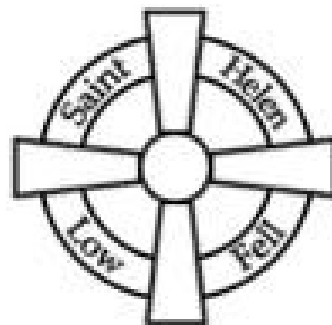




Pastoral Letter and Church Notices
ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, LOW FELL

2.11.2025

All Saints' Day

Readings

Daniel 7. 1-3, 15-18 (page 1071)

Ephesians 1. 11-end

Luke 6. 20-30

Collect

God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Dear Friends

This week we celebrate All Saints' Day at 9.30am on Sunday, as well as remembering the souls of our dearly departed in the 4pm Remembrance Eucharist.

All are welcome to come along, simply to take some time out and light a candle in memory of their loved ones.

Through baptism we become members one of another in Christ, members of a company of saints whose mutual belonging transcends death.

All Saints' Day celebrates men and women in whose lives the church as a whole has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for the grace which has

helped to shape human life by the example of those who have grown in holiness through the crises and the ordinary circumstances of life.

The commemoration of the Faithful Departed gives us the opportunity to celebrate the saints in a more local and intimate key. We remember with thanksgiving before God those whom we have known more directly, those who gave us life or nurtured us in the faith.

Redemption is a work of God's grace. It is God who redeems us in Christ and there is nothing to be done beyond what Christ has done, but we still await the final consummation of God's new creation in the coming of God's kingdom. Here we are joined together in prayer that God's kingdom will finally be revealed in all its fullness.

Thy kingdom come O Lord.

Refreshments will be served after both our services. Do join us if you are able.

Revd Yvonne

Post Communion

God, the source of all holiness
and giver of all good things;
may we who have shared at this table
as strangers and pilgrims here on earth
be welcomed with all your saints
to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A prayer for peace

We pray to you O God
the lover of all
for those whom we have named our enemies.
Deliver us from the hardness of heart that keeps us locked in confrontation.
Deliver us from the hatred that binds us in old ways.
Grant unto all your people the blessing of your love.
And grant unto us such transformation of our lives
that we make peace with our enemies
and that together we might make this world
a safer, kinder place for all.
In Christ's name we pray.
Amen

Safeguarding Contacts

To discuss any safeguarding concerns please contact either

- *the Parish Safeguarding Churchwarden 07505105184*
- *the Parish Priest, Rev Yvonne Greener on
0191 4911317 greener.yvonne@gmail.com*

*Concerns can also be raised with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Mrs
Beth Miller*

Email: beth@bethmillerisw.co.uk or beth.miller@durham.anglican.org

Mobile: 07968 034075.



INEQE independent safeguarding audit

Please see attached information and link to the full report.

Worship and notices week beginning Sunday 2nd November 2025

Services and Prayer

9.30am Sunday Service 2nd November at St. Helen's

St Helen's All Souls Service Sunday 2nd November at 4pm

The names of those who have passed in the last year will be read out and a candle will be lit in their memory

Eucharist at St Helen's on Wednesday 5th November 12noon

10.30am Eucharist each Sunday at Bensham and Teams, St. Chad's

All are welcome to join in worshipping at St.Helen's and St.Chad's, we hope to see you soon. We will offer wafers and wine (optional) during the Eucharist and will, for the time being, stay in our places and share the Peace in non-physical ways.

There are services of morning and night prayer available on the website with attached readings and prayers. Alternatively, you may participate in worship with Songs of Praise BBC1 at 1.15pm or Morning Service with BBC Radio 4 at 8.10am.

Prayer and Evening Prayer

We usually meet each Wednesday, Friday and Sunday morning for morning prayer in church, you are welcome to join us from 8.45am, to begin at 9am, and at 3.45pm, to begin at 4pm.



Evensong at St Chad's Church

Sung evening prayer according to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer has started at St. Chad's every Sunday. **It currently starts at 6pm but when the clocks go back it will move to 4pm.** Everyone is warmly welcome for traditional worship for modern life.

Embrace the Middle East

As we no longer receive a hard copy of the magazine from Embrace the Middle East, please follow this link to read the newsletter and view other resources.

'Beyond a ceasefire - Seeking a just peace'

4 November, 6.30pm - Webinar, online, co-hosted with Christian Aid

As the ceasefire in Gaza is welcomed, the question of a lasting and just peace in Israel and Palestine remains. Peter will be in conversation with Embrace's Dr Ruth Valerio and William Bell from Christian Aid.

[Resources from Embrace — Embrace the Middle East](#)

St Helen's Project 150

As some of you will know, next year is the 150th anniversary for St Helen's Church. We are also fundraising for development work to be carried out at the church, to make it more accessible to all. Phase One is due to begin in January, and we will be continuing to fundraise for Phase Two.

