

Welcome to our weekly News and Diary from the parishes of Gateshead Fell, Harlow Green and Windy Nook

12th October 2025

Generosity overflows into Harvest this week and next across our churches.

Harvest is a time to celebrate all that God gives — the colours of autumn, the taste of fresh bread, the joy of sharing food together. But it's also a time to remember that not everyone has enough.



Our churches support Gateshead Foodbank and Oasis Community Housing, who do incredible work helping local people through tough times — offering not just food and shelter, but kindness, dignity, and hope.

Generosity isn't just about giving money (though that helps!). It's about noticing others, offering time, sharing what we have, and trusting that when we give, God multiplies it. The tins and packets we bring at Harvest might seem small, but together they make a big difference — filling shelves, lifting spirits, reminding people that they're not forgotten. As we thank God for our own blessings, let's also ask how we can be part of His generosity.

Please bring donations either money in envelopes or food in tins/packets to be distributed across local charities. Harvest is today for St Ninians and St Johns and 19th October for St Albans.

Licensing and Commissioning of all at St Ninians Sunday 12th October 6pm Do come along if you can for this wonderful celebration as we continue with our generosity as churches and welcome into our daily lives the people and parish of Harlow Green and those who worship there already.

Giving regularly in each of our churches

Each of our churches has various ways for you to give regularly - the best of these is the Parish Giving Scheme - already set up in St Albans and St Johns. This allows us to get the gift aid straight way on your donation - helping with cash flow and planning.

Follow the links to find out more and set up regular giving or one off donations - or search Parish Giving Scheme and put the church's name in.

[St Albans Parish Giving Scheme](#)

[St Johns Parish Giving Scheme](#)

St Nlnians have envelopes where you can give regularly and will be partnering with the Parish Giving Scheme in the future.

Introducing Ray Hetherington who joins us until March 2026

Hello, I'm Ray. I am currently training for ordained ministry as an ordinand at Cranmer Hall Theological College. I live in Durham with my wife, Kelly, and our cat, Peach. Originally from Newcastle, I recently moved from Cramlington, Northumberland, to Durham to undertake full-time, residential training. Settling into Durham has been a pleasure; it's a beautiful city, and I'm eager to explore both it and the surrounding areas as I make it my home. Prior to beginning my training, I spent four years working as a verger at Newcastle Cathedral. I also undertook a six-month Sunday placement in Morpeth, Northumberland, whilst preparing for the ordination training interview process.

In my spare time, I enjoy listening to music and expanding my ever-growing vinyl collection. I have also recently started learning to paint with acrylics, although I am very much at the beginning of this very long learning curve and haven't produced any masterpieces thus far.

I thoroughly enjoy learning from others and walking alongside people in their journeys. I am excited about spending time at these parishes, growing, learning, and sharing experiences together with the community there. So, if you see me around, please do come and say "hi", I very much look forward to meeting you. Prayers and Best Wishes Ray Hetherington.



What is happening across our parishes this week?

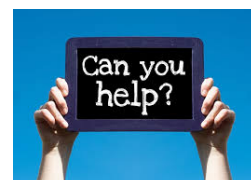
Week beginning Sunday 12th October

Sunday services 12th October	8am BCP Service at St Johns 9.30am Harvest Service at St Johns 10am Harvest Service at St Ninians 10.30am Service at St Albans 2pm-4pm Messy Church at St Albans 6pm St Ninians - Licensing and commissioning service - all welcome.
Monday	7am Morning Prayer at St Johns 1pm – 3.30pm Arts & Crafts at St Albans 4pm Evening Prayer at St Albans 7pm St Alban PCC
Tuesday	9am Morning Prayer at St Johns 10am - 1pm Place of Welcome at St Johns 8.45pm Men's Fellowship at Greencroft Club
Wednesday	9am Morning Prayer at St Albans 1.30pm Northumbria Historic Churches Trust visit St Johns
Thursday	9am Morning Prayer at St Ninians
Sunday - 19th October	8am BCP Service at St Johns 9.30am Service at St Johns 10am Service at St Ninians 10.30am Harvest Service at St Albans followed by shared lunch - Bring food for the Foodbank and Pot Noodles for Oasis Community Housing



We are Inclusive Churches which celebrate and affirm every person and do not discriminate. If we can do anything to enable you to enjoy worshipping with us more then please let us know.

St Albans would like some volunteers for help with the distribution of communion on a Sunday. If you would like to know more talk to one of the Churchwardens.





St Johns are looking for people to help with the Place of Welcome on a Tuesday morning - committing to one Tuesday a month would help us - serving people soup, tea and coffee and being the welcome face. Talk to Rev Danie or Rev John or a churchwarden if interested.

Prayers you may want to use this week

Collect

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Parish Waymark Prayer

God of life - you make all things new.
Revive your church in our parishes.
Inspire our worship, release our gifts, and give us courage to follow where you lead.
Jesus, help us to know you better and draw us deeper into your presence.
Fill us with your Spirit so we can share your love and hope with all, and walk in the world as beacons of your light. Amen.

Prayers for those in our community

For healing

Connor Buckley (aged 8), Jenny Devine, Betty Elliott, Paul Fawcus (age 1), Lindsay Forster, Joseph Gallagher, Simon Shaw, John Watts, Betty White, Laura Wicks

Our clergy team is:

Rector - Rev Danie Lindley (07902477474), **Associate Priest** - Rev Ken Coulson (07596534635), **Curates** - Rev John Mayes (07791615821) and Rev Elaine Grant (07356073876)

Our churchwardens are:

St Albans Lynn Coulson and Rob Watts
St Johns: Catherine Mayes and Yvonne Stonebank
St Ninians: Linda Smith

Our Parish Safeguarding officers are

St Albans and St Ninians: Lynn Coulson and **St Johns:** Catherine Mayes
Contact us on stalbanswn@gmail.com; stjohnsgf@gmail.com;
stninianshg@gmail.com