



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

30.08.2026

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings

Exodus 3. 1-15

Romans 12. 9 – to end

Matthew 16. 21 – to end

