

THE NORTH TYNE AND REDESDALE TEAM MAGAZINE

# The Meeting of the Waters



## FEBRUARY 2024

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## A LETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Friends,

As Rev Claire wrote on this page in the last edition, which covered December and January, the Churches seemed 'out of sync' with popular feeling at that time of the year. For instance, in December, when Christians were going through Advent, everyone else was blasting out Christmas carols – only to drop them, as soon as Boxing Day arrived!

In February, it is different. There is always a sense of dread about the weather. Like others who have lived their whole lives in this region, I know instinctively that the worst weather often comes as the days get longer: the North Sea is at its coldest, and winds from the north or east can bring freezing conditions. Church-wise, it is also the start of Lent! This year, Ash Wednesday is February 14<sup>th</sup>; Lent runs for 6-and-a-half weeks up till Easter Sunday on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

I don't want to give the idea that we are meant to mope in misery for the weeks of Lent. What we are asked to do is to look at ourselves and see where we might be going wrong – and also, where (thankfully) we are getting things right. I know that we live in a non-religious society, but there are a lot of people who do many good things – of the sort that Jesus asked us to do in the gospels. In rural areas such as the North Tyne and Redesdale, we can appreciate the help that good people give to each other - and to all members of the community.

One last thing. I know that it might come too early in February for readers of this magazine, but February 2<sup>nd</sup> is a special Christian feast of hope: it has always had three titles, depending on which bit of the gospel story you want to stress. Mary & Joseph took the 40-day-old baby Jesus to be *presented* in the Temple, as was the custom when a baby boy was the 'first fruits' of the marriage. At the same time, Mary was '*purified*' in the Jewish tradition after the 'unclean-ness' (as they saw it) of the childbirth. Finally, they met the old prophet Simeon, who said that the child would be "*the Light of the Gentiles*". Thus, Feb 2nd can be called "The Presentation", "The Purification" or "Candlemas Day" (from the old way of lighting) – depending on your stress. It's a nice occasion, and marks the absolute end of the Christmas season in our churches.

Happy Lent, everyone, and keep smiling – whatever the weather!

*Fr Jim Dunne, St Oswald's RC Church, Bellingham.*

## SERVICES IN THE DEANERY IN FEBRUARY '24

### 4<sup>th</sup> Feb - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

*Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31; Colossians 1: 15-20;  
John 1 : 1-14*

- 8.30am Holy Communion at Wark
- 10.00am Holy Communion at Bellingham
- 10.00am Holy Communion at Chollerton
- 10.00am Morning Worship at Birtley
- 10.30am MURC Service at Wark
- 11.00am Parish Worship at Falstone
- 11.00am Parish Worship at Otterburn
- 11.30am Holy Communion at Simonburn
- 4.00pm Holy Communion at Bingfield
- 6.00pm Holy Communion at Elsdon
- 8.00pm Late at 8 - Contemporary  
Worship at Humshaugh

### 11<sup>th</sup> Feb - Sunday next before Lent 2

*Kings 2: 1-12; 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6;  
Mark 9: 2-9*

- 8.30am Holy Communion at  
Thockrington BCP
- 10.00am Holy Communion at  
Humshaugh
- 11.00am Holy Communion at  
Thorneyburn
- 11.30am Holy Communion at Wall
- 2.00pm Informal Communion at  
Corsenside Village Hall
- 5.00pm Holy Communion at Horsley
- 6.00pm Holy Communion at Wark

### 14<sup>th</sup> Feb - Ash Wednesday

*Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17; 2 Corinthians 5: 20b-  
6:10; Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21*

- 10.00am Holy Communion at Simonburn

- 6.00pm Holy Communion at Wall

### 18<sup>th</sup> Feb - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

*Genesis 9: 8-17; 1 Peter 3: 18-end; Mark 1:  
9-15*

- 8.30am Holy Communion at Gunnerton
- 9.30am Holy Communion at Falstone
- 10.00am Holy Communion at Birtley
- 10.00am Parish Worship at Bellingham
- 10.30am MURC Service at Wark
- 11.30am Service of the Word at Bingfield
- 3.00pm Holy Communion at Otterburn
- 6.00pm Evensong at Simonburn

