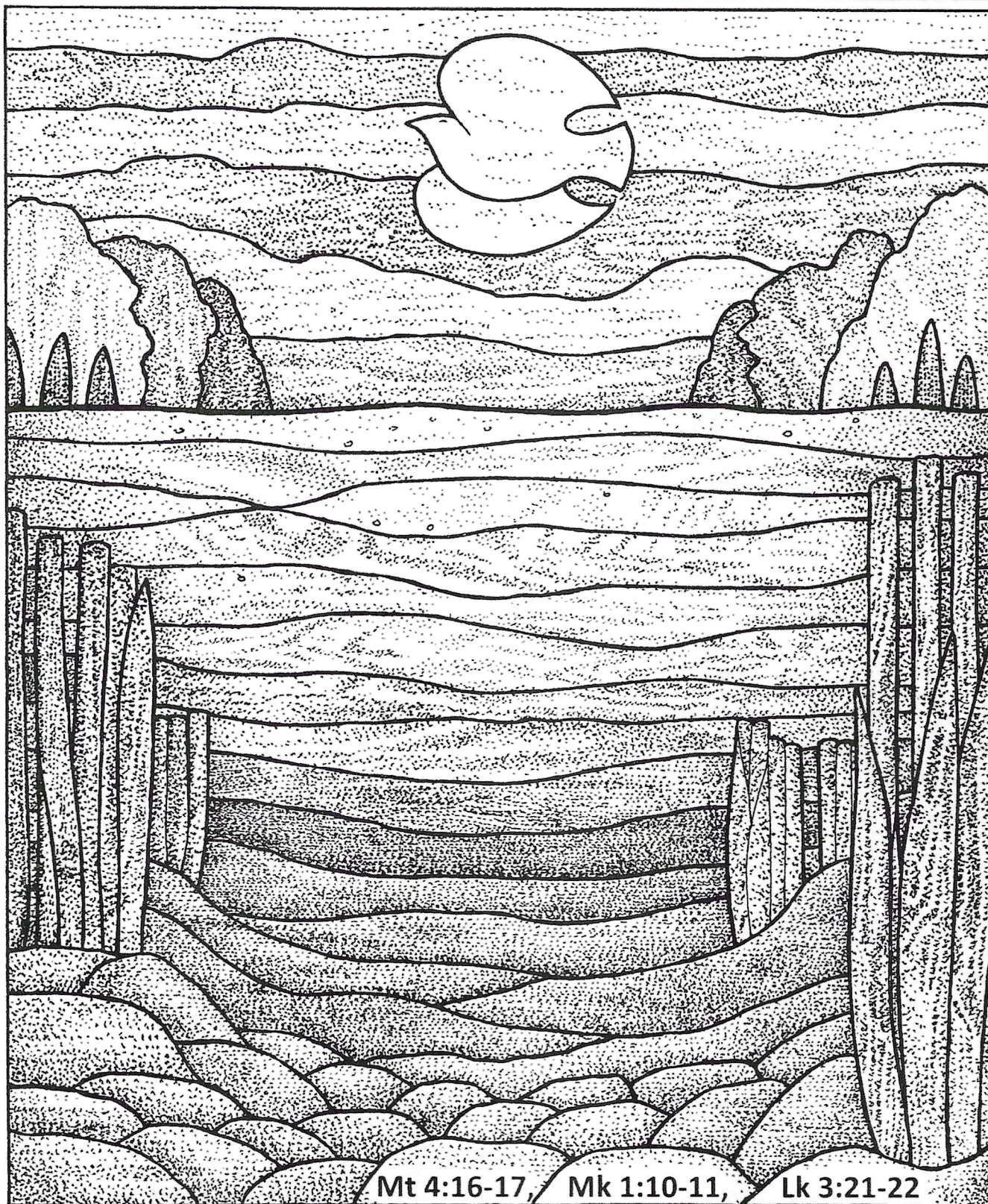


February 2026



Mt 4:16-17, Mk 1:10-11, Lk 3:21-22

The Parish Magazine

All Saints' Lanchester and St John's Burnhope

Parish of LANCHESTER & BURNHOPE

Priest in Charge – The Revd Lesley Sutherland

The Vicarage, 1, Lee Hill Court, Lanchester DH7 0QE

Tel 01207 529166 email:-reverendsutherland@gmail.com

SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS' LANCHESTER

8.00am Every Sunday Eucharist
(Traditional Language)

