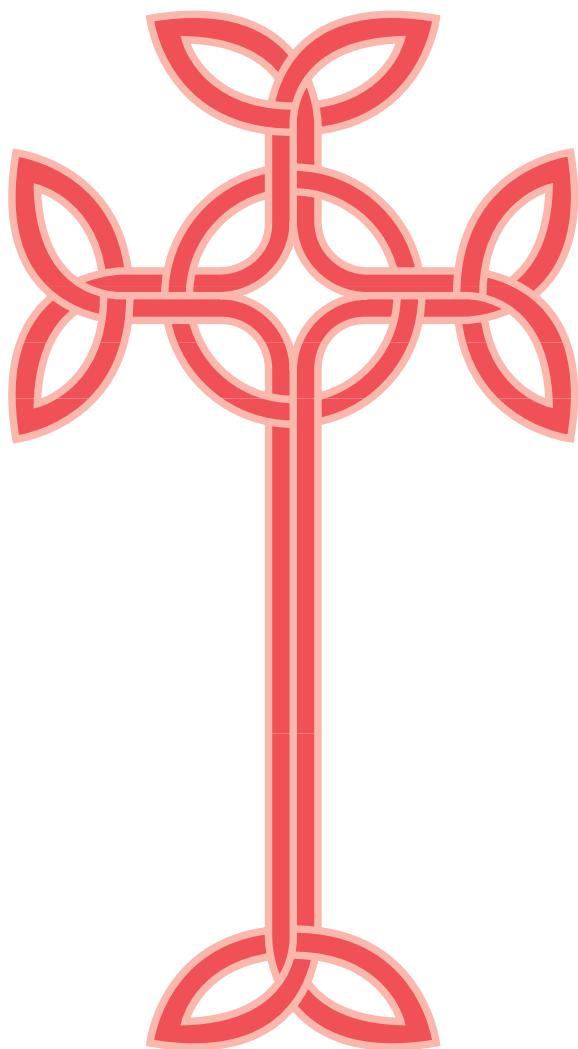


THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE
OF THE PARISH OF
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING



St. Michael
AND ALL ANGELS

AUGUST 2026

£1

SIGNPOST

THE PARISH CHURCH OF HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING

MINISTRY TEAM

Rector

Rev'd John Barron,
The Rectory, 5 Lingfield, Houghton-le-Spring,
Tyne & Wear, DH5 5QA.
Tel: (0191) 584 7657

We enjoy and benefit from the ministry of a number of retired clergy at St Michael's.

Assistant Curate

Rev'd Susan Elsey
Tel: 07557 125274
Email: revsuelsey@gmail.com

Readers

Mrs. Ros Pickersgill (Reader)
Tel: (0191) 584 5642

Mrs. Anne Clappison (Reader)
Tel: (0191) 584 7533

Church Wardens

Mrs. Rita Turnbull
Tel: (0191) 584 1954

Mr. Simon Hardy
Tel: 07854 411884

Assistant Church Warden

Mr. Brian Scott
Tel: 07778 577898

Officers of the Parochial Church Council

Angela Slater (Secretary)
Tel: (0191) 584 2036

Mrs. Susan Bradley (Treasurer)
Tel: (0191) 584 1455

Organist & Director of Music

Mr. George Peebles
Tel: 07941 507724
Email: georgepeebles@talktalk.com

Verger

Mr. David Turnbull
Tel: (0191) 584 1954

Safeguarding

Alison Young (Safeguarding Officer)
Tel: 07532 036026

Mrs. Kathleen Close (DBS Officer)
Tel: (0191) 584 0353

Space4

76 Newbottle Street
Next to Houghton Library
Twitter @space4
Facebook houghtonspace4
Tel: (0191) 512 0676

Church Website

Our website contains information on most aspects of church life.
www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk

The Friends of Houghton Parish Church Trust

Contact: Mr. George Peebles, Membership
Secretary on 07941 507724
Email: georgepeebles@talktalk.com for information and application forms.

St Michaels and All Angels Mothers Union

The Mothers Union meets on the last Monday of every month at 2pm in the Kepier Hall.

We welcome new members with open arms and if you require any further information please contact:-

Joan Beattie Tel: (0191) 512 6032

Sheila Wynne Tel: 07916 629043

Anne Todd Tel: (0191) 584 1032

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers

Contact: Sheila Wynne, Tel: 07916629043

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Contact: Steve Gibson, Tel: 07507 161366
Website: www.1sthoughtonscouts.org.uk

REGULAR SERVICES

Our pattern of services at St Michael and All Angels over a 'normal' week:

Sun	8.30am	A shorter 'said' service of Communion.
Sun	10am	Parish Communion (a 'sung' service, with 'Young Church') (1st Sunday is 'All-age Communion').
Sun	6pm	Evening Service: 1st Sun 'Engage' – contemporary music & themed service; 2nd Sun 'Choral Evensong' – a traditional service led by our choir; 3rd Sun 'Service of Light' – a relaxed sung service; 4th Sun 'Celtic Eucharist' – 'Iona' style Communion.
Tues	7pm	Holy Communion (4th Sunday, during winter)
Thur	10am	Holy Communion with Hymns (& refreshments afterwards).

We hold a quieter service of Holy Communion on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Our Young Church takes place during the 10am Sunday Holy Communion on the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, with our All Age Service aim for the Young members of the congregation to be a part of on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Contact Information

Our website and Facebook page contain details of how to join others online for worship. We send regular updates via our church distribution list – please call us or email us if you know someone who would like to receive our email updates.

Find us online at:

website: www.stmichaels.hls.org.uk

facebook: www.facebook.com/stmichaels.hls

The Parish Office is open between 9am & 3pm on a Tuesday and 9am & 2pm Thursday. You can contact us on Tel: (0191) 512 1769. On occasions, when we need to close the 'physical' office, you can contact us between these times on Mob: 07707 043 395. You can also contact us on email or message us during the week and we will respond during opening hours:

Email: stmichaels.hls@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmichaels.hls

Website: www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk

For urgent issues contact Rev'd John Barron on (0191) 584 7657.

