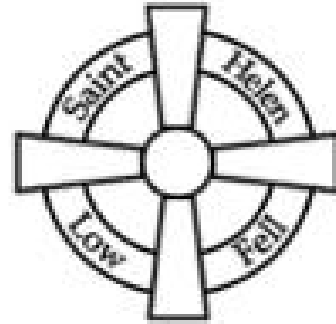




Pastoral Letter and Church Notices
ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, LOW FELL

9.11.2025

Remembrance Sunday

Readings

Job 19. 23

2 Thessalonians 2. 1-5. 13-end

Luke 20. 27-38

Collect

O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those whose memory we cherish,
and those whose names we will never know.
Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world,
and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm,
as we honour the past,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,
now and for ever.

Amen

Dear Friends,

Our All Age Worship this Sunday begins at 10am and is followed by Brunch in the Church Hall.

This Sunday is Remembrance Sunday when we remember all whose lives were lost in the First World War and in subsequent wars since. We will be joined by our Uniformed Organisations, the 21st St. Helen's. This is not only an opportunity to pray for those we have lost and no longer see, but also an opportunity to contemplate on their service and sacrifice.

Here is an opportunity to reflect on life as we know it and the importance of our freedom and how we live life in response to it.

There will also be a Service on Low Fell on Tuesday 11th of November at 11am at the War Memorial. Refreshments will be provided afterwards in the Carlton Club to which all are welcome.

During both events we will be laying wreaths in memory of the fallen, wearing poppies, symbolising peace, bloodshed and loss, and holding a two minute silence.

This is a period of quiet and contemplation on the loss of so many men, women and children lost to war worldwide, not least in those wars which continue in our own times.

Do feel free to join us at both or either of these events, all are welcome.

Every blessing

Revd Yvonne

Post Communion

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to the wholeness of life;
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

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 9th November 2025

Services and Prayer

Remembrance Sunday 9th November at 10am

Family Service at 10am with the Uniformed Organisations.

Refreshments will be available in the church hall following the service.

Tuesday 11th November Community Remembrance Service

At the Boer War Memorial, Durham Road, Low Fell at 11am

Please arrive for 10.45am

Refreshments will be served afterwards at the Carlton Club to which all are welcome.

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

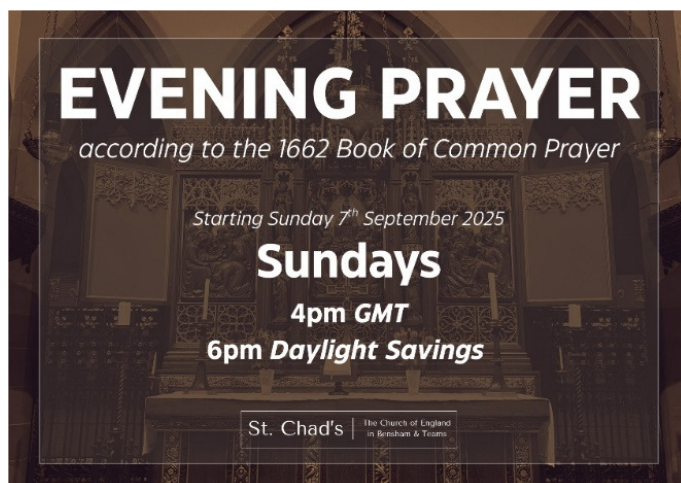
10.30am Eucharist each Sunday at Bensham and Teams, St. Chad's

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.

St Helen's Church Project 150

The first meeting to discuss next year's 150th anniversary celebrations for St Helen's was held on Friday 7 November.

Fundraising for the refurbishment project was discussed and ideas were put forward for a range of events and projects which could be staged next year to celebrate the anniversary.

The ideas discussed so far will be posted on a notice board in the church and there will also be the opportunity for you to add your ideas to the 'brainstorming' sheet/mind map displayed on a table in church. We welcome all of your ideas for fundraising and celebrating St Helen's anniversary.

Forms will also be available in church for you to complete to let us know if you can help – being part of the Project 150 Group, helping with events and refreshments, advertising and publicity, fundraising or maybe you have your own event you would

like to stage. The form is also attached here, please complete and return to:
office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com

The next meeting of the Project 150 group will be on Tuesday 18th November at 6.30pm in the church hall. Please come along and share your ideas!