10.30am Principal Service
(Eucharist or Service of the Word)

2nd Sunday All Together Service with St John's

5th Sunday Combined Service see dates page

3rd Sunday 3.00pm Messy Church

Wednesdays 9.45am Holy Communion

Home Communion at Lynwood House

3rd Thursday of the month at 11.00am

HOLY BAPTISM, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

by arrangement with the Vicar

SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S, BURNHOPE

1st and 3rd Sunday 9.15am Said Eucharist

2nd Sunday All Together Service (at All Saints')

4th Sunday 9.15am Explore (informal
exploration of a Bible passage and worship)

Café Church 6.00pm at The Community Centre
every second Tuesday of the month

READERS

Doreen Park 438564

CHURCH WARDENS

Robert Matthews 771044

Doreen Park 438564

Pauline Hall 520393

Eric Gaskill 521690

PASTORAL TEAM Rev Lesley Sutherland

JULIAN PRAYER MEETING Lorna Berry

MEDITATION GROUP
Sue Smith 07967 402479

CHILDRENS GROUPS/ MESSY CHURCH
Caroline Roxburgh

VICE CHAIR PCC Margaret Walters 521214

TREASURER Michael Horsley 07719 708764
lanchesterpcctreasurer@gmail.com

GIFT AID Miranda Donnelly 231570

TOWER CAPTAIN Olga Walker 01740 621865

CHURCH WIVES GROUP
Deanna Leyland 504616

MOTHERS' UNION LANCHESTER

BRANCH LEADER Margaret Brown 529714

SECRETARY Audrey Newton 520728

TREASURER Dorothy Beadling 658990

MOTHERS' UNION BURNHOPE

BRANCH LEADER Elva Hockaday 520019

SECRETARY Pauline Hall 520393

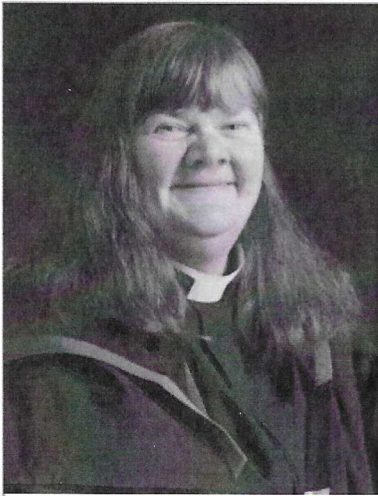
MAGAZINE EDITOR

Ann M 07723 759178
annbham@yahoo.com

All dialling codes 01207 unless already included

**Contributions to the Church
Magazine are always welcome.
The copy deadline for the
March 2026 issue is
Thursday 5th February**

Please check 'A Church Near You' website for up to
date information on events and special services.
When asked for location use Lanchester or Burnhope.



Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

Isaiah 43:18-19

I'm delighted to be able to welcome you to the first issue of our revamped magazine! We've taken heed of your comments and suggestions, changed the things you asked us to change and kept the features you really like- so you'll notice that our dates for your diary are now much easier to read, that we have a new children's page, and that this issue is packed with local content from your church.

