Bawtry ~ Austerfield
Misson ~ Everton
Mattersey

DECEMBER 2026 NOTICE SHEET

What's Happening in December . . . . .



Wreath Making, St Helena's, Austerfield, Thursday 1st, 10.00am,
Little Lambs 9.30-11.30am, Tuesdays - Bawtry Church Hall, Fridays - Everton Village Hall
Bell Ringing Practice Every Tuesday 7.00pm alternating between Bawtry/Mattersey – for information contact Annabelle Prebble via e-mail on: akprebble@gmail.com
Mattersey Tree Lighting and Carols, All Saints Church, Thursday 3rd, 5.30pm,
Everton Cheese and Carols, Village Hall, Friday 4th, 7.30pm,
Misson Step into Christmas, Saturday 5th, 11am-3pm, then 4pm Carols around the Church Trees
Bawtry Christingle and Tea, St Nicholas Church then Hall Sunday 6th, 4pm
Nourish, Monday 7th Hotpot | 14th Jaysters Christmas Dinner, 11.30am, then closed, back in January
Everton Christingle, Holy Trinity Church, Monday 7th, 3.30pm
Craft & Chat, Mattersey Church Hall, 1.30-3.30pm, Tuesday 8th
Everton Tree Lighting and Carols, Holy Trinity Church, Friday 11th, 6pm
Women's Group - children welcome this month, Bawtry Church Hall with festive brunch, craft, and kids' corner, 10-12 noon, Saturday 12th
Blue Christmas Service, St Barbabas Church, Ranskill, Sunday 13th, 4pm, Open to all
Mattersey Christingle, All Saints Church, Wednesday 16th, 11am
Bawtry Carol Service, St Nicholas Church, Thursday 17th, 7.30pm
St John's Community Café on Tour, Misson Parish Hall, Friday 18th, 9.00am, with crafts to buy
Carols by Candlelight, St Helena's, Austerfield, Sunday 20th, 6pm
Bawtry Town Carols, Market Hill, Bawtry, Thursday 24th, 4pm

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE - THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

Whether you have a wind-up, FM or DAB digital radio, it won't be long before we are all listening to those annual Christmas playlists! Wizard will soon be wishing it could be Christmas every day, Aled will be walking in the air and Slade shouting out the reminder that "iiitsss Christmaaaaas!"

But what does Christmas mean to you? For billions of Christians around the world, we are celebrating the astonishing fact that the Almighty, infinite God took on the fragility of human life, with all its associated risks and vulnerabilities, to live among us and ultimately to save us through his death and resurrection.

The greatest Christmas gift of all, and for all, was wrapped in scraps of cloth, laid in an animal feeding trough and placed in the care of a refugee family.

And this is what makes the Christmas story so extraordinary. God didn't choose a palace, a position of power or a life of privilege to reveal himself to the world. Instead, he came as a vulnerable baby, born into an ordinary family, in difficult circumstances. His arrival reminds us that nobody is beyond God's love, nobody is forgotten and that hope can be found even in the most unlikely of places.

In a world where so many people are experiencing uncertainty, loneliness, conflict and hardship, the message of Christmas feels as important as ever. The gift of Jesus is one of love, peace, hope and a promise that God is with us, whatever life brings. So, amidst the festive music, the presents, the food and the celebrations, may we pause for a moment to remember the greatest gift of all. A gift freely given, not just for Christmas, but for every day and for everyone.

Wishing you all a very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas,
Rev Becky



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE at Ranskill

You are most welcome to come.

Amongst the joy and gifts, there can also be sadness, for those we love and see no more.
A loud, bright service may not be right for you this year.
A memorial service where appropriate carols are sung quietly, may be a time for you to share and reflect with others.
Everyone is welcome to this service led by Rev Louise and Rev Becky.

Christmas Greetings

In each of our churches there will be a Christmas Card for anyone who attends that church, to sign. The cards signed with all your good wishes, are then shared across the churches. It's a lovely Eco way to share our Christmas cheer.
Please would you consider signing the Christmas cards and making a donation to Tearfund in the boxes available.
Thank you.

tearfund

From the Parish Registers



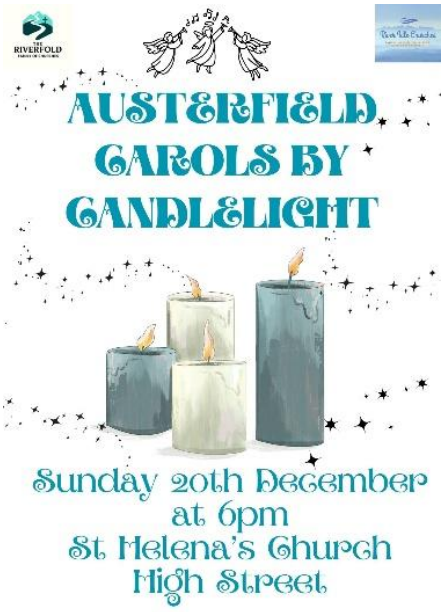
Funerals

2 November	Misson	Michael Rowley
3 November	Bawtry	Mollie Gregson
12 November	Everton	Beryl Middleton
12 November	Austerfield	Stewart Hayday
19 November	Misson	Pat Swift

Christmas Cards For Sale in Church



Very reasonably priced Recycled Christmas cards are made by church members and sold in most of our churches. Look for them at the back of church.
Donations can be made by cash or using the machine or QR code in our churches.
As well as being Eco Friendly, the funds raised go towards the maintenance of our ancient buildings.



