

Easingwold & Raskelf PARISH MAGAZINE

February 2026



*Candlemas 2nd February
St Valentine 14th February
Ash Wednesday 18th February*

60p



LOCAL PEOPLE SERVING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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Memorials

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NORMAL CHURCH SERVICES

1st Sunday	Easingwold	9.00am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Holy Communion with hymns
	Raskelf	9.30am	Holy Communion with hymns
2nd Sunday	Easingwold	9.00am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Holy Communion with hymns (also on Zoom)
3rd Sunday	Easingwold	9.00am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Holy Communion with hymns
	Raskelf	9.30am	Holy Communion with hymns
4th Sunday	Easingwold	9.00am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Holy Communion with hymns (also on Zoom)
5th Sunday	Easingwold	9.00am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Holy Communion with hymns



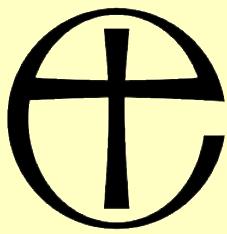
Weekdays in Easingwold

Wednesday 9.00am Holy Communion

Thursday 3.45pm Little Seeds for 4-9 year olds (term time, in Church):

Contact Andrew Neville-Smith at a.nevillesmith@outlook.com for details or just turn up

*Details of special services held throughout the year will be listed in
"Services and Events" on the centre pages*

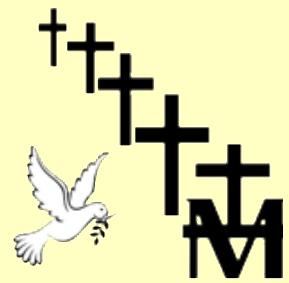


THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

PARISH OF EASINGWOLD WITH RASKELF

St John the Baptist and All Saints Church,
Easingwold and
St Mary's Church, Raskelf

✉ vicar@easingwoldraskelfanglican.org



Vicar	Rev'd Richard Grant	✉ 07857 007 847
Churchwardens	Pat Allen Laura Varney	✉ 01347 821139 ✉ 07581 213805
Retired Clergy assisting in the parish	Rev'd Robin Davill Rev'd John Hetherington	
Authorised Lay Minister/ Anna Chaplain	Sara Beaumont	

CONTACTS

Parish Administrator	Sara Beaumont	✉ sarabeaumont.church@gmail.com
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Parish Safeguarding Officer	Alan Hake	✉ 07535 242372 ✉ christinehake@btinternet.com
Flowers - Raskelf	Lynne Price	✉ 07807 217167
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Bible Reading Fellowship	Gina Smith	✉ 01347 823843
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Organist Co-ordinator	Peter Smith	✉ 01347 823843
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www.easingwoldraskelfanglican.org

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The church year hurtles onwards: The festivity of Epiphany is nearly through, and the austerity of Lent beckons. But let's not be too hasty to get there, but rather pause, take a breath, and raise our eyes to the hills. Living in North Yorkshire means Psalm 121 is never far from my thoughts, and its comforting words often come to my mind when I'm out and about:

**I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.**

As the year rushes onwards, it's easy to feel you're struggling to keep up. Perhaps you're already behind on work this year, or just haven't kept up with everything you planned to. It's very easy when we're feeling swamped to focus in on the thing we're struggling with, or to end up with head bowed, staring at the floor. Instead, the psalmist invites us to do the opposite. To take a look at the bigger picture, to lift up our heads instead of lowering them.

I'm quite good at rushing onwards into the next job, and quite bad at stopping to take a breath – by the time you're reading this I'll be under Doctor's orders to rest, and I have to say I'm not looking forward to being confined to the house for three weeks. However, I know I need to take my own advice – to lift my head, look at that bigger picture, and see that some rest, even if unwanted, will set me up well for the year ahead of us.