I'm sure you've also noticed two things about this first issue; name, and price. Since we're no longer a Trinity of Churches, we need a new name for our magazine. So, for the next couple of issues, you'll be receiving The Parish Magazine- but we'll be asking you to give us suggestions for a snappier new name in our '**name the magazine**' competition. **Look out for more details in the March edition. And- price.**

Over the years, we've tried to keep our price as low as possible, and we've managed to do it. But production costs have risen, and so we're having to re-assess the individual cover price and our subscription offer. As we relaunch you may find your distributor asking whether you're going to renew your subscription for this year, so that we can make an informed decision based on circulation numbers. We hope to have a new price for you by publication of the April issue- but of course we hope you'll love the new look of the magazine and will carry on taking it! Subscriptions will be collected as the April issue goes out, and will be from **February to February**. And please do remember that this is your magazine. We'd love to have your feedback, your suggestions- and any articles you'd like to send us!

With every blessing for this New Year,

Lesley

A Prayer For Lent

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 18th February, as Jesus sets out his journey to the cross and we walk with him in an effort to grow closer to God's heart of loving sacrifice. In our Bible studies, our Tuesday evening complines and in our usual services, look out for this prayer. I hope it will enrich our devotions as we share it together;

As we follow the Way of Christ, we affirm the presence of God among us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

God calls us to **share in worship**.

Jesus said, where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.

Jesus, you are the Way: guide us on our journey.

God calls us to **share in prayer**. Jesus said, remain in me, and I will remain in you.

Jesus, you are the Way: guide us on our journey.

God calls us to **share the Scriptures**.

Jesus met his disciples on the road and opened the Scriptures to them.

Jesus, you are the Way: guide us on our journey.

God calls us to **share in communion**. Jesus said, do this in remembrance of me.

Jesus, you are the Way: guide us on our journey.

God calls us to **share in service**. Jesus said, as you do it for the least of these, you do it for me.

Jesus, you are the Way: guide us on our journey.

God calls us to **share the good news**. Jesus said, go and make disciples of all nations.

Jesus, you are the Way: guide us on our journey.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Mothers Union Lanchester



At our next meeting on Tuesday 10th February at 2.00pm in the Chapter House, we will have our very own Rob Matthews speaking on "A year in the Life of Durham Cathedral Works Department".

I know this is late but may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a peaceful and prosperous 2026 and look forward to seeing you at our future meetings. We welcome visitors at any time to share love and friendship, and a cup of tea afterwards.

Margaret Brown

Church Wives

We now have a February edition of our new parish magazine. I have certainly missed the monthly news.

Our first advertised meeting will be on 12th February when we welcome back Richard Pears. His talk is set in Newcastle in the time of Jane Austin. On the 26th February we have a talk by George Nairn on the A1 from Scotch Corner to the Scottish Border. On a serious note, we were all shocked by the sudden death of one of our members, Liz Smith, on Friday December 12th. Her funeral service will have taken place on 14th January 2026 in the Chapel. Liz was well known and well regarded in the village and she will be missed. Our condolences go to her two daughters Jane and Claire and their families and friends.

Gladys has booked more good speakers to entertain us for the rest of our programme. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, and we welcome new visitors when we meet in the Chapter House at 7pm.

Deanna Leyland

Thank you,

Thank you to all who have included me in your prayers, sent me cards and good wishes following my recent Hip Replacement surgery. Your support is much appreciated, and I trust that I shall be able to return to church soon.

Peter Smith

Mothers Union St John's



Our first meeting of the New Year was held on Monday, 5 January.

It was lovely to meet up again and enjoy listening to everyone's Christmas and New Year celebrations.

The first meeting also saw a role change. Muriel Molloy our Secretary for many years retired from her role. We would like to pay tribute to Muriel and express our deepest gratitude for the incredible dedication, patience, and care Muriel has given in the role as our volunteer secretary. Her attention to detail, warm communication, and tireless commitment have been the hub of our monthly meetings. Muriel has not only kept us organised but has brought kindness, humour, and a personal touch that made everyone feel valued. Thank you, Muriel.

Our next meeting will be Monday, 2 February 2026

Pauline Hall

100 Club

We run a 100 Club Draw to raise money for church funds. Participants buy a number (or more if you wish) and each month we draw numbers for prizes. Each number costs £10 for 10 draws in the year. We have a holiday in August and in January. Dec is our big prize draw with the top prize of £100. (WOOOOOW) In 2025 we raised £580 for funds and handed out £550 in prize money.