THANK YOU FOR FILLING CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who contributed to providing shoeboxes and/or money for this year's appeal. **42** shoeboxes have been filled and collected and **4** were done on-line. There were donations of over £200.

The shoeboxes will be distributed to children in many different countries across the world.

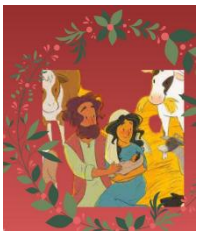
ST NICHOLAS CHURCH BAWTRY
Supported by Jaysters Catering
JOIN US AT NOURISH

NOURISH December + January

Monday 7 Dec: soup, sausage rolls and cakes, with Mayflower School Children joining us.
Monday 14 Dec: Christmas Lunch.
Then we'll be back on Mon 4 January 27.



Whether you like to make a Christingle (the one with the orange)
turn your hand to a nativity outfit
join in with carols and worship by candlelight
or share communion before tucking into your Christmas dinner
there'll be a service in the Benefice



December 2026 - Services across the River Idle Benefice

6th	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	Isaiah 40: 1-11
	11.15am	All Saints, Mattersey	Holy Communion	Mark 1: 1-8
	4.00pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Christingle then Tea	John 8: 12
Mon 7th	3.30pm	Holy Trinity, Everton	Christingle	John 8: 12
13th	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters/Sundayz Cool	Isaiah 61: 1-4 and 8-end
	11.15am	Holy Trinity, Everton	Family Holy Communion and Gift Service	John 1: 6-8 and 19-28
	4.00pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Evensong	
Thurs 17th	7.30pm	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Carol Service	Various Readings
20th	9.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Living Waters Nativity	Various Readings
	11.15am	All Saints, Mattersey	Holy Communion	Romans 16: 25-end Luke 1: 26-38
	6.00pm	St Helena's, Austerfield	Carols by Candlelight	Various Readings
Thurs 24th	2.30pm	Holy Trinity, Everton	Crib Service	Various Readings
	4.00pm	Bawtry Market Square	Town Carols	- - - - - - -
	5.30pm	St John the Baptist Misson	Crib Service	Various Readings
	11.30pm	St John the Baptist Misson	Midnight Communion	Isaiah 9: 2-7 Luke 2: 1-14
Fri 25th	10.30am	St Nicholas, Bawtry	Christmas Day Family Communion	Hebrews 1: 1-4 and 5-12 John 1: 1-14
27th	9.15am	Our Lady and St Peter Bothamsall	Holy Communion	
	11.00am	All Saints, Misterton	Holy Communion	

January 2027 – Save the Dates

Saturday 9th, 10.30 - 12.00noon, Bawtry Church Hall, Women's Group
Sunday 17th, 4.00 - 5.00pm, Holy Trinity Church, Everton Rooted @ 4
Tuesday 26th, 7.00 - 8.00pm, St Barnabas Church, Ranskill, Riverfold Monthly Prayers

Common Worship Daily Prayer

We meet every weekday morning from 9.30 - 10am
in one of our churches.
You are warmly invited to join us in person.
There are paper service sheets at each location.



Monday - All Saints, Mattersey
Tuesday - Holy Trinity, Everton
Wednesday - St John the Baptist, Misson
Thursday - St Nicholas, the usual Bawtry Holy Communion service
Friday - St Helena's, Austerfield



Who's Who:



Vicar: **Reverend Becky Hancock:** 01302 218308
Email: revbeckyhancock@theriverfold.com
Becky's usual rest day is Saturday

Retired Clergy:
Reverend Jean Tomlinson
Reverend Richard Spray
Lay Reader: Paul Kirby



Children & Families Team Leader: Di Grice 07748 804 080
Email: riveridlechildrensworker@gmail.com
Di's usual rest day is Wednesday



PA to Rev Becky - Samantha Brazier
01302 218308
Email: samanthabrazier00@gmail.com

Contact details for the Vicarage | River Idle Benefice
Telephone with answer machine: **01302 218 308**
E-mail address: **riveridlechurches@gmail.com**

Website: www.riveridlebenefice.co.uk

Churchwardens

Bawtry Chris Grice 07927 411 382
Chris Eyes 07938 930 814

Austerfield Kay Beckett 07507 334 330
Samantha Brazier 07446 981 603

Misson Anne Rowe 07594 350 065
Peter Edwards 07892 541 691

Everton John Dunn 07740 072 449

Mattersey Currently Vacant

Find us on Facebook:
The River Idle Benefice Churches

and Individual Pages for:

St Nicholas, Bawtry

Holy Trinity, Everton

St Helena's, Austerfield

St John the Baptist, Misson

SAFEGUARDING is Everyone's Responsibility
~ See Something ~ Hear Something ~ Say Something ~
Tell your Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

We all have a responsibility to ensure our Churches are safe for all.
Our policies and practices comply with National Safeguarding Standards.
Our Safeguarding Policy is available to view in all our Churches.

Bawtry with Austerfield - Dawn Abbiss, 07900 497522, abbiss.d@live.co.uk
Misson - Anne Rowe, 07594 350 065, anne.rowe@hotmail.co.uk
Everton – Christine Dunn, 01777 818 732, cdunn2347@aol.com
Mattersey – Anne Mills, 01777 818 938, anne.h.mills@btinternet.com

Treasurers - Contact Information

Bawtry w Austerfield - Peter Eggleston 01302 710 948 peter.eggleston@btinternet.com

Misson - Susan Howard 01302 719 113 suehowardsusan@aol.co.uk

Everton - Angela Harrison 07784 056 808 angeharrison4@gmail.com

Mattersey - Chris Hull 01777 816 858 cpahull@btinternet.com