



North Kirklees &
Morley Circuit

April 2026

April and Easter: A Season of Renewal and Hope

April arrives each year as a soft reminder that life is constantly being renewed. After the quiet, cold months of winter, the world begins to awaken. Trees grow fresh leaves, flowers bloom in bright colours, and longer days bring warmth and light. In many ways, April reflects the very message at the heart of Easter—a message of renewal, hope, and new life.

For Christians around the world, Easter is the most important celebration of the year. It commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, an important reminder that love is stronger than death and that hope can rise even from the darkest moments. The empty tomb symbolises victory, promising that God's grace and power bring new beginnings.

"See! I am doing a new thing." — [Isaiah 43:19.] Isaiah's words feel tailor-made for April. The prophet speaks to a people who have grown accustomed to disappointment, who have learned to live with exile, who have forgotten what hope feels like. And then God interrupts their despair with an assurance of newness. Not recycled hope; not repaired hope; It is new hope. The Resurrection is God's ultimate "new thing." It is the divine declaration that death does not get the final word, that despair is not the last chapter, that winter is never permanent.

There is a Japanese tradition called *kintsugi*. Kintsugi, translating to "golden joinery," is the traditional art of repairing broken pottery by mending fractures with lacquer mixed with powdered gold, silver, or platinum. Originating around the 15th century, it highlights rather than hides damage, turning broken items into unique, celebrated pieces of art. The cracks are not hidden; they are honoured. It transforms broken items into pieces that are considered "better than new," emphasising that flaws make an object more beautiful and valuable.

This is Resurrection. Not the denial of brokenness, but the transformation of it. God does not erase the wounds of Good Friday — even the risen Christ still carries them. Instead, He fills the cracks with glory.

As we move through April, nature itself seems to mirror this message. Seeds planted in the earth begin to sprout. Gardens come alive. The once-bare branches are filled with fresh green leaves. These simple but beautiful changes around us

mirror the spiritual truth of Easter—that God brings life where there was once emptiness, and hope where there was once despair.

Easter is also a season for reflection. During the weeks leading up to it, many believers spend time in prayer, repentance, and preparation. It is a season that prompts us to stop and consider our relationship with God and with one another. The resurrection reminds us that forgiveness, mercy, and grace are always available, no matter how difficult our journey may have been.

For the church community, April and Easter are opportunities to come together in worship and fellowship. Churches are often filled with joyful music, special services, and gatherings which celebrate the risen Christ. These times reinforce our faith and remind us that we are part of a larger family connected by hope and love.

But Easter is not simply a celebration for one day. Its message is meant to shape how we live every day. The resurrection calls us to live with faith, courage, and compassion. It inspires us to share kindness, offer forgiveness, and spread the light of Christ wherever we go.

This month, as we enjoy the blossoming flowers, brighter skies, and the bliss of Easter, let us also carry its message into our daily lives. May we be people who bring hope to others, who show love in our actions, and who live with the confidence that God is always working to bring life and renewal.

With every blessing, *Alex*

Revd. Dr Alex Yesudas

At the Circuit Resource Centre....

The Circuit Resource Centre,
Batley Methodist Church, Commercial Street
Batley WF17 5DS

01924 442535, email address: nkmresources@gmail.com

Resource Centre opening times: Monday – Wednesday 9am – 1pm, Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 1.30pm. We will be closed Thursday 2nd to Monday 6th April (Easter)



Dates and Deadlines – *May deadline: 10am, Thursday 23rd April.* Email & printed copies ready by: Wednesday 29th April. Please let Resource Centre know if your church would like more or less copies, or if you would like to be added to or removed from the emailing list. Copies can be posted to churches on request – we will need to charge p&p.

Staff days off:

Monday – Marian Olsen, Nick Cutts

Wednesday - Alex Yesudas

Thursday – David Barker

Circuit Information, Services and Events

12th April 2026, 10:30am: **Circuit Service at Westborough** – 150th Anniversary

25th April 2026, times to be confirmed: **Bible Month Preparation session** at Birkenshaw & East Bierley – open to all. This year's focus: Philippians

3rd May 2026, 3.30pm: **Easter Offering service** at Tingley

Check the calendar on the Circuit website for more dates:

<https://www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk/whats-on/events-calendar.html>

Have you found us online?

Circuit Facebook page -

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61577861399950>

Circuit Website - www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk

Easter Crosses – last year, a number of our churches shared photos of their Easter Crosses and displays through the Circuit website – it would be wonderful to be able to do this again! Please send in your photos as soon as possible after Easter. Usual rules apply; we can't use photos where people can be recognised

Westborough Anniversary Weekend:

1876 - 2026, 150 years serving the community

Saturday 11th April: Church open 10.30am - 2.30pm, refreshments served.