It is a fun way to raise funds and maybe get a little reward for yourself.

If you are interested in joining our group or if you are already a member and want to increase your chances, please contact me. The first draw will be in early February so there is still time to join in.
YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT.

December lucky numbers:

107; 9; 65; 117; 55; 158; 24; 49; 104; 122; 148 and 56

Sue Smith

From the Churchwardens

As ever, the Wardens support Lesley in her ministry in the two Churches and beyond. We look forward to working with James Adman who joins us on placement.

Christmas has come and gone and, as we look forward towards Lent and preparation for that season, we can reflect on our wonderful services over the Christmas period. Our main tree will remain in church as is liturgically correct until the feast of Candlemas on the 2nd February. We would like to thank the flower ladies for the floral displays and wreaths which were well admired. We thank the fundraising committee also for the suggestion of decorative lighting externally which although not quite as obvious as the village green, was very much noticed and commented on.

All the gutters and downcomers around the church have now been cleaned. Attention was given also to the small leak through the roof of the Chapter House to the left of the door to the Vestry corridor.

We would recommend that the past practice of bookings in the Chapter House is reinstated and a diary for events is kept and displayed. We are aware of several planned events and, for clarity would welcome this. Of course, this will mean more work for the Wardens as we used to have a bookings secretary but have not for a while. We wondered whether someone may volunteer for this task. We would like to keep the momentum going for removal of unwanted junk and appreciate people's help in achieving this. A tidying up of the loft is due and returning the upper vestry to normality would be appreciated. We are due a quinquennial this year

Because we were unable to carry out a Churchyard clean in November, we envisage a date in spring to tidy up will be recommended at both All Saints and St Johns.

At St Johns work to pursue scheduling the repairs for which we have quotations, is ongoing, and money has been allocated by PCC, for the repairs to the step in accordance with the builder's quote.

Rob Matthews for the Churchwardens

From St John's

As I sit to write this report I can't help but be amazed once again at how fast time flies. Christmas has been and we are now steadily making our way into a brand-new year. The Churchwardens, Doreen, Rob, Eric and I continue to look for builders and plasters, for the maintenance and upkeep of our lovely little church. This is no easy task as several have been then said they are not interested. Also, there is an issue with the, septic tank, but the least said about that the better, especially to those who may be having their tea while reading.....

As the year progresses, we continue our Wednesday Lunchtime Social. If you would like to come along for a warming meal you would be most welcome. Perhaps you have a couple of hours once a month to lend a hand with a meal included. Please contact Sara or Julie at the Community Centre, or me on 07854 930 406.

St John's continues to serve the community, both in worship, baptisms, weddings and, at the end of earthly life, funerals. Rev Lesley can be contacted on 01207 529166. Open the Book will be starting up again shortly, bringing bible stories to the pupils of Burnhope School. We will be hosting our regular events throughout the year, and we hope also to be part of the Gala Celebrations. All in all, a busy year once again for St John's.

Blessings for the coming year. May each of us draw ever nearer to our God in 2026.

Pauline Hall, Churchwarden



LANCHESTER E.P (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



It is lovely to be writing another article for this Parish magazine. Hello again from us all at Lanchester Endowed Parochial Church of England Controlled Primary School. This academic year is marching along at some speed, and we are already almost at the end of the longest month of the year!

We are still waiting for our SIAMs (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection to take place and know it cannot be long now! Our vision of 'A Caring Community Where All Can Flourish' is central to everything we do in school and underpins all our decision making. Our Christian values of Love, Hope, Joy, Kindness and Trust are evident in the ethos and actions of all. We are proud of the work we do as a Church school and the values we instil in our children. We are also proud of the very strong relationship we have with All Saints' Church – thank you!

It would be wrong for me not to mention the dedication and commitment of Mrs Margaret Matthews to our school over the years. As a Foundation Governor for over 14 years, she was central to the improvement work of our school – both academically and spiritually. She both supported and challenged the work of the school and as she sat on all sub-committees, she really had an exceptionally sound overview of the work of the school. The whole school community misses Margaret's expertise, knowledge and experience. I will be forever grateful and thankful for what she gave to our school and children.

We are always grateful to the support the church and parish give to our school and children. Our Reception Welcome Services back in September were very well supported by our parents and carers and it is so lovely to be able to welcome our new families into church during their first few weeks with us. Our Harvest service was enjoyed by all KS2 in church and I know the children regard their time in church as being special. Our Christingle and Carol Services with Year 3, 4 & 5 concluded the Autumn term and I know our children and families all enjoyed this very special time in church. It was also special for our Year 6 children to perform their final nativity in the Methodist Church.

We are looking forward to 2026 and all the opportunities the year will bring.

Jane Davis (Head Teacher)

Lanchester EP Primary School.

Follow us on X (formerly known as Twitter): @LanchesterEP

Parish Register - Lanchester & St John's

Baptisms;

Amelia Grace Quinn	31/08/2025
Jackson Kai Bowman	23/11/2025
Dean Bowman	23/11/2025
Alfie Kenna	18/01/2026

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

Funerals;

Margaret Matthews	15/10/2025
Linda Foster	17/10/2025
Tony Gallimore	17/11/2025

"May they rest in peace and rise in glory"



DATES FOR THE DIARY

REGULAR GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Weekly

Tuesday 11.00am Meditation 1 Deanery Cottages

Tuesday 7.00pm Compline on Zoom, Margaret and Adrian

Other monthly meetings in Lanchester

1st Monday 2.00pm Julian Prayers

2nd Monday 2.00pm Mothers Union

2nd and 4th Thursday 7.00pm Church Wives

3rd Thursday 11.00am Eucharist Lynwood House

Other monthly meetings in Burnhope

1st Monday 2.00 Mothers Union

2nd Tuesday of the month Café Church 6.00pm at The Community Centre

EXTRA SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES IN LENT

Shrove Tuesday 17th February

Free Messy Pancake Party, Chapter House 3.30pm-5pm

Free After-school pancakes, Burnhope Community Centre 3.30pm-5pm

Ash Wednesday

9.45 All Saints Eucharist for Ash Wednesday with Imposition of Ashes

7.00pm All Saints Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Each Tuesday in Lent

Bible Study for Lent, 6-7pm Chapter House

Followed by Compline, 7pm; attend for both, or either

Church Cleaning and Sides persons Rota

The Church cleaning has been carried out for the last few years by two teams on alternative weeks. Both teams have been depleted of late of members due to incapacity or long-term illness and we are looking for volunteers for both teams. Cleaning takes place on a Friday afternoon from 1pm till 2 (2.30 at the latest) If anyone is interested, please contact the Churchwardens.

Also, for the same reasons we are one or two members short on our side's persons team for the Sunday 10.30 service. Please if anyone is interested in this role, please let us know. Requirement for this is to give out service books and take them in again and assist at the chancel step on a rostered basis about every six weeks.

The Churchwardens

Plant Love from The Language of Flowers

MUSIC

Reed- Pharagmites Communis

Apollo was so offended when he heard that King Midas had expressed the opinion that Pan's reedpipes produced better music than his lyre, that he changed the King's ears into those of an ass. Midas concealed His deformity as long as he could, but eventually a Barber discovered his secret. Unable to keep it, but at the same time dreading the King's wrath he dug a hole in the earth and whispered 'King Midas has the ears of an ass' into it before covering it up. On the spot and number of reeds grew which when agitated by the wind was said not merely to rustle but broadcast the buried words. Cato tells of Roman country people binding broken limbs with split reeds and uttering incantations over them. To dream of reeds indicates some brewing mischief between the dreamer and his friends.

Audrey Newton

News from the Tower

Another year has dawned and I find myself already writing an article for February's magazine, how time flies.