If you'd like your child to be a part of Young Church contact Clare our Young Church leader at stmichaels.youngchurch@btinternet.com

To make an appointment for 'Vestry hour' to book baptisms and weddings call the Church Office or email us. Vestry Hour usually takes place on a Monday between 6 – 7pm. You will be able to talk to the team about all your Wedding and Christening needs, whether that is booking dates, finding prices or finding out the process in more details.

ABOUT SIGNPOST

Signpost is the magazine of the Parish Church of St. Michael & All Angels Houghton-le-Spring. In addition to providing information about the life of the church, it also aims to reflect the interests of the broader community and to provide a source of local news and a forum in which matters of common concern can be raised. The Editors welcome comments and suggestions, and invite contributions. Items to be included in Signpost should be submitted to the Editors by 10th of the month (end of 1st week of the month for memorials) to ensure inclusion in the next issue. It should be noted, however, that the Editors cannot guarantee to publish material and wish to point out that items included do not necessarily reflect their views nor those of the Parochial Church Council. Editor: Malcolm Foster, Tel: 07860 250 300. Distribution: Joan Bond, Tel: (0191) 584 1031.

Circulation: 300 copies per month.

Space4

At our community project, our aim is to provide 'Space4 everyone to flourish!'

We run out of our 'Hub' (next to the library) on Newbottle Street and the Kepier Hall (behind church). You can find us on our Space4 Facebook page: www.facebook.com/HoughtonSpace4/

There's lots going on throughout the week and all are welcome:

Mon	10am-1pm	Drop in (Space4 Hub, Newbottle Street)
Tues	10am-12noon	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall)
	10am-1pm	Drop in (Space4 Hub, Newbottle Street)
	3.30pm-5pm	Tuesday Treat
Wed	10am-1pm	Drop in & Craft Group (Space4 Hub, Newbottle Street)
Thur	10am-1pm	Drop in (Space4 Hub, Newbottle Street)
Fri	10am-12noon	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall)
	10am-1pm	Drop in (Space4 Hub, Newbottle Street)
	2pm-4pm	Cake & Chat (Space4 Hub, Newbottle Street)
Sat	2pm-4pm	Monthly Saturday Group (Space4 Hub, Newbottle Street)

Other events are advertised on Facebook and in the buildings.

Our Community Foodstore is open on a Tuesday and Friday: it is for anyone in the community who wants to use it, for a donation.

Rector's Letter

We recently hosted our Year Six Leavers' Services here at St Michael and All Angels. If you want to see a perfect picture of human emotion, just look at a group of eleven-year-olds facing the end of primary school. It is a potent mix of eager anticipation, the pride of wearing oversized secondary school blazers, and, if we are honest, sheer terror. For these children moving on to 'big school', and for all children coming to the end of the school year and changing class next term, this is a time of significant change. But it isn't just our school children who face significant thresholds in life. Transitions come for all of us at different stages of our life journeys. Whether it is moving to a new home, stepping into retirement, navigating a change in our health, or simply dealing with the relentless, passing seasons of life, change can often leave us feeling unmoored and anxious.



At our recent All-In service, we explored what it means to go through such changes, reflecting on the parable of the 'wheat and the weeds'. As folks came through the church doors, we handed everyone a pipe cleaner and asked them to fashion it into a little person. As you can imagine, a lot of these figures ended up looking a bit wonky, slightly bent out of shape, and thoroughly imperfect. And that was exactly the point. In seasons of deep transition, we often feel wonky and imperfect. Yet, we are held by a Creator who knows us deeply and loves us precisely as we are.

It is so tempting to think that faith requires us to have everything neatly sorted before we can step confidently into a new chapter. We look at the "weeds" in our lives—the doubts, the mess, the lingering anxieties—and we frantically want to rip them all out so we can present a perfect field to the world. But in the parable, Jesus tells us to let the wheat and the weeds grow together. God isn't waiting for us to become perfectly sorted before he walks alongside us. He meets us right in the middle of our messy, wild, and unpredictable realities.

When life shifts beneath our feet, it is easy to feel small and isolated. Yet, at the end of that same service, everyone—from our baptism families to our choir members—took a Lego brick and placed it onto the cross by the font. It was a powerful, visual reminder that we are not on our own. We are all part of something significantly bigger. We belong to a living, breathing community here in Houghton-le-Spring where every single piece matters.

As we step into this summer season of rest and transition, let us pray:

Loving God, as the seasons change and the pages of our lives turn, hold us gently in your hands. When we feel anxious, remind us that we are perfectly loved. When we feel small, remind us that we are part of your great, unfolding story. Walk beside us in the messy, beautiful reality of our lives, today and always.

Amen.

With my prayers and very best wishes.

Gilpin Singers Concert – 8th July

What a glorious summer evening it was for the Gilpin Singers concert. Our beautiful Church bathed in summer sunshine.

In the absence of Rector John, our curate Sue welcomed everyone and joked she wouldn't follow in John's footsteps with a solo!!

Laura then got the concert started, telling the audience they would be singing a variety of songs from the decades.

The whole choir sang four songs, then Laura and Frances sang a duet of Tell Him, followed by a small group singing I'll be there. After another five songs by the whole choir, it was time for a refreshment break.

The choir then sang a further six songs before we were treated to Graham's piano solo.



The raffle was then drawn, and I'm sure the winners would have been delighted with the wonderful prizes on offer.

There were a further three songs before the concert ended.

As always, the singing was fantastic and much appreciated and enjoyed by the audience. I personally was particularly happy as they sang songs from my favourite group, Queen.

So a huge thank you to the singers, Laura and Graham, for all the hard work it takes to produce such a professional concert. And a thank you to all the helpers in setting up the Church and the stewarding on the night.

I'm sure we're all looking forward to their next performance.

Lynn Scott



Christian Aid launches Ebola Emergency Appeal

Christian Aid has launched an Ebola Emergency Appeal, as the deadly disease continues its spread.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has called the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern. There is no vaccine or specific treatment for the Bundibugyo strain of Ebola, which has a fatality rate of up to 50%.

Christian Aid says: "Prevention is the only way to stop it, and that depends on trusted local partners reaching communities first."

Decades of armed conflict in the DRC has left more than 27 million people in urgent need of food, around 65% of them without access to clean water, and most households do not have adequate sanitation.

Meanwhile, the DRC shares borders with nine countries, and the region has high cross-border population movement. Cases have already crossed into Uganda. Once Ebola spreads beyond containable hotspots, the response becomes far harder - and far costlier in lives.