11am: Hipperholme Choir

Sunday 12th April: 10.30am, Circuit Service; 1pm, light lunch and Kirkheaton Popular Music Choir. All profits from the weekend will be donated to Yorkshire Air Ambulance

Information and events from Churches

Batley: Mondays - **Batley Care and Drop In** - in the Brimer Hall, 10am - 12 noon. Tuesdays, fortnightly – Batley, Dewsbury & Morley **Probus** Club. 10.15am - 11.45am, with speaker Retired and semi-retired gentlemen are welcome. Contact Keith W. Wednesdays – **Peer Talk** - 11.00am - 12. A mutual support group for those living with depression or anxiety. Fridays – **Coffee Morning**, 10am - 11.30am in the Brimer Hall

Birstall: Monday Fellowship: Taking a break for the Easter holidays, will meet again in April (Date to be confirmed). Thursday - **Coffee and Chat**, 9:30 - 11:00 with bric-a-brac and book stall. A warm space in the coming months. Thursday 2nd April, **Light Lunch** 12 noon: Plated buffet and homemade cake, suggested donation £4:50. Friday 17th April and 1st May **Baby and Toddler stay and play**, 9:30 - 11:00. All parents, grandparents and carers welcome. Refreshments. No charge.

Birkenshaw & East Bierley: Monday: 1:30pm **Art Class**, 6:30pm **Brownies**. Tuesday: 10:30am **Chair Yoga Class**, 2pm **Art Class**, 4-6pm **Yorkshire Tutors**, 7pm **Pilates Class**. Wednesday (first in month): 10am **Fellowship Group** Friday: 10am "**Welcome In**" **Coffee Morning**.

Gomersal: 2nd and 4th Thursdays: **Coffee Morning**, 10am to 11.30am.

Cleckheaton: Friday: **Coffee Morning**, 10am to 11:30am (no Coffee Morning on Good Friday – joining the Walk of Witness through the town). Saturday 18th: **Meeting Place**, 11am to 2pm – food, chat, activities for children, table tennis. Thursdays 2nd and 9th - **Breakfast Drop In** 9 -11am - activities for kids, breakfast - All free - kids please bring an adult!

Drighlington: Foodbank: Mondays, 12noon to 1.30pm, donations can be dropped off after 11am. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays - **Coffee pot** 9:30am to 11:30am. Wednesday **Girls Brigade**, 6.00 to 8.30pm. Thursday - **free IT training** from 10am to 1pm. If you have a problem with your computer, call in, they will help you. Thursday – **YNT0** 1pm, Cards, dominoes etc, Table Tennis for the more energetic. Friday - **Memory Cafe** 11am to 1pm (second Friday in month lunch from 12noon). Saturday 18th: monthly **Coffee morning** from 10am to 12 noon with various stalls and hot refreshments **Dates for your diary:** Saturday 11th April, 2pm, **fashion show:** tickets £5 inc refreshments; 18th April, 4pm; **talk - the Shroud of Turin**, tickets £5 inc refreshments, see poster.

Longcauseway Church: Tuesdays - **In Stitches** 10:30am to 12:30pm, A creative time of knitting, crochet, chat and laughter. Wednesdays - **The 3 Strand Café**, 9am to 1:30pm, a warm welcome and a listening ear awaits. Why not join in with our Community Puzzle Corner! **Table Tennis** 1pm to 3pm, pay and play every week, all abilities welcome. 1st Wednesday of the month **Pause. Breathe. Pray.** 1.30 to 2pm, an opportunity to pause and breathe in the middle of the day and come to God in prayer. Fridays **Bumps, Babies & Toddlers** (term time), 10am to 11:30am, a safe and nurturing space for expectant parents, carers, Babies and toddlers. Saturdays **The 3 Strand Café** 9:45am to 11:45am, a warm welcome and a listening ear. 1st Saturday **Messy Church** from 10am, crafts, games, worship, fun and food for all the family. Last Saturday **Repair Café**, 10am to noon, our volunteer repairers will show you how to fix everyday household objects.

Morley: Saturday 18th **Craft, Chat & Sing**, 10.30 am. All welcome. 14th & 28th : **Together on Tuesday** (1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month), 7.30pm, various speakers. Wednesdays - **Lunch Club** (except 1st of the month), Fridays **Coffee Morning**, 10 to 11.30am. Everyone welcome. Saturday 25th **Grief Café**, 10 to 12noon.

