

THE RIVERSIDE PARISHES

All Saints Hurworth Newsletter July/Aug 2026

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

working with St George and St Lawrence, Middleton St George



See how the wild flowers grow! They don't work to earn, or craft their own clothes. But even King Solomon with all his wealth was not dressed as well as they are. Lk 12:27-28

Thought for the Month

Dear Friends,

As we enter the summer months, we give thanks for the gift of longer days, warmer weather, and opportunities for rest and renewal. In the rhythm of the Church's year, these weeks after Trinity Sunday invite us to reflect on what it means to live faithfully as disciples of Christ in our daily lives.

Summer can be a season of travel, family gatherings, and holidays, but wherever we find ourselves, God remains present with us. The beauty of creation around us reminds us of the goodness and generosity of our Creator. Whether walking through the countryside, tending a garden, or simply enjoying a sunny afternoon, we can find moments to pause and give thanks for God's blessings.

Our church continues to be a place of worship, fellowship, and service throughout the summer. We are all grateful to those who contribute their time, talents, and prayers to sustain our ministry. Such faithfulness helps us to share Christ's love within our parish and beyond.

As we enjoy this season, let us also remember those for whom summer may be difficult—those who are ill, bereaved, lonely, or facing uncertainty. May we recognise their needs and be ready to offer friendship, encouragement, and practical support.

May this summer be a time when we grow closer to God and to one another, strengthened by the hope we have in Christ.

“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.” (Isaiah 40:31)

With every blessing,

John De Martino

Prayer for Aug 26

Heavenly Father,

August – summer holidays and sunny skies. All should be well and yet, around the world all is *not* well!

Every day, it seems, new wars begin, catastrophes occur, world politicians play power games – and people suffer.

It can feel overwhelming and we want to bury our heads in the sand, rather than build sandcastles on the beach.

Help us Lord, to look up; to see things with Your perspective; to remember that Jesus warned us that in this world we will have trouble. Then help us to remember that He told us to take heart, because He has overcome the world.

Father, help us to savour the summer, as we put our trust in You – our strength, our hope, our ultimate and unfailing security.

In Jesus name,

Amen.



Is danger lurking in your fridge ?

When you look in your fridge, what do you see? Milk, butter, vegetables and last night's leftovers?

So far, so good. But what about the things that you don't see? A recent survey of people's fridges found that more than half of them were harbouring dangerous bacteria such as *E. coli*, salmonella and listeria. So, it seems that unless we take care of our fridges, they can become playgrounds for germs.

Veggie drawers with bits of slimy carrots or liquefying greens have been found to harbour more bacteria per square centimetre than a toilet seat. Plates of raw meat can be a bacterial time bomb. Even door seals and fridge handles can be a germ hotspot.

The key thing is to regularly wipe shelves and drawers down with a mild disinfectant, remove stale food, and to keep the temperature of the fridge at five degrees. Don't overcrowd your fridge (which can block air circulation) and don't engage in the classic 'fridge food linger,' staring into the open fridge while deciding what you want to eat. Warm air will be rushing in.

Your fridge is the hardest working appliance in your kitchen, but it needs your help.

Why our ‘crumbling infrastructure’ is hurting older people

Poorly paved roads, unsafe crossings and poor public toilets are slowing people down. Especially older people. Rather than getting out and about in their communities, they tend to feel safer staying inside.

But the lack of regular, positive exercise is a danger for them. Such is the verdict of a recent report from MPs serving on the Health and Social Care Select Committee.

The MPs stress that what they call Britain’s ‘crumbling infrastructure’ is leading to many preventable health conditions, ranging from obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, cancer, the onset of frailty, dementia and disability.

Figures suggest that 44 per cent of people aged 75 or older are doing less than 30 minutes of moderate physical activity per week. In the UK, lack of activity is associated with a staggering one in six deaths and is estimated to cost £7.4bn a year.

So, the MPs are calling for local action to fix streets and crossings, and to put in more toilets and public seating, as well as better national transport. Layla Moran, the chairman of the health select committee, said: “Staying physically active can help older people to live not just longer, but healthier, happier, more sociable lives.”