The psalm goes on to remind us that God is no human guardian, checking in on us from time to time, but is eternally present. God doesn't rest and doesn't sleep, but is watching over us night and day. There whenever we need someone to turn to. When I look up and see the hills on the horizon, that's what I remember, and it cheers my heart.

I don't know what's going on for you at the minute, what you're dealing with, who you are having to watch over. But I do know that the God who made the hills is watching over you.

God bless,

Richard

SAFEGUARDING....NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS!

We've been talking about safeguarding a lot at PCC meetings recently and I'd like to share our thoughts with you.

Safeguarding is all about looking after each other. It is the responsibility of all of us in our church community. Simply put, imagine your own extended family. You want everyone in that family to feel safe and to be happy and no one person has the responsibility for this.

Thinking about our church community, safeguarding involves making sure the activities we organise are safe and that we all deal with people in a safe and proper way.

The PCC and the parish safeguarding officer must work with the Vicar and the Church community to ensure we are all doing this.

What can we all do to help with this as Christians? We need to be concerned about others and treat everyone with respect.

If you have concerns for someone's welfare or for how they are being treated, then report it to the parish, safeguarding officer or the Vicar, who will deal with the problem confidentially.

Our prayer is that we all work together to make our church community as safe as possible for everyone so that it continues to grow and flourish.

Alan Hake, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Anna Chaplaincy – What is it?

Anna Chaplains are out and about visiting older people in care homes, cafes, groups and in their own homes. They visit those of faith or none and will talk about anything from God to 'what's for lunch'! Anna Chaplains love to talk but are mostly there to listen.

They hope to bridge gaps where other services are not able to help, to support the isolated, listen to the lonely, comfort the bereaved and sit with the dying.

They are privileged to walk alongside those in need.

If you, or someone you know, would like a visit from

Sara our parish Anna Chaplain please call 07985080161 or email sarabeaumont.church@gmail.com



CHARITY DONATIONS

For several years your PCC has, on behalf of both congregations, sent donations to six local charitable organisations, just prior to Christmas.

For Christmas 2025 we sent £700 each to Carecent, Cozie, EDCCA, St Leonard's Hospice and Yorkshire Air Ambulance, and £500 to Autism Plus. A total of £4000.

In addition, £474 in private donations were sent to the Children's Society.

We have received warm letters of appreciation from all the recipients.

A PRAYER FOR THE KIND OF PEACE THAT DOESN'T BEHAVE

BY MARK SANDLIN

Good and loving God, we were taught to pray for peace. For calm. For things to settle down.

And honestly, sometimes that's what we want too.

But Love keeps showing up right where things are messy. Right where nothing is settled.

Right where silence would be easier.

Love keeps reminding us that peace isn't the same thing as quiet.

And harmony isn't faithful if it only works for the people already comfortable.

So today we pray a little differently.

Where there is hatred, don't let us rush past it with nice words or nervous smiles.

Help us stay. Help us tell the truth. Help us to refuse to look away.

Let Love disturb us.

Where there is injury, teach us how to tend wounds gently,
and also how to ask why those wounds keep happening over and over again.

Let Love disturb us.

Where there is despair, give us hope that doesn't flinch.

Hope that doesn't disappear when things get awkward or costly. Hope that stays.
And where there is darkness give us light; not the kind that makes everything feel better,
but the kind that shows us what we'd rather not see.

Let Love disturb us.

Where we've grown numb, shake us awake. Where we've gone along to get along, interrupt us.
Where tradition matters more to us than actual human lives, and we benefit from that, even quietly,
don't let us pretend we don't notice.

Love keeps whispering and sometimes shouting, that gentleness isn't weakness,
and kindness isn't passivity, and that silence is not peace.

Because peace without justice isn't peace. It's just harm with better manners.

Let Love disturb us.

Disturb our comfort. Disturb the excuses we make when we can sleep at night.

Disturb the ways we call convenience "faith".

Mess with our calendars. Mess with our mobey.

Mess with the tables where we decide who gets a seat and who doesn't.

Let Love disturb us.

