



AUGUST 2026

Stockton Country Parish

Newsheet for St John's, St James',
St Peter's and St Cuthbert's



SPOTLIGHT ON... INTERIM CHANGE MINISTRY

PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT 18 MONTHS

Reverend Lindsay Southern, Interim Change Minister, the PCC (Parish Church Council) and congregations of St John's, St James', St Peter's and St Cuthbert's will be focusing their energy on the following priorities: •Work with the PCC, congregation and community to establish regular weekly worship in one location, fostering a healthy, flourishing church. •Help the parish come to terms with loss and closure of buildings. •Encourage good working relationships with both C of E Primary Schools. •Work with the congregation and community to discern the vision for the future of mission and ministry in the Country Parish. •Build and trial a missional plan for reaching into every community in the parish.

To go on an email list for regular email updates please email: lindsay.southern@durham.anglican.org with the title: *Request SCP updates.*

PARISH PRAYER

Lord God, thank you for being with us. If the path ahead means letting go of things we've treasured, then give us strength to do so with grace. If it means trying something new, then give us faith to trust You in the unknown.

Whatever happens, remind us that Your Church is not a building, but a people. And You, Lord, have promised to be with us always – in chapels and cathedrals, in village halls and living rooms, in everything from quiet prayers to shared meals. So go before us now. Bind us together. And help us to keep loving and serving You in Jesus' name, Amen

ON THIS MONTH

Celtic Communion 12 Noon,
St Cuthberts 5th Aug & 9th Sept

Prayers around the Parish

Wed 19th 10pm - 11pm St James
Wed 19th 3 - 4pm St John's
Thurs 20th 10 - 11am St Peter's
Thurs 20th 12 - 1pm St Cuthbert
Drop in to pray for the parish,
people and churches...

USEFUL CONTACTS

Priest in Charge

Rev'd Lindsay Southern

Interim Change Minister

07720 242468

lindsay.southern@durham.anglican.org

Churchwardens

Philip Tingle 01740 630589

Alison Borer 01740 630330

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Savilla Hickey 07454 275411

savillahickey@hotmail.com

Weddings, Funerals & Finance

Joyce Hewitt 07738 489894

PCC Lay Chair

Anne Tingle 01740 630589

anneltingle@gmail.com

BAPTISMS & PCC Secretary

Christine Briscoe 01740 630333

christinebriscoe.cb@gmail.com

SUNDAY SERVICES 10.30AM

August

2nd St John's, Stillington

9th St James, Thorpe Thewles

16th St Cuthbert's,
Redmarshall

23rd St Peter's, Bishopston

30th St Cuthbert's
Redmarshall

September

6th St John's, Stillington

13th St James Thorpe Thewles

20th St Cuthbert's
Redmarshall

27th St Peter's, Bishopston

October

4th St John's, Stillington

11th St James Thorpe Thewles

18th St Cuthbert's
Redmarshall

'Blessing our communities in Jesus' name for the transformation of us all'

EXPLORING FAITH, SPIRITUALITY, THE BIBLE OR PRAYER?

Want to know more about what it means to follow Jesus?
Or simply thinking about planning a baptism, wedding
or funeral?

Do get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.



PROJECT PRAYER BEAR

Would you like to sponsor a Prayer Bear for a child starting school at William Cassidi or Bishopton Redmarshall CE Primary schools?

It will cost **just £2.50 per child** for Stockton Country Parish churches to provide a prayer bear, certificate, and gift bag. We hope to give away up to 60 this year as part of our commitment to supporting and encouraging our local schools and school children. Any extra funds raised will go towards the mission and ministry in the parish. *If you pay tax, you can gift aid your donation which means the church receives 20% extra at no cost to you!*

If you like to knit or crochet we are also looking for 60,1cm by 20cm scarves for the bears - wool provided. Please text or email **Rev Lindsay Southern 07720242468**

email: lindsay.southern@durham.anglican.org

Donations can be given via the Parish Giving Scheme website or by cash in an envelope at church

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER Look out for:

NEW Creation in Christ Festival Sun 6th Sept 10.30am St John's, Stillington
NEW Back to School Services

for the young & young at heart, celebrate the start of the new school year...

Sun 20th Sept 4pm St John's Stillington

Sun 27th Sept 10.30am St Peter's Bishopton

Who knows - there might even be some Primary School Bangers (if it's good enough for Glastonbury <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uA-K0W4DTP8>)

HARVEST FESTIVAL SONGS OF PRAISE & SHARED SUPPER - Fri 9th Oct 7pm, St Peter's Church, Bishopton followed by shared supper in the hall

CHURCH & COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ROADSHOW Coming soon to a village near you... Over the next few months there will be **opportunities** to hear more about the challenges & changes local parish are experiencing, the decisions facing Stockton Country Parish Church Council regarding **the future of the local church community and church buildings** of St Johns, St James, St Cuthbert's and St Peter's.

Fri 18th Sept Redmarshall/Carlton 7-9pm WI Hall,

Wed 21st Oct Bishopton 7-9pm Bishopton Village Hall,

Tues 27th Oct Thorpe Thewles/Grindon 7-9pm Grindon Village Hall

Date TBC Stillington

Please come along to find out more, ask questions, contribute ideas...

Dates, times and location of meetings will be on our A Church Near You webpage
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/13-224BP/> by September:

You can support your local church by:

worshipping there,
+praying + being
part of it

& if you would like to
give financially you
can do so through
PGS websites
(Parish Giving Scheme)



[https://
www.parishgiving.org
uk/donors/find-
your-parish](https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish)

Thank you!

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Tues 27th Oct 7-9pm Grindon Village Hall, **Grindon**

Date TBC **Stillington**

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NEW SERVICE

**starting soon in
Stockton Country Parish**

from

Sunday 29th November 2026

10am

**@St John's,
Stillington**

EVERY SUNDAY

See you there!