### 25<sup>th</sup> Feb - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

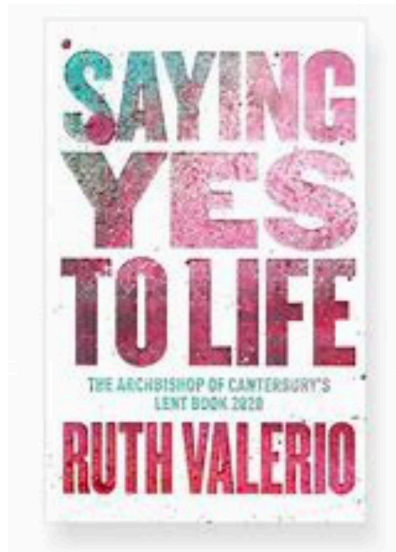
*Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16; Romans 4: 13-end;  
Mark 8: 31-end*

- 8.30am Holy Communion at Chollerton
- 10.00am Deanery Zoom
- 11.30am Holy Communion at Wall
- 5.30pm Holy Communion at Byrness
- 6.00pm Service of the Word at  
Thorneyburn
- 6.00pm Holy Communion at Humshaugh
- 6.00pm Parish Worship at Wark

***Please Note: There are no midweek or  
8.00am services at Bellingham while  
work is in progress on the church, and  
you may also wish to check other services  
in Bellingham while the work on the  
heating system is underway.***

## LENT STUDY GROUPS FOR 2024

Lent is a good time for us to reflect on the infinite bounty of God's creation and how we respond to this great gift. This Lent season we will be doing just that as we study *Saying Yes to Life* by Ruth Valerio, the Archbishop's 'Book for Lent' in 2020.



As people made in the image of God, we are entrusted to look after what God has made – to share in the joy and creativity of God in making a difference for good. Ruth Valerio imaginatively relates the themes of the Creation story to matters of environmental, ethical and social concern to explore what it means to be human and, in particular, to be a follower of Jesus during Lent.

Why not buy a second hand copy of the book from Wob ([www.wob.com](http://www.wob.com)) and join us? You will be warmly welcomed at:

Bellingham Churches Together Lent Talks: meeting at the MURC hall on Thursdays from 4pm-5pm The first session will be on 22nd February.

Other groups will be forming, so please keep an eye on Sarah Lunn's weekly service emails for more information.

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

**Ash Wednesday**, the beginning of Lent, falls on 14<sup>th</sup> February this year. We asked for offers to host services in the Deanery, and St Mungo's Simonburn has kindly offered to host the service at 10am, with St George, Wall, at 6.00pm. At both services, there is the opportunity to receive the sign of the cross in ash on your forehead.

## CLIMATE CORNER

**Climate Corner:** After all the delicious snacks and sweets of Christmas, you may like to know that the shop, Matthias Winter, in Hexham are collecting plastic tubs! They can take chocolate, sweets and cheese biscuit tubs/lids for recycling via a scheme with Greene King. If you would like to salve your conscience after over indulging at Christmas (!), you have until the 11th Feb to drop your clean containers at the shop and they'll get them to The Black Bull pub in Corbridge, or you can drop them off at the pub yourselves. It's a great scheme as the plastic gets recycled and Macmillan Cancer Support benefits too - to the tune of £11,308 over the past 2 years. Almost 50,000 tubs have been recycled in the last couple of years so it's definitely worth it. The shop also takes wine corks, used stamps, inkjet printer cartridges and uncoloured candle wax. Happy Recycling!

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

Celebrated on the first Friday of March each year, the World Day of Prayer (WDP) has its roots deep in the Ecumenical Women's Missionary Movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In 1926, North American women called for an official World Day of Prayer and the first formal WDP was celebrated around the world in 1927. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the rest of the year.

