THREE PARISHES
WORKING TOGETHER WITH ONE MISSION

The Parishes of
Grimethorpe with Brierley,
Ryhill, Havercroft with Cold Hiendley and Wintersett
and South Kirkby

All Saints, South Kirkby
St. James The Great, Ryhill
St. Luke the Evangelist, Grimethorpe
with
St. Paul the Apostle, Brierley
The Anglican Diocese of Leeds 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 three former dioceses were created in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to cater for massive population changes brought about by industrialisation and, later, mass immigration. The diocese comprises major cities (Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield), large industrial and post-industrial towns (Barnsley, 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 Diocesan Bishop (The Rt. Rev’d Nick Baines) is assisted by five Area Bishops (Bradford, Huddersfield, Kirkstall, Wakefield and Ripon), and five archdeacons (Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Pontefract, Richmond & Craven). The parish of Grimethorpe with Brierley, the parish of Ryhill, Havercroft with Cold Hiendley and Wintersett and the parish of South Kirkby lie in the Barnsley, Pontefract and Wakefield Deaneries of the Wakefield Episcopal Area, in the Archdeaconry of Pontefract. The Bishop of Wakefield is the Rt. Rev’d Tony Robinson.

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WELCOME

The Parishes of Grimethorpe with Brierley, Ryhill, Havercroft with Cold Hiendley and Wintersett and South Kirkby, located on the border of West and South Yorkshire, are seeking a Priest-in-Charge to lead us on the next stage of our collaborative missionary journey.

The fact that you are reading this, indicates that something has led you to consider whether this might be for you.

We hope this brochure will enable you to learn a little more about us and about our parishes. Please consider the documentation and then, if that feeling is still here, please do get in touch.

We are praying for the right person and you might be the answer to our prayers.

The Parish of Grimethorpe with Brierley came about on 7th October 2005. It is situated to the 8 miles to the north-east of the centre of Barnsley in South Yorkshire. We are one parish containing two
churches, St Luke the Evangelist, in Grimethorpe and St Paul the Apostle, in Brierley. The Parish is a member of Forward in Faith and supports the work of The Society. We are also a member of the Mission Parishes of Christ the King. The villages of Grimethorpe and Brierley adjoin each other, and the churches are one mile apart. Our congregations work hard to be one whilst worshipping in two churches and they have a desire to make both churches central to the spiritual life of the parish.

Barnsley is the closest principal town and is undergoing a town centre regeneration programme, which is nearing completion. The reordering of the market and the central area is almost finished.

The Parish has a population of 7,280 and is mainly residential, comprising of a mixture of council, private-rented housing and private owner-occupier dwellings. Several regeneration projects have taken place and The Dearne Valley link road has opened up the old colliery sites for the development of a number of small units in the Park Springs Industrial Estate. The area is changing and many of the older dwellings have been replaced by modern housing. This, with good transport links, has brought new opportunities to the area especially with the construction of large facilities such as the South Yorkshire-based furniture company, Symphony, XPO Logistics and ASOS.

The village of Grimethorpe has seen the construction of a medical centre, a dental surgery and The Acorn Centre which houses a variety of services ranging from a library and the Clever Tots play centre to meeting rooms and rehearsal rooms for the world famous Grimethorpe Colliery Band. In the village there are a range of services such as newsagents, an ice cream parlour, a number of bakers and takeaways. There are also, hairdressers, cafés, a Post Office, an Asda local store was opened in 2010 and the Options Centre has a gym and meeting rooms for groups. There is a dental practice situated on the west side of the church and a newly opened nursery on the east side.

There are three Primary Schools in the Parish, two in the village of Grimethorpe and one in the village of Brierley. Both the schools in Grimethorpe are classed as good to good with outstanding features according to their latest Ofsted report. The school in Brierley is a Church of England, voluntary controlled school and is judged to be outstanding. Just outside the parish is a modern academy school catering for high school age students from Brierley and Grimethorpe.

The area has had its challenges but there is still a strong sense of community. The needs of the community are evident, and the church has offered a continued pastoral involvement to the people of the Parish.

St Luke's Church, Grimethorpe, is situated in St Luke's Road in Grimethorpe. The Church was built in 1904 and consists of a chancel, nave, centre aisle and porch. There is a Lychgate at the entrance which was restored in 2010. There is a Lady Chapel, a vestry, a sacristy and an organ loft.

The North Aisle of the church was re-ordered in the 1970s to provide a kitchen, store-room and ladies and gents toilets. The church was re-roofed in 2005 and central heating was installed in 2007. The Quinquennial Inspection was completed in 2015 and the church is in a good state of repair.

