

St Michael and All Angels, Houghton - le - Spring

## SERVICE DETAILS & WEEKLY NOTICES

28<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**First Sunday of Christmas**



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:**

God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love: gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen**

### **Readings for 10.00 am:**

**First:** Isaiah 63. 7 - 9

**Second:** Hebrews 2. 10 - end

**Gospel:** Matthew 2. 13 - end ; متى ٢ : ١٣ - النهاية



### **Details of the Parish Eucharist at 10.00 am**

**Opening Hymn:** 'Long ago, prophets know' (75)

**Gradual Hymn:** 'See, amid the winter's snow' (83)

**Hymn of Offering:** 'See him lying on a bed of straw' (82)

**Communion Hymn:** 'Who would think that what was needed' (90)

**Closing Hymn:** 'The first Nowell the angel did say' (86)

***No 8.30 am or 6.00pm Service***

***No Thursday Holy Communion***



## PRAYER CONCERNS FOR OUR SERVICE AND PERSONAL PRAYER

**In our church diary we pray:** At the beginning of the New Year a renewed sense of God's promises for us revealed in Jesus Christ.

**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:**

Brian Teather, Julie Bilton, Terry Coxan, Stan Morson.

### Rotas for the coming week

**Readers:** L Farthing (8.30 am Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>)  
J Henderson & A Slater (10.00 am Sun 4<sup>th</sup>)  
S Hardy (6.00 pm Sun 4<sup>th</sup>)  
J Bond (10.00 am Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>)

**Stewards:** D & B Scott (10.00 am Sun 4<sup>th</sup>)  
J Henderson (6.00 pm Sun 4<sup>th</sup>)  
S Wynn & J Beattie (10.00 am Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>)

**Intercessors:** D Anderson (8.30 am Sun 4<sup>th</sup>)  
D Turnbull (10.00 am Sun 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Coffee:** K Arden & G Loscombe (10.00 am 4<sup>th</sup>)

### ***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.

***And the Word became flesh and  
lived among us, and we have seen  
his glory.***

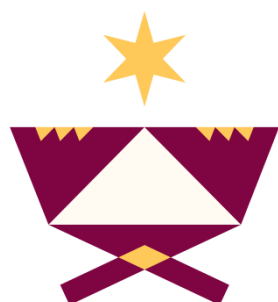
*John's Gospel chapter 1, verse 14a.*



John & the ministry team would like to say thank you for the kind gifts and cards they've received and wish everyone a very  
***Happy Christmas!***

**A BIG thank you to all who helped to make our church so beautiful & welcoming for Christmas. Flower arrangers, musicians, singers, worship leaders, readers, 'welcomers', sidespeople, tea-makers, 'setter-uppers' and anyone we've forgotten to mention, your efforts are very much appreciated.**

Please note the changed pattern of services  
between Christmas and New Year (over)



**Our next 'All Age' Service**

**Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 10 a.m.**

***'Come & See'***

**The Friends of Houghton Parish Church Trust 2026 Calendar**  
is available at the back of church for all!



**Christmas Flowers**

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

## THIS WEEK AT ST MICHAEL'S

**Sunday** – First Sunday of Christmas (*Matthew 1. 18 - end*)

8.30 am *Please note: No Service*

10.00 am Holy Communion (Church & )

6.00 pm *Please note: No Service*

**Monday** 2.30 pm *No Community Food Store (Kepier)*

6.00 pm *No Vestry hour (contact Parish Office for appointment)*

**Thursday** **New Year's Day**

10.00 am *No Holy Communion (in Church)*

6.00pm *No Choir Practice (Choir Vestry)*

*Space4 Drop-In and Foodstore closes 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec & reopen on Monday 6th Jan*

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: SUPPORT CHURCH FUND RAISING!

**4<sup>th</sup> January** – Epiphany (*Matthew 2. 1 - 12*)

8.30 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Holy Communion (Church & )

6.00 pm Service of Light

**18<sup>th</sup> Jan** 10.00 am 'All-In' Holy Communion 'Come & See'

**18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Jan** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**24<sup>th</sup> Jan** 4.00 pm Parish Party (Kepier Hall)

*Watch this space for other upcoming events!*

Our Rector Rev'd John Barron  
can be contacted on 0191 5847657  
Address: 5 Lingfield, Houghton-le-Spring,  
Tyne & Wear, DH5 8QA  
Email: jwbarron@btinternet.com  
His usual day off is Friday

The Parish office is open  
Tuesday & Thursday (9.00 am – 2.00 pm)  
Telephone: 0191 5121769  
Email: stmichaels.hls@gmail.com  
 Facebook: stmichaelshls  
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