Such has been the success of the movement and the desire of women around the world to work together to foster an outlook of understanding and tolerance, that the initiative has grown steadily throughout the years and is now celebrated in over 170 countries.

Every year, worship services focus on a different country and a specific theme. The World Day of Prayer National and Regional Committees of that country prepare the order of worship on these themes to be used on the next World

Day of Prayer. On the first Friday of March, then, in services all over the world that selected country becomes the focus of prayer and understanding all over the world. Through preparation and participation in the worship services, participants worldwide learn how the women of other countries, languages and cultures understand the biblical passages in their own unique context. They learn of the concerns and needs of those women and to empathise and feel in solidarity with them.

In 2024, the WDP falls on 1<sup>st</sup> March with the selected country being Palestine and the theme being "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love".

The day will be celebrated in various churches in our area, amongst which are Bellingham and Otterburn.

The Otterburn WDP will be at 6pm on Friday 1st March at St. Peters Catholic Church in Otterburn and the Bellingham service will be at 7pm in the Methodist United Reformed Church (MURC).

You can find out more about the WDP on the following website: <https://worlddayofprayer.net/index.html> and you can download relevant resources at <https://www.wwdp.org.uk/>

## **NEWS FROM BYRNES**



### **Drama at the Carol Service (No, not Murder on the Dance Floor)...**

The night was dark, damp and cold. St. Francis was lit up with candles - a beacon in the dark - and multi-coloured lanterns lined the path.

We saw Máire getting dropped off at the car park...but then she disappeared and a faint cry was heard in the darkness. We ran down with a torch and found her in a crumpled heap. We managed to get her on her feet and into the Church, covered in mud and very shaken. Claire arrived and immediately wrapped her in her cloak, as we waited for Frances the Priest who, luckily, has a medical background.

On arrival Frances declared Máire's arm broken, Jonathan arrived and she was dispatched to hospital. A month later, she ended up having the arm pinned and is now on the road to recovery.

Frances and Claire carried on with a beautiful service with some of the younger village members doing the readings.

The photo shows Frances's figures from the Holy Land. Afterwards, we had mince pies and a choice of either mulled wine or punch.

Thanks to Claire and Frances for coming out on such an awful night and thanks to our lovely readers and all who came, especially Kathryn the Church Warden from St. Aidan's, Morpeth (see A Church Near You).

As a result of Máire's accident we have now been gifted a lovely LED lantern by Susan Chapman which we will put out to help illuminate the car park on these dark nights, should there be any services.

Barb.  
Church Warden, St. Francis

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## **Deanery Confirmation 26<sup>th</sup> November '23 at St. Francis, Byrness**

What a lovely day it was for the four candidates for confirmation, which we were honoured to host at St. Francis. Caroline from Byrness, Isabelle and Tommy from Rochester and Christine from Elsdon were all confirmed in an uplifting service led by Bishop Mark. Claire, Frances and Sarah were also in attendance.

We were well supported with folk from across the Deanery coming up to Byrness, quite a drive for some. Refreshments were set up in Byrness Village Hall where we had help in the kitchen, thanks Pete, Isabelle, Máire and Jill. It was a great day.

Thanks to everyone who came and supported us and very special thanks to Bishop Mark. The flowers bought for the Service, mainly roses are still doing well (15<sup>th</sup> Jan) it just goes to show that constant cold isn't all bad.

Barb.

## **NEWS FROM CORSENSIDE**

On 10 December at 2pm, we celebrated informal communion with Claire Maxim at Corsenside Village Hall (keep your eyes open in case there are more informal service is at the village hall over the winter months). Although there were only four people present, it was inspirational because everyone contributed with their own prayers and ideas. The service was followed by light refreshments and the hall was warmer than the venue of All Saints! There is also space for more parking at the village hall than there is at the church.

On 17<sup>th</sup> December, we celebrated a lovely candlelit service of carols at All Saints, followed by much welcomed mulled wine and mince pies. The church looked stunning and was beautifully decorated by Annabelle Remnant. The nativity story was read and shared by many participants and was interspersed with relevant hymns.

