

THE RIVERSIDE PARISHES

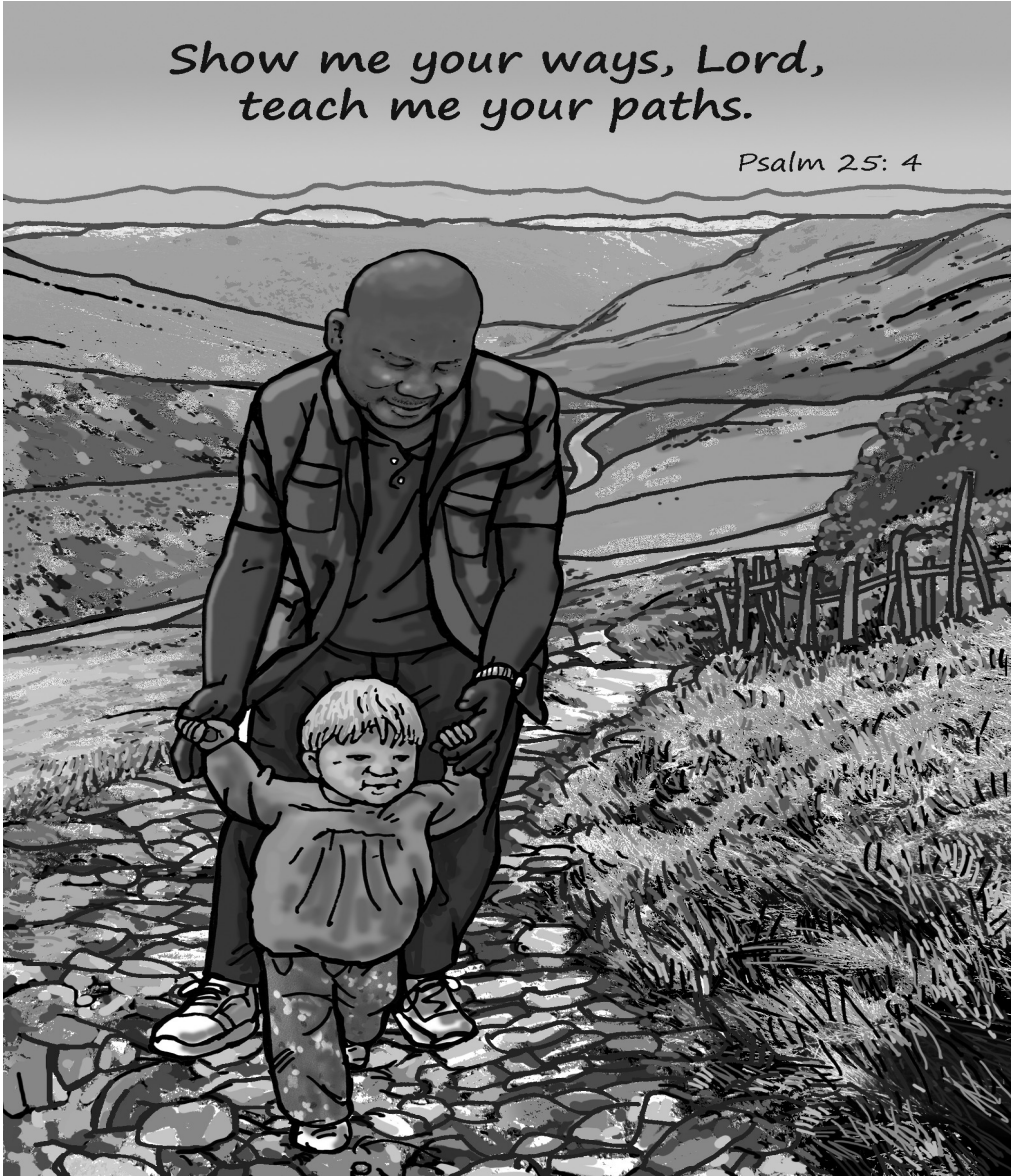
All Saints Hurworth Newsletter May 2026

All Saints Hurworth, St John the Baptist Low Dinsdale and All Saints Girsby,

working with St George and St Lawrence, Middleton St George

*Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.*

Psalm 25: 4



MAY '26 – Thought for the month

'Wuthering Heights' author, Emily Bronte wrote, 'May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope'.

May has a vibrant renewal about it, giving us a bridge between spring and summer. All things seem possible at this time of year. It invites us to bloom, embrace new beginnings - new month, new intentions, new goals and new light - to turn our faces toward the sun, encouraging positive outlooks and purposeful action as nature fully awakens.

Christian renewal, growth, and divine grace form a powerful, interconnected cycle in the life of a believer. While they are distinct ideas, they work together like the soil, the sun, and the rain that let our gardens to flourish.

Everything begins with grace or 'undeserved favour' - God giving us what we can't earn and possibly do not merit. It's the catalyst for change. Grace is not just a one-time ticket to salvation; it sustains us when our own strength is failing.