St Andrew's Mirfield: Fridays 10th & 24th **Coffee Mornings**, 10am to 11.30am. Join us for a friendly chat and a cuppa. Fridays (*other than Friday 3rd, Good Friday*) **Baby & Toddler Group**, 9.30am to 11am, all parents, grandparents and carers with children from birth to pre-school are welcome, includes play, colouring, snacks and action songs, donations welcome.

Tingley: Saturday 4th: **Friends Café** 1pm to 2.30pm, we are looking forward to seeing you all again. Monday 13th: **Soup Bowl** 12noon to 1.30pm, join us for soup, sandwiches, hot drinks and a snack. Wednesday 1st April & 15th April: **Be Still** 7pm: Our monthly service is a time of quiet reflection. Please note we will be having an extra Be Still during Holy Week on April 1st, then continuing on the third Wednesday of each month

Date for your diary: Saturday 9th May: **Batley Gilbert & Sullivan Society** 7pm, a Concert Version of The Gondoliers. Tickets will be available soon. Price £5. Entry by ticket, on the door or by contacting tingleymc.events@gmail.com – everyone is welcome to all of these events.

Trinity Mirfield: **Breakfast Drop In** will be on Wednesdays 1st and 8th April, 9 - 11am. Tuesdays - **Stay & Play** 9:15-11am termtime only. Wednesdays - **Soup lunches** - 1st and 3rd (except August), 11:45am to 13:00 donation in excess of £3.50 appreciated. The two teams look forward to seeing you. Friday - **Warm Welcome Café** - 10-11.30am.

West Ardsley: **Tuesday Chat & Crafts:** Tuesdays, 2 - 4pm. **Mosaic Café:** Wednesdays, 11am - 1:30pm - 'A space to just be'. Serving drinks, light lunches & cakes. **Messy Church:** Second Thursday of every month. Doors open at 3:30pm to start promptly at 4pm. A light meal is provided and children must be supervised by an adult. **Food Pantry:** Fridays 3 - 4:30pm - food available for anyone going through financial difficulty. No referral needed. **Coffee Morning & CAR WASH** – Last Saturday of every month – Saturday 25th April, 10am - 12pm. **Dates for your Diary** - Bank Holiday Monday 25th May - **BBQ Fundraiser** at Alan & Lynda's House. Saturday 27th June 6pm - **'She Sings' Concert**. These are ticketed events. For more information please contact admin@westardselychurch.org.uk.



Eco tips from A Rocha: Celebrate new life this Easter and have a go at growing something! April is the perfect time to try to grow something edible or, if you are a seasoned gardener, to encourage someone else to try. Salad leaves or herbs are a great place to start! As you sow, thank God for the opportunity to grow food, and pray for those communities that are facing food shortages and famine. *For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email: arocha.org.uk/wild-christian*

Safeguarding:

Contact information for Safeguarding matters:

Emma Goodley: Tel: 07743 006413, email goodleye@methodistchurch.org.uk

Laura Tunnacliffe Tel: 07354 862617,

email: tunnacliffel@methodistchurch.org.uk

Circuit safeguarding officer, Judith Crowther – Tel: 01924 442535 (circuit office),

Email: safeguardingnkm@gmail.com

Advanced Module training is arranged through District. Sessions are now available - follow the link at <https://ywmethodist.org.uk/safeguarding-training/> for more details of online and face to face training.

Circuit Youth:

6.30 – 8pm, for ages 10 – 18 years. £1 subs per person please contact Heidi Curry (or see the Circuit website, <https://www.nkandmcircuit.org.uk/>) for more dates & details. *April sessions: 12th at Drighlington Methodist Church; 26th at West Ardsley Methodist Church*

The Prayer Quilt Ministry:

The Prayer Quilt Ministry team would like to say a huge 'thank you' to the Circuit and individuals who have encouraged and supported us, and for the kind donations which enable us to continue this ministry. We continue to meet on Monday afternoons to create beautiful prayer quilts, and messages from recipients confirm they bring comfort during difficult times. If you are aware of anyone in your Church, family or community who would like a prayer quilt, please complete the form by scanning the QR code or emailing the team on



nkmprayerquiltministry@gmail.com

Rev'd Jane

*Do you live locally to Mirfield and have a few spare hours per month to volunteer? We are planning an exciting new project " **Messy church reimagined**" and are looking for volunteers who have some experience with children and families or have been a user of a similar project? We'd love to hear from you if*

you feel you could serve in this exciting and developing area of the church's work please email Pete at nkmsouthoutreach@gmail.com for further information.