

Pastoral Letter and Church Notices

ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, LOW FELL

'At St Helen's church we believe that God's love is unconditional and meant for everyone. Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome here. We celebrate diversity in age, background, ability, race, gender and sexuality.'

13.09.2026

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

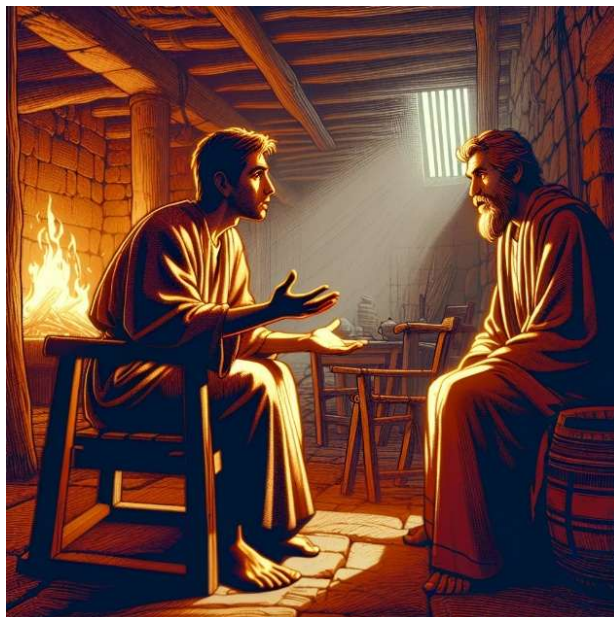
Readings

Exodus 14. 19-end

Romans 14. 1-23

Matthew 18. 21-35

Peter came up and said to Jesus, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.'



Collect

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false teaching
and give to your people the knowledge of your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Collect

Keep, O Lord, your Church with perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation,
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
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.***

St Helen's Church contacts:

Churchwardens: Helen Jones Mobile: 07505 105184

Tony Gunning Mobile: 07864 695115

Parish office: office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com

.....



YOU ARE INVITED
TO
ST HELENS CHURCH

Celebrating
150TH
ANNIVERSARY
1876 – 2026

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE WELCOME

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM
VISITING
St Helens All Age Service

— SUNDAY —
20TH SEPTEMBER
9.30

.....♥.....
All Welcome

150 YEARS OF
FAITH, HOPE
& LOVE

.....♥.....
*Thankful for our past,
looking to our future.*



Worship and notices week beginning Sunday 13th September 2026

Services and Prayer

St Helen's
Sunday 13th September (Education Sunday)

9.30am Eucharist

Revd Kathryn Tiernan presiding

Wednesday 16th September

St Helen's Eucharist 12 noon

Revd Barry Abbott presiding

Sunday 20th September

9.30am Eucharist

*The Bishop of Durham's visit
(please see invitation above for details)*

Wednesday 23rd September

St Helen's Eucharist 12 noon

Revd Barry Abbott presiding

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

Sunday 13th September

Revd Barry Abbott presiding

Sunday 20th September

Revd Barry Abbott presiding

All are welcome to join in worshipping at **St Helen's and St Chad's**, we hope to see you soon. 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, or on line each weekday and Sunday via Durham Cathedral worship online www.durhamcathedral.co.uk

Clearing the North Transept at St Helen's 18 September

We will be clearing out the North Transept on 18th September with some things going to the tip for recycling or charity shops. If anyone has anything personal they wish to retrieve before then please do so. Contact Helen Jones if you have any questions.

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](#)

Dates for Your Diary

Heritage Open Days 18-20 September

There will be a photo exhibition and guided tours of the church during this weekend.

Saturday 10 October Pre-Loved Table Top Sale 1-3pm

Saturday 14 November Christmas Fair 1-3pm

Sunday 22 November Performance by Scott Slapin from 2pm

*Wedding Dress Showcase - In St Helen's Church
Friday 11 & Saturday 12 September 10am to 4pm,
Sunday 13 September 12-2pm*



Pearl of Africa Choir

\

Sadly, we have been advised that the Choir have been unable to secure visas for their tour this autumn. To assist with fundraising, we have invited them to set up a craft stall at our Christmas Fair to assist with raising funds. We are also planning a coffee morning for January 2027.

If you would like to support their emergency appeal (hoping to reach a target of £100,000 by Easter 2027) this will significantly help to bridge the funding gap created by the cancelled tour. Here is the link to the Just Giving appeal: [Emergency JustGiving Appeal](#)

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 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 others 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

Do please also remember the ministry to family and young people in your prayers.

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 £6.50

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 07847 096 709

Come and join us for

Coffee and Company at St Helen's Church Hall
Sundays from 10.30am to 12noon
Everyone is Welcome

Support for those in Poverty.

We are glad that the congregation of St Helen's continues to make regular, generous donations to the Corpus Christi Food Co-op. Gillian Hunt regularly takes our donations to the Food Co-op and it would be great if we could all increase our donations. As we read every week, the need for free food is not going away and anything donated is greatly appreciated. **All donations should be left at the back of church on Sunday, Wednesday or Friday.**



Dear Supporters,

This week we welcomed back members and volunteers after the summer break. Ninety six people, representing 59 families /couples and 37 single people (150 adults and 103 children) chose and collected food. Many stopped for refreshments and made good use of the opportunity to sit, chat and catch up.

Donations were received from several local churches, a primary school, Gateshead Food Bank (bread) and individual supporters. The allocation from Fareshare included potatoes, carrots and watermelons, enabling all members to have a good choice of fresh, tinned and dried foods. Many thanks for all the donations received and thanks to those who deliver them in time for the session on Tuesday.

With having such a range of languages spoken by the volunteers, new members are routinely guided by someone with a common language, helping to make them feel welcome in our community.

With kind regards for your steadfast support. Kath

THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME A BETTER WAY TO GIVE

Are you able to contribute financially each month to ensure our church's abiding presence in this place and enable our mission and ministry to continue and grow?

Many enjoy our free toddler group, our breastfeeding mums group and our Wednesday warm welcome drop in. Your support is valued.

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, in worshipping together in 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**

QR CODES ON OUR WEBSITE AND A CHURCH NEAR YOU [St Helen's Low Fell](#)
[Gateshead - A Church Near You](#)

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 13th September 2026

Sick	Sick	Sick/Other needs
Maria Barrell	Michael Mion	Sarah Hamilton
Mark Adams	Brian Carr	Michael
Lucy	Margaret Clayton	Maryam
Roger Barrell	Tom Spence	Sienna
Joyce Rowell	Les Gibson	Ian
Ann	Carole	John T
Stan Conway	Pauline	Gordon
Niraj	Joe	Rowan
John	Sharok	Joyce Tindale
Valsa	Ali Hsami	Linda Richardson
Ruth	Kirsty	
Jennifer Elliott	Elsie Johnson	
Joe Huddleston	Susan Gaddess	
	Jacqueline Crichton	

Anniversary of Death

John Kennedy	Jennie Atkinson	
Nora Oliver	David Watson	
Ian Gibbon	Alan Bond	
Edith Harrison	Isabella Annette Potts	

Church

Please pray for our current Deanery vacancies

Bensham and Teams St. Chad

Eighton Banks St. Thomas

Gateshead St Edmund and St James and St Bede

Low Fell St Helen's

Local Projects

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

St Helen's Church - Monthly Diary September 2026

\

Tuesday 1 September St Helen's PCC meeting at 6pm in the church hall

Wednesday 2 September St Helen's 12noon **NO SERVICE**

The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 & 1942

Friday 4 September St Helen's Social & Pastoral Committee at 11am in the church hall

Sunday 6 September St Helen's 9.30am Eucharist *Revd Barry Abbott presiding with a baptism at 11.30am. Harriet Ren Shannon*

St Chad's 10.30am Service of the Word

Tuesday 8 September St Helen's 150th Anniversary Committee meeting at 6pm in the upper hall

Wednesday 9 September St Helen's **NO SERVICE**

Charles Fuge Lowder, priest, 1880

Friday 11 September Wedding Dress Exhibition in the church 10am to 4pm

Saturday 12 September Wedding Dress Exhibition in the church 10am to 4pm

Sunday 13 September St Helen's 9.30am Eucharist *Revd Kathryn Tiernan presiding*

Wedding Dress Exhibition in the church 12-2pm

St Chad's 10.30am Eucharist *Revd Barry Abbott presiding*

Wednesday 16 September St Helen's **Eucharist 12noon** *Revd Barry Abbott presiding*

Ninian, bishop of Galloway, apostle to the Picts, c.432; Edward Pusey, tractorian, 1882

Friday 18 – Sunday 20 September Heritage Open Days in the church, will include guided tours of the church

Sunday 20 September St Helen's 9.30am All Age/Family Service, Blessing of new doors, celebrating St Helen's 150th anniversary

The Bishop of Durham presiding

St Chad's 10.30am Eucharist *Revd Barry Abbott presiding*

Wednesday 23 September St Helen's 12noon Eucharist *Revd Barry Abbott*
presiding

Sunday 27 September St Helen's 9.30am Eucharist *Revd Barry Abbott*
presiding

St Chad's 10.30am Eucharist *Revd Canon Dorothy Snowball* *presiding*

Wednesday 30 September St Helen's 12noon Eucharist *Revd Norma Clee*
presiding

Jerome, translator of the scriptures, 420

Morning Prayer/Evening Prayer Readings – 13th September
Trinity 15 (proper 19)

Day/ Date	Morning Prayer	Psalm	Evening Prayer
Sunday 13 th	Rev. 12. 1-12	119 v. 65-88	Mark 8. 27-end
Monday 14 th Holy Cross Day	John 12. 27-36a	2 and 8	1 Cor. 1. 18-25
Tuesday 15 th Cyprian, bishop of Carthage, martyr, 258	Acts 16. 25-end	36	Mark 11. 12-26
Wednesday 16 th Ninian, bishop of Galloway, apostle to the Picts, c.432; Edward Pusey, tractarian, 1882	Acts 17. 1-15	34	Mar 11. 27-end
Thursday 17 th Hildegard, abbess of Bingen, visionary, 1179	Acts 17. 16-end	37	Mrk 12. 1-12
Friday 18 th	Acts 18. 1-21	31	Mark 12. 13-17
Saturday 19 th Theodore of Tarsus, archbishop of Canterbury, 690	Acts 18. 22- Ch.19. v 7	42	Mark 12. 18-27

\

TO DONATE TO ST HELEN'S please follow this link:

[St Helen's Low Fell Gateshead - A Church Near You](#)

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



**To contact St Helen's church to book the church hall or for all enquiries
please email: office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com**

**To make initial enquiries or book a baptism or a wedding please come
along to a Sunday service – check our website for times.**