The choir was impressive and uplifting and was boosted by a fall church of local people.

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, the northern leg of the Holy Island pilgrimage route takes place, and the Pilgrims will be stopping in west Woodburn (at Corsenside village hall) for lunch whilst they are en route to Holy Island. Their break in West Woodburn will be followed by an Act of Worship, and they will then continue to Elsdon for an overnight stop at the village hall there. Offers of any form of help (such as making sandwiches, finger foods, etc.) Would be much appreciated for their stop in West Woodburn.

In the meantime, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and my best wishes for a good year and for good health in 2024.

Diana

## NEWS FROM ELSDON

St. Cuthbert's broke new ground at the start of its Christmas Eve 'Bethlehem midnight' service with a short video painting God's actions in the hundreds of years lead-up to the incarnation. It featured an oil painting which rapidly changed from Creation to the Fall to Noah to Abraham to Joseph to Noah to David to Daniel to Jonah to Gabriel to Bethlehem. It spoke to those who, like me, are "visual



learners" rather than "verbal learners". Curious? You can watch it yourself online any time at <https://skitguys.com/videos/come-thou-long-expected-jesus>.

Wednesday 14th February is the start of Lent, so the romantically-inclined might move Valentine's Day to Shrove Tuesday and have pancakes instead of chocolates. Why not!

Many of us will be tuning in to a daily reflection during Lent. This might be a good time to sign up for a daily Lent reflection email (there's lots on offer, just google it). Or join the local Bible Study Group which meets via Zoom every Tuesday evening. You just need an internet connection. For details just email [helen@howiefamily.me.uk](mailto:helen@howiefamily.me.uk). While our churches are still very cold at this time of year (yes, there's still no heating) the Zoom bible study is from the warmth of your own home. No need to travel - all you need is a computer or tablet. Do join us!

Helen Howie

## NEWS FROM FALSTONE



**News from St Peter's:** On behalf of St Peter's, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. Last weekend, I noticed a tiny solitary snowdrop had emerged from between the chippings on the path at St Peter's. It will be followed shortly by a carpet of other snowdrops which always looks spectacular as you enter the bottom gate to the church yard, hopefully spring is not too far away.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone who donated chocolate selection boxes for under-privileged children. Over 170 were donated to local food banks, who were extremely grateful.

Messy Church Christmas party was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. 12 children and 14 adults enjoyed Christmassy crafts. The children listened to the Christmas story, then crafted cellophane candles and coloured in tree decorations to look like stained glass, completed two nativity scene jigsaws and made a nativity collage that was displayed in St Peter's over the festive period. Karen Carr did a brilliant job putting together a brilliant Lego advent wreath. Mike played his guitar and the children practiced their Christmas carols with super actions. The party finished with pass the parcel, musical statues and a pooled buffet.



Our Christmas Eve Christingle, carol service with nativity was packed, the church was decorated with tiny electric tealights and beautiful flower arrangements courtesy of Jean Swales. The children did a marvellous job acting

out the nativity. I asked 4-year Matty Welton at Messy Church if he would like to be shepherd or a sheep and he promptly said he wanted to be camel!! Amazon swiftly dispatched a camel outfit in time for the service (phew) – as you can see from the photo, Matty was a very laid-back camel!



The children sang *It was on a starry night* accompanied by Mike, they also sang the first verse of *Away in a manger* and *Jingle Bells* and my word did they love jingling hand-held bells – I must admit I did too, it was a terrific sound. Dylan Swan aged 11 months who is now mobile, enjoyed crawling up and down the aisle and he particularly



loved watching Mike play the guitar as you can see from the photo.