But what about renewal? In the same way that May shows us a physical awakening of the earth, spiritual renewal refreshes a weary soul. It often starts in the mind, and in troubling times like nowadays, who wouldn't want their weary soul refreshed? Romans 12:2 calls us to be "transformed by the renewing of your mind." This isn't just about positive thinking; it's about aligning our perspective with the Gospel message – the Good News.

If grace is the seed and renewal is the awakening, growth is the visible evidence of life. Spiritual growth is rarely a straight line. It is a steady maturing of character, often called the 'fruit of the Spirit'. To grow is to become more like Christ in our actions, our priorities, and our love and compassion for all our neighbours. Staying connected to the source of life, much like a branch stays connected to a vine might just be the solution to a calmer mind and weary soul. Sundays 11.00am at All Saints Hurworth is where you might want to check out that renewal and growth. You won't be disappointed.

Pete Snowden

The Riverside Parishes

Lay Reader

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LOVE YOUR CHURCHYARD

Discover nature on your doorstep

All Saints Church

13th June 2026

2pm–4pm

All ages and families welcome

(children under 12 years must be accompanied by
an adult)

Refreshments * Activities

Identify Trees and Flowers

Find Insects * Plant Seeds

Make a Butterfly Cafe

Come along and learn more about your local environment



Time for a Smile

Notices found in church newsletters – that didn't quite come out right!

- Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of the vicar's sermons.
- The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing: 'Break Forth Into Joy.'
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married last weekend in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their schooldays.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- Ladies are requested not to have children in the church kitchen.
- For those who have children and don't know it, we have a crèche and nursery in the crypt.
- Don't let worry kill you. Let the church help!
- The organist invites any members of the congregation who enjoy sinning to volunteer for the choir.

*SOMETIMES, IT TAKES
A VILLAGE TO HELP
SOMEONE BREAK
THEIR OWN BARRIERS*

The Hurworth Rogers Charitable Trust exists to help support Hurworth's people and community groups with grants. If you live in the village, you can find out more and apply for funding by sending your details to:
Trust Secretary, 2 West End, Hurworth

To support our work with a donation,
email milly.stoney@outlook.com

Registered Charity No.: 1149219



Charity Race Night

DARLINGTON LIONS CLUB ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A FUND RAISING EVENT:

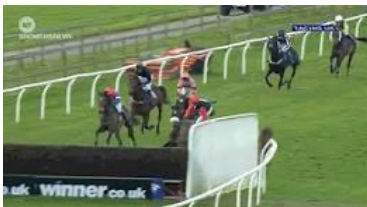
JOIN US FOR OUR EXCITING VIRTUAL RACE NIGHT: FRIDAY MAY 8TH

7.00PM - FIRST RACE 7.30PM - Tickets £10 pp including pie and pea supper

HURWORTH GRANGE COMMUNITY CENTRE - HURWORTH DL2 2BN

All funds raised go to local charities, please support by coming along...

Tickets available from Hurworth Grange or directly on 07794212052 or 07748615352





Church Services in Hurworth,



Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby MAY 2026

Sun 3 rd	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
Tues 5 th	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 10 th	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	All Age Worship
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Girsby	11.15 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
Tues 12 th	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Thurs 14 th	MSG St Georges	10.00 ^{AM}	Ascension Day Holy Communion
Sun 17 th	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	9.30 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
Tues 19 th	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 24 th	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	Pentecost Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	Low Dinsdale	4.00 ^{PM}	Evensong
Tues 26 th	Hurworth	8.15 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 31 st	MSG Academy	9.15 ^{AM}	Cafe Church
	Hurworth	11.00 ^{AM}	Trinity Sunday All Age Worship

ZOOM WORSHIP

The 11.00 Services at All Saints Hurworth are available on Zoom. For joining instructions contact:
juliaclarke@aol.com

THE CELEBRATION OF PENTECOST

The celebration of Pentecost this month could be described as a birthday party for the church, when we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first disciples (Acts 2:1-13). What are we celebrating?

God's Promise:

The disciples obeyed Jesus' instructions as they gathered in the Upper Room: *'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised'* (1:4). They met expectantly in prayer for God's promised gift. Just as we look forward to birthday presents, how eager are we to receive more of the Spirit in our lives?

God's Power:

'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit' (4). The disciples needed the power of the Spirit to be different: not fearfully gathered behind locked doors, but energised to make Christ known. The Spirit can transform our lives into the likeness of Jesus and give gifts to equip our witness. Although the disciples' experience of this power was overwhelming, it was essentially an encounter with God's love. For us, this can be equally emotional or quiet, but *all* are included and nobody is excluded from this experience.

God's Purpose:

The disciples *'began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.'* (4). The Spirit empowered their witness, so that everyone heard them speaking in their own *'native language'* (lit: *dialect*, v8). We all have a story to tell of God's activity in our lives, and the Spirit will translate our words and actions into a language that those around can understand! At Pentecost, 3000 people were added to the Church in one day! What do we expect of the Spirit in our day?