We would be pleased if members of the congregation, and anyone else interested in our 150th Anniversary, who have a heart for the future of St. Helen's could attend our meeting on Friday 7 November, to be held in the upper church hall from 11am, in which we hope to take our celebrations and fundraising forward.

Drop-Ins at St Chad's Church

Grab a cuppa. Have a look around and pray.

On the following Saturdays 2-4pm

1st November 6th December

ST HELEN'S CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Saturday 15th November
1-4pm**

Join us for:

**Tombola Raffle
Cake Stall Crafts
Handmade Cards
Christmas Decorations
Plants
Jewellery
Jams and Chutneys
Knitted Items Cushions
Refreshments**

**And much more..... in the
In the church hall**



Beyond Food Banks Summit 2026

Communities Together Durham and Food Durham are co-hosting a Food Summit on 14 March 2026. The Summit will explore alternative food provision which goes 'Beyond Food Banks' and gives churches and charities a menu of opportunities to investigate different approaches to meet the local needs of those experiencing food insecurity. Please see the menu above and **attached** which provides details of the 'Menu Courses'.

First Course: 'Come and Share' on various dates and locations in October and November

Second Course: December 2025 – February 2026 'Do Something'

Do something with the community. Grants of £200 will be available from Communities Together Durham

Third Course – The Food Summit Saturday 14 March 2026 9.30am The Sjovoli Centre, Framwellgate Moor.

Thursday Luncheon Club at St. Chad's

Rawling Road Bensham

Thursday Luncheon Club Time 11am -1pm

Join us each Thursday for a freshly cooked two course lunch

Cost £6.00

Tea, coffee and biscuits on arrival

Each week there is a quiz, coffee and a game of bingo.

A chance to meet people and enjoy different company.

All are welcome

Contact Ron Bellinger 07847096709

Wednesday Warm Welcome Drop In at St Helen's

Every Wednesday morning 10am-12noon - there will be tea and coffee freely available and a warm welcome at St Helen's church hall for any who wish to come in for a cuppa and a chat, or who simply want a warm space to relax in for a few hours.

No need to be at home alone, you will be made welcome at St. Helen's. We are pleased to be part of Gateshead Council's Warm Spaces Charter.

There will be a variety of opportunities on offer for you to join in with if you come along to this Drop In.

Crafts

You are welcome to join us for crafts and projects in the Warm Welcome Drop In from 10am. each Wednesday in the hall. Everyone is welcome.

St Helen's Church Hall – For hire

A reminder that the church hall is available to hire for birthday parties/events on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. We also have space for regular bookings (exercise classes, book club, craft activities etc) during the week. For further information contact :

office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com

St Helen's Toddler Group

St Helen's now has a thriving toddler group which meets every Friday afternoon from 1pm-3pm. It is very much appreciated by families, carers and, of course, the children.

Joan and Elaine have helped this group to grow, offering a warm welcome and building relationships with all who come along.

We would really value more help for this group, if you might have a couple of hours to spare on a Friday afternoon and are interested to volunteer, please be in touch via email:

office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com

THE SLAPIN-SOLOMON DUO - MUSIC FOR VIOLAS

Sunday 23 November 2pm
in St Helen's Church

Music for Violas

23 November, 2025 @ 14:00
St. Helens Church
Belle Vue Bank, Low Fell
NE9 6BR

The Slapin-Solomon Duo

FREE CONCERT!
suggested donations to benefit St. Helens

Free car park access nearby
Join us for refreshments after the performance.

www.scottslapin.com

Join us for another **free concert** by Scott Slapin, recitalist and composer. This time, Scott is joined by his wife, Tanya – The Slapin-Solomon Duo.

Please look at Scott's website to read about his exceptional achievements as a composer and musician.

[The Official Site of Scott Slapin](http://www.scottslapin.com)

We hope you can join us for the concert, and for tea and cake afterwards in the church hall.

Please give a donation on the day if you wish to



Join Jen, the Cookie Fairy, for a Merry Christmas Afternoon of Fun in St Helen's church hall on Saturday 21 December 2-4pm

Decorate three freshly baked cookies, decorate your own gift box. Lunchbox and Juice provided Meet and greet Santa....!

£20 per person

Book early to avoid disappointment – see poster here for contact details



Dear Supporters

This week 63 families/couples and 35 single persons attended the Food Co-op (146 adults and 110 children). As it was half term week, many children accompanied their parents. We were fortunate to have accumulated toys, books, stationery items and sweets throughout the last two months. All children left happily with items to entertain them over the holiday.

Donations were received from several local churches, a Food Waste Champion and individual supporters. An amazing donation was received from Corpus Christi School after their Harvest Celebration. With our numbers remaining steady, bonus donations enable us to continue to provide food for those in need in our community. Many thanks for all these generous donations and thanks to all who deliver to Corpus in time for the session on Tuesday.

