

St Michael and All Angels, Houghton - le - Spring

## SERVICE DETAILS & WEEKLY NOTICES

7<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### Second 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, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen

#### Readings for 8.30 am & 10.00 am:

First: Isaiah 11. 1 – 10

Second: Romans 15. 4 - 13

Gospel: Matthew 3. 1 - 12 ; 12-1 :3 متى

#### Details of the Holy Communion at 10.00 am

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

#### 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*

2. The second for the prophets,  
who said that Christ would come  
with good news for the many  
and angry words for some.



Gradual Hymn: 'Come now, O Prince of Peace' (29)

Communion Hymn: 'Long ago, prophets knew' (75)

Communion Hymn: 'Longing for light' (42)

Closing Hymn: 'O come, O come' (45)

#### Details for Service of Light at 6.00 pm

First Hymn: 'Thou, whose almighty word' (810)

Second Hymn: 'Thine forever! God of love' (807)

Third Hymn: 'King of glory, King of peace' (698)

Anthem: 'Praise to the Holiest in the height' (763)

#### 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:**

Brian Teather, Julie Bilton.

**Rotas for the coming week**

<b><u>Readers:</u></b>	A Bradley (8.30 am Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> ) K Close & D Barnes (10.00 am Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> ) S Hardy (6.00 pm Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> ) E Harkness (10.00 am Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> )
<b><u>Stewards:</u></b>	D & B Scott (10.00 am Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> ) R Turnbull (6.00 pm Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> ) E Harkness & E Garbutt (10.00 am Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> )
<b><u>Intercessors:</u></b>	Minister (8.30 am Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> ) K Close (10.00 am Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> )
<b><u>Coffee:</u></b>	M Barnes & J Wheatley (10.00 am 14 <sup>th</sup> )

**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.

## Service of Light

A gentle evening service with music, hymns, reading & sermon.

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 pm

Led by Rev'd Margaret Lee.



## Christingle

Our popular family service will be held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 7pm

(Doors open 6.40pm)

Sweet Mince Pies • Raffle • Mulled wine

*Admission by ticket only*

***SOLD OUT***



**Our next 'All-In' Service**  
**Sun 21<sup>st</sup> December 10.00 am**  
***'The Grumpy Owl  
& the Joy of Christmas'***




### A Blue Christmas?

If we're missing loved ones, sometimes we can feel out of step with all that's going on around us in the lead up to Christmas. It may be at our 'Blue Christmas Tree' (in the Gilpin transept) we can acknowledge our true self before God who comes to us in the Christ-child to share all of our humanity with us.

## THIS WEEK AT ST MICHAEL'S

**Sunday** – Second Sunday of Advent (*Matthew 3. 1 - 12*)

- 8.30 am Holy Communion
- 10.00 am Holy Communion (Church & )
- 6.00 pm Service of Light

**Monday** 2.30 pm Community Food Store (Kepier)  
6.00 pm Vestry hour (call Parish Office for appointment)

**Tuesday** 3.30 pm Family Fun (Kepier)

**Wednesday** 7.00 pm The Gilpin Singers Christmas Concert (*SOLD OUT*)


**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!

**14<sup>th</sup> December** – Third Sunday of Advent (*Matthew 11. 2 - 11*)

- 8.30 am Holy Communion
- 10.00 am Holy Communion (Church & )
- 4.00 pm Christingle**
- 6.00 pm Celtic Eucharist

**21<sup>st</sup> Dec** 10.00 am 'All-In' Service with Holy Communion

**22<sup>nd</sup> Dec** 1.30 pm Community Service

*Watch this space for other upcoming events!*

Our Rector Rev'd John Barron  
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Tyne & Wear, DH5 8QA  
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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