We currently have ten ringers and eight bells. Invariably we only manage to ring either five or six bells each Sunday. Not everyone is able to be there every time the bells are rung due to family commitments, illness and holidays; it happens. Practice night is Friday and is fairly well attended but we find we are usually just one person short to ring something for one of the learners.

We try to encourage visiting ringers throughout the year, and we do get requests from ringers all over the country to come to ring our bells. We regularly have ringers from local areas requesting to ring peals or quarter peals on our bells. We are trying very hard to keep this ancient tradition of bell ringing alive in Lanchester. I ask you now, could you be a church bell ringer, would you like to come to a practice evening Fridays 7.30pm - 9pm to see what it entails. It does require co-ordination and commitment. I can be reached on my mobile (07912940112).

Olga Walker

I remember when ; The Y.R.I.A.F Weekend!!

I was a Cub Scout Leader with the 3rd West Stanley (St Andrews) in Derwentside Scout District. Every year the Scout District organised a father and son Camp, normally at the Dilston Scout Campsite (between Corbridge and Hexham) for all the Scout Groups in Derwentside. There were approximately about 8 groups. These camps always had a 'theme', and this camp theme was based on 'science'.

For this Camp, the programme was split into areas of activities. Once an Activity was completed, a reward was given, and these were kept until the Sunday Afternoon Activity.

The Camp was from Friday Night through to Sunday Afternoon.

The weekend was split into Morning and Afternoon activities based on Scout/Cub Science badge requirements.

Friday was mainly for setting up and settling down and playing a 'wide' game (a wide Game is played over a 'wide'(obviously) area, with a lot of running about etc etc), mainly to 'tire' the Lads. After the game, each group was given their 'reward' for playing, which was a thin piece of wire!!

The Saturday and Sunday morning activities consisted of 'Scouty' things, for example, making a fire pit and creating an Altar Fire (the lighting of the fire was done by natural means ie by mirror); making a boat from natural material to sail down the river, carrying a couple of Stones (not as easy as it sounds!); making a roped gate; a couple of nature activities and a few games activities all happening throughout the Campsite. There were 8 activities and each had a 45mins time limit and each group would move around to the next activity. The groups did 4 activities on Saturday Morning and finished the other 4 on Sunday Morning. After each activity they were awarded with various different things ie Washing Up Liquid Bottle, a piece of Cardboard, Jigsaw pieces of paper, another piece of wire, a bicycle pump etc. However, on the Saturday afternoon, each group were given instructions to obtain a Sonic Injection Application Tube, in the nearby town of Hexham, although just walking to Hexham was not the only thing the Groups had to do; they were given a quiz to complete on the way into Hexham. They would then deliver said quiz answers to the Grand Controller at his office in Hexham, to obtain the Sonic Injection Application Tube!! Saturday late afternoon and early evening was given over to 'rest time' ie Swimming in the river, Football, Rounders etc etc, and then finished off with the Classic Camp Fire roasted potatoes, beefburgers and hot dogs. All the lads were in their beds by 9pm, and asleep at 9.10pm!! whilst the fathers enjoyed the liquid 'groceries' in the main Marquee!!

Sunday Morning was again full with finishing off the Activities and then after lunch, the making, with the materials 'earned' throughout the weekend, a 'Rocket' which needed to be fired. There were some which were very successful and some weren't!! The tents were taken down, packed, and ready to go, equipment, personal and 'Camp needed,' was checked and clarified and our last act was to have a half hour 'Scouts Own' of a prayer, a hymn, a reading, and the presentation of the Science badge to Scouts and Cubs and the Y.R.I.A.F Badge to all 48 boys and Fathers!!!

Continued on page 10.

