

St Michael and All Angels, Houghton - le - Spring

SERVICE DETAILS & WEEKLY NOTICES

22nd February 2026

First Sunday in Lent



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:

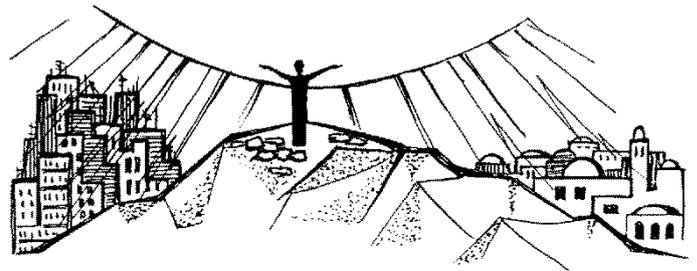
Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings for 8.30 am & 10.00 am:

First: Genesis 2. 15 – 17, 3. 1 - 7

Second: Romans 5. 12 - 19

Gospel: Matthew 4. 1 - 11 ;



Details of the Parish Eucharist at 10.00 am

Opening Hymn: 'Forty days and forty nights' (121)

Psalm 103: Response '*The Lord is compassion and love*'

Hymn of Offering: 'Jesu, lover of my soul' (128)

Communion Hymn: 'Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you' (330)

Closing Hymn: 'Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us' (702)

Details for Celtic Eucharist at 6.00 pm

First Hymn: 'Be still for the presence of the Lord' (358)

Second Hymn: 'Lord Jesus, think on me' (127)

Details of the Thursday Holy Communion at 10.00 am

First Hymn: 'Take up the song, and sing the praise of God' (568)

Second Hymn: 'Just as I am, without one plea' (451)

Third Hymn: 'Be thou my vision. O Lord of my heart' (595)

 **PRAYER CONCERNS FOR OUR SERVICE AND PERSONAL PRAYER**

In our church diary we pray: For those baptised today including Noah, Rosie & their parents & Godparents.

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, Anne Camp, Helen Cheall, Peter Cunningham, Jennifer Dixon, Marjorie Fogg, Ken Henderson, Evelyn Hendry, Brooke Kirkpatrick, Ruth Lindsay, Debbie Miller, Anunda Samoo (Andy), Nirmala Samoo, Jean Raine, Kenneth Rose, Aileen Scott, Gina Smith, Hilary Storey, John Wilde.

For the recently departed, including:

Stan Morson, Barry Gowland, Betty Fletcher, Malcolm Berry, Derek Rowell, Edward Blake, Neil Scott, Sarah Turnbull, Marion Sleeman, Betty Brown.

Rotas for the coming week

Readers: L Farthing (8.30 am Sunday 1st)
C Moore & R Turnbull (10.00 am Sun 1st)
J Henderson (6.00 pm Sun 1st)
J Bond (10.00 am Thurs 5th)

Stewards: D & B Scott (10.00 am Sun 1st)
J Henderson (6.00 pm Sun 1st)
S Wynn & J Beattie (10.00 am Thurs 5th)

Intercessors: D Anderson (8.30 am Sun 1st)
D Turnbull (10.00 am Sun 1st)

Coffee: M Barnes & J Wheatley (10.00 am 1st)

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 Officer: Beth Miller 07968034075

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ali Young 07532034075

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

Celtic Eucharist



A sung service of Holy Communion drawing on liturgy
from the Celtic Christian Tradition.

Led by Rev'd Claire Cullingworth

Sun 22nd February at 6.00 pm.

This Lent, we are exploring the "Joy of the Gospel" and developing a "Rhythm of Life" We invite you to join our church family in these opportunities for growth:

Lent Course: "The Joy of the Gospel"

Wednesdays (starting 25th Feb), 7:00–8:30 p.m. Space4 Hub, in the Space4 Hub. Exploring Christian joy through the lens of Paula Gooder and Pope Francis. Let us know you're coming on the sign up sheet at the back of church.



"Draw Near"

A daily resource for adults to grow life-giving habits. You can access this via the Everyday Faith is free to download for iOS and Android.

Retreat Days at Brancepeth Castle

21st Feb (*Threads and Patches*) & 21st March (*Creative Prayer*).

Cost: £40. Book at: community-of-the-well.uk or contact the office for help.



We are planning to start a session to help children to prepare for admission to communion.

If your child is interested, have a word with our Young Church leaders or Ministry team.

His Majesty the King has approved the appointment of the Venerable Rick Simpson, currently Archdeacon of Auckland, as the next Bishop of Durham.

The installation of Rick as Bishop of Durham will take place at Durham Cathedral in the summer.



THIS WEEK AT ST MICHAEL'S

Sunday – First Sunday in Lent (*Matthew 17. 1 - 9*)

- 8.30 am Holy Communion
- 10.00 am Holy Communion (Church & )
- 12.00 noon Baptisms
- 6.00 pm Celtic Eucharist

- 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 Joy of the Gospel' Lent course (The Hub, Newbottle St)

- Thursday**
- 10.00 am Holy Communion (Church)
 - 6.00 pm Choir Practice (Choir Vestry)

- Friday**
- 9.30 am Stay & Play (Kepier Hall)
 - 9.30 am Community Food Store (Kepier Hall)
 - 1.15 pm Funeral of Marion Sleeman (in Church)
 - 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:

1st March – Second Sunday in Lent (*John 3.1-17*)

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

- 4th Mar** 7.00 pm 'The Joy of the Gospel' Lent course (The Hub, Newbottle St)

Watch this space for other upcoming events!

Our Rector Rev'd John Barron
can be contacted on 0191 5847657
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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](https://www.facebook.com/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