The vicarage was built in the mid 1980s and is a four bedroomed property next to the church with a private, manageable sized garden. It has a
living room with patio doors to the garden, a separate dining room, and a kitchen with a utility room off. There is a large study/office and a downstairs toilet. The garage is attached to the property. There is UPVC double glazed windows throughout and gas fired central heating. Upstairs, the bedrooms are a good size and there is a bathroom. The vicarage and church are within easy walking distance of all the facilities of the village.

**St. Paul's Church, Brierley**, is a Grade II listed building. It was built in 1869 in the Gothic Revival style. It is of modest proportions and stands in a small churchyard. It has a chancel, nave, centre aisle and porch. The interior was re-ordered in 2005, which involved the removing of a number of pews and the choir stalls to increase the flexibility of the space. The tower and spire were restored in 2008 and an access ramp was installed. The decorative chancel ceiling was restored in 2009. The Quinquennial Inspection was completed in 2014 and although the church was in a fair condition, there was a need for work on the gutters and drainage. St Paul's Church is situated on Church Street, Brierley. It is the main road through the village and includes a newsagent and village store, hairdressers, fish shop and a Post Office. The doctor's surgery is situated in a side road opposite the church.

Around the church is a closed churchyard maintained by the local authority. The main cemetery is located behind the church. In recent years, the site of the old Brierley Hall, adjacent to St Paul's, has been redeveloped to provide a number of modern, private dwellings.

A new boiler was installed in 2017, and major work funded by Heritage Lottery Fund has been carried out over 2018 and early 2019 to improve the gutters and provide mains drainage to prevent water damage. This has caused the church at St Paul's to be temporarily closed and worship to take place at St Luke's. Internally, the ramp has been removed and the floors made to be one level. The rear of the Nave has been reordered and pews reorganised to provide a more flexible open area. The kitchen has been re-fitted, through local fundraising, and an accessible toilet has been added.

These improvements to the building at St Paul's will open up new and exciting possibilities for the use of the building and the furthering of the mission of the church. It will create a more flexible, useable space whilst keeping the essence of the spiritual life of the church prominent. It will offer opportunities for the church to reach out into the community and for the community and the school to make use of the building. We are eager for the new priest to be at the forefront of this.

St. Luke’s and St. Paul’s are churches set in the catholic tradition of the Church of England. We are very much a worshipping community with the Eucharist being at the centre of the worship. There is a daily Mass, the Roman Missal is used for Mass. On major festivals, there is always a solemn Mass. The Churchmanship is traditional catholic with modern rite. The parish has passed Resolutions A, B and C. Whilst standing firm in these resolutions, the parish takes part in the activities of the Barnsley Deanery and functions under the Pastoral Care (oversight) of the Bishop of Wakefield or the Bishop of Beverley. Incense is used every Sunday and vestments are worn.
The Sunday worship is a friendly gathering of the faithful, where the Laity take a full part including reading, intercessions, serving and Eucharistic Ministry. There is a sacristan in each church, who takes responsibility for setting up for Mass. We have a group of lay assistants who help with chalice each Sunday and a number who are trained to visit the sick and take communion to the housebound. There is a member of the congregation undergoing training to be a Reader, a lay Verger for weddings and funerals and there is a Musical Director/Organist. There is also an ‘Open the Book’ group who regularly go into the Church school to take assemblies.

On the first Sunday of each month the congregations come together for a United Parish Mass at St Paul’s. Feast days are usually united and are celebrated in each church building as is appropriate. The Patronal Festivals are usually supported by other parishes belonging to the Mission Parishes of Christ the King. We have a full diary of services during Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Holy Saturday Vigil.

Mass is celebrated in one of the churches every day of Holy Week.

Across both the churches, the Easter services have an attendance of 65. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day attendance at worship was 45. At our Christingle Service we had over 90 people attending, including many families and the children were invited to take part in the worship. There are 59 on the electoral roll, of whom 4 reside outside the parish. Attendance at Sunday Mass averages around 37 and at midweek mass we have between 10 and 18. During 2018, there were 21 baptisms, 2 marriages, 1 marriage blessing and 45 funerals.

The Church School attend St Paul’s and take part in various special services and they have a school mass in St Paul’s at the end of each half term.

The congregations of each church differ in composition. St Luke’s is weighted towards those who are retired. They support the religious and pastoral life of the church. At St Paul's the age range is lower with people in the middle-age bracket. Recent decline in the number of children and young people has been offset by a number of families with young children making a commitment to worship.

Families who attend weddings and baptisms are made aware of all the aspects of church life. People who have recently lost loved ones are invited to events at the church especially the monthly Memorial Service. Each year there is a miner’s memorial service.

We are a sociable, welcoming church, with a relaxed and informal atmosphere. We are inclusive and value our close sense of community. We have a diverse calendar of parish social events e.g. Quiz nights, Race Nights, Bingo, Pie & Pea Suppers etc. where the focus is fellowship and coming together. There are regular fundraising events such as a Summer and Christmas Fair. When St Paul’s is re-opened, the church will be more accessible to people for worship and community social events.

The Parish Magazine ‘Good News’ is printed every month and a news sheet is produced every week.

Services have been held in local residential care homes. There are a number of Nurseries and playgroups in the parish. Some have had services in church or visited at special times of the year and supported our events.
One of the biggest services of the year is the Parish Act of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday. The church is full, and the Grimethorpe Colliery Band lead the parade of ex-service men to St Luke’s and then accompany the singing of hymns in the church.

There is a Craft Club at St Luke’s which is all inclusive catering for all ages and abilities. They make clothing and items for the premature baby unit and stimulus mats for people with dementia. The church hosts the Autumn and Spring Concerts by the Grimethorpe and District Band who often support us in our events.

We are also represented on the North East Ward Alliance of the council and the local councillors are encouraged to be part of church events. Each church has a Christmas Tree Lighting event, funded and arranged by the Ward Alliance, when families and children from all the local schools join us to sing carols and witness the turning on of the lights on the trees outside each church. It has become a valuable outreach for the church at Christmas time.

We have strong links with the local schools, especially our church school, Brierley C.E. (VC) Primary School, with which we have a strong bond. The headteacher welcomes involvement with the church and members of our church community serve as governors, on which the incumbent has served in the capacity of Chair for the last three years. There have been Messy Church sessions in school, but with the improvement to the facilities at St Paul’s, we will be able to host this in church.

As part of our commitment to our place in the community, we are developing resources to explore our heritage and reach out to the community by having open days and using social media, webpages and the internet.

**Parish of Ryhill, Havercroft with Cold Hiendley and Wintersett**

The parish is set in beautiful countryside, midway between Wakefield and Barnsley in the County of West Yorkshire with unrivalled views to the west across our local lakes and reservoirs and towards Emley Moor and the Pennines. We have many places of interest lying just beyond the parish boundaries, including Rabbit Ings Country Park, the National Trust’s Nostell Priory, Pontefract and Sandal Castles, the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and the national award-winning Hepworth Gallery.

The parish is made up of four villages – Ryhill, Havercroft, Cold Hiendley and Wintersett. Ryhill and Havercroft are the larger villages and are linked very closely together. The two villages together contain very useful facilities which include a primary health centre, including the GP surgery, gym, optician pharmacy, an NHS dental practice, two primary schools, Post office facilities, well stocked convenience stores, several takeaways, hairdressers/barbers and social clubs.

Cold Hiendley and Wintersett are the smallest villages in the parish with only a few houses, some farms but no shops. Wintersett has a public house and is near to the Anglers Country Park with its extensive stretches of water - home to many breeds of waterfowl and a popular destination for families, walkers and cyclists. The country park contains nature trails, public footpaths and hides for birdwatchers to view the wide variety of birds visiting the area. There is also a visitors’ centre, café, children’s playground and “Room on the Broom” trail.

The population in the parish has increased in recent years to around 5500 with recent housing developments both private and rented the population is mainly white British. The parish is very mixed socio-economically; there are many owner-occupied houses throughout the parish while some areas face significant social and economic challenges.
Mining was once the biggest employer in the parish but now many people commute to work. There is however some employment within the parish from local businesses, facilities and agriculture.

The community is well served by various facilities such as the Ryhill and Havercroft Sports Centre with a volunteer-run youth centre which offers many opportunities for games and sport. There are a range of indoor sports and activities as well as a licensed bar. The centre is home to numerous local teams. The Havercroft & Ryhill Community Learning Centre is used for adult education classes and has a community library.

**St James’ Church** is dedicated to St James’ the Great, the church was consecrated in 1876. The church seats about 120 people. It is well-maintained by the PCC and a willing band of volunteers. Following the 2015 Quinquennial Report, the churchwardens and PCC organised a program of works which has dealt with the vast majority of required repairs and alterations. St James’ has a chime of eight bells which can be heard ringing across the parish. The parish centre, attached to the church building, was built in 1990 in matching stone.