So, what was the Sonic Injection Application Tube? And where did it come from? The Tube was just a Football Adaptor, which was 'brought' from the Sport Shop. Obviously, we had been there earlier in the week to ask if the Owner would play along with our idea, which he did brilliantly, as he put on gloves and swimming goggles, due to the 'radioactive elements', sealing the adaptor in a brown paper bag (or radioactive container)!! One little hiccup was the first Lads that asked for the Sonic Injection Application Tube was told by a young sales assistant, that they don't sell that type of thing!! Fortunately, the Owner did overheard her and produced said object, instructing the young girl to allow him to serve when asked for this produce... poor lass, I was told that her face was a picture!!!

Oh, and Y.R.I.A.F does it stand for, 'Your Rocket Is A Failure' or 'Your Rocket Is Absolutely Fantastic'!!! NO its just simply 'Fairy' spelt backwards!!!

Richard Hall

About Me

Hello everyone. I'm James Adman and I'll be on placement with you for the next 4-5 months.

If you'd like to know a little more about me, I grew up near Hull in East Yorkshire but left the north at 18 to study Maths at Warwick University. After graduating, I moved to the south-west, living in the Bath and Chippenham areas. My wife, Beth, and I moved back to the north-east in 2020, buying a house in Wolsingham that keeps us busy with renovations. We regularly attend St Mary and St Stephen Church there, where I sing tenor in the small choir.

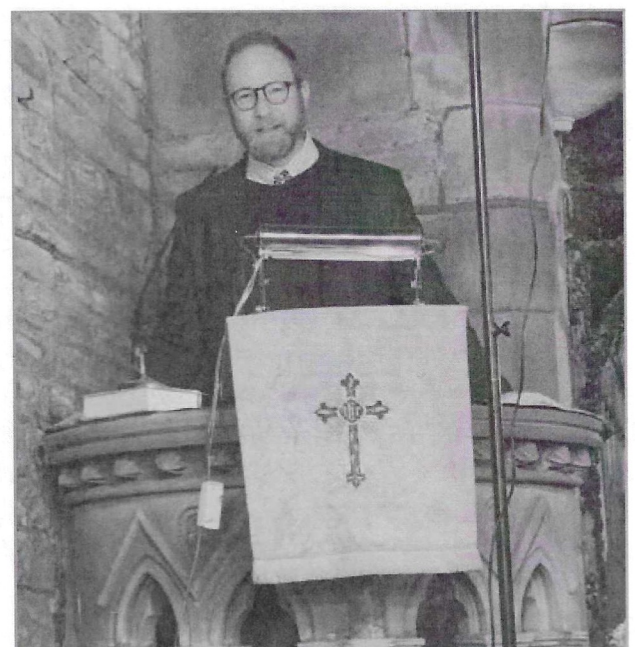
I have two grown up children who have left home. Beth and I are expecting a baby in February, so I'll be taking a short break around then.

By day, I work full-time in technology, data, and AI. Outside work, I enjoy reading, running, walking our two red setters, and spending time outdoors.

In 2024, I began training at Lindisfarne College of Theology, aiming to become a Licensed Lay Minister, and I'm also exploring the option of further training for Self-Supporting Ministry.

I'm still relatively new to preaching and leading services, so please bear with me as I begin this placement in Lanchester and Burnhope I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all and serving alongside you over the coming months.

James Adman



St John's Holiday Club December 2025

For some years, St John's Church Burnhope and All Saints Lanchester have been involved in a mutually supportive and fruitful partnership with Burnhope Community Centre. The Centre provides the Church with a space for mission, and the church volunteers work across all the Centre's activities and groups.

Central to the partnership have been our holiday clubs, providing a fun range of family activities during school holidays, and serving a hot, healthy 2-course lunch or tea. Thanks to a grant from Communities Together Durham, and a very generous donation from Paradigm Law Limited in memory of Jason Franks, we were able to deliver our first Christmas holiday club on 22nd December.

27 children, with accompanying family members, enjoyed a range of crafts and games.



This included making some fabulous Rudolph treats using marshmallow teacakes, chocolate pieces for the antlers, and a red Smartie for the nose!

