



St Bartholomew



Holy Trinity



St John the Baptist

CLUWES – NEWS

News from the parish churches of **C**resswell, **L**ynemouth, **U**lgham, **W**iddrington,
Widdrington Station, **E**llington and **S**tobswood

A View from the Pews

November 2025

November is a time for reflection and The Service of Light and Hope. Remembrance is a solemn and sacred gathering, where flickering candles become symbols of enduring hope and memory. As the darkness deepens around us, the light we share honours those who have gone before—loved ones, heroes, and souls whose presence shaped our lives. Each flame, though small, stands as a testament that even in loss, love endures. In stillness and reflection, we remember not only with sorrow, but with gratitude—carrying their light forward in our hearts, keeping their stories alive in the warmth we offer one another.



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The Changing Colours of God's seasons

As November unfolds, the world around us begins to shift in colour and tone. The trees, once dressed in the vibrant greens of summer, take on robes of gold, crimson, and bronze. Each leaf seems to glow with a final burst of life before gently falling to the ground. This natural transformation invites us to pause and reflect on the beauty and meaning of change within God's creation. As Scripture reminds us in **Ecclesiastes 3:1**, "*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*" The changing colours of the leaves remind us that God's timing is perfect and that each season—whether full of life, stillness, or renewal—serves a divine purpose.

When the trees release their leaves, they do so without resistance, trusting that spring will come again. In the same way, God calls us to let go of the things that weigh us down, trusting that He will bring new life in His time. Jesus teaches us in **John 12:24**, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." The falling leaves, though a sign of passing, are also a symbol of hope and renewal. What seems to fade away now is preparing the ground for what will bloom again.

The fading colours of autumn also point us to the eternal truth found in **Isaiah 40:8**: "The grass withers, the flower fades but the word of our God will stand forever." While the beauty of November is fleeting, it reminds us that God's Word endures unchanging through every season of life. The glory of creation may pass, but His promises remain steadfast.

In the gentle rhythm of the falling leaves, we are reminded that life, too, moves through seasons ordained by God. There are times of growth and fruitfulness, and times of rest and renewal. November's quiet splendour speaks of trust, surrender, and faith in the One who makes all things new. As we watch the colours shift and the earth prepare for winter's stillness, may we also prepare our hearts—resting in God's faithfulness and awaiting the new life He will surely bring.

Paula Darkin

Activity Corner:

A great activity for children is a "Leaf Garland of Thanks". You will need a piece of string. Collect real fallen leaves, then help children punch holes in the leaves to string them together. This craft can be used to make a garland. Each leaf can be a reminder of something to be thankful for, with verses like Psalm 107:1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Coffee Morning - Ellington Village Hall

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who attended our recent church coffee morning and for your generous donations. It was a wonderful occasion filled with warmth, friendship, and a lovely sense of community. The cakes were absolutely delicious — our thanks go to all who baked and shared their culinary talents. The raffle was also a great success, and we are very grateful to those who donated prizes and to everyone who took part.

Your kindness and support have helped to make this event both enjoyable and meaningful. Thank you once again for your generosity and for helping to make the morning such a happy and successful gathering. A total of £380.75 was raised.

Community Quiz Night Success - St John's Ulgham

What a wonderful evening of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition! Our recent Community Quiz Night was a fantastic success, bringing together teams from across the parish for an evening filled with laughter, learning, and a little bit of rivalry.

Thanks to the generous support of everyone who attended, donated prizes, and helped organise the event, we raised £766! A special thank you goes to our quizmaster, who kept the questions coming and the atmosphere light, everyone who served refreshments, or helped set up and clear away. Events like this remind us what a blessing it is to be part of such a caring and vibrant community.

What's on in November

	Cresswell	Widdrington	Ulgham
2 Nov	10.30am Morning Prayer	9.30 Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion 5pm Service of Light and Hope
9 Nov	Remembrance 10.15 am: Lynemouth School	Remembrance 10.45am: Holy Trinity	NO service
16 Nov	NO morning service 6pm Service of Light and Hope	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion
23 Nov	10.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer	11am Morning Prayer
30 Nov	ADVENT SUNDAY 11am	<u>Joint</u> service at St John's Ulgham Holy Communion	

Saturdays: 5pm Evening Prayer in person at Holy Trinity /facebook
EVENTS:

2 Nov	1-4pm	Cresswell Pele Tower "Day of the Dead"
4 Nov	5.30pm	God Squad Lynemouth Institute, ground floor
17 Nov	7pm	Lynemouth Quiz Night, Institute
23 Nov	4pm	Christmas Lights Switch-on Widdrington Village
30 Nov	2pm	Toy service at St John LONGHIRST

Please note: Rev Julia will be away 17-21 November

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