We are a member of the Society and have a faithful congregation who are very supportive of each other and our parish. We recognise however that we are increasing in age. Attendance at Sunday Mass are between 25 and 30, at midweek services we have between 8 and 10.

The PCC has passed a resolution A, B and C. We follow the Roman lectionary except for the third Sunday when we have evensong and benediction and follow the BCP. In 2018 there were 30 baptisms, 3 weddings and 24 burials/cremations.

Music for Sunday Mass is provided by an organist and laity read the lessons and lead the intercessions. Servers are at the altar and the priest celebrates with full vestments and incense. We are fortunate to have the services of retired deacon, Rev’d Deacon, June Crossland, who has the Bishop’s Licence to officiate. Seven members of the congregation are licence to assist with the administration of the chalice. A team of three baptism visitors meet with families who request baptism to offer them guidance and support. During interregnum we have a service on Wednesday evening which alternates between Mass, the rosary, stations of the cross, taize and healing.

During Advent and Lent, we hold weekly service followed by a simple soup lunch, with proceeds going to charity. On Christmas Eve we hold a crib service and a Midnight Mass. Christmas Day we have Mass. A service of Nine Lessons and Carols is also held during the Christmas period.

We have a Memorial Candle Service during Advent for parishioners to remember all ones. We have seen an increase in people attending this service year-on-year. People donate a candle in the name of love ones, who have died, to be put on our Christmas tree.

During Lent we have weekly Stations of the Cross. On Maundy Thursday there is a Mass with washing of feet followed by a Vigil. On Good Friday we have devotion with the Liturgy of the Passion and Veneration of the Cross followed on Holy Saturday by the Service of Light. On All Souls Day we invite families who have been bereaved during the year to a memorial service at which we light candles for those who have died. We observe Remembrance Sunday with a Mass in church and then a procession to the community war memorial, where we join in the community act of commemoration.
We have a Walsingham Cell dedicated to St. Oswald and St. Thomas More. A weekend pilgrimage is regularly made to the Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham from the parish, usually in June. A number of our congregation are members of the Society of Mary.

Two new stained-glass windows were installed in the chancel in 2015. One window depicts our patron, St. James the Great, while the other is dedicated to Our Lady of Walsingham. The windows were a gift of a faithful parishioner in memory of his late wife.

St James’ has a thriving Mothers’ Union branch which regularly recruits new members. Membership currently stands at 25; we are one of the largest MU branches in the Wakefield Episcopal Area. The branch meets monthly on the first Monday evening of the month for a diverse range of speakers and activities and also organises regular outings and worship, for example to other branches and last year to Holy Island. Members support MU projects in this country and abroad, for example supporting St. Catherine’s Foodbank, providing emergency packages for patients at Pinderfields Hospital, making “twiddle muffs” for people with dementia and sending clothes to a local unit for babies and younger mothers.

St. James’ Church is committed to regular charitable giving.

The St James Centre is attached to the church and is available for use by church and community groups, as well as for hire for parties, teas etc. It is used regularly for church fundraising events such as our weekly coffee morning and Bingo session. It has recently been extensively refurbished so that we can offer modern, comfortable facilities. We have a fully equipped kitchen with cooking facilities and seating for around fifty people. There is easy access for disabled users, including a spacious and appropriately equipped disabled toilet and baby changing facilities. We are striving to be a dementia-friendly church community by making sure that all signage is helpful and reassuring.

There is a dedicated and hardworking social group who put on a range of activities and social events throughout the year. These include summer and winter fairs, jumble sales, quiz nights, themed discos, suppers and a Call My Bluff wine tasting. We advertise events widely in the community as it is important to us to reach out to the whole parish and not just the congregation. This has proved to be very successful as all our events are well-attended. We are only limited by our centre’s capacity! These events are also a valuable source of fundraising. We also run a very popular 100 Club with monthly draws on the last Sunday of the month.

We distribute 340 copies of our Parish Magazine every month. As well as being an important vehicle for parish and community news and articles of interest, the magazine also generates a regular income for the parish.

There are two primary schools in our parish, and we have built up good relationships with them. Both schools have visited St. James’ Church for special festivals and services and parish clergy have visited the schools to work with children and staff. We are keen for these links to continue.

The vicarage, built in 1987, is of brick construction with an attached garage. It stands within its own grounds and has tidy gardens to the side and rear of the building. The drive area is large and enclosed from the pavement by double gates. There is a back pathway leading
to the church. The vicarage is not adjacent to the church but is only a few seconds away.

It has an entrance porch with an access door to the garage and an inner front door which leads to the hallway. The study, cloakroom cupboards and a toilet are located near the door. Off the hallway is a spacious, well-lit sitting room.

A stone fireplace in this room is fitted with a gas fire. There is a separate dining room and a large fitted kitchen. A further door leads to the utility room and a small rear porch with access to the gardens. Upstairs there are four bedrooms. The bathroom has a shower as well as a bath. The vicarage has gas central heating and there is double glazing throughout.

**THE PARISH OF SOUTH KIRKBY ALL SAINTS**

The Parish has a population of approximately 11,000 people and is situated in the beautiful countryside of West Yorkshire. Over the past few years a thirteen-mile conservation nature trail has been developed interlinking local villages of Hemsworth, South Kirkby, South Elmsall and Upton, which is very popular with walkers and fitness enthusiasts whilst giving home to a variety of birds and wildlife. South Kirkby Cricket Club offers the community members the opportunity to get active, hosting a variety of activities for both children and adults. As well as this, there are many places of interest just outside of the Parish boundaries including; the National Trust’s Nostell Priory, Pontefract and Sandal Castle, Yorkshire Wildlife Park and the national award-winning Hepworth Gallery to name a few.

South Kirkby is an ex-mining village and although local collieries have long since been closed, villagers still remain close, friendly, welcoming and supportive of one another, especially when fundraising for charity within the community occurs. More recently we have seen new housing developments arising within the community. With our village seeing an influx of new individuals choosing to live within our area from other regions of the country and Europe, we see this as a testament to the area and the friendly nature of our community.

The village contains very useful facilities including a GP Surgery, opticians, pharmacy, post office, three primary schools, multiple convenience stores, a supermarket, several take away establishments and hairdressers/beauticians. Having excellent transport links enables villagers to access high tech gyms and swimming baths which are situated approximately one mile from South Kirkby.

We are proud to have a very good working relationship with the local Town Council and South Kirkby is well served by the parish councillors, who attend services such as; Remembrance Day and Civic Sunday. The Council maintain the churchyard to a high standard and also ensure adequate lighting of the church and surrounding areas. The council office is now known collectively as The Grove. Previously the building was used as a convent, the establishment has now been renovated to a high standard and is a focal point for many local wedding receptions and concerts that occur within the village and is where the Parochial Church Council meetings are also held.

South Kirkby does have a historical past, being mentioned within the Domesday Book. The church acknowledges that there are challenging and changing times ahead, however, this only exemplify and synergise our collective aim to respond to those challenges, move forward to create our own history, so that future generations can judge us favourably.
Within South Kirkby we are lucky to have a community area consisting of a park with large grass areas that are perfect for young families and dog walkers. Alongside the park there are tennis courts, a bowling green, fishing ponds and a cricket ground, all of which have regular use from community members. South Kirkby also has youth group facilities, giving children a place to go and a chance to learn new skills and activities after school. As well as this the village also runs its own football teams with many local junior and senior football clubs competing in tournaments across the country.

Nearby in South Elmsall a local village market always proves popular within the community, a community centre and social centre offering numerous courses for a variety of age groups. Multiple allotment and planting areas are available for hire purchases and again recreational grounds are located in multiple locations of the village.

**All Saints Church** is a grade one listed building and has stood on the same site in South Kirkby for more than a thousand years. With a substantial part of the present building having occupied the site for more than eight hundred years. The church has not stood for such a long time because it was so well built (even though it was) but because it has been in constant use by a group of people for the whole of this duration, it is these people who are the real church.

During the whole of its long history, the church in South Kirkby has been closely linked with the life of the village community. Thousands of people have been baptised, married and buried here. The church can now seat approximately a hundred and twenty people, it is maintained to a high standard by the parochial church council and a willing band of volunteers. The fabric of the church is of good order, whilst the church is fitted with security alarms and 24hr CCTV.

The church is a fine medieval building, ideal for Anglo-Catholic worship. Our patrons are the Guild of All Souls”. Easter and Christmas services are well attended, with the Christingle service extremely popular within our community. We are also part of the Church Together group, holding occasional meetings to worship together, strengthening common unity between all churches.

