



The much loved little church is well cared for and all needs are met, often by Memorial Gifts such as:

1947	Wafer Box and Sanctuary Gong
1981/82	A.S.B. Altar Book A.S.B. Service Book
1986	Processional Cross
1990	New Green Vestments
1991	Outside Light
1997	Engraved Chalice, Paten and Ciborium
1999	Cabinet for Organ Music
1999	Oak Candlesticks for the Altar
2000	Large Print Lectern Bible

May your visit to this historic place of worship bring you a few moments quiet to remember the Great Apostle St. James.

May he help us in our earthly pilgrimage

Personal I.T. Design 01947 897264

St James' Church, Lealholm

CENTENARY 1902-2002

For the past 100 years the church of St. James the Greater has stood in its central position overlooking the village of Lealholm as a constant reminder of her mission to make the worship and service of God the priority of village life.



The villages of Lealholm and Glaisdale were part of the Parish of Danby.

1869 the Parish of Glaisdale was formed. This included (as it still does) the village and dale of Glaisdale, the village of Lealholm, Great Fyrup Dale and the hamlets of Housyke, Greenhouses and Stonegate. Anglicans were expected to worship in St. Thomas', Glaisdale.

1881 Viscount Downe gave the land for the building of a "Chapel-of-ease" in Lealholm.

Services were held in the former Lealholm Lane School and transferred in 1897 to the Lealholm Board School (built 1874) opposite the site of the future church.

Sir Francis Ley built Lealholm Lodge, acquired other land in the village and became the chief benefactor of the proposed church.

1901 The Foundation stone was laid and the church began with Temple Moore as its architect.

1902 October 13th the newly built church was consecrated by William Dalrymple, Archbishop of York.

1904 Consecration of the churchyard by the Bishop of Beverley and the provision of drinking fountains in the village.

1933 Opening of the church room known as the Ley Hall.

1943 The church is licensed for marriages.

1962 60th Anniversary. Dedication of a new chalice and paten by Archbishop Coggan.

1965 Extension of the Ley Hall.

1991 Possibly the first confirmation in St. James by Gordon Bates, Bishop of Whitby on St. James' Day, July 25th.

1990-91 Improvements to the Ley Hall inside and the surrounding grounds.

1996-97 Complete rewiring and new lighting and heating.
Altar and altar rail moved forward.

Application made to extend the present churchyard to include a garden of rest.

2000 The United Benefice of Middle Esk Moor was created comprising the former Parishes of Glaisdale and Lealholm, Egton Grosmont and Goathland.



What to look at inside

1. As you enter, step back by the Font (given by the children of the village in 1902) and you can admire the beauty of the wooden barrel vaulting, interrupted only by the chancel arch, beyond which the vaulting is slightly lower than the nave. This adds perspective to the view of the altar, giving a feeling of space.

2. Most of the furnishings date from 1902—much of the work involved being local labour. Many were provided by Sir Francis Ley, the bell, pews, lectern, pulpit, choir stalls and the stone bench and shelf in the south side of the sanctuary, as well as the marble and alabaster reredos and the marble stone floor of the aisle.

3. The stained glass windows, given in memory of Sir Francis Ley (above the altar) and of his widow Lady Alison (behind the Font) are particularly good for work of the time.

4. The Patron Saint St. James the Greater, was chosen by Christ to be a witness both of his transfiguration and his agony in the garden. ST. Matthew ch.17 v1-9, ch.26 v36-46. He was the first Apostle to be martyred, being put to the sword by order of King Herod Agrippa to appease Jewish opponents of Christianity, Acts ch.12 v1-2.

Tradition suggests that he went on a Pilgrimage to Spain, and so he is often represented in art as a Pilgrim bearing a cockle or scallop shell. He can be seen in the right hand light of the East Window and in a framed picture on the North Wall (photographed from the Patronal Altar frontal).