Christian Aid's Ebola Emergency Appeal can be found at:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ebola-emergency-appeal>

C of E apologises for historical adoption practices

The Church of England has recently apologised for its role in historical adoption practices, particularly in mother and baby homes.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally, said: "We are profoundly sorry for the pain, trauma and stigma experienced - and still carried - by many people because of historical adoption practices in homes affiliated to the Church of England.

"We have heard first-hand the accounts of mothers who were separated from their babies in circumstances where they had very few meaningful choices.

"We know that many women and girls were at times made to carry out menial and manual work as a form of 'correction'. We also recognise where prejudice - including on the grounds of race and disability - shaped and defined experiences and outcomes.

"We are listening to the people affected. We are deeply ashamed that this happened to people in the care of Christian communities.

"These practices are in the past and must never happen again. We will not condone or repeat them. Our commitment now is to listen, to lament and to learn, to ensure that this leads to change."

Bells Fish & Chips

11 Market Place, Durham, DH1 3NE

0191 384 8974

36 Sunderland Road, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1 2LG

0191 386 0302

Old Pit Lane, Framwellgate Moor, Durham, DH1 5HD

0191 370 9999

North Terrace, Seaham, SR7 7HA

0191 500 1199

www.bellsfishshop.co.uk

**This space is
available
to advertise,
please contact
the Editors**



G. Whitfield Ltd

~Your Local Pharmacy~

A Family Business Serving The Local Community Since 1935

*We can collect your prescription from
Houghton Surgeries and have it ready to
collect from our Pharmacy*

1A Church Street, Houghton-le-Spring

Tel: 0191 584 2150

Visit

HOUGHTON HILLSIDE CEMETERY

HERITAGE FLORA FAUNA
AMAZING VIEWS GENEALOGY

*Located at the top of Sunderland Street,
near Houghton Cut*



www.theoldcem.co.uk

Hetton Town Trust

At the Hetton Centre: We have a function room available for up to 120 guests with a licensed bar, suitable for all gatherings such as *Weddings, Birthday Parties, Christenings, or Funeral Teas*, also suitable for *meetings or conferences*.

In-house catering available from our Centre Spot Café,
open Monday - Friday 9.30am - 2pm.

Contact Kim Downing on 0191 561 6629 / 07923 239674

Email: kim@hettontowntrust.co.uk



HOUGHTON RUGBY CLUB

Dairy Lane, DH4 5BW

Function room available for Christenings and other functions Catering available if required

Contact: The Clubhouse 0191 584 1460

Email: houghtonrugbyclub@outlook.com

150 years on, Mothers' Union is a "powerhouse" - Archbishop of Canterbury

The Mother's Union is celebrating its 150th anniversary. At a recent service in St Paul's Cathedral, the Archbishop of Canterbury said she had seen first-hand the profound impact "of its work in communities around the world, "in family life, healthcare, education, social projects — challenging poverty, injustice and violence... In fact, I often say, if I need something doing, ask the Mothers' Union to do it."

Her sermon on Ephesians had asked: "How do we sustain ourselves as we serve? How do we nourish our own spiritual, mental, and physical well-being, whilst we are tending to the needs of others?"

The answer, she suggested, lay in St Paul's words: "I pray that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

She continued. "May you know the depth of God's love in the grass-roots work that you do throughout the world. May you know the breadth of God's love as you strive to serve this global movement.

"You are salt to our world, in the ordinary, everyday ways you make such a difference to the people you serve, and in the fellowship that you offer to one another."

Record number of grants awarded for conservation in parish churches

Grants for conservation of historic items and works of art in parish churches more than doubled in 2025 to nearly £600,000, with a record number of grants awarded by the Church of England.

Books from a library where Isaac Newton is thought to have studied, one of the oldest clocks in the country, medieval wall paintings, and even a medieval door are among hundreds of historic features in parish churches – from candlesticks to a Saxon coffin - to receive conservation funding last year.

Grants worth a total of £578,931 were awarded in 2025 by the Church of England's national conservation team, up 120 per cent on the £260,000 distributed the year before. The number of grants awarded rose from 124 to 190, in 37 dioceses.

The big increase comes after the National Lottery Heritage Fund announced a £4.69 million award in 2025 for the Church of England's conservation grants scheme, to run over the next five years. The scheme also continues to receive support from various trusts and funds.

Why you may be killing your houseplants

You see a lovely plant at the garden centre and bring it home. Within weeks you are watching it die. Why? There are eight possible reasons.

1. Over- or under-watering

When you water to an arbitrary schedule of your own (e.g. on your day off), rather than when the plant actually wants it.

Over-watering gives the plant 'wet feet', which can end in root rot. Under-watering stresses the plant, leading to leaf and flower loss.

2. Tap water

Some plants simply cannot handle the fluoride and chlorine in our tap water. They will do better with filtered water or rainwater.

3. Windowsill shock

That sunny windowsill can turn very cold overnight, and chill your plant's leaves and flowers. Slide your plant about four inches back from the pane, so that the roots are kept in 'room air' and not subjected to cold glass each night. And be aware that leaving your plants on the sill after you draw the curtains is to abandon them to the coldest pocket of the room.

4. Toxic cleaning products

Some cleaning products are designed to break down organic material. So, if you spray them into the air, rather than onto a cloth, particles land on your plant's leaves and begin destroying them.

5. Build-up of dust

Dust on leaves can block the sunlight the plant needs to photosynthesise. So, consider spraying or wiping the leaves every few weeks.

6. Light and shade

Plants vary a lot on this. If your plant is leaning towards the window, it wants more light. If it is scorched or faded, it wants more shade.

7. Watering from overhead

Not always a good idea, because if water gets trapped around the plant base, it can rot the plant. Many gardeners prefer bottom-watering instead – adding tepid water to the base of the pot so that the roots can drink as much as they like.

8. Beware little pests

If strange designs are appearing on your plant's leaves, or if they look exhausted and discoloured, the culprits are usually gnats, thrips, mealybugs or spider mites. Your local garden centre will have advice or treatments on how to dispatch each one of them.



Prayer for August

Dear Father,

In this summer month of
August, help us to be aware of
Your presence.

If we are away on holiday, If
we can't have a holiday, On
our journeys, In our homes,
With our families or friends,
When we're alone, When life
is sweet, When it's like an
obstacle course.