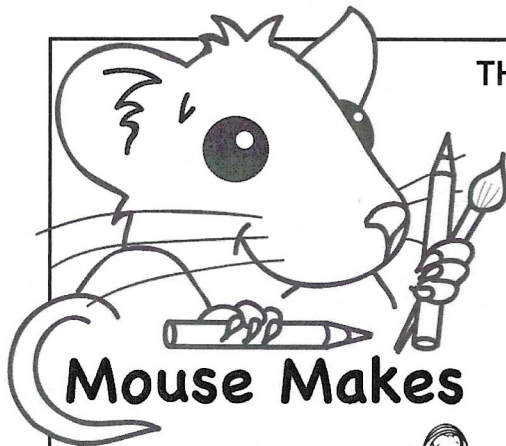


Everyone was delighted when Santa dropped by; with a present for each child and a Bible Society retelling of the Christmas story.

Before we ate, we unwrapped the story of the nativity in a game of pass the parcel, saving the box of Celebrations inside to share after our lunch.



Lunch was delicious- a pigs in blankets traybake with garlic bread, followed by homemade gingerbread cake topped with gingerbread men and served with ice cream. 52 adults, children and volunteers ate together and enjoyed one another's company.



Mouse Makes

Read the story in
Luke 4:1-13



THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan where did the Holy Spirit lead him to? v1

How many days was Jesus being tempted by the devil? v2

What did Jesus eat? v2

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into? v3-4

What did the devil offer Jesus if He worshipped him? v7-8

What did the devil ask Jesus to do? v9

FIRST TEMPTATION THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son order this stone to turn into bread."

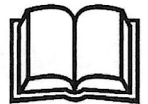
JESUS REPLIED:

"Man shall not live on bread alone."

Read Deuteronomy 8:3

WE LEARN:

Read the Bible
Learn God's word.



SECOND TEMPTATION THE DEVIL SAID:

"I will give you power and wealth if you worship me."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him."

Read Deuteronomy 6:13

WE LEARN:

Put God **first**
Worship **only** Him.

①

What did the devil ask Jesus to do? v9

T W L D G
R O G L O R Y L O
I B A P T I S E D
V O F O O T H D
S E R V E B T I
J O R D A N J E G
L O R D N H



F O R T Y D A Y S S O N K L O R D N H
T D O W N O N W O R S H I P
T E S T W O R L D L T U N B
L V T E M P T A T I O N G R
E I A M J E S U S F N G D E
N L K P D E S E R T E R O A
T H O L Y S P I R I T Y M D
I M J E R U S A L E M F S J
W I L D E R N E S S J U M P

JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • HOLY SPIRIT • LED
WILDERNESS • DESERT • FORTY DAYS • HUNGRY • DEVIL
TEMPTATION • STONE • BREAD • WRITTEN • SON • WORLD
KINGDOMS • GLORY • WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • HIGH
JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • SON • JUMP • DOWN • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST • LENT



THIRD TEMPTATION THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take care of you."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Read Deuteronomy 6:16

WE LEARN:

God cares, **trust**
Him do not test Him.



Since we relaunched our Messy Church in 2025, we've gone from strength to strength, so we're especially excited to tell you about what's in store for the first half of 2026. As both Mother's Day and Father's day fall on the third Sunday of the month this year, we're going to be thinking about families, beginning with the story of the Good Samaritan on 18th January. We hope that Mother's day, 15th March will be really fabulous, as we invite parents and carers to be our special guests. We'll be serving cake and something fizzy, celebrating Mary as Jesus' mum, and making some lovely gifts for the wonderful people who care for us. Spread the word, watch out for the reminders- and don't miss it!

Come and join us for **MESSY CHURCH!**

January 18th

February 15th

Free!

March 15th

April 19th

May 17th

June 21st

all at 3pm

For

Everyone!

Having fun, exploring faith!





First carpet £30, £20 per room thereafter on the same day
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 eazycleanmark@aol.co.uk

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The darkest times can bring us to the brightest places.

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