***'Let the church return to Pentecost, and Pentecost will return to her. The Spirit of God cannot take possession of believers beyond their capacity of receiving Him'* (Andrew Murray).**



Hurworth Beer Festival

Friday 26th to Sunday 28th June
at Rockcliffe Park Cricket Club



Rockcliffe Park
CC

Hurworth
Village Hall

Early bird discounted ticket release

Friday night

5pm to 11pm

'The one and only DJ Mac'

Entry charge £4

Early bird rate £3

Saturday

Mid-day to midnight

Rockcliffe Park 1st. X1 vs Sedgefield 1st. X1

'Channel 4 news team' band

World cup football England vs Panama

Entry charge £6

Early bird rate £5

Sunday

11am to 8pm

Seven-a-side cricket

tournament

Free Entry

Full weekend ticket

Entry charge £9

Early bird rate £7

To secure your early bird discount contact Bill Drumm on 07799 467817 or Richard Howell on 07930 038931 or email us at rockcliffeparkcricket@gmail.com



Parish Council News

It is sad to report that Graham Wylie, also locally known as ‘Grabster’ on Facebook, has resigned from the Parish Council, and also from his position of Chairman of Hurworth Grange CIO.

Graham will be a huge miss in both situations, as he has taken on many roles and looked after the web sites, the communications and Facebook sites for several years.

We will be advertising a Council Vacancy during April, and residents are welcome to apply.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 7th May, immediately followed by the month meeting, which starts at 7.00pm.

The pre meeting surgeries have started again, which allow residents to have a private talk to councillors from 6.30 pm, before the council meeting.

The Annual Assembly is scheduled for Friday, 22nd May; the format will be as last year, with complimentary drinks and refreshments, all residents of Hurworth Parish are invited. This is your opportunity to speak at the meeting, and raise any topics which relate to our beautiful village.

The council will be getting a new web site, which is designed to be more user friendly, and will be more assessable for people who have poor eyesight, or who may not be very competent with the new technical advances and IT. Cllr Angela Allan has taken on the role of implementing and monitoring the new system.

It was the council’s year and on 31st March, and the accounts show that the council accumulated a surplus of over £15,000 in the year, against a budget of £2,900 surplus. This was largely because no ‘Projects’ were carried out, and no activities arranged to support the ‘Youth’ in the village. The new Parish Plan has still not been agreed by the full council, but when it is released, there are a number of Projects which the council intends to undertake, which will be to the benefit of the community.

Hurworth Village Diary

May 26

- Sun 3rd** **Cinema on your Doorstep**
“TheChoral” **Village Hall**
Written by Alan Bennet, starring Ralph Fiennes
Entry by donation 3.00pm
Soup and friendly company prior to film 2.00pm
- Fri 8th** **Charity Race Night - Darlington Lions Club**
The Grange
7.30 pm Tickets £10 with Supper from
07794 212052 or 07748 615352
- Sat 9th** **Sewing/Quilting Workshop** **Village Hall**
Book direct with Zoe Ballard on 07368 673672
- Sun 10th** **Classic Car & Motor Cycle Show** **The Grange**
60th anniversary in conjunction with
Teesside Yesteryear Motor Club
10am - 4pm - entry adults £5, children free

June 26

- Sat 20th** **Sewing/Quilting Workshop** **Village Hall**
Book direct with Zoe Ballard on 07368 673672
- Fri 26th to Sun 29th**
Hurworth Beer Festival
Rockcliffe Park Cricket Club
See separate advert on page 7

Prayer for Pentecost 2026

Loving Father and giver of all gifts,

This month we thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit which You promise to all who call on Your name, turn away from self-centred living and put their trust in Jesus.

Help us to do that, Lord.

Then, when events in the world and the circumstances of our own lives are difficult to understand, we have Your Holy Spirit who brings life and power.

He is faithful and constant. He will lead us into all truth and give us the words and thoughts we need to experience Your peace in the midst of turmoil.

At this time when we remember the birth of Your church, may we open our hearts to receive Your Spirit afresh and move into each new day confident that we are yours and that in You is our true security.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Hurworth Churches Working Together



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andy@mustardtree.cafe
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West End Hurworth DL2 2HB**

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Newsletter Information

This Newsletter is compiled and printed by members of All Saints Church Hurworth and distributed by a team of volunteers in the spirit of Christians Working Together in Hurworth and the surrounding villages.

Appropriate copy is always welcome as are offers to assist with the distribution to our growing community.

All copy for the Newsletter, including events, articles for publication, advertisement design or payment **MUST** be received by 10th of the previous month at the latest, or inclusion may not be possible

Advertising rates are as follows :-

Quarter page - 1 insertion £18, 5 (half year) £82.50 10 (1 year) £160

Half page insertions £35 each, £155 per half year

Editors Contact details :-

Denis Pinnegar - Email denispinnegar@aol.com

Tel 01325 720835

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CONTACT DETAILS

Priest in Charge: Revd. Anthony Smith (01325 262122)

Email: Anthony.Smith@durham.anglican.org

**For Baptisms, Weddings in ASH, Dinsdale, Girsby & MSG,
and for Funerals, please contact Rev Anthony Smith**

Hurworth Church Wardens

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juliahclarke@aol.com

Denise.Finch 07776 814748

denise.finch1957@gmail.com

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