

and architectural style is a feature in some local churches especially. If you are interested in having one or more, please do have a word with me.

Loop system

Before work starts on the rewiring and relighting of the church in January, it is hoped that the existing loop system for the hard of hearing will have been extended. The present system only serves the nave. It is intended that the loop system should extend into the aisles, transepts and chancel, too, so that we really can seek to extend our welcome to everyone.

Fr Antony

Coming up at St Peter & St Paul's ...

Next Week ...

10am PARISH EUCHARIST
Celebrant & Preacher: the Archbishop of York

PARISH EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION
Sunday 23rd November at 10am
Celebrant & Preacher: the Bishop of Whitby

A LIGHT FOR CHRISTMAS
Sunday 2nd December at 3.30pm

CHRISTMAS FAIR
Saturday 8th December, 2-4pm

PARISH CHURCH CAROL SERVICE
Sunday 9th December at 6pm

TOWN CAROL SERVICE
Wednesday 12th December at 6.30pm

CONCERT OF MUSIC
with STAPE SILVER BAND
Sunday 16th December at 2pm

CHRISTMAS EVE,
Monday 24th December

3pm CRIB & CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY,
Tuesday 25th December

8am HOLY COMMUNION
&

10am ALL-AGE FAMILY COMMUNION
Celebrant & Preacher: the Bishop of Whitby



www.pickeringchurch.com



Sunday 11th November 2018
Third Sunday before Advent
Twenty Third Sunday after Trinity
Armistice Day

**PEWS
NEWS**

Dear friends,

Help!

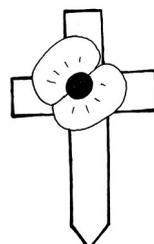
Christmas approaches fast, and this year's *A Light for Christmas*, on Sunday 2nd December, especially so. Margaret Moore has very kindly worked away at collating and putting into street order the letters and inserts we send out at this time of the year. They should now be out at the back of church. PLEASE, do help distribute these. So many people from Pickering and beyond value greatly this special service, and find comfort from seeing the individually-named lights on the tree. It's a terrific act of mission, (and it so happens is also a good fundraiser for our church). Please help. Thank you.

Moment of Silence

This weekend is, of course, the 100th centennial anniversary of the Signing of the Armistice, and I do wish to thank Gill for her vision in creating this installation, and for all of you who have contributed in so many different ways (not least knitting), to make this a success, and a tribute to those who gave their lives in War.

1000 poppies were asked for, but in the end we have far exceeded 2000. As well as countless individuals, pupils from the Infants' and Lady Lumley's School have contributed; nursing homes, too, and I am aware that as well as much local interest and support, we have had poppies sent from a number of different places, from as far afield as South Yorkshire and Harrogate and, as most poppies have been sent anonymously, possibly even further away. So it's a further act of mission for our church, as well as honouring those who gave their lives for the freedom and peace we enjoy today. I know that many churches are rightly honouring their war dead using knitted poppies, but this is different, and really does seem to have caught people's attention.

Thanks should go, too, to our bellringers, who will contribute significantly to Armistice Day remembrance, and do so most appropriately, for our peal of bells, and the clock chimes, form part of Pickering's War Memorial.



Vicar's Return

I've now finished treatment and so have been able to attend a few services at Pickering of late. I had hoped to take some Christmas services but my consultant and the Archdeacon of Cleveland have both emphatically ruled that out; besides, I'm still on medication and prone to infection.

So I'm planning to be with you again at the 10am Eucharist on the glorious Feast of the Epiphany, Sunday 6th January 2019.

You'll appreciate that when I return I'm not going to be able to do everything as before, and so I'm really pleased that when I do return in January, I will be sharing our Sunday 10am eucharist with a clergy colleague, meaning that one week I will be celebrant; the next I will preach. That gives you the joy of variety, and stops us all becoming complacent.

Thank you

Whilst advising you what is to happen on my return in the New Year, I do wish to thank all who have ensured that things have run so smoothly in the benefice and especially in this busy parish of Pickering, during my absence.

I am especially grateful to Fr Richard Seed who, along with churchwardens Val and Pam, has overseen arrangements for worship and helped ensure an ongoing ministry of care. A very big thank you, too, to all our clergy who have helped ensure that all services are covered in my absence, and who have given so marvellous and so caring a ministry. And thank you to all of you who continue to minister in so many special ways in Pickering Church.

Finally, thank you from Gill and me for your immense care of us both, seen in cards and messages received, emails and texts, telephone messages and gifts left at the door. We have both felt so cared for by *your* ministry for *us*.

Heating System

At the 10am Eucharist on Epiphany Sunday I will offer a prayer of blessing of the new heating system. The church is certainly so much warmer than before, and it is especially marvellous that the heating itself has been completed almost one month ahead of schedule.

Immense thanks must go to churchwardens Val and Pam, who have had to manage all this on our behalves, which has taxed them mightily at times, and thank you to all who have helped clean and make the church good for Sunday services.

New Lighting

January will see the start of the installation of the new lighting scheme, and a total rewiring of the church. As you will be aware, there has been a known need to do something about this for many years—documentation in the Vicarage confirms that this was being talked of as a problem almost thirty years ago—and a recent electrical report has failed every component of our existing wiring, whilst the current lighting fails all criteria for what is expected in a public building today. So the replacement of wiring and lighting is essential for our own safety, as well as reducing risk of fire in our wonderful church building.

In my nearly-eleven years here we've done much fundraising towards a new lighting scheme, including the two big Flower Festivals, the annual *A Light for Christmas* services, and even the collection from Gill and my wedding. Add to all that the sale last year of the seriously damp-ridden cottage on Hallgarth and, at long last, we're there!

The new lighting scheme, designed by one of Britain's leading designers, Bruce Kirk, Director of *Light Perceptions*, and installed by T & ME Jackson of Ripon, a firm of electrical contractors very experienced in working in old and historically-sensitive buildings—Ripon Cathedral, Fountains Abbey, Bolton Priory Church being some of their most recent projects—includes lighting designed specifically for our wall-paintings, as well as vastly-improved congregational and event lighting.

If you wish to see a list of some of Bruce's past projects so you can appreciate the standard of his work, here's a useful web address: <http://www.lightperceptions.co.uk/our-projects/past-projects/past-project-list/> Or just Google 'Light Perceptions' for an overview.

Work at Pickering is due to begin in January and, if all goes well, should be concluded by Easter (though the internal tower lighting may take a little longer).

Although it is hoped that much of the church will remain open as work progresses, inevitably there will be some disruption, and the church may have to be closed at short notice.

Funerals during this time, taken by an Anglican priest, will probably take place at either St Joseph's Roman Catholic or Potter Hill Methodist churches, as they have as the heating was being installed, and I thank our ecumenical friends for their practical help and continued support.

Finally, the existing lighting pendants in the nave will be going. These were designed by George Pace, whose very distinctive decorative