Help us want more than being understood. Help us want understanding.

Help us want more than being liked. Help us want to love in ways that actually cost us something.
Not just talking about justice, but practicing it. With our bodies. With our choices. With our lives.

Move us closer to those pushed to the edges.

Teach us how to love without fixing, without saving, without standing at a safe distance.

Make us channels, not just of peace, but of disruption.

Let Love disturb us,

Until Love refuses to settle for the world as it is.

Amen.





You & Me – bringing people together

Curry & Casserole Night
The Lounge, Galtres Centre
Friday 20th February
6.30pm for 7pm



There is no charge for this event but donations will be welcome.
To give the organisers an idea of how much food to cook, please add your name to the list at the back of the church if you wish to attend.

The You and Me Team



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH-2.15PM
AT ST JOHN THE BAPTIST & ALL SAINTS CHURCH
CHURCH HILL EASINGWOLD.

This ecumenical service is celebrated annually in over 130 countries, prepared by the Christian women of Nigeria. This year, the theme is

TOGETHER IN PRAYER, "I WILL GIVE YOU REST, COME"

This is usually a very moving service as we hear from different women about their lives and how their faith sustains them in the challenges they face.

A collection is taken and grants are given to various projects who assist women world wide.

All are welcome to join us.



Image from

<https://www.wwdp.org.uk/2026-theme-and-country-nigeria/>

SERVICES AND EVENTS: FEBRUARY 2026

To contact Rev'd Richard Grant, tel: 07857 007 847

or email: vicar@easingwoldraskelfanglican.org

The Vicar's day off is Friday



Children are welcome at all our services

Normal Services at Easingwold Parish Church

Sunday and Wednesday 9.00am—Holy Communion

Sunday 10.30am—Holy Communion

1st February: Candlemas Service at 10.30am

18th February: Ash Wednesday Services

9.00am: Holy Communion

7.30pm: Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Caring and Sharing

(formerly known as the Widows' Group)

will meet again on

Sunday 1st February

after morning service in the choir vestry at the back of the church.

Do come if you feel it will help you.

Nancy Kilburn

Services at Springhill Court,

Manor Road, Easingwold

.....
Holy Communion

**Tuesday 10th February
at 3pm**

All are welcome, especially those who are unable to attend Church



Christians Together around Easingwold (CTAE)

The monthly prayer meeting will be on

Saturday 14th February at 9am at the Methodist Church

Come and join this short time of prayer for our churches, town, country and world.

“In unity God will grow his Church”

Children's Church Services at Easingwold

Little Seeds

**for 4 to 9 year olds on Thursdays during term time
at 3.30pm in the Parish Church**

Please contact Andrew Neville-Smith at a.nevillesmith@outlook.com
for more details or just turn up

ST MARY'S CHURCH, RASKELF

Sunday 1st February:

Holy Communion at 9.30am

Sunday 14th February

Holy Communion at 9.30am

Children always welcome



RASKELF RESTORATION

GOOD NEWS

We have at last got the faculty for the restoration work at Raskelf. The next stage is to appoint a cost consultant to prepare a report which will be required as part of the bid to the Heritage Lottery fund which will be prepared by the consultants Irving Patrick. More information as it becomes available.

BIBLE CONVERSATIONS

The next meeting for Bible Conversations will be on

Tuesday 3rd February —10.00am to 11.15am

at 11 Whiteoak Avenue, Easingwold

Please arrive early so we can start promptly at 10.00am

We are discovering more about the Book of Esher.

If you would like further information, contact Chris Peel (01347 823548) or Sara Beaumont (sarabeaumont.church@gmail.com)



Open The Book Assemblies

Held each Thursday during term time alternating between

Easingwold Community Primary School and

Crayke Church of England Primary School

Open the Book (OtB) offers primary school children an opportunity to hear key Bible stories told by a team of Christians from local churches, who present the stories during assemblies or acts of collective worship. Each presentation takes around 10–15 minutes and can be incorporated into a wider school assembly, or can be stand-alone.

