

## Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, in your humility you have stooped to share our human life with the most defenceless of your children: may we who have received these gifts of your passion rejoice in celebrating the witness of the Holy Innocents to the purity of your sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; for you are alive and reign, now and for ever.

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## Sunday Services:

Sun 4th Jan Epiphany  
09:30 Communion St Luke's, Ferryhill  
11:00 Communion Holy Trinity, Cornforth

Sun 11th Jan Baptism of Christ  
11am Communion St Aidan's

Sun 18th Jan Epiphany 2  
*Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*  
09:30 Communion St Luke's, Ferryhill  
11:00 Communion Holy Trinity, Cornforth

Sun 25th Jan Epiphany 3  
11am Communion St Aidan's

Sun 1st Feb Candlemas  
09:30 Communion St Luke's, Ferryhill  
11:00 Communion Holy Trinity, Cornforth

Sun 8th Feb 2nd before Lent  
11am Communion St Aidan's

Sun 15th Feb Sunday before Lent  
09:30 Communion St Luke's, Ferryhill  
11:00 Communion Holy Trinity, Cornforth

Sun 22nd Feb Lent 1  
11am Communion St Aidan's

Sun 1st March Lent 2  
09:30 Communion St Luke's, Ferryhill  
11:00 Communion Holy Trinity, Cornforth

Sun 8th March Lent 3  
11am Communion St Aidan's

**Sunday 28th December 2025**

**St Aidan's Chilton**

**The Holy Innocents**

## Collect

Heavenly Father, whose children suffered at the hands of Herod, though they had done no wrong: by the suffering of your Son and by the innocence of our lives frustrate all evil designs and establish your reign of justice and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## Readings

### **Jeremiah 31.15-17**

15 Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah,

lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.

16 Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping,

and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord:

they shall come back from the land of the enemy;

17 there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 124

1 If the Lord himself had not been on our side, now may Israel say;

**2 If the Lord had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us;**

3 Then would they have swallowed us alive when their anger burned against us;

4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over our soul;

over our soul would have swept the raging waters.

**5 But blessed be the Lord  
who has not given us over to be a prey for  
their teeth.**

6 Our soul has escaped  
as a bird from the snare of the fowler;  
the snare is broken and we are delivered.

**7 Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
who has made heaven and earth.**

**1 Corinthians 1.26–29**

26 Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are,

29 so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.

14 Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt,  
15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, Out of Egypt I have called my son.

16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent

and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.

17 Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

18 A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.

Matthew 2.13–18

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**2026 Key Dates**

<u>Ash Wednesday</u>	18	February
<u>Palm Sunday</u>	29	March
<u>Good Friday</u>	3	April
<u>Easter Day</u>	5	April
<u>Ascension Day</u>	14	May
<u>Pentecost</u>	24	May
<u>Trinity Sunday</u>	31	May
<u>Advent Sunday</u>	29	November
<u>Christmas Day</u>	is a Friday	

**Body and Soul Communion and Lunch**

**St Luke's Ferryhill 11.30am**

*Begins again Tues 6th January*

**Monday Evening Fellowship**

**Cornforth Partnership 6.30pm**

*Begins again Monday 12th January*

**Midweek Communion -**

**Cornforth Partnership 9.15am**

*Begins again Wednesday 14th January*

**Rev Lindsay will be out of parish on;**

**30th Dec - 3rd Jan** post christmas leave

**1-6 February 2026** Transforming Conflict training course

**9 & 16th Feb** Diocesan duties

**23rd - 27th Feb** on leave