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.

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

Drop-In at St Chad's Church - *Grab a cuppa. Have a look around and pray.*

Saturday 6th December 2-4pm

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

Christmas Bags of Comfort and Joy



If you would like to donate to the bags of comfort and joy for Christmas, please bring items to church on the next two Sundays. Thank you.

Suggestions for items are:

Mens' and Womens' Toiletries Chocolates
Socks- mens' and womens' Puzzle Books
Mindful colouring books Notebooks and pens

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



We would be most grateful for donations for the raffle and tombola. Also, for any baked goods, sweet or savoury, for the stall.
Thank you for your support!

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

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

Energy Roadshows

Energy Roadshows are returning to Gateshead from this month. They will run from 11th November through to 18th February 2026.

As the cold winter months draw in, we know many Gateshead residents have real concerns about how to effectively heat their homes and afford rising energy bills. We've again partnered with Citizens Advice Gateshead to deliver a series of specialist Energy Roadshows across Gateshead. The roadshows support residents with rising energy costs and give top tips on how to stay warm and keep energy usage low.

All sessions are free and are on a drop-in basis so anyone can attend without the need to book.

All sessions are delivered by a qualified Energy Advisor who'll be ready to chat all things energy. People can also book a follow up appointment with Citizens Advice Gateshead and/or receive a referral and a free home visit from a Green Doctor if more bespoke or detailed help is needed.

Dates and venues can be found [Energy roadshows return for colder months - Gateshead Council](#)



**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**

THE SLAPIN-SOLOMON DUO - MUSIC FOR VIOLAS

**Sunday 23 November 2pm in St
Helen's Church**

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

**Durham Singers Brahms Requiem
St Oswald's Church, Durham, DH1 3DG
Saturday 8th November 2025 7.30pm**

Tickets and more information: [Brahms' Requiem - St Oswald's Church](#)



Dear Supporters

A number of our volunteers spend Monday mornings setting up the Food Coop as many of our deliveries arrive at this time. All of these items need sorting, placing on trolleys, or moved for storage. We also bag up items such as sugar, flour, lentils and rice to make sure they are available for everyone.

Tuesday proved to be a very busy session at the Food Co-op with 120 people coming through our doors, representing 82 couples/families and 38 single persons (192 adults and 125 children). Donations were received from several local churches, a Food Waste Champion and individual supporters. We also received very welcome Harvest donations from St Chad's Church and Kelvin Grove School that have helped to replenish our stock of staple items.

Thank you for all these donations and thanks to those who deliver them to Corpus Christi in time for the Tuesday session. With the cold weather arriving, 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 9th 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	
Helen Jones	Eddie Clarke	

Anniversary of Death

Joan Pepper	Revd Canon Christopher Atkinson	Joan Neil
Muriel Susan Snezson	Matthew Dodds	
Rose Neil	Margaret Whitfield	
Jack Jopling	Margret Nattrass	

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
Revd Hannah Richardson will be Presiding
St Chad's Eucharist at 10.30am Revd Canon Yvonne Greener will be Presiding

Tuesday 18th November Project 150 meeting 6.30pm in the church hall

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 hall

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 – 9th November
3rd Before Advent, Remembrance Sunday

Day/ Date	Morning Prayer	Psalm	Evening Prayer
Sunday 9 th	James 3. 13-end	90	Romans 8. 31-end
Monday 10 th Leo the Great, bishop, 461	Matt. 4. 23 – Ch5 v12	20	Rev. ch5
Tuesday 11 th Martin, bishop, c.397	Matt 5. 13-20	21	Rev. ch6
Wednesday 12 th	Matt. 5. 21-37	23	Rev. 7. 1-end
Thursday 13 th Charles Simeon, priest, evangelical divine, 1836	Matt. 5. 38-end	26	Rev. ch8
Friday 14 th Samuel Seabury, bishop, 1796	Matt. 6. 1-18	32	Rev. 9. 1-12
Saturday 15 th	Matt. 6. 19-end	33	Rev.9. 13-end

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.sthelenschurch@gmail.com