



A new electoral roll: what is this about and why should I join in?

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread (1 Corinthians 10:17 expressed in Holy Communion, Common Worship)

Every six years the Church Representation Rules require us to 'tear up' the whole electoral roll and start again with a blank page. This year, 2025 is the year we start again, so no one is on the electoral roll unless they complete a new application form this Spring.

What is the electoral roll?

Every parish church in the Church of England has an electoral roll. Simply put, it is a list of people who are connected with or a part of St John's or St Luke's, perhaps by attending worship or living nearby. It is a helpful record of who and how many people are connected with each parish church. The roll size contributes to important decisions about the collection and distribution of resources. Here in Bilton we have a separate roll for St John's and St Luke's.

Why should I join the electoral roll?

Join because it's an official recognition that you are connected with, and a part of, St John's or St Luke's and playing your part in following Jesus in this community.

It also gives you rights to stand for election, nominate and vote for members of our Parish Church Council (PCC). They are the Trustees of St John's and St Luke's and are responsible for the finances and buildings of the church, working with the Rector and Vicar in Christ's mission here in this parish.

There are other rights too, such as, permitting you and those related to you to get married here or to have your cremated remains buried here. These rights aren't exclusive to electoral roll members, but if you or your family live elsewhere, then it can be a supporting factor.

Who can be on the electoral roll?

To join the electoral roll, you must be:

- 16 years or over. (If you are 15, you can complete a form and we will add you when you turn 16.)
- Baptised into the Christian faith
- A lay person (not an ordained person)

You should also consider yourself to be a part of the Church of England and either live within the parish boundary or attend worship at one of our churches (or both)!

What is expected of me if I am on the electoral roll?

There are no specific expectations. We invite everyone to take an active part in our life together in God's Growing Kingdom through prayer, worship, events and volunteering. You might also like to consider any contribution you can make, including financial donations or offerings of time and skills.

We also encourage electoral roll members to attend and engage with our annual meeting where our Trustees are elected onto the PCC and the previous year is reviewed. This year our annual meeting is on 18th May.

What happens to my information?

We are committed to keeping your information safe, and information is collected and processed in line with our Privacy Policy. All the information requested is needed to confirm you are eligible for the electoral roll and to communicate with you about this.

We will publish only your name in church and online in 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029 and 2030. We will not publish your address, email address or any other information you provide. We will only use this information for electoral roll purposes.

What if I also attend another church?

If you attend another Anglican church, you can be on more than one electoral roll, as long as you meet the criteria above.

If you attend churches of different denominations, you're welcome to be on our electoral roll if you consider yourself part of the Church of England.

How do I join the electoral roll?

You can fill in the form for **St John's** using the following link or QR code:

<https://biltonstjohnluke.myiknowchurch.co.uk/form/load/clRKUXhxWTNOMnRzOEx4NEd4Q0p5aGxsZitobWdxOS9NdHpYMEdZVjNqMit1a3R6UURzUmxXVkdFSmtFcHc9PQ%253D%253D>



You can fill in the form for **St Luke's** using the following link or QR code:

<https://biltonstjohnluke.myiknowchurch.co.uk/form/load/YIFDZ3hIMFcrZHBBOC8xMUlZMHVyUmxsZitobWdxOS9NdDdYMEdZVjNqMit1a3R6UURzUmxXRkVGSmdFcHc9PQ%253D%253D>



Paper forms are also available in both churches.

You will be asked for your name, address, email address and to confirm a couple of other questions. Please complete the form as soon as possible and (if completing a paper copy) return it to the church office through to the back of St John's or to Rev. Laura.

If you need help, please ask someone you know and trust.

Further information and help:

Find out in which parish you live using A Church Near You:

www.achurchnearyou.com/

Church Representation Rules which set out the rules for electoral rolls: www.churchofengland.org/about/leadership-and-governance/legal-services/church-representation-rules/part-1

For help about next steps in faith, pastoral support or joining PCC, please contact the Vicar:

E: laura.martin@leeds.anglican.org

T: 07497 865507

For queries about the electoral roll or anything else, please contact the church office:

E: Church@StJohnsandStLukes.org.uk

T: 01423 565129

Parish Office Opening Times:

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday - 9.30am-1.00pm

Tuesday - 11.30am-1.00pm

The parish office is located through to the back of St John's Church