We are a faithful congregation who are very supporting of each other and our parish. We hold weekly coffee mornings which are open to the public. In summer, we hold strawberry teas and later in the year a traditional Christmas fayre, which is always a great success and hugely popular with the local community. In previous years our parish has also held summer fetes which we would be hoping to reintroduce to the community within the future. Also, over the past years we have been having weekend pilgrimages to the shrine of our lady of Walsingham.

Our church is fortunate to have a retired honorary priest (Father Eric Brown) and also another retired priest (Father Michael Johnson), who celebrate parish mass with us on a regular basis. We have many sacramental assistants and an active team of servers. We currently have 68 people on the electoral role. We are also in the process of assembling a pastoral care team for the purpose of hospital visits and holy communion for housebound parishioners. We pride ourselves on being a family orientated church and the children’s area that we have is ideal to ensure individuals with young families will be entertained, whilst music is provided by a highly skilled organist. Attendance at Sunday Mass is between 35-48 people, at midweek services around 16 people.
Church Owned Buildings.

The vicarage was built in 1984 up to a very high standard and stands within its own grounds, has maintained gardens surrounding the house, double gates for security and a double garage. Although not adjacent to the Church, the Vicarage is only a few minute’s walk away.

Upon entering the vicarage, the hallway leads to a variety of rooms including the study area, large, spacious living area, a snug room, modern kitchen with added utility room all with storage space and cloakroom cupboard within the entrance also. The first floor consists of four bedrooms, toilet and separate bathroom and shower. The vicarage comes with gas central heating and fully fitted double glazing throughout.

Glebe Cottage is situated adjacent from the Church and is a large detached property consisting of entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom, with the surrounding gardens being fully maintained to a high standard. This cottage is rented long-term with all profits going into the church funds.

The Community Centre has been recently renovated and upgraded to an extremely high standard. In previous years the community centre was the focal point for community functions such as Bingo, Karate, Health and Well-being groups and also where the summer fayre was held. However, due to the local council opening a new community centre we have seen that the above groups have now relocated to this new facility. As which, we have decided to sell the building with all profits to facilitate the planned improvements of All Saints Church, to enable All Saints to become more family orientated church with a propose kitchen area, toilets and larger play area for the children. Whilst ensuring any renovations and redecorations to the church can be completed to a high standard.

All of our parishes have good transport links. There is easy access to railway stations and each village has a good bus service. There a good link-roads to the M1, the A1 and the M62. The city of Wakefield and the town of Barnsley are within easy reach by bus. There are train stations in Barnsley, South Elmsall, Moorthorpe, Fitzwilliam and Sandal/Agbrigg which links to Wakefield Westgate, Sheffield, Doncaster and Leeds for the National Rail network. We are conveniently positioned for the Pennines, the Derbyshire Peak District and the East Coast.

**WHAT WE WANT FROM A PRIEST**
All three parishes are set in the catholic tradition of the Church of England and we are looking for a priest in charge who values this tradition. The worship is centred on the Eucharist and we would want this to continue, although we recognise that we must look to the future and the need to be innovative and try styles and forms of worship and teaching across a wide range of ages and levels of faith.

We want someone who is able to work with an assistant priest to actively seek opportunities in the various communities for outreach and mission so that the church will grow in numbers and in discipleship.

We are not looking for a priest who can do all this for us, but one who will inspire us with a clear vision for God’s Kingdom, and work with us, so that the whole church and every member of our Christian community can discover their part. We are looking for someone will motivate and inspire us to develop our gifts and talents so that we can effectively build up our community of faith.

The presence of the church in schools is important and essential for future growth. We want someone who will be actively supportive and engaged in the schools across the parishes and to continue to build on the strong links with the Church of England primary school in Brierley. To also begin to establish links with the local high school.

The person appointed must be able to lead high-profile fundraising activities and campaigns to help realise the full potential and flexibility of the church buildings, and to improve on the facilities offered.

We want someone who is willing to develop their own personal skills and knowledge in relation to ministry, maintaining a worshipping and prayerful spiritual life and having an appropriate pattern of work. Someone who is willing to go forward in the community and engage with those who have little or no faith and support these individuals.

**Looking to the future,** we would like someone who will guide us and help to develop and communicate a clear vision for the parishes. To help us explore and deepen our faith, develop us in prayer and relate the Bible to our daily lives.

Someone who will build upon the congregation’s current involvement to encourage the development of their gifts and ministries. To organise and work with others, both inside and outside the church, to raise the profile of the church and develop our ministry among young people and families.

Someone who can respond to the challenge of continuing developments and the changes this newly formed group of parishes will bring.

Finally, he will definitely need a sense of humour.