With the weather getting colder, donations of pre-loved coats, warm clothes and blankets are always welcome

With thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards, Kath

THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME A BETTER WAY TO GIVE

The Church of England, in the Diocese of Durham, has a vision to Bless our Communities in Jesus's name for the transformation of us all. This means having a Christian presence in all our communities.

In turn, your church blesses our community by sharing our faith and values, worshipping together through our wonderful buildings. For the Church to grow and plan for the future we rely on your regular gifts.

If you would like to consider joining the Parish Giving scheme, which runs as a monthly direct debit, please see **Tony Gunning Churchwarden**

Our Christian Giving

We express our Christian Discipleship in part through the financial support of our Church Family. The life, work, witness, and ministry of our Parish costs £762.00 every week, our weekly income does not currently reflect this.

If you value the witness, worship, and support that we offer please help us to enable this to continue by giving generously.

Forms to set up regular giving can be found near the church door or from

office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com

One-off donations are always welcomed, no matter how big or small, and can be deposited by electronic transfer to St Helen's bank account:

Sort code. 20-33-51 Account number 70684449 Account name. P.C.C. of St. Helen's or into the in-wall church deposit box, by the door. Thank you.

Intercessions Sunday 2nd November 2025

Sick	Sick	Sick/Other needs
Maria Barrell	Amelia Grace	Lena
Mark Adams	Lesley Baister	Sarah Hamilton
Lucy	Felicity	Maryam
Roger Barrell	Margaret Clayton	Sienna
Joyce Rowell	Emily	Michael
Ann	Ollie Sutcliffe	Joe
Stan Conway	Tom Spence	Pauline
Niraj	Sharok	
Revd Bernice Broggio	Les Gibson	
	Eddie Clarke	
RECENTLY DEPARTED:		
Isabelle Elsie McQueen		

Anniversary of Death

Ethel Carr	Jean Robinson	
Eleanor Johnson	Audrey Thompson	
William Bradbury Simmons	Joyce Hepple	
Ernest Bower		

Church

Please pray for our current Deanery vacancies

Local Projects

Gateshead Care Homes, Bensham Food Co-op, Gateshead Food Bank, Oasis, Changing Lives. Kells Lane, Kelvingrove & St Aidan's Primary Schools.

St Helen's Church Monthly Diary November 2025

Saturday 1st – Drop in at St Chad's Church 2-4pm

Sunday 2nd All Saint Day St Helen's Eucharist 9.30am

All Souls Service 4pm St Helen's

St Chad's Eucharist at 10.30am

Wednesday 5th St Helen's Eucharist 12noon

Friday 7th Project 150 meeting 11am St Helen's Church Hall (upper hall)

Sunday 9th Remembrance Sunday Family Service with the uniformed organisations. 10am **St Helen's** followed by brunch in the church hall

St Chad's Eucharist at 10.30am

Tuesday 11th Community Remembrance Service War Memorial, Low Fell 11am

Wednesday 12th St Helen's Eucharist 12noon

Saturday 15th St Helen's Christmas Fair from 1pm in the church hall

Sunday 16th Second Sunday before Advent St Helen's Eucharist 9.30am

St Chad's Eucharist at 10.30am

Wednesday 19th St Helen's Eucharist 12noon. Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680

Friday 21st Deanery Chapter Meeting 9.30am. St Helen's Upper Hall

Sunday 23rd Christ the King St Helen's Eucharist 9.30am

Scott Slapin Concert 2pm St Helen's Church with tea and cake following the concert in the church all

Wednesday 26th St Helen's Eucharist 12noon.

Sunday 30th Advent Sunday St Helen's 9.30am Eucharist

St Chad's Eucharist at 10.30am

Morning Prayer/Evening Prayer Readings – Sunday 2nd November
4th Before Advent

Day/ Date	Morning Prayer	Psalm	Evening Prayer
Sunday 2 nd	Col. 1. 9-14	87	John 11. 1-44
Monday 3 rd Richard Hooker, priest, teacher of the faith, c.1600; Martin of Parres, friar, 1639	Matthew 1. 18-end	2	Revelation ch.1
Tuesday 4 th	Matt. 2. 1-15	5	Rev. 2. 1-11
Wednesday 5 th	Matt.2. 16-end	9	Rev. 2. 12-end
Thursday 6 th Leonard, hermit, 6 th century; William Temple, archbishop, 1944	Matt. Ch 3	15	Rev. 3. 1-13
Friday 7 th Willibrord, bishop, 739	Matt. 4. 1-11	16	Rev. 3. 14-end
Saturday 8 th Saints and martyrs of England	Matt. 4. 12-22	18 v.31-end	Rev. ch4

Here is the QR code for St Helen's church website



To contact St Helen's church to book a baptism, wedding, book the church hall or for all enquiries please email:
office.sthenschurch@gmail.com