

ST JOHN'S  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH

YOUR COMMUNITY.  
YOUR CHURCH.

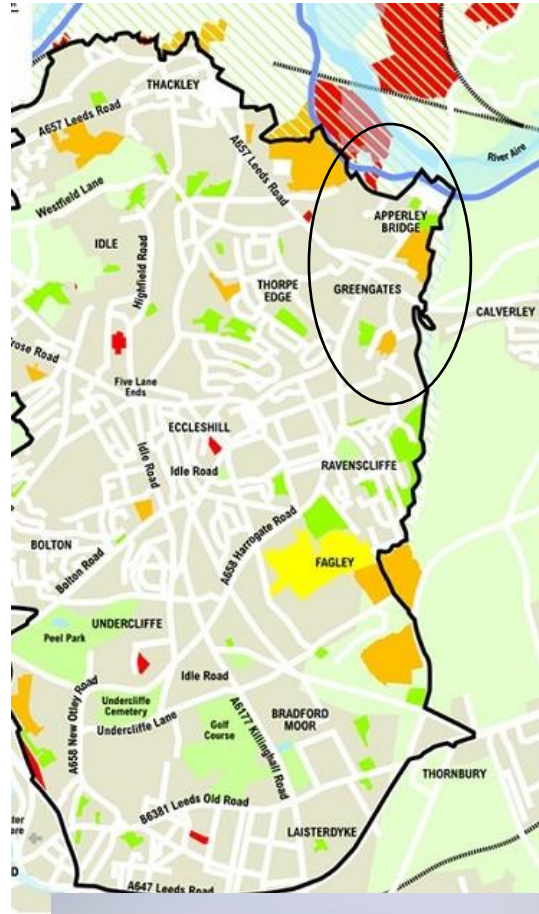
## St John The Evangelist Greengates

- ❑ Where?
- ❑ Greengates and Apperley Bridge
- ❑ In North East Bradford
- ❑ Near the River Aire and the Leeds Liverpool Canal
- ❑ Partly old historic village, partly new housing developments, partly local authority estate.
- ❑ A church with new vision for mission.



*To build a thriving community of people who follow Jesus and be the place where we find purpose friendship and belonging so that we come alive in God's kingdom*

# Greengates and Apperley Bridge



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# The story of St John's...

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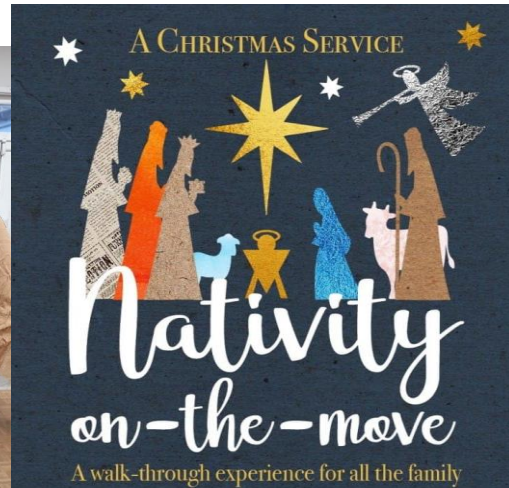
- ❑ Seven years ago, it became clear that the existing life at St Johns was not sustainable. The congregation barely in double figures, and the average age was very high, though this group have been faithful over many years in prayer and giving. The activities held in the church hall, which had started as outreach possibilities some years ago, had become fairly independent of the church, although attended by some church members, and it was hard to see how young families and others could be integrated into the traditional Sunday morning Communion service.
- ❑ At the same time, up to 500 new homes were being built in the Apperley Bridge area, changing the demographic of the area into a much younger and more aspirational population.
- ❑ In Autumn 2018 the existing church (by agreement with the bishop) ceased to hold Sunday morning services except for festival occasions, and that congregation continues to have a Wednesday morning Communion service. We then began to meet at 4pm on Sundays
- ❑ In September 2016 the Crossroads Café Church was started at 4pm once a month on Sunday in the church hall. A small group of people from Holy Trinity Idle formed the nucleus of the team for this venture. The name Crossroads came from the proximity of the Greengates crossroads, one of the busiest junctions in the area.



