Newsletter - November



Contact details

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Service times

Sunday 1st, 15th, 22nd & 29th at 9.00 am;
8th (Remembrance Sunday) at 4.00 pm
Wednesdays at 10.00 am

What else is on in November

All Souls' service on Sunday 1st at 6 pm:
If you would like a departed loved one remembering, add the name clearly on the sheet at the back of church

Saturday 28th:
Coffee morning in St John's community room at 10.00 am.

Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th
Moorside Community Meal in St John's Church Hall from 11.30 am.

Christmas Dinner – Friday 4th December, 1 pm

At The Anchor Inn, Whittonstall. Please contact Margaret Ternent for further details and to book.

Christmas Dance – Friday 4th December

St John's Church Hall – 7.30-11 pm. £12 including supper. Bar available. For more information or to book, please telephone Hilary McGeorge, 01207 500649.

Supporting St John's

An easy way to support St John's is through bank transfer:
Sort code: 30-99-50
Account no: 44892668
An additional means of support from taxpayers is to Gift Aid any donations.

Remembrance Sunday – 8th November

Consett and District Remembrance service is in Christ Church at 9.30 am and uniformed organisations will be present. Afterwards, the parade will form up and march to the War Memorial at Belle View for the Act of Remembrance at 11 am.
At Castleside, a parade will form up outside St John's Church at 2.30 pm and walk to the Churchyard for the Act of Remembrance at 3 pm. The parish service of remembrance is in St John's Church at 4 pm.

Remembered

In ocean wastes no poppies blow,
No crosses stand in ordered row,
There young hearts sleep, beneath the wave
The spirited, the good, the brave,
But stars a constant vigil keep
For them who lie beneath the deep.
'Tis true you cannot kneel in prayer
On certain spot and think, 'He's there.'
But you can to the ocean go –
See whitecaps marching row on row;
Know one for him will always ride –
In and out – with every tide.
And when your span of life is passed,
He'll meet you at the "Captain's Mast".
And they who mourn on distant shore
For sailors who"ll come home no more.
And whitecaps marching row on row
And they can never lonely be
For when they lived – they chose the sea.

Eileen Mahoney

Bringing our community together



It has been a busy and rewarding time at St John's church hall where we continue to provide support, activities and opportunities for people in our local community to come together.

One of the projects I am particularly proud of is **Moorside baby bank** which provides essential items to families with babies and young children who may be experiencing financial difficulties, e.g. nappies, wipes and baby milk to clothing, blankets and any other everyday essentials. It helps ensure that families can access the things they need during those important early years. In September 2026 we supported 59 families. The baby bank would not be possible without the generosity of our wonderful donors, local businesses and volunteers whose kindness makes such a difference.

We also host our **weekly community meal** every Tuesday, welcoming residents to enjoy a freshly prepared three-course meal in a friendly and welcoming environment. The meals provide more than just food; it offers an opportunity for people to socialise, meet new friends, enjoy a chat and feel part of their community. We regularly welcome around 30-35 people each week.

As we move into the autumn and winter months, we have lots more planned for the community:

Christmas Community Dinner Tuesday 15th December, from 11.30

Christmas Community Event Thursday 19th December 2.00-4.00pm:
This will be a wonderful opportunity for local families and residents to come together, enjoy something festive and celebrate the Christmas season. There will be a free Santa's grotto, buffet, agency stalls and trade stalls.

The work we do at St John's church hall is all about creating a welcoming space where everyone feels valued, supported and included. Whether it is providing essential baby items, sharing a meal, organising activities or simply offering someone a friendly face and a listening ear, every little thing we do contributes to building a stronger community

A new chapter – ADS Together. I am also incredibly excited to share that we are developing a new charity instead of being under Derwentside detached youth project. ADS Together is in creation with the aim of building on the community work already taking place and expanding the support, activities and opportunities available to local people. The charity's vision is to create a stronger, more connected community where people of all ages feel supported, included and valued.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donates, volunteers, supports our activities or simply comes along. Your continued kindness and support help make St John's church hall a special place for our community

Megan Sinden

Advent Sunday, 29th November

The season of Advent begins on 29th November. Here are two ways of looking at it:



