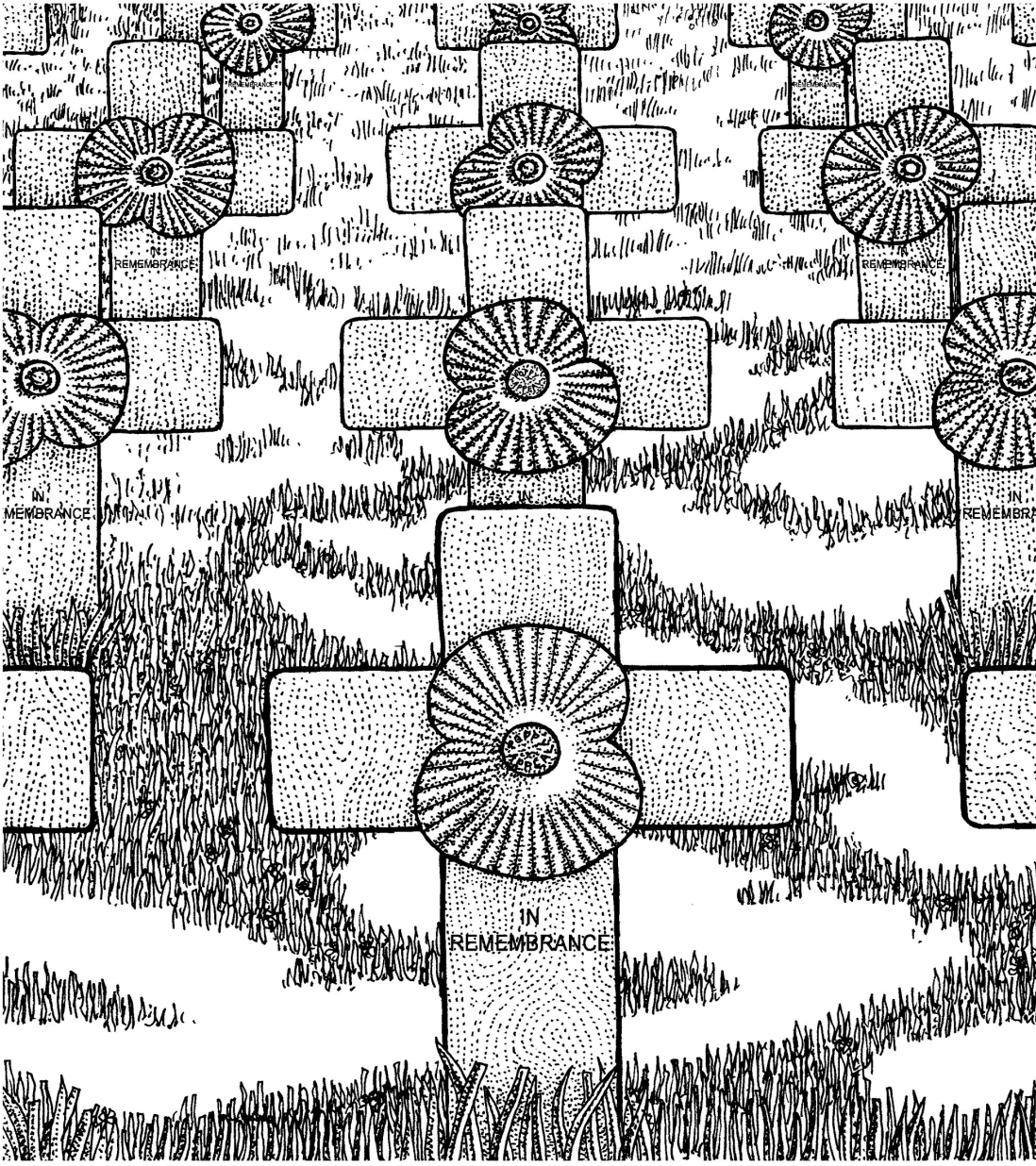
THE RIVERSIDE PARISHES

All Saints Hurworth Newsletter Nov 2026

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

working with St George and St Lawrence, Middleton St George



Thought for the Month November 26

At All Saints Church we run a holiday club for primary age children every half-term. We have a different theme each time, and this October we chose St Cuthbert. Whilst preparing to tell the children about St Cuthbert, I thought of how blessed we are to live in the North East with it's rich history of Christianity.

St Cuthbert was Bishop of Lindisfarne and after his death in 687 AD his tomb became a place of pilgrimage. Viking raids on Lindisfarne forced the monks to leave the island, taking St Cuthbert's coffin with them, in 875 AD. His coffin was moved several times around Southern Scotland and Northern England over the next century as the monks tried to find a safe resting place.

In 995 AD while going from Ripon to Chester-le-Street the cart carrying St Cuthbert's coffin became very heavy and couldn't be moved. The monks thought this was a sign from the saint so they prayed for guidance. One monk had a vision from St Cuthbert saying that he wished to be taken to Dunholme. The monks didn't know where that was, but they overheard two milkmaids talking. One had lost her dun (brown) cow and the other said she'd seen it near Dunholme. When they followed the milkmaid the coffin became lighter and easy to move. She led them to a high peninsula surrounded by the River Wear on three sides. The monks built a church at Dunholme (Durham) for St Cuthbert's tomb. A century later this was replaced by the magnificent Durham Cathedral.

On their travels, before settling in Durham, the monks brought St Cuthbert's coffin to Darlington. St Cuthbert's Church in the Market Place was founded on this spot. So, whenever you walk or drive by this church, remember, the body of St Cuthbert was once there.

Karen Wesson, Children's Minister

Prayer for November 2026

Dear Lord,

At this dark and dismal time, when the year is closing down and our lives get busier and the world more confusing, we can sometimes become discouraged and low in spirits.

Help us to adjust our perspective, to turn and look up, to focus afresh on You, to remember that Your name is above all names, above discouragement, above despair, above confusion.

Help us to be thankful for each day that You have made, recognising each one as a gift from You, to be treasured and lived fruitfully.

May we welcome Your powerful, healing light into our hearts and lives – Your light, which no darkness can dim. Help us to remember your words,

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Help us to follow you and walk in the light, this November and always. In your name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

ALL SAINTS AUTUMN FAIR

Saturday 31st October 26

Hurworth Grange

10.30am Until 12.30pm



A morning of fun and friendship
with lots of bargains on the stalls



Lots of excellent stalls
Live entertainment
Refreshments available
Entry by Donation on the door

Come along and join the fun



Time for a Smile

As for those signs found outside churches:

* When the restaurant next to a church put out a big sign with red letters that said, ‘Open Sundays’, the church reciprocated with its own message: ‘We are open on Sundays, too. And we have live music.’
* A singing group called ‘The Resurrection’ was scheduled to sing at a church. When a big snowstorm postponed the performance, the minister fixed the outside sign to read, ‘Resurrection is postponed – due to snow.’
* Come in and pray today. Beat the Christmas rush

The Hurworth Rogers Charitable Trust

The Trust was founded to give grants to Hurworth community projects, groups and individual Hurworth residents in need of funds.

The Trust gives special consideration to the elderly, those with mental illness, those in need of equipment to improve quality of life and young people wishing to acquire skills or to achieve their physical, intellectual or spiritual potential.

If you know of an organisation or someone who would benefit from the Trust’s support, or a project that would be for the common good of people in the village please consider making an application.

All applications will be acknowledged and considered in confidence at the next meeting of the Trust. Paper Application forms are available from the Mustard Tree Café, West End, Hurworth





Church Services in Hurworth, Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby December 2026

Sun 1st	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	11.00AM	All Age Holy Communion
	Hurworth	4.00PM	Memorial Service
Tues 3rd	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 8th	MSG Academy	10.00AM	Remembrance Service
	Hurworth	10.00AM	Remembrance Service
Tues 10th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 15th	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	9.30AM	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	11.00AM	All Age Worship
	Girsby	11.15AM	Holy Communion
Tues 17th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 22nd	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Cafe Church
	Hurworth	11.00AM	Morning Worship
Tues 24th	Hurworth	8.15AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 29th	MSG Academy	9.15AM	Holy Communion
	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

National Tree Week 21st to 29 November

It really is time to appreciate our trees. Did you know:

That the UK has 123,000 ancient and veteran trees, and more ancient oak trees than the rest of Europe combined?

Or that trees help us feel better? Studies have found that exposure to forests generally reduces our mental and physical stress, anxiety, and depression.

Or that 95% of land carbon in the UK is stored in soil, and trees help put it there? When wood and leaves fall, their carbon gets stored in the soil.

Or that hedgerows alongside our roads can reduce air pollution exposure by up to 63%?

No wonder that each year the Tree Council and its partners bring together the conservation sector, volunteers and tree-lovers to mark the start of the annual tree planting season. Together, they plant thousands of trees and hedgerows, to celebrate these "magnificent mainstays" of our landscape.

And we need more trees. Sadly, only 13% of the UK's total land area is covered in trees. That's compared to an average of 46% in Europe. In England, the figure is just 10%.

On the plus side, there are more than 80 community tree nurseries in the UK, growing an estimated 250,000 trees a year, often from locally collected seed, and which are given away or sold at minimal cost.

From the Parish Records

Holy Baptism

20th Sept 26

Clementine Kingsley-Smith



ALL SAINTS Church Hurworth 2026 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



Following the previous years successful Christmas tree festivals, All Saints Church in Hurworth have decided to hold it again this December between Friday 11th –Sun 13th.

Over 350 people attended the last one enjoying the serene atmosphere and the displays.

There will be another competition this year where you can vote for your top three trees.

Those who join in are given a freshly cut tree, stand and lighting, sponsors then decorate their tree. They can be any design you wish; either corporate identity or more traditional decorations.

As in previous years, local businesses, organisations and charities are welcome to attend, so please contact us if you'd like to join in. Charities can attend free of charge, whilst businesses donate £35.00. Paying sponsors are welcome to take their trees away after the event and the remaining may be bought for £15.00 each.

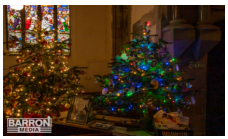
There will be lighting around the lychgate advertising the event, which will add festive sparkle.

A programme is available which provides information about the tree sponsors. The festival times this year will be Friday 11th December between 6-9pm; Saturday 12th between 10am-4pm and Sunday 13th between 12-4pm. The usual Sunday morning church service will take place, starting at 10.30am. Rev. Anthony Smith will formally open the festival at 7pm on Friday 11th.

The proceeds will be split between a local charity and church tower funds.

Refreshments will be available: there will be tea, coffee and mulled wine together with mince pies and cakes.

There are up to 40 trees available, though we already have numerous expressions of interest from previous year's participants. If you'd like to be involved in this Christmas spectacle, please contact Andrew on 07816 450114 to avoid missing out.





Lest We Forget

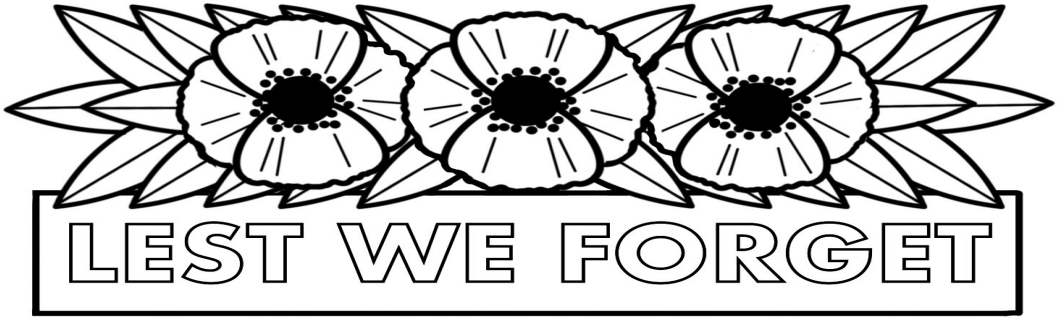
‘In Flanders' fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, that mark our place: and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below.’

This is the first verse of John McCrae’s poem, first published in Punch magazine in 1915. It soon came to symbolise the sacrifice of all who died in World War One. Today, the poppy remains an important symbol of all those who have sacrificed their lives in conflicts over the years. But why do we remember them?

‘They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.’ (Micah 4:3). Writing 700 years before Christ, Micah spoke at the time when Samaria was captured due to the invasion of Assyria. However, he prophesied a future of hope, a world where nations would come together in peace rather than war. His words are fulfilled in the kingdom of God established by Jesus.

Our understanding of *peace* is more than simply the absence of conflict. It is about building relationships between people, communities and nations, founded on love and justice for all. As we remember those who have died in war, we should look practically at how we can build such relationships, beginning with our own families, colleagues and neighbours. *‘We will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.’* (Micah 4:5). Let us ask God’s Spirit to make us people of peace, justice and compassion for today’s world.

‘They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the mornina we will remember them.’



Hurworth Village Diary

NOV 26

Sun 1st **Cinema on your Doorstep**
"Mothers Pride " starring Martin Clunes **Village Hall**
Entry by donation 3.00pm
Soup and friendly company prior to film 2.00pm

Fri 6th **Remembrance Concert - Hurworth Concert Band**
The Grange
Tickets £10 from the Grange Office, under 16 free -doors 7pm

Sat 7th **Tribute Night with The Beer Mats** **The Grange**
Tickets £15 inc pie and peas from Grange Bar- doors 7.30

Sun 8th **Craft Fair** 11.00 to 3.00pm **Village Hall**
To book a table ring Stella on 07749 129716

Sun 29th **Hurworth Grange Christmas Fayre** **The Grange**
10am - 2pm

Sun 29th **Childrens Lantern Parade** **All Saints Church**
Parade to village green for the Christmas lights switch on
Music and refreshments afterwards 4.30pm
Children are encouraged to bring a bauble to hang on the tree

DEC 26

Fri 4th **Christmas Quiz** **Village Hall**
Tickets £10 inc supper 7.00pm prompt start

Sun 6th **"Deliver me from Nowhere"** starring Bruce Springsteen
Village Hall
Entry by donation 3.00pm
Soup and friendly company prior to film 2.00pm

Fri 11th - Sun 13th
Christmas Tree Festival **All Saints Church**
See separate advertisement

Fri 11th **Christmas Concert - Hurworth Concert Band**
The Grange
Tickets £10 from the Grange Office, under 16 free - doors 7pm

Sat 12th **Christmas Wreath Workshop** **Village Hall**
Tickets £45 inc materials, refreshments and a light lunch

Thu 31st **New Years Eve Party with Adam Carter** **The Grange**
7.30 till late, ticket prices to be announced.
More details from the Grange Office on 01325 720840

Hurworth Churches Working Together

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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 by10th 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 (I 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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- SAME HIGH QUALITY SERVICE
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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 Email addresses :

Julia Clarke 01325 720662 juliahclarke@aol.com

Denise Finch 07776 814748 denise.finch1957@gmail.com

Lay Readers

Paul Mallett 07939 681010 mallett26@hotmail.com

Pete Snowden 07340 645440 petesnowden@hotmail.co.uk

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Joanne Snowden 07711 980432 joannesnowden@hotmail.co.uk

Dins

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Girsby Church Wardens

Allen Harrison 01609 881534 harrisoncanda@hotmail.co.uk

Jane Alderson 07871 164784 pommiegrannie@gmail.com

Middleton St George Church Wardens

Rodger Sansom 01325 401850 rodger@sansomfamily.org

Jim Chalmers 07776 406890 jim.chalmers99@gmail.com