At all times and in all
circumstances, help us to
know that You are in it with
us, sharing our ups and downs,
offering Your love and peace
and hope when we connect
with You through putting our
trust in Your Son, Jesus.

Thank You Lord.

In His Name,

Amen.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

1 July	Jean Haswell	Age 91
	Houghton-le-Spring	
6 July	Brian Lambert	Age 76
	Houghton-le-Spring	
20 July	David McGill	Age 67
	Formally of Hetton-le-Hole	
23 July	Sheila Lodge	Age 86
	Formally of Hetton-le-Hole	
24 July	Patricia Baines	Age 83
	Houghton-le-Spring	

Baptisms

26 July	Tobin-Ray Lishman
26 July	Lincoln John White
26 July	Thea Rose Martin
26 July	Alfie Ethan Ollett

Marriage/Wedding Blessing

24 June	Cody Norris and Dillon Norris
---------	-------------------------------

Where are we all?

Almost half the world's population, 45% of us, live in cities of at least 50,000 people.

A third of us, 36%, live in towns of 5,000 to 50,000, and the remaining 19% of us live in rural areas.

The population in the UK has dropped -3.2% since 2020. The decline has happened in England and Wales (-3.1%), Scotland (-2.2%) and N Ireland (-10.4%). It may be due to a combination of the effects of Covid, the increasing number of abortions, the rising cost of living, economic insecurity, and women wanting a career of their own. (*Figures from the Office for National Statistics.*)

12th August

The day a solar eclipse will darken the skies of Western Europe

12th August will be the first total solar eclipse in mainland Europe since 1999. And many churches in the UK see it as a big opportunity for outreach.

On 12th August, the Moon will pass between the Earth and the Sun, blocking sunlight for over two minutes. Some areas like northern Spain, Greenland and Iceland will experience a total eclipse, but here in the UK there will still be a partial eclipse. Europe won't see a total eclipse again until 2090.

The Methodist Church says: "The eclipse will provide a great opportunity for churches.

"Holding community viewing events for the eclipse will allow churches to meet new people and delight in the beauty of creation while engaging in gentle, relational faith-sharing.

"There are many ways to get involved – whether in a church garden or at the top of a local hill, by hosting a lively family barbecue or a space for quiet reflection, it's a chance for science and faith dialogue or discussions about well-being.

"The key is to take this opportunity, a moment when people's openness to the divine might be elevated, to speak something of the love of Jesus – through actions and words – to the people we meet.

More info at:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/evangelism-growth/practise-evangelism/day-of-outreach/>

Messianic Miracles

There are at least two dozen documented historical figures who have claimed (or were believed to be by their followers) the Messiah, from long ago up to the latest recorded attempt in 2020.¹

Four thousand years after Abraham, in the time of Jesus, the Jews were in a volatile state, wanting rid of the Roman occupation which had oppressed them for so many years.

There was a lot of talk about the Messiah coming to rescue them. They seemed to be looking for a strong military commander on a stallion, but instead they got a humble rabbi on a donkey. What else could they look for to point them to the true Messiah?

There were a lot of clues in their scriptures, including something the religious scholars called 'Messianic Miracles'. Miracles which they had decided could only be performed by the Messiah himself, although other types of healings were seen as possible for other rabbis and priests.

There were different opinions about which miracles should be included, but these are three of them:

1. Healing a person who was born blind
2. Healing a mute person by casting out the demon inside
3. Healing a person of leprosy

Healing A Person Who Was Born Blind²

The criteria of being born blind was because of the belief that this was connected to the sin of the person's parents or grandparents, and only the Messiah could overcome this and restore that person's sight.

Jesus accomplished this with the man at the pool of Siloam. The religious leaders were already against Jesus so they didn't look at this as a wonderful thing, but as another mark against him because the healing was done on the Sabbath Day.

Healing A Mute Person By Casting Out The Demon Causing This³

It was believed that in order to do this, the demon had to tell you what its name was. As a mute person could not speak because of the demon, this was an impossible task. Therefore, if anyone could do it, it would have to be the Messiah.

Jesus healed mute and deaf people on more than a few occasions, echoing prophecies from Isaiah⁴. The Pharisees didn't agree and called it 'black magic'.⁵

Healing A Person Who Had Leprosy⁶

Leprosy represented the ultimate state of 'uncleanness', second only to touching a dead body. The disease was seen as divine punishment and caused the sufferers to be cast out of their communities.

We see Jesus healing a man of leprosy in the first two gospels. Then, on his way to Jerusalem and his certain death, Jesus heals ten lepers without even touching them, and sends them to the Priests for confirmation and cleansing.

Surely the authorities would take notice of ten leprous healings? Would they repent of their unbelief and begin to see God at work? Unfortunately for Israel, they did not.

What Else? Have a look at what Jesus says to the disciples of John the Baptist when John sends to ask if Jesus is the expected one. A whole list of different things against which to compare the work of Jesus.⁷ I think John the Baptist understood even though the Pharisees didn't.

¹Wikipedia list of Messiah claims

²John 9:1-41

³Matt 12:22, Luke 11:14, Mark 7:31

⁴Isaiah 29:18, 35:5

⁵Matthew 12:24 (The Message)

⁶Matthew 8, Mark 1, Luke 17

⁷Matthew 11:1-6

Also: Messianic Miracles by Joseph Amaral, and works by Dr A Fruchtenbaum

The Month Ahead.....August

1	Sat	11.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle St, until 1.00 pm)
2	Sun	Ninth Sunday after Trinity	
		8.30 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church & Facebook)
		6.00 pm	Summer Concert (in Church)
3	Mon	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		2.30 pm	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 4.30 pm)
		6.00 pm	Vestry hour (call Parish Office for appointment)
4	Tues	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		12.00 noon	Line dancing (Kepier Hall)
		1.15 pm	'Light' – Drop In Bereavement Group (The Hub, Newbottle Street)
5	Wed	1.00 pm	Family Fitness (Kepier Hall)
6	Thur	10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
7	Fri	9.30 am	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 12 noon)
		2.00 pm	Cake & Chat (Hub, Newbottle Street)
9	Sun	Tenth Sunday after Trinity	
		8.30 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church & Facebook)
		6.00 pm	Service of Light (in Church)
10	Mon	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		2.30 pm	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 4.30 pm)
		6.00 pm	Vestry hour (call Parish Office for appointment)
11	Tues	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		12.00 noon	Line dancing (Kepier Hall)
12	Wed	1.00 pm	Family Fitness (Kepier Hall)
13	Thur	10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
14	Fri	9.30 am	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 12 noon)
		2.00 pm	Cake & Chat (Hub, Newbottle Street)
16	Sun	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	
		8.30 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church & Facebook)

16	Sun	6.00 pm	Celtic Eucharist (in Church)
17	Mon	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		2.30 pm	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 4.30 pm)
		6.00 pm	Vestry hour (call Parish Office for appointment)
18	Tues	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		12.00 noon	Line dancing (Kepier Hall)
19	Wed	1.00 pm	Family Fitness (Kepier Hall)
20	Thur	10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
21	Fri	9.30 am	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 12 noon)
		2.00 pm	Cake & Chat (Hub, Newbottle Street)
23	Sun	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	
		8.30 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church & Facebook)
		12.00 noon	Baptism
		1.00 pm	Baptism
		6.00 pm	Reflective Service (in Church)
24	Mon	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		2.30 pm	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 4.30 pm)
		6.00 pm	Vestry hour (call Parish Office for appointment)
25	Tues	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		12.00 noon	Line dancing (Kepier Hall)
		7.00 pm	Holy Communion (in Church)
		7.30 pm	PCC (in Church)
26	Wed	1.00 pm	Family Fitness (Kepier Hall)
27	Thur	10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
28	Fri	9.30 am	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 12 noon)
		2.00 pm	Cake & Chat (Hub, Newbottle Street)
30	Sun	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	
		8.30 am	Holy Communion (in Church)
		10.00 am	Holy Communion (in Church & Facebook)
		6.00 pm	Reflective Service (in Church)
31	Mon	10.00 am	Drop-in (Hub, Newbottle Street)
		2.30 pm	Community Food Store (Kepier Hall, until 4.30 pm)
		6.00 pm	<i>No Vestry hour</i> (call Parish Office for appointment)

National Allotment Week

10th to 16th August

This year the theme is 'Grow to Learn – Lifelong Lessons from the Allotment'. This highlights how time on the plot acts as a living classroom, teaching vital life skills such as resilience, patience, and creative problem-solving.

The National Allotment Society began in 1901, with the formation of the Agricultural Organisation Society. It grew rapidly, until by the time of WW2, from 1939 to 1945 there were 1.4 million plots supporting the 'Dig for Victory' campaign.

Nowadays there are about 330,000 allotment plots across the UK, managed by hundreds of different local councils and independent societies. The average rent is about £45 a year for a standard 5-pole plot (125 sq. metres).

If you want an allotment, you will have to wait. Demand for plots is currently at an all-time high, making the average wait 37 months. London is averaging 69 months, while in Islington, some people have been on the list for more than a decade.

The best crops for first-time allotmenters? You might want to try potatoes, onions, garlic, runner beans, courgettes, carrots, salad leaves, beetroot or strawberries.

Missing breakfast?

Surveys have found that, probably because of the popularity of intermittent fasting, these days 13% of adults never eat breakfast.

For some of us, missing breakfast is not a problem. But be aware that no food means low blood sugars, which can lead to lower energy levels and even impaired cognitive function, or brain fog. That is because the brain depends on a constant source of

carbohydrates to function at its best.

Skipping breakfast may help you lose a bit of weight, but it can also disrupt your metabolism and gut microbiome. And you can be tempted to snack on bad stuff later on in the day.

So, what is a good breakfast? Steer clear of fatty, sugary foods. Wholegrain foods, nuts, seeds, and low-fat live yoghurt are easy on stomachs – and ensure a supply of energy over several hours.

Ten things to know about the Edinburgh Festival Fringe

This year it takes place 7th to 31st August. The largest arts festival in the world, it is made up of thousands of arts and cultural events which together attract the same number of people as a World Cup.

This year, it will feature a total of 3,649 distinct shows and 53,884 individual performances across 258 venues. It would take months to see everything.

Each year, the influx of performers, crew members, and attendees roughly doubles the city's population to about a million. Almost anywhere becomes a venue; traditional theatres, concert halls, pubs, churches, shipping containers and even moving buses.

The Festival began in 1947, in the wake of WW2, to celebrate European cultural life and to heal divisions. Nowadays, it serves as a launchpad for global stars – including Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Emma Thompson, and Rowan Atkinson.

The Fringe was an accident – born when eight theatre companies, who had not been invited to the Festival, still decided to come along anyway, and stage their performances on the edge of the festival.

There is not just one summer festival in Edinburgh: as well as the International and Fringe Festival, Edinburgh also hosts the Edinburgh Art Festival, Edinburgh International Book Festival, and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Hot and humid – what to do with those amber and yellow health alerts

This year the UK Health Security Agency has issued a series of amber and yellow health alerts across the UK. Heatwaves can kill people, the Met Office has issued advice on how to keep safe in extreme temperatures.

Stay hydrated – drink plenty of water

Avoid any exercise between 11am and 3pm, when the sun is strongest

Close curtains in rooms that face the sun

Wear sunscreen and a hat when outside.

Remember that even on very hot days, the water in lakes and the sea is still very cold. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution warns that entering it suddenly “can lead to cold water shock, causing a sudden increase in breathing and heart rate, which may trigger panic.”

If you find yourself in trouble in cold water, remember to Float to Live.

1. Tilt your head back, so that your ears are submerged
2. Relax and control your breathing
3. You may need to gently use your hands to help you stay afloat
4. It's OK if your legs sink — everyone floats differently.

Where possible, choose a lifeguarded beach, and swim between the red and yellow flags. In a coastal emergency remember to call 999 for the coastguard.

Safeguarding National Campaign

If you're in church you may see some new posters appearing in various places. These are from the new national safeguarding campaign '**It's Not Just Policy, It's Personal**'

This campaign is to raise awareness of how to recognise and report safeguarding concerns. There are a variety of resources available to be used and are designed to build confidence in responding and taking appropriate action.

Bishop Robert, Lead Bishop for Safeguarding states:

*"Safeguarding in the Church of England is not simply about compliance with guidance or completing the right forms. It is about people and for those of us who seek to follow Jesus, it is about how we live our faith. **It's Not Just Policy, It's Personal** is a timely reminder that at the heart of every safeguarding concern is a human being who has taken a brave and often costly step in speaking about harm.*

*The four Rs - **Recognise, Respond, Record and Refer** - are not tickboxes. They are a framework that helps us act justly and compassionately, ensuring that concerns are taken seriously and passed to those who can help keep people safe. Doing this well serves both the person at the centre of the disclosure and the wider community".*

Please look out for the following posters. If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact Ali Young, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) on 07532036026 or email aliysafeguarding@gmail.com

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

IT'S NOT JUST POLICY, IT'S PERSONAL

Building confidence in reporting safeguarding concerns

"Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God."

- Micah 6:8

We know that reporting safeguarding concerns can feel difficult



Scan here for resources to help you

When someone shares a concern, it is important they are listened to and taken seriously. You are not expected to investigate. Keeping people safe and ensuring concerns are recorded and referred appropriately is all of our responsibility.



Recognise

Be alert to signs or disclosures of abuse.



Respond

Listen carefully and take what is being said seriously.



Record

Make a written record of what has been shared.



Refer

Show the concern with the Safeguarding Officer and relevant authorities.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

What To Do When Safeguarding Concerns Arise

Safeguarding concerns can arise in many different situations. When they do, they must be **Recognised, Responded to, Recorded and Referred**.

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS MAY ARISE THROUGH

- A disclosure from a child or adult
- Concerns raised by someone else
- Something you witness or observe
- Information shared during conversation
- Information that becomes known during recruitment or safeguarding checks

Always take concerns seriously. Even non recent abuse must be reported to safeguarding professionals.

RECOGNISE

- Be alert to the signs or disclosures of abuse.

Not everyone will use safeguarding language when they share a concern. A disclosure may be indirect or tentative. If something does not feel right, take it seriously even if you are not certain of what you are hearing.

RESPOND

- Listen carefully, remain calm and allow the person to speak at their own pace. Do not investigate or ask leading questions.

Do not rush this conversation. Give the person time and space to share what they are ready to share. Let them know gently that as a Church Officer you have a safeguarding responsibility and that what they share may need to be passed on to keep people safe.

RECORD

- Make a written record of the concern as soon as possible, including what was said, who is involved and relevant details. Records must be signed, timed and dated.

Be open with the person about where their information will be recorded and who may see it. If you need to come back to them for further details, let them know. Clarity at this stage helps people feel respected and listened to.

REFER

- Safeguarding concerns must be referred promptly to the Safeguarding Officer and relevant authorities. If there is immediate risk of harm, contact emergency services without delay.

Where you can, let the person know who the concern is being referred to and why. If there is space, ask whether they have any preferences about next steps. Being heard at this stage helps people feel respected and listened to.

It's Not Just Policy, It's Personal

Building confidence in reporting safeguarding concerns

RECOGNISE - RESPOND - RECORD - REFER

Explore our resources



When John Lennon said the Beatles were 'more popular than Jesus'

It was 60 years ago, on 4th and 5th August 1966 that US newspapers and radio stations quoted John Lennon as saying his Beatles band was "more popular than Jesus." It provoked widespread protests across America.

The story had really begun some months earlier, when in March Lennon's comment was originally published in the London Evening Standard, as part of an interview that he had given at his home in Weybridge. He had told the reporter: "Christianity will go.

It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue about that; I'm right and I will be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now. I don't know which will go first, rock 'n' roll or Christianity. Jesus was all right, but His disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me."

Lennon's views passed without much comment in London, but five months later, when his comment was reprinted in the American teen magazine Datebook, he sparked an enormous wave of fury across America, especially in the Bible Belt.

Many radio stations refused to play Beatle's records, and protesters held public burnings of Beatles records.

Lennon apologised on 12th August, at the start of the Beatles final tour of the USA, saying that he had not meant to say that he was divine, but only that his band was now more popular than Jesus was.

Such a claim did not soothe American sensibilities. Throughout the tour, the band faced pickets and protests and even death threats.

By the end of the American tour, the controversy had driven the band to a big decision. There would be no more live tours, but only studio recordings.

Just over three years later, in September 1969, John Lennon left the Beatles for solo work, and the following Spring, Paul McCartney followed him out. The Beatles had reached the end of the road.

The Story of Apple Inc

It was just 15 years ago, on 24th August 2011, that Steve Jobs resigned as CEO of Apple Inc because of ill health. (Pancreatic tumour.)

Steve Jobs died on 5th October, but he left behind a company which has transformed how modern society interacts with digital technology.

Apple Inc was born in a garage in California on April Fool's Day in 1976. There were three founders: Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, and Ronald Wayne (who left early in the project).

In 1976 the first Apple 1 computer sold for a highly unusual price: \$666.66. Wozniak just said he "liked repeating numbers".

The famous bitten apple logo was not the company's first. The first had shown Sir Isaac Newton under a tree, with an apple about to fall on his head.

The famous bite out of the apple was apparently included to provide scale, so that people did not think the logo was of a cherry or tomato.

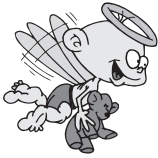
Though Steve Jobs was forced out of Apple in 1985, he returned in 1997, when Apple purchased his company NeXT.

In 2003 Apple iTunes was launched. By 2013 it had sold a staggering 25 billion songs.

In 2007 Steve Jobs unveiled the iPhone. It has redefined the global smartphone market and made Apple one of the most valuable brands in the world.

In 2008 the App Store was launched alongside the iPhone 3G. It started with 500 apps and has grown to literally millions. It is one of Apple's biggest revenue drivers.

In 2018 Apple became the world's first \$1 trillion publicly traded company. Its valuation frequently exceeds the Gross Domestic Products (GDP) of several major European and Middle Eastern countries.



Michael's Angels

Luke 3

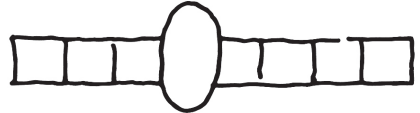
Jumble John

Unscramble these persons or groups in Luke 3:2, 3, 10-18. Write the letters in the matching shapes at the bottom of the page to find what John preached.

OXATELOTSRCLC



LOSIDERS



LEEPP



DOWRC



GDO



SNANA



PHAISAAC



HAZEIARCH



Saint for August

St Aidan

31st August is the feast of St Aidan, who brought Christianity to northern England. He is a strong contender for the title of the first English bishop. Not that honours meant a great deal to this austere but captivating character.

In 635 he came to Northumbria at the invitation of the local ruler, Oswald. Oswald had spent several years of his childhood on Iona, and when he succeeded to the throne of his northern kingdom he was shrewd enough to realise that the Christian faith would be an ideal unifying force to pacify rival tribes of warlords.

Oswald's invitation was not immediately successful. The first missionary from Iona returned in despair, claiming that the barbarity of the Northumbrians made them unconvertible. But as Aidan listened, he felt the unmistakable call of God to try again.

"Perhaps you were too harsh on them," he found himself suggesting to the travel-stained missionary. Shortly afterwards, Aidan found himself at the head of a party of brothers heading for Northumbria. He was never to see his beloved Iona again.

The monks made the long journey to Northumbria on foot, singing psalms as they went. Their need to ward off the powers of evil with prayer was genuine, for these were dangerous times to travel through remote country unarmed. They arrived safely at Oswald's castle in Bamburgh, where he offered them lavish hospitality and assumed that they would found their community there.

However, the brothers realised that to live under the king's protection would make it difficult to avoid the world's temptations and establish a rapport with the local people. They saw the tidal island of Lindisfarne on the horizon and chose it as their base. The rest, as the saying goes, is history.

Aidan was much loved as a teacher and evangelist; though stern in his own self-discipline, he was prepared to travel to the most inaccessible villages, where he cared for the local people with compassion and gentleness. In time, his influence grew and noble people joined the stream of visitors to Lindisfarne.

After Oswald's death in 642, his brother Oswin succeeded him as king. Oswin was concerned about Aidan's habit of walking everywhere. The saint was ageing rapidly, his body weakened by years of harsh fasting and exposure to the elements. Oswin wondered what would happen to him one day on the road, and also he felt that such a lowly means of travel was not appropriate for a bishop. So he gave Aidan one of his finest horses, complete with a beautifully worked saddle and bridle.

Aidan did not feel able to risk offending the king by spurning his generosity, but he rode out of the palace with a heavy heart. He knew that people would relate to him differently now that

he had the trappings of affluence, and that it would be dangerous to stop and rest with such valuable belongings beside him.

The king had intended to give him comfort, but his gesture had had the opposite effect. Aidan had learnt that possessions, and the need to protect them, make it more difficult to follow God with an undivided heart. The story goes that he gave the horse, complete with saddle, to the first beggar he met outside the palace gates.

A more pragmatic Christian might have reasoned that keeping on the right side of Oswin would lead to opportunities that were too valuable to risk. Indeed, the king was angry when he heard what Aidan had done. "That horse was fit for a king, not for some vagabond," he protested. "I could have found you an old nag if you wanted to give it away." Aidan's reply was simply, "What do you think, O King? Is the son of a mare worth more in your eyes than that the Son of God?"

There was an awkward silence; then the King removed his sword, knelt at Aidan's feet and asked his forgiveness. When he returned to the banqueting table, it was with a beaming smile. Sadly, he too was to perish in battle shortly afterwards; these were violent times. Yet Oswin, whose culture demanded that he should appear all-powerful in the eyes of his followers, had been publicly humbled by the integrity of a simple monk who had challenged his values.



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

LIGHT

LIGHT is a mutual support group for anyone who is finding bereavement hard to bear.

Come and chat with us over a cup of tea at

Space4

on the first Tuesday of the month from

1.15pm to 2.30pm

*We are located below the library on
Newbottle Street.*

*Enter through the automatic doors and you
will find us to the right of the library escalator.*



Temptations for the Church in Fragmented times

The North East of England, my home and the heartbeat of my ministry, is currently navigating a profound season of change. As I write this, the landscape of our civic life is shifting beneath our feet. We have witnessed a major realignment in local politics, with a significant shift in leadership that has brought new voices to the council table and drawn the intense glare of the national media to our streets. Too often, outside commentators look for a “spectacle” of division and anger, framing our communities as the front lines of a culture war. But reality is far more human—and far more tender—than a television headline.

Across our nation and beyond, we are also seeing deep questions raised about identity, belonging, and what is sometimes described as ‘Christian nationalism’—a movement that can often co-opt the symbols of our faith to build walls of exclusion rather than bridges of grace. As we look ahead, many commentators are bracing for a summer of tension and potential unrest. We see the very real anxiety among the vulnerable, particularly the asylum seekers and refugees we support, who now live with a heightened sense of insecurity. Yet, we also recognize the genuine frustrations of long-standing residents who feel unheard, overlooked, and left behind by the pace of a changing world. Our first, gut-level inclination in times of division is often to build a fortress around our churches and community projects—like our own ‘Space4’ project—to protect those we love. Yet, a fortress is merely another wall, and it is the antithesis of the Gospel.

To navigate these times, I find myself going back to Henri Nouwen’s reflections on the Temptations of Christⁱ as a critical theological framework for our current moment. When we face social fragmentation, the church can be tempted to abandon its prophetic calling for easier paths. Nouwen considers the temptations of Jesus in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11) and warns against ‘turning stones into bread ...the temptation to be relevant’; ‘jumping off the temple ... the temptation to be spectacular’; and ‘accepting kingdoms ...the temptation to be powerful’.

First then, there is the **temptation to be relevant**, the urge to turn stones into bread. In an age of injustice, the pressure is to turn the church into a purely political or social-service agency. While social justice is the fruit of our faith, if our only response to nationalism is to become another lobbyist group, we lose our distinct spiritual voice. We become “relevant” to the world, but we fail to feed the world with the “Bread of Life.”

Second, there is the **temptation to be spectacular**, to throw ourselves from the temple. This might manifest itself as a drive for numerical growth, prestige, and influence. Christian nationalism often thrives here, seeking to display God’s favour through power and success. It is the desire to build a “Christian nation” that looks like a fortress of influence. But Christ rejected the spectacular; he chose the hidden, the small, and the vulnerable.

Third, there is the **temptation to be powerful**, to accept the kingdoms of the world, which can lead to our setting ourselves apart and disengaging with the world. When the work becomes too difficult, we are tempted to wash our hands of the world, to step back from the mess and wait for God to fix it. We withdraw into a piety that refuses to touch the “messy-ness” of real-world politics, thereby leaving the field open for the very divisive ideologies to permeate our communities.

The Body of Christ is diverse, and there is room within it for different approaches to this fragmentation, provided they are rooted in a common resistance to these three temptations. Some churches are naturally called to social justice, others to prayerful witness, and others to community-building. The danger arises not from our differing strategies, but from our surrender to the temptations. If our social justice work is only about relevance, we burn out. If our pursuit of growth is only about the spectacular, we become idols. If our withdrawal is only about disengagement, we betray our vocation.

However, if we manage to resist temptation, our differences can become our strength. We can be a church that feeds the hungry (relevance) without being a political tool; we can be a church that is visible (growth) without seeking status; and we can be a church that is prayerful (contemplation) without being indifferent to the suffering experienced in our communities. The antidote to all three temptations is to return to root ourselves in a God who is incarnational and chose to dwell with us in this messy world. We must then remember that the Creator of the universe chose to enter the world not in a palace or a fortress, but in the most vulnerable, chaotic, and ‘on the edge’ stable!

The work we do at St Michael’s with Tyne & Wear Citizens has taught me that we don’t change the world by being spectacular, by shouting from the podium or retreating behind walls. We work with others across our region to organize around shared pain for people in our parish: these include the relentless impact of cost of living, the collapse of NHS dentistry, safety in our streets, the failure of support for families. We seek to have a place at the table with people of influence that can bring about better outcomes for our communities. This is a way of doing politics that is non-partisan – it is a politics that seeks to call people together around the table.

As part of this work, we recently shared stories from our communities at the UCL Policy Lab in East London. We sat on a panel with the academic Hahrie Han who cited the African proverb: “If a child doesn’t feel the love of the village, he will burn it down to feel its warmth”.ⁱⁱ The unrest we can sometimes see in our communities is often a desperate cry for notice from a left-behind population. We do not get to choose our neighbours, and we do not choose the political climate. But we do choose how we respond. We will not retreat behind walls, and we will not compete for the kingdoms of this world. Instead, we will continue to actively listen to the people in our communities and use the influence we have, as part of broad alliances, to seek to pull up more chairs to the table and help people achieve better outcomes for their lives. We will bear witness to the fact that hope is not found in a fortress of nationalistic pride, but in the radical vulnerability of a God offers us relentless, sacrificial love.

Rev’d John Barron, Rector of Houghton-le-Spring

June 2026



Members of our Space4 Project helping lead the Delegates Assembly ahead of Local Elections.

ⁱ Henri J. M. Nouwen, *In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership* (London: DLT, 11th ed. 1989).

ⁱⁱ See, for example, Hahrie Han, *How Organizations Develop Activists: Civic Associations and Leadership in the 21st Century* (Oxford, OUP, 2014).

SERVING FAMILIES FOR GENERATIONS

DEREK MOSS FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Proudly serving families with the greatest of care...



Derek Moss Funeral Directors,
Houghton
104 Newbottle Street,
Houghton Le Spring, DH4 4AJ
0191 512 0927

Derek Moss Funeral Directors,
Shiney Row
1 Mill Place, Shiney Row,
Houghton Le Spring, DH4 4JT
0191 385 5959

Derek Moss Funeral Directors,
Chester Le Street
190 Front Street,
Chester Le Street, DH3 3AZ
0191 338 8894

**DIGNITY FUNERAL PLANS HAVE BEEN
RATED TOP FUNERAL PLAN PROVIDER BY
MONEY SAVING EXPERT, MARTIN LEWIS.**

Charles Embleton Funeral Directors, Washington
Blue House Lane, Concord, Washington, NE37 2TA
0191 416 4363

*** 24 HOUR SERVICE TO ALL AREAS * PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST * CATERING/FLORAL TRIBUTES *
* MEMORIALS & INSCRIPTIONS * PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLANS * PERSONAL SERVICE ***

**We're here for you anytime. Whatever your wishes or budget,
we can provide a funeral to suit you.**



dignityfunerals.co.uk/local Attended Funerals from: £2695
The Moss Funeral from: £2095 Unattended from: £1595
*Pricing is correct at time of going to print and is subject to change

MEMORIALS

We hope this system will help us to meet requests for memorials more efficiently.

Should you wish for a loved one to be remembered on their anniversary in the weekly prayers read during the Sunday services, please complete the slip opposite.

Cut out the slip and place it in the intercessions box at least one week prior to the Sunday for remembrance.

If you are unable to get to church, please post the slip to the Church Administrator: Mrs Philippa Elsey, Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels, The Broadway, Houghton-le-Spring.

MEMORIAL REQUEST

Name of person to be remembered:

.....

Request made by:

.....

.....

.....

Date for memorial:

Sunday,

Andrew Grey Funeral Directors

Serving all communities with care and compassion

Losing someone you care about can be one of life's most difficult experiences, at Andrew Grey Funeral Directors we believe we have an important responsibility to care for our families, not just by offering support during the funeral but especially during the difficult days that may follow.

- 24 Hour Service
- Bereavement Advice
- Transparent Pricing
- Private Chapel of Rest
- Floral Tributes
- Memorial Masonry
- Home Visits
- Prepaid funeral plans

Hetton-le-Hole

0191 526 5800

Houghton-le-Spring

0191 385 7213

Easington Lane

0191 526 3499

South Hetton

0191 526 1265



greysfunerals.co.uk

 **Funeral Partners**



Nicholson, Martin, Legge & Miller

Solicitors

*We have looked after your legal requirements for
150 years and are still here to help*

65 Newbottle Street, Houghton-le-Spring. Tel: 584 2841

The Kepier Hall

for all your events in Houghton-le-Spring

Birthday Parties | Weddings | Christenings | Meetings

Contact:

07748 830445

thekepierhall@gmail.com



Summer Concert

at St Michael and All Angels Church

Sunday 2nd August at 6.00pm

*An evening concert of beautiful music,
not to be missed!*

Organ, piano, instrumentals, soloists and choirs.



**Free
admission**



**Light
refreshments**



**Retiring
collection**

All are welcome