For further information please contact Andrew Neville-Smith at a.nevillesmith@outlook.com

Readings

Eucharist

1st February

Malachi 3:1-5
Hebrews 2:14-end
Luke 2:22-40

8th February

Genesis 1:1-2:3
Romans 8:18-25
Matthew 6:25-34

15th February

Exodus 24:12-end
2 Peter 1:16-end
Matthew 17:1-9

18th February

Isaiah 58:1-12
John 8:1-11

22nd February

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

1st March

Genesis 12:1-4a
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Candlemas

Evening Prayer

Haggai 2:1-9
John 2:18-22

2nd Sunday before Lent

Proverb 8:1, 22-31
Revelation 4

Sunday next before Lent

2 Kings 2:1-12
Matthew 17:9-23

Ash Wednesday at 7.30pm

Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 16-end
Luke 15:1-10

Lent 1

Lent 2

Numbers 21:4-9
Luke 14:27-33

From the Registers

Interment of Ashes

4th January: Karen Weir



Funerals

19th January: Dean Andrew Fielding

29th January: Margaret Caygill

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer is at the heart of what the church offers to the community, and the prayer corner in St John the Baptist and All Saints' is used regularly. It is a space where you are able to write the names of people you would like to have remembered in the book there. At St John the Baptist and All Saints', we join with you in your prayers for family, friends and all for whom you care.



If you would like prayers for yourself or another, or for those who, at this time, are struggling with anxiety, loneliness and isolation, our small, confidential and dedicated group of people will pray for you/them. To be included in prayers, please contact Chris Peel on 01347 823548.

Please include in your prayers this month:

- ◆ All who live and work in the Claypenny area, and Oulston Road, Thornlands, Crayke Road, Applegarth and Millfield;
- ◆ The Millfield surgery - all who work and visit there;
- ◆ The Town Council; the essential work of Social Services and all carers in our area;
- ◆ All who live in Church End, Raskelf.

Why do we Pray?



I wonder how often people ask themselves this question.

Is prayer important or is it something we rarely think about?

Is it something we turn to whenever there is a crisis either in our own lives or in the world in general?

It has been put forward recently, that there seem to be more people searching for something spiritual to come into their lives and that more young people are searching for answers than we have seen for many years. The attendance at churches also seems to be increasing.

There was no hesitation for Jesus about prayer and its importance to him.

“In the morning , while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.” Mark1:35

So he said to them:

***“When you pray, say : “Father, May your name be revered as holy.
May your kingdom come.” Luke 11:2***

Jesus also taught us how to pray and what to include :

“Our Father who art in heaven

Surely that is good enough for us.

This year let us make room for prayer. Daily, if possible; alone or in a group; written down or in our heads; acknowledging that it is something we all need to do .

The world needs our prayers .

Nancy, Sara and Chris

Whilst scrolling through back issues of the magazines I came across this poem by Olive Burns. As we are always on the look-out for volunteers on the tea/coffee rota, I thought it might be worth re-printing.

SueT

I GO TO “MY” CHURCH SUNDAY MORNINGS

I go to “my” church Sunday mornings
I call it “my” church so you’ll see
Of all the churches round about
This is the one for me.
Sometimes I don’t feel like going,
Too busy, a bit under par,
God found me once in the kitchen
And said, “Oh! That’s where you are!”
I missed you this morning at MY PLACE,
Your pew was empty and bare,
I thought it was strange you were absent
And wondered why you were not there.”



Well, it wasn’t our regular preacher
So I didn’t see the need
When I had all this cleaning and ironing to do,
And the back garden borders to weed.
One preacher preached 35 minutes –
We’d all had enough by then
When the next thing he said was,
“What more can I say?”
Somebody shouted, “AMEN.”