- ❑ In January 2019 we began to meet weekly and to attract more people, including other Christians who live locally but have worshipped elsewhere, but who have longed to see a missional Christian presence in the area where they live. Gradually we saw a small team develop, bringing diverse gifts in speaking, music, pastoral care and technology and communication
- ❑ When we began to meet weekly, we renamed our church as St Johns Community Church so that we are clearly identified as the local church.
- ❑ The story of the church has been captured on film by the diocese:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfDtbW12hcl>
- ❑ In the last two years we have been linked with St Cuthbert's Wrose and we are appreciating the opportunities to meet with St Cuthbert's and Holy Trinity Idle as a group of churches both as leaders and with the wider congregation at Prayer evenings. We look forward to ever-increasing collaboration and partnership in the future through the whole of NE Bradford.
- ❑ We are also delighted that since July we have a curate, Laya, (shared with St Cuthbert's) and a part-time Church administrator through Resourcing Church funding.



- Apart from our regular services, (average attendance around 25 adults and 10 children and young people) we have held outreach events at the local pub, including a Bank Holiday Beer and Hymns, a Walk through Nativity and Craft Fairs to encourage local craft businesses.



- This Autumn we have had a church weekend away at Scargill House, and we hope to book another for 2025.

- ❑ We live in an area with many young families
- ❑ This year we began a monthly Messy Church which attracts a number of local families.
- ❑ We also have a youth group alongside our Sunday service who have recently done Youth Alpha.
- ❑ Our Toddler group meets weekly in term time.



- ❑ Our weekly Community Café Reconnect attracts Warm Space funding and every week we welcome people of all ages to play board games, Knit and Natter and enjoy food, with extra craft events in school holidays.

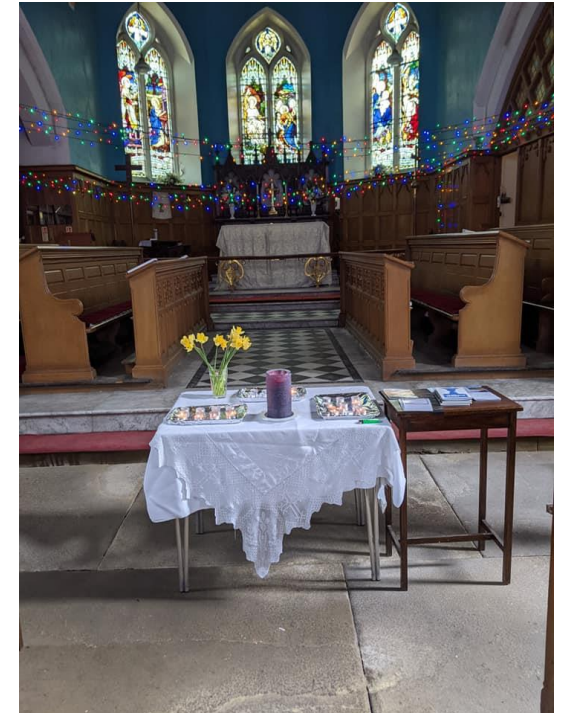


# The building

- ❑ We have a much-loved 125 year old church building, which is full of light, but not suited to 21<sup>st</sup> century worship
- ❑ We have a hall, which is well-used by community and church groups.



- ❑ We have a dream, to refurbish the church as a community centre. We have taken a community survey showing interest and support locally, and a grant allowed us to begin discussions with our architect.



# The church hall

- ❑ The hall is normally used by a number of groups giving a wide range of opportunities to build relationships in the community
- ❑ There are uniformed groups - Scouts, Cubs, Beavers
- ❑ We have a thriving Toddler group.
- ❑ Our website [www.stjohnscommunity.church](http://www.stjohnscommunity.church)  
Has stories from many of our congregation.





# Are you the person we are hoping will join us?



Someone who loves Jesus, prioritises their own relationship with Him and has a passion for helping others build a relationship with Him too.

Someone who has experience of both life and church, who is confident in relating to a wide range of people from both church and community and is willing to spend time building relationships with and listening to them.

Someone with experience of leadership and taking initiatives whether in lay or ordained role.

Someone who enjoys working as part of a team and is happy to take a leadership role, able to make decisions as well as delegate and support others in their roles, in particular by recognising and encouraging their gifts.

Someone with a good sense of humour who enjoys a challenge!

# What can we offer you?



An opportunity to lead a committed team who have been growing in depth and strength as we share our lives, who are willing to continue giving, working and praying to see lives being transformed in our local area.

Countless opportunities to see God working through us as He builds his church in Greengates and Apperley Bridge.

We will offer you friendship, encouragement, prayer support, space and time to reflect.

And a lot of fun as we work together!!