On Christmas Eve I attended Midnight Communion at the beautiful 13<sup>th</sup> century church of St Mungo's at Simonburn, it is known as the mother church for what was known as 'the Great Parish of Simonburn', at one time the largest parish in England. The service was a wonderful way to celebrate and reflect the true meaning of Christmas but I could not stop thinking about the sorrow and silence that was occurring in Bethlehem in what

would normally be bustling with pilgrims celebrating in manger square and the Church of The Nativity. Bethlehem is the city where peace was born, so it should be the messenger for peace to be spread all over the world which Rev Sarah reflected in her sermon. When I left St Mungo's the moon was peeping through the clouds in a rather spectacular way and this gave me a sense of hope (see photo on the cover of this magazine)

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of Mary Ellen (Myra) Grimwood aged 90. Her funeral was held at St Peter's on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Our thoughts and prayers are with her daughters, Pamela and Christine, and with all of the family. Myra and her husband Willie (who passed away in 2021, aged 100) lived for many years at Yarrow and latterly at Hexham, I shall miss sending Myra the Meeting of the Waters and chatting to her on the telephone. May she rest in peace with her beloved husband.

Best wishes Jill Swaile (Churchwarden and Authorised Lay Minister)

Tel: 01434 240168 [alanswaile@aol.com](mailto:alanswaile@aol.com)

**Falstone Coffee Trip to Carlisle November 2023:** On Tuesday 28th November, 22 members of St. Peter's Falstone coffee morning group went on a Coach trip to Carlisle. Pleasingly the group comprised people from Falstone, Bellingham, West Woodburn and Wark. Although a cold and frosty day the sun shone as we left Falstone, and stayed with us most of the way to Carlisle.

Paul, our driver from Rowell's coaches did a fantastic job of keeping us safe and warm on our journey. We took the Hadrian's Wall route to Carlisle, the undulating hills as we passed Housesteads and "Sycamore" Gap (which of course is now minus the iconic tree) looked spectacular in the winter sunshine.

Our first stop, which as someone politely put it for "wee and tea" was Haughton Hall Garden Centre, on the outskirts of Carlisle. After 40 minutes there our merry crew returned to the bus topped up with tea, coffee and cake and a diverse range of shopping with everything from a plant pot to night attire and a string of French onions! It was a Garden Centre certainly worth visiting.

On we continued for Carlisle where Driver Paul dropped us off in a convenient central location. We headed off in all directions on foot and motor scooter to shop, visit, eat and drink.

One group headed to Carlisle Cathedral which is a lovely red sandstone building set in its own courtyard. It has an amazing "starlight" ceiling which is in the North African baroque style. Some of us were lucky enough to visit during an organ recital, which was very special.

The shopping area has many shops we had heard of M&S, Boots, WH Smith's etc. etc as well as local traders. A little off the beaten track there are some very nice independent shops set out in a "maze" of small alleys, streets and courtyards- it reminded me of a smaller version of "The Shambles" in York. Thankfully Mr Ness visited a very nice independent chocolate shop, the proceeds of which I enjoyed following a visit from Santa.

After 4 hours in Carlisle, at 4.14pm precisely (we got a gold star from the bus driver for being prompt), we travelled back to the North Tyne, enjoying the Christmas decorations and full moon en route.

Thank you for everyone who supported and enjoyed our trip to Carlisle, and to the PICA fund (Partnership in Community Action) who partly funded the trip to Carlisle. We hope to run more trips in 2024.

Since our trip, we were very sorry to learn of the death of Sandra Austin. Sandra has been a regular attender of the coffee mornings and trips to Carlisle, and Bamburgh/ Seahouses earlier in the year. Together with the "golden girls" from Bellingham, Sandra always brought a cheery smile and chat, we will miss her good humour and positivity.

Falstone Coffee Morning dates for 2024: 3rd Tuesday in the month at Falstone Village Hall at 10.30-11.30am.

16<sup>th</sup> January; 20<sup>th</sup> February; 19<sup>th</sup> March; 16<sup>th</sup> April; 21<sup>st</sup> May; 18<sup>th</sup> June; 16<sup>th</sup> July; 17<sup>th</sup> September; 15<sup>th</sup> October and 19<sup>th</sup> November

With best wishes,

Marie Ness (on behalf of the St. Peter's Falstone Coffee Morning Group).

## **NEWS FROM OTTERBURN**

**News from St John's:** Firstly, the 100 club numbers for January 2024 were as follows: 27 - Jessie Hickey; 35 - Ken Haynes; 61 - J.William.