I really don’t want to upset you,
Although I might step out of line
So, God, if I don’t come to “YOUR PLACE”
I know you will meet me at mine.
But, I promise I’ll be there on Sunday,
Eager and willing to please
‘Cos I’m working toward your forgiveness
By serving the coffee and teas!



Olive Burns

Will YOU please sign up to help serve coffee and tea?
It would be greatly appreciated.

Easingwold & District u3a

The next meeting is on
Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 2pm
 when Andy Scott will give a talk on
Crimestoppers (North Yorkshire)

The u3a offers over 30 leisure, educational & recreational activities for those no longer in fulltime work with a monthly speaker meeting on the 3rd Tuesday at the Methodist Church .

**Visitors welcome: £2 or join our
 363 members! Only £16 per year**

easingwold-u3a.org.uk



OASIS

Coffee Morning

Easingwold Methodist Church
 Chapel Street

Friday 27th February: 0945-11.30

*Come and share good Fair Trade coffee, tea and biscuits,
 with great conversation and fellowship*



Christian Meditation

**Most Fridays at 2.30 pm to 3.15 pm at the
 Galtres Centre Function Room (upstairs)**

It includes periods of music and silent meditation



In today's culture this is an opportunity of being together in a reflective mood including silence. After a brief period of spoken reflection we experience some reflective music. We then enter a period of silent meditation for about 20-25 minutes. Some people use a 4-beat mantra such as "Ma-ra-na-tha" (or Come Lord Jesus), said twice, (not out loud!) breathing in and then when breathing out. After this, another period of music precedes a final prayer. It doesn't suit everyone but it is something worth trying. Sometimes we have a few comments, even laughter, afterwards! In today's busy-ness people often find this simple and yet cathartic. Even children in school use silence as a restful experience!

Perhaps, give it a try? Join us, you are most welcome.

Contact Marko Jakic - 07951 333639

PARISH PASSES FOR YORK MINSTER

Any member of the Parish may obtain a digital pass from the PCC Secretary.

It is valid for one person for one visit only.

Visiting and closure times are on the

York Minster website:

<http://www.yorkminster.org>

or by telephoning 01904 557275

Email: hazelhenebury@aol.co.uk or phone

01347 239178

IT'S GOOD TO SMILE

Notices which have appeared in church bulletins or have been announced in church

Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm in the church meeting room. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The primary 7's will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.



Books and more to your door Home Library and Information Service



Operated by volunteers from Easingwold Community Library with the support of NYC, we deliver books (including Large Print and children's books), audio books, music CDs, DVDs and information to the homes of people who find it difficult to get to the library.

You may be eligible for the free home delivery service if you cannot visit the library or carry books because of ill health or disability, or if you are a carer. We deliver to people who live in residential and nursing homes, too.

If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please ring Easingwold Library on 01609 534584 or email ecl.generalenquiries@gmail.com with your contact details.

One of our volunteers will be in touch.

EDCCA: Easingwold District Community Care Association

What can we do for you today?



Foodbank/Foodshare: For those in need. Available 24/7 call message line 0772 44 44 7507

Befriending Scheme: For those who would like someone to chat with

Hub Club: Tuesdays & Fridays, for people living with Dementia

Charity Boutique: 71 Long Street, open 4½ days a week. Telephone 01347 820078

Monthly Citizens Advice: Minibus in the Market Place and Advisor at the office. Call for details

Wheelchair hire

Knit & Natter Club

Weekly Crossword Club

Men in Sheds: Social group for men

Shopping: You supply the list, we do the rest

Community car scheme: For those who have difficulty with public transport

Carers sitting service: A service for those caring for a friend or relative

Meals on Wheels: Two course hot meal delivered to your door, Monday to Friday

Tea and Tarts: Monthly get together with cake on **10th February!!**

For further information on any of the above or, if you are interested in volunteering with us please contact the office or for any related enquiries.

We can be contacted by telephone on 01347 822875

or for car scheme on 01347 822598 or by email info@edcca.org.uk

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