

**A DECLARATION OF ECUMENICAL WELCOME AND COMMITMENT
By a Church of England Parish**

1. We, the Vicar and people of the churches of St Mary's Kettlewell and St Mary's Conistone, are aware that there are no other places of worship in the Parish We therefore invite all Christians in the Parish to be as fully a part of our life and fellowship as they are able.

2. We invite those of Christian traditions other than our own to:
 - share in the ministry and mission of the Church in this community
 - worship and, if baptised and communicant members of other Churches, to receive Holy Communion¹
 - be part of the decision-making of the church² and to contribute to a common fund for the mission and ministry of the wider church, in so far as their continued giving to another church will allow.

3. We undertake to:
 - give pastoral care to all those who desire it
 - invite ministers of other churches to take part in leading worship³
 - incorporate the riches of worship of other traditions as appropriate⁴
 - consult with neighbouring churches concerning the mission of the church
 - include this ecumenical declaration as an integral part of the parish profile.

4. This declaration has been endorsed by Churches Together in the area. We have sought the advice and consulted with the Ecumenical Task Group of Bradford Diocese which includes Graham Kidman (Methodist Ecumenical Officer), Peter Mott (Diocesan Ecumenical Officer) and Clive Barrett (County EO) and they have given us their blessing and encouragement.

5. It is intended that this ecumenical welcome should apply across the whole of the Benefice.

For St Mary's Kettlewell and St Mary's Conistone:

(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Date)

Vicar

Church Wardens

For other churches on behalf of:

See next page for footnotes.

¹Canon B15A (1972) enables the admission to Holy Communion of "baptised persons who are communicant members of other Churches which subscribe to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, and who are in good standing in their own Church..."
If anyone by virtue of this provision "regularly receives the Holy Communion over a long period which appears likely to continue indefinitely, the minister shall set before him the normal requirements of the Church of England for communicant status of that Church."

²The Church Representation Rules 1995 enable a person to be enrolled if she/he is baptised, sixteen years or upwards and declares himself - "to be a member in good standing of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity ... and also prepared to declare himself to be a member of the Church of England having habitually attended public worship in the parish during a period of six months prior to enrolment. Making this declaration also confers eligibility to stand for election to the decision making bodies of the Church of England.

³Canon B43 (1989) says

A minister or lay person who is a member in good standing of a Church to which this Canon applies and is a baptised person may, subject to the provisions of this Canon, be invited to perform all or any of the following duties -

- a) to say or sing Morning or Evening Prayer
- b) to read the Holy Scripture at any service
- c) to preach at any service
- d) to lead the Intercessions at the Holy Communion and to lead prayers at other services
- e) to assist at Baptism or the Solemnisation of Matrimony or conduct a Funeral Service
- f) to assist in the distribution of the holy sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the people at the

Holy Communion if the minister or lay person is authorised to perform a similar duty in his or her own Church."

⁴Canon B43 (1989) says

"9. The incumbent of a parish may (with specified approval) invite members of another Church ... to take part in joint worship with the Church of England or to use a church in the parish for worship in accordance with the forms of service and practice of that other Church on such occasions as may be specified in the approval given by the bishop."

Formulated on 15 September 2009, based on the document 'Ecumenical Welcome and Commitment in the Church of England' prepared by the Council for Christian Unity 1997



Rev. Vivienne Firth and Rev. Peter Yorkstone sign the Declaration of Ecumenical Welcome in Kettlewell on January 3rd 2010