St Michael and All Angels, Houghton - le - Spring

SERVICE DETAILS & WEEKLY NOTICES

30th November 2025

First Sunday of Advent



Welcome to the church of St Michael & All Angels. Our aim is to be a friendly and inclusive church. We hope you enjoy our worship together. After the service please join us for refreshments and a chat.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

Readings for 8.30 am & 10.00 am:

First: Isaiah 2. 1-5

Second: Romans 13. 11 - end

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Details of the Holy Communion at 10.00 am

Opening Hymn: 'Come, thou long-expected Jesus' (30)

Lighting of the Advent Candle Carol:

'Christmas is coming'
The Church is glad to sing
and let the Advent candles
brightly burn in a ring

1. The first is for God's promise to put the wrong things right, and bring to earth's darkness The hope of love and light.

Gradual Hymn: 'Colours of day dawn into the mind' (27)

Communion Hymn: 'Earth was waiting, spent and restless' (34)

Closing Hymn: 'Hill of the north, rejoice' (39)

Details of the Thursday Holy Communion at 10.00 am

First Hymn: 'Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding' (38)

Second Hymn: 'Earth was waiting, spent and restless' (34)

Third Hymn: 'On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry' (46)





PRAYER CONCERNS FOR OUR SERVICE AND PERSONAL PRAYER

In our church diary we pray: In our Advent & Christmas services and events, that many people will visit us and experience something of God's love in our welcome.

For members of our church family unable to join us in church today:

Jean Clifford, Joyce Grey, Maureen Howard, Maureen Hutton, Emma Hyden, Ruby Lambert, Ozzy Masters, Rita Stone.

For those who are ill or in need who have asked for our prayers: (list updated each 3 months) Paul Armour, Anna Bradley, Betty Brown, Anne Camp, Helen Cheall, Fiona Cooper, Peter Cunningham, Jennifer Dixon, Marjorie Fogg, Ken Henderson, Evelyn Hendry, Maurice Lee, Baby Luca Loscombe, Debbie Miller, Anunda Samoo (Andy), Jean Raine, Kenneth Rose, Aileen Scott, Gina Smith, Hilary Storey, John Wilde.

For the recently departed, including:

Alan Turnbull, Catherine Fletcher, Angela Kerby, Brian Teather, Julie Bilton.

Rotas for the coming week

L Farthing (8.30 am Sunday 7th) **Readers:**

D Turnbull & J Bond (10.00 am Sun 7th)

S Hardy (6.00 pm Sun 7th) J Bond (10.00 am Thurs 11th)

R Turnbull & C Moore (10.00 am Sun 7th) **Stewards:**

J Henderson (6.00 pm Sun 7th)

S Wynn & J Beattie (10.00 am Thurs 11th)

D Anderson (8.30 am Sun 7th) **Intercessors**:

D Turnbull (10.00 am Sun 7th)

S Foster & S Bradley (10.00 am 7th) **Coffee:**

Christmas Flowers

Donations to Carole or in collection tin at the back of church, Thank you!

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church. If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from either:

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: Beth Miller 07968034075 **Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Ali Young 07532034075

If there is immediate risk or danger, contact the police on 999.



The Church of England's Christmas theme for 2025 revolves round a single word: Joy! Our church will - as always - be seeking to make the most of the opportunity December brings to share The Joy of Christmas with our community.

Advent Carol Service

Sunday 30th November at 6 pm.

A beautiful candlelit service of music, hymns & readings. With hand bells and minced pies this is a delightful service for a wonderful start to Advent!





A HUGE 'Thank You'

to all that contributed, helped and came to the Christmas Market yesterday, making the event a huge success.

Light of Life Service

Tues 2nd Dec, 3 pm.

We will be lighting the

Christmas tree in Church & we invite you to dedicate a light on it to those special people in

your thoughts. Dedication forms are in the Signpost or at the back of church.

Forms are available at the back of church or in the Signpost should you wish to make a dedication.

Christingle

Our popular family service will be held on Sunday 14th December at **4 pm**.



Every child makes a Christingle and the proceeds are donated to the Children's Society.

All are welcome to come along.

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS CHEER WITH THE

GILPIN SINGERS

Wed 10th December 2025 at 7pm (Doors open 6.40pm) Sweet Mince Pies Raffle Mulled wine

Tickets: £5 per adult, Under 16s FREE (but must have ticket)
For tickets contact Kathyrn on 07731815325 or from Carole.



Admission by ticket only



Mothers' Union

Monday 1st Dec- Mothers Union Carol Service in church at 2pm. Refreshments after the service.

THIS WEEK AT ST MICHAEL'S

Sunday – First Sunday of Advent (Matthew 24. 36 - 44)

8.30 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Holy Communion (Church & 10.00 am

6.00 pm Advent Carol Service

Monday 2.00 pm Mothers' Union Carol Service

2.30 pm Community Food Store (Kepier)

6.00 pm Vestry hour (call Parish Office for appointment)

Tuesday 3.00 pm Light of Life Service

3.30 pm Family Fun (Kepier)

Wednesday 7.30 pm Gilpin Singers Practice (in Church)

Thursday 10.00 am Holy Communion (in Church)

6.00pm Choir Practice (Choir Vestry)

Friday 9.30 am Stay & Play (Kepier Hall)

9.30 am Community Food Store (Kepier Hall)

2.00 pm Cake & Chat (Hub, Newbottle St)

Our 'Drop-in' is open at the Space4 Hub (Newbottle St) 10-1 Mon-Fri

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: SUPPORT CHURCH FUND RAISING!

7th December – Second Sunday of Advent (Matthew 3. 1 - 12)

8.30 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Holy Communion (Church & 10.00 am

6.00 pm Service of Light

10th Dec 7.00 pm The Gilpin Singers Christmas Concert

14th Dec 4.00 pm Christingle (Church)

Watch this space for other upcoming events!

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Our Rector Rev'd John Barron can be contacted on 0191 5847657

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Email: jwbarron@btinternet.com

His usual day off is Friday

The Parish office is open

Tuesday & Thursday (9.00 am - 2.00 pm)

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Website: www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk

Support St Michael and All Angels by following this link: https://bit.ly/supportStM or scan the QR code with your phone