*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





Church Services in Hurworth,

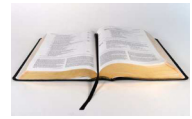


Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby July 2026

Sun 5 th	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Holy Communion
Tues 7 th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 12 th	MSG Academy	9.15AM	All Age Worship
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Morning Worship
	Girsby	11.15AM	Holy Communion
	MSG St Georges	4.00PM	Memorial Service
Tues 14 th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 19 st	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	9.30AM	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00AM	All Age Worship
Tues 21 rd	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 26 th	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	4.00PM	Evensong
Tues 28 th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer



Church Services in Hurworth,



Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby

August 2026

Sun 2 nd	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Holy Communion
Tues 4 th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 9 th	MSG Academy	9.15AM	All Age Worship
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Morning Worship
	Girsby	11.15AM	Holy Communion
Tues 11 th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 16 st	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	9.30AM	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00AM	All Age Worship
Tues 18 th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 23 rd	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	4.00PM	Evensong
Tues 25 th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 30 th	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Morning Worship

ZOOM WORSHIP

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

The Church of England is Growing

Church of England congregations saw their fifth year of growth in a row in 2025 with steady increases in weekly and Sunday attendance and strong growth in Christmas and Easter services, an early snapshot of official figures shows.

Overall, there were an estimated 1.023 million regular worshippers across Church of England congregations last year, up 1.4 per cent on 2024, according to preliminary returns for the annual *Statistics for Mission* report.

It is the fifth year in a row in which attendance both on Sundays and across the week have risen – the first time this has been seen since current records have been kept.

Just under two million people (1.96 million) joined services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day last year – up 5.5 per cent – in addition to 4.8 million attendances over Advent, a 2.0 per cent rise.

Easter attendance was up 7.8 per cent to just over one million (1.03 million).

Over a typical week an estimated 707,000 people attended Church of England services, up 0.7 per cent on the previous year, and 15.5 per cent higher than 2021 when attendance rebounded after Covid.

Meanwhile average attendance at Sunday services stood at 590,000 – up 1.6 per cent on the 2024 figure. Despite this recent growth, attendance and participation remain below pre-pandemic levels.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally, said: “It is so encouraging to see the ways that God is at work in our Church. I give thanks for the clergy, lay people and volunteers who each week make people feel welcome in every parish across our country.”

Debbie Clinton, the Church of England’s Director for Vision and Strategy, said: “From our rural villages to our post-industrial towns, in parishes across the country, churches are reaching out to their communities and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our 2025 statistics are a testament to their hospitality and faithfulness. We praise God for all that He is doing in His Church.”

Time for a Smile

Church Bulletin Notices

Some church bulletin notices have a charm all their own, when you know that they MEANT to say....

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practise.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married last Saturday in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Please place your donation in the envelope, along with the deceased person you want remembered.



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Hurworth Village Diary

July 26

Sat 4th

Riverside Parishes Churches Open Day

Explore all four churches in the group at your leisure

Entry free 10.30am to 3pm

A Musical Cream Tea

Clervaux Fold

Featuring the Military WAGS Choir

Adults £15, Under 12 £7 & Under 5 free

2pm onwards

Sat 11th

Open Air Live Music Concert

The Grange

Dance the night away

Tickets £10 field, £20 marquee (tables for 10 or 20)

from the Grange Office/Bar 01325 720840

Quilt Making Workshop

Village Hall

1pm - 4pm

Sun 18th

Quilt Making Workshop

Village Hall

1.30pm - 4pm

Aug 26

Sun 9th

Craft Fair

Village Hall

11am - 3pm

Sat 15th

Quilt Making Workshop

Village Hall

1pm - 4pm

Sun 16th

Art Group Summer Exhibition

Village Hall

Courtesy of the Tuesday Night Art Group

Sept 26

Sat 5th

Hurworth Country Fair

The Grange

10.30am until 4pm

Entry £3 each, children free

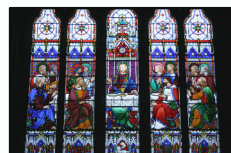
From the Parish Records

Funeral

14th May 26

Michael Albert Smee

aged 81 years



Hurworth Churches Working Together



HURWORTH
METHODIST CHURCH



OPENING HOURS

Monday-Friday 9-3

Saturday 9-2

Weekly Activities

Lucy's Pilates

Monday 12.30-1.30 & 2-3pm

Sewing Group

Tuesday 1.30-3pm

Tai Chi

Wednesday 10-11am

Little Stars Toddlers

Friday 9.30-11am



Monthly Activities

Coffee and Conversation

A open table for anyone to come along and join in the conversation with your favorite refreshment. An opportunity to meet new friends.

Meets every second Monday of the Month

Pimms and Needles

Second Wednesday 7-9pm



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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 :-

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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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denise.finch1957@gmail.com

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