Before we look back over 2023, may I remind you all it is time to rejoin the 100 Club (£30.00) and also Jean will be knocking your door to collect subscriptions for the The Meeting of the Waters.

When I last looked at December's activities for St. John's, all we had booked was one service for the school. This turned into two carol services, and both were well attended by parents. It was a joy to listen to the young voices, and it's a pity we can't turn the school choir into a church choir!

Sadly, the other services booked for December were two Memorial Services and one Funeral:

**Alan Rogerson**, who had recently moved from Otterburn to Kirkwelpington to be nearer to his family, sadly died suddenly and our thoughts are with his family.

**Ann Craven**, who had long fought against cancer. She had for many years led us in our musical contribution to the service, and had not long retired from playing the organ, when she had a fall. We all miss her cheerful outlook on life and admire the brave face she always showed.

**Sandra Austin**, who grew up in the valley, and had in later years moved to Bellingham. She was a well known figure on her scooter (which carried her oxygen bottle and was always surrounded by a bevy of ladies ever ready to help her.

I have now received news for the future. Our treasurer, Gill, reports we now have funds to cover both the resetting of the gutters and the installation of the new heaters. Gill must take all the credit for these grants, she has worked hard to obtain them - we are all very grateful for her hard work!

I have just heard that due to pressures of life, our gardener is having to retire, which means that St. John's church in the centre of Otterburn, will no longer look smart and tidy. If you feel you can spare a few hours a week; mainly in the summer months, and would appreciate the exercise, please contact me below for further information.

I close by wishing you all, a peaceful, and contented New Year.

Rosemary (Churchwarden, Tel: 520576)

## **NEWS FROM THORNEYBURN**

As usual we had a very busy Christmas season - or at least the church and church community did, as I was somewhat out of action post-op! So unusually, I was able to turn up and enjoy the wonderful events without having planned them. Community and teamwork are great things! So, thank you all.

Our theme for our Carol service was "We invite you this Christmas to follow the star, journey to the manger, join the song and come into the presence of Jesus Christ" which was wonderfully told with song and readings (both from the bible and secular).

We had a full church of over 100 people to join in our traditional and less traditional

Carols – ably led by Shona on the organ. ‘While shepherds watched’ to the tune of *On Ilkley Moor Baht’at* was a great ending to a lively and engaging service. We also had a Geordie version of the Shepherds with a very energising New Zealand Angel Gabriel (thank you Hamish), so our whole world was covered! Thanks also to all the readers, our wonderful Song Reivers Choir for their carols and leading us all, the ceilidh band for its fabulous music and of course to our own Rev Claire who led us all with such thought, prayer and lively enthusiasm. Another highlight for me was the Peruvian Gloria which Claire led and without rehearsal everyone joined in making a great sound. The church as always was beautifully decorated and lit with candles and the evening was rounded off with mulled wine and nibbles at the Old Rectory at Kate Hersey’s invitation and lots of behind-the-scenes support – thank you Michael, Megan and all the others.

Christmas Day was very well attended with over 25 and lots of children too. I was sorry to have missed that.

So on to this year and our Epiphany Communion Service was led by Frances Dower who told us all about the Children’s Work this year ‘Our Fragile Earth’ and explained how the community could be involved, before involving the congregation in designing their ideas for patches for a Cloth of Dreams. At Thorneyburn we are hoping to incorporate the Greenhaugh School children’s work with our community to make a new alter frontal as the current one has been rather eaten by mice. I have some spare sheets for anyone who wants one to draw what makes our Planet and our Valley special. These will then be made up in fabric before being put together to make our alter frontal. **So, all you crafters out there please get in touch** as this is one area I am NOT good at. We also found the original cross from the old alter frontal which could be the centrepiece. With our developments to make St Aidan’s an eco-church this seems to bring everything beautifully together, environment, schools and community.

We have just heard some sad news that Neil Cassidy has died, we are keeping Deidre, Sean and family in our prayers.

Finally, we have some more news about the solar panel project which is we hope that St Aidan’s along with a couple of other churches will be part of the churches pilot to gain planning and other permissions including the church for this to go ahead. Happily, the church is leading the way and keen to progress it through their planning process to encourage those heritage and planning organisations to be positive too.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and fulfilled New Year

Caroline Waitt

[caroline.waitt@btinternet.com](mailto:caroline.waitt@btinternet.com) 01434 240210 (Churchwarden)

## **A BRIEF WORD FROM THE EDITOR**

This month's cover photo is of the moon shining through the clouds at St Mungo's, Simonburn, and was submitted by Jill Swaile.

If you have anything you would like to see included in the magazine (articles, cartoons, news, photos, events, birthdays, etc.), please feel free to email it to: **sarahMOTW@btinternet.com** - or you can simply give me a call on 240767.

The copy deadline for next month's issue is **MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024** and in the meantime, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Please note that any views, thoughts or opinions expressed within this magazine are those of the authors/contributors and do not officially represent those of the wider church or of any other group or individual.*

## **NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE MEETING OF THE WATERS**

We would like to say a huge thank you for supporting this publication. If you are an occasional reader and would like a regular copy, please contact your local distributor below - the annual sub is just £7 for 11 issues. If you would just like an occasional copy, feel free to pick one up at your local church, where a donation in the box would be gratefully received and very much appreciated!

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## TEAM CLERGY

### Priest in Charge, North Tyne & Redesdale

The Revd Dr Claire Maxim  
The Rectory, Bellingham, Hexham. NE48 2JS  
Tel: 01434 220019  
Email: revclairemaxim@gmail.com

*Please note: Friday is my day off and I will respond to any queries when I return to work*

### Area Dean

Revd Sarah Lunn  
Chollerton Vicarage, Hexham, NE46 4TF  
Tel: 01434 681 721  
Email: sarahlunn63@gmail.com

### Honorary Assistant Priest

The Revd Dr Richard Virden  
Ingram Cottage, West Woodburn. NE48 2SB  
Tel: 01434 270334  
Email: rev.virden@gmail.com

### Associate Priest

Revd Dr Frances Dower  
Cambo House, Cambo. NE61 4AY  
Tel: 01670 774297  
Email: frances.dower@dower.org.uk

## OTHER LOCAL CLERGY

### Bellingham MURC

Roberta Ritson  
42 Woodcroft Road, Wylam. NE41 8DH  
Tel: 01661 852702  
Email: minister@northtynewithhvc@gmail.com

### St Oswald's Bellingham

Fr James Dunne  
Tel: 01434 220262  
Mob: 07708-470079

## PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

### Bellingham and Corsenside:

Cath Brennand  
Tel: 01434 220631  
Email: cath.brennand@btinternet.com

### Falstone with Greystead and Thorneyburn:

Jenni Holland  
Tel: 01434 240337  
Email: jenni\_holland1@hotmail.com

### Horsley with Byrness, Elsdon and Otterburn:

Dr Andrew Brittlebank: 07740 224324  
Email: psochollerton@icloud.com

## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Citizens' Advice Bureau 03444 111 444

### CHILD PROTECTION

Childline 0800 1111  
Children's Services 01670 714 411  
NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

### DISABILITY & CARERS

DWP Helpline 0800 882200

### DOMESTIC ABUSE

NDAS (Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services) 01434 608030  
Domestic Abuse Support Service Northumberland 01670 820199  
Northumberland Cygnus Support 01670 853977  
Social Services (Emergency) [www.cygnussupport.com](http://www.cygnussupport.com) 999

### RAPE CRISIS

Home Heat helpline 0800 0352794

### ELDER ABUSE

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### FUEL POVERTY

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### FARMING COMMUNITY

ARC-Addington Fund (Housing) 02476 690587  
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Samaritans 116 123

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Corsenside Parish Hall 01434 270062  
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Rochester Village Hall 01830 520589 or 07761 735887  
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### MEDICAL

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### NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

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