts etc. at Fewston Church PCC members have experience in arranging events with many organisations including: Ripon International Festival; Leeds Central Band of the Salvation Army; Pinsuti Choir; Cantores Olicanae; Yorkshire Flower Club.

When the internal facilities are finished at St Andrew’s it will be ideal for concerts/events in a smaller venue. The acoustics, professionally tested, are very good. The organ is serviced regularly.

Worship at St. Andrews and St. Michael’s and St. Lawrence

We think that the large number of visitors to both our Churches and the many people who are loosely associated with Fewston Church through volunteering with the Washburn Heritage Centre represent a particular opportunity for ministry by a new vicar with the support of our PCC members and other parishioners.

Find out more: www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk

Our parish hopes that…

“Our new vicar will help us further our work with children and young people.”
A special feature of the parish of Fewston with Blubberhouses is the Washburn Heritage Centre (WHC). This was planned and built by the Parochial Church Council with local support, a generous grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and other grants and was opened in February 2011. It is an award-winning modern extension to the Church, replacing the old hearse house.

The idea behind the Washburn Heritage Centre was to celebrate the unique history and cultural legacy of the Washburn Valley, to create good facilities at the site, to put the Church at the centre of community activity, and to give a welcome to visitors to the area. Thus the story of the Washburn Valley - its numerous listed buildings and spectacular landscape - is told in a permanent exhibition in the Church itself, and changing exhibitions in the Washburn Heritage Centre celebrate various aspects of the heritage of the area. A virtual archive run by committed volunteers with professional help preserves heritage documents, photographs and information. A different programme of events including walks, talks, suppers, courses, musical events etc. is planned and presented every few months. In addition, WHC runs a tearoom which is open to visitors at weekends.

The centre is run by a management committee appointed by the PCC. It pays for a part time administrator, some cleaning and for a professional archivist. Otherwise the work of the centre is done by a large number of WHC volunteers who come both from the parish and from further afield.

WHC is a charity. Profits from the tearoom run by WHC volunteers have enabled the WHC and the PCC to enter into joint capital projects which benefit the Church and the churchyard (such as the work on the car park and the Church lighting).

Close to 100 people volunteer with WHC, whether as family biographers, event leaders, bakers, walk leaders, in the tearoom or otherwise. Thousands of visitors each year visit the Washburn Heritage Centre (there were 11,000 weekend visitors in 2017), and many of these also visit the Church. Many are repeat visitors. Some visit because of WHC events or the tearoom or because of an interest in their own family history. Many have links with other Churches or are generally receptive to the Church, or come specifically to see the Church. Visit the centre’s website at www.washburnvalley.org for more information.
Leathley: An historic building; an inspiring environment

"We welcome everyone to the small, special and truly spiritual Church of St Oswald's. We believe our environment is one of inspiration, comfort and support, a place to reflect and restore."

Leathley is home to St Oswald's, where fascinating historical architecture meets tranquil pastures, and a warm and welcoming family atmosphere

Welcome to Leathley

The name Leathley originates from the old English meaning 'slope wood/clearing', and today the rurality of the landscape remains at the heart of the parish, while the B6161 conveniently connects the area to neighbouring towns and cities, including Otley, Harrogate and Leeds.

Leathley is peaceful and idyllic, and as a result walkers can often be seen traversing the surrounding countryside to take in the views, bridleways, fields, woods, tracks, undulations and streams. The parish includes the villages of both Castley and Leathley, and is located near the border with West Yorkshire and the River Wharfe, one mile north-east of Otley.
Named for a King of Northumberland who in the 600s promoted the spirit of Christianity, the Church of St Oswald’s, Leathley is steeped in history.

Located atop a hill, the first Church on the site was built soon after 1100AD and much of it remains. The tower, the west and east walls of the nave belong to this period. It was enlarged in 1472 by the building of the north and south aisles.

There are symbols of the Percy family carved into pillars, Kilburn Mouseman furniture and a plaque recording the death in 1893 of a member of the Fawkes family.

What’s special about our parish?

Visitors speak of the serenity of the interior which is lovingly cared for, and St Oswald’s is a popular choice for weddings, christenings, funeral and memorial services.

Leathley Village Hall

Established in 1922 as the Leathley Parish Room, Leathley’s village hall is located on the opposite side of the road to the Church, in picturesque surroundings on the edge of the village green.

The charming stone building is used for a wide range of events, perhaps the best-known of which are the fundraising events, perhaps the best known of which are the Teas on the Green, that take place to raise funds for the Church and Women’s Institute, together with the monthly ‘Last Friday Supper’ to raise money for the Parish Room itself. The Young Farmers also hold their meetings here. In addition, wedding receptions are held in the hall, often having a marquee in the field adjoining the rear of the building.
Worship at St Oswald's

At St Oswald’s our mission is to spread a sense of wellbeing. A variety of services are held throughout the month, including a special Family Service on the Fourth Sunday. We welcome families to our Church and there is a special children’s corner with colouring and books to keep young visitors entertained.

Coffee is served at the end of every Sunday morning service providing an opportunity to mingle and meet our welcoming congregation.

Forging ties

The headteacher of Askwith Community School is keen to work with the new vicar.

Find out more: www.leathleychurch.org/

Our parish hopes that...

“Our new priest will be a pastor and friend to all, who is able to strengthen the links within the Benefice while maintaining the uniqueness of Leathley.”
Welcome to Weston, Askwith and Denton

To the north of the River Wharfe lies the parish of Weston with Denton, home to two friendly Churches – All Saints, Weston and St Helen’s, Denton.

Welcome to Weston, Askwith and Denton

This rural parish can be found between the towns of Otley and Ilkley, and is comprised of three distinct villages: Weston, Askwith and Denton.

Askwith is the largest of the villages in the parish, and is home to a primary school, village hall, several significant working farms and the Vicarage.

Weston consists of scattered dwellings and farms, but also includes a modern housing estate of around 50 homes on the outskirts of Otley called Throstle Nest Close. Weston Hall, a Grade I listed building, is a Manor estate which lies to the south east of the village.

Similarly, Denton is characterised by scattered dwellings and farms, and many couples are attracted to the area to exchange vows and celebrate their marriage at the Grade I listed Denton Hall, now a popular luxury wedding venue.
All Saints, Weston

Weston Church is a Grade I Listed building protected for its outstanding architectural and historical significance.

The Church and priest in Weston were referred to in the Domesday Book of 1066, although there is evidence of earlier Christian worship on the site including the remains of a 9th century cross shaft.

The present building dates from the 11th century with additions in the late 14th century and the porch in 1686. It contains box pews from the 18th century and an unusual three-decker pulpit. There is also some early 14th century stained glass. Though the date above the porch reads 1686, parts of the Church — a small window in the south wall and the chancel arch inside — are Norman.

The interior is mainly eighteenth century. Of particular interest is the Tau cross on a pillar on the north wall. This is in the shape of a letter T and is also known as a Franciscan cross. It was apparently put there to ward off the Black Death.
The Church of St Helen’s dates back to at least the 14th Century, and was originally a Chapel of Ease in the then extensive Parish of Otley. Thomas Fairfax, the creator of the New Model Army, was born and baptised at Denton.

The new Church was opened in 1776 to the design of John Carr as part of his plans for Denton Hall and includes an east window created by two of the finest York glass painters Henry Gyles and William Peckitt. St Helen’s is Grade II listed and though not consecrated it is licensed for public worship.

After a long period of fundraising and having obtained a faculty, we are now ready to begin the construction of an extension on the North side of the Church. This will house a small kitchen and toilet. These are much needed facilities which all are looking forward to.

What’s special about our parish?

The parish and the local communities are closely linked through fundraising and community events such as the Harvest, Beetle and Domino Suppers. The newly established Christmas Walk with Mary and Joseph in costume, which includes a real donkey and finishes at a stable has proved very popular.
Worship at All Saints and St Helen's

There is excellent cooperation between the two Churches, with the usual congregations attending each other’s services. Worship alternates between the two sites, with Holy Communion at Weston on the first Sunday of the month and Sunday morning prayer on the third Sunday; Denton has a Family Service on the second Sunday and Holy Communion on the fourth. Wedding couples and their families regularly increase the numbers at Denton.

Due to its proximity to Denton Hall, and its warm and welcoming atmosphere, St Helen’s is exceptionally popular with wedding couples. The church enjoys sharing this meaningful occasion with them and their families as they enter into a union before God.

Find out more: All Saints - www.westonchurch.wordpress.com
Find out more: St Helen’s - www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6869/

Our parish hopes that...

“Our new vicar will be committed to nurturing and growing the Church in our rural communities and will have a young-at-heart approach along with enthusiasm to help grow ministry at Askwith Primary School.”
Askwith Vicarage

Askwith Vicarage is a modern, four bedroomed detached house situated in the largest and more compact village of the parish, home to Askwith primary school and village hall.

The vicarage enjoys extensive views over the beautiful surrounding countryside to both the front and rear of the property.

Downstairs the hall leads to a cloakroom, large study, two reception rooms, a kitchen and utility room. Upstairs are four double bedrooms, a family bathroom, an additional separate toilet and a separate shower room.

As well as central heating throughout, the house features a coal burning open fire in the lounge. The vicarage is built on land adjacent to the Old Vicarage (now a private dwelling) and boasts a mature and well-stocked garden along with a garage and ample parking for a number of cars.

The interior of the rectory is finished to a good standard having been decorated and newly carpeted throughout (excepting one bedroom) in 2016.

More details about the property, including information about water, heating and furnishings, are available and we will be happy to talk to prospective candidates further.
We recognise that our new vicar will be joining a worshipping community across four parishes of a sizeable Benefice. To ensure your ministry and mission is not overshadowed by admin and meetings during the vacancy the following support is available:

**New patterns of worship**

We have reduced the number of services at each Church to ensure that they are more manageable for a sole incumbent with modest support. We recognise we are not quite there yet, and will want to support you as you input into this.

**Benefice PCCs**

The four PCCs now meet together on one evening six times a year. This model is proving fruitful in uniting us as a Benefice, and it has reduced the number of PCC meetings from sixteen to six per annum. We shall require you to be part of the review of this and help embed it.

**UB administrator**

Our administrator is employed by the Benefice to work approximately six hours per week from their virtual office to provide support primarily to the vicar. This person is not ordinarily involved in the day-to-day running of the parishes/Churches, this being the responsibility of the local churchwardens, PCC secretaries and treasurers, PCC members and volunteers.
## Current pattern of worship

(Presently being piloted)

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<td></td>
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<td>Holy Communion Service 9.30</td>
<td>Holy Communion Service 11.00</td>
<td>Morning Prayer 10.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th After Pentecost Green</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Holy Communion Service 9.30</td>
<td>Holy Communion Service 11.00</td>
<td>Morning Prayer 10.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## The book of numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Farnley</th>
<th>Fewston w. Blubberhouses</th>
<th>Leathley</th>
<th>Weston w. Denton</th>
<th>Benefice total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2011 census)</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>1,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. on Church Electoral Roll</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% from outside parish</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Weston - 50% Denton - 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main age groups</td>
<td>55+</td>
<td>60+</td>
<td>33% under 65 67% 65+</td>
<td>Weston - 50+ Denton - 20+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statistics : as recorded on the last Annual Return

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Farnley</th>
<th>Fewston w. Blubberhouses</th>
<th>Leathley</th>
<th>Weston w. Denton</th>
<th>Benefice total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Sunday attendance</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmees</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptisms</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Weston - 1 Denton - 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weddings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Weston - 3 Denton - 19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funerals in church</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Weston - 2 Denton - 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funerals taken by clergy not in church</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Weston - 2 Denton - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ministerial support

- Two lay readers and one in training
- Three retired clergy
- One retired clergy in neighbouring parish of Otley offering support
Counting the cost

Only one of our parishes has been able to pay a challenging parish share in full. This has partly been due to some apportionment anomalies and partly due to some challenging economic conditions.

We are all fully committed to being able to pay our parish shares in full and really useful conversations are taking place with the Diocese around apportionment and increased fundraising activity, stewardship campaigns and commitment to share payment are all features of our drive into the future. The four sets of parish accounts for 2016/2017 are attached.
Are you the one God is calling to serve with us in the United Benefice of Washburn and Mid-Wharfe?

We warmly welcome interested candidates to get in touch to discuss the role...

Please contact The Bishop's Office
T: 01765 601 094
E: c/o Judith Richardson – judith.richardson@leeds.anglican.org

Or the Area Dean
T: 01423 391 514
E: John Smith – John.Smith@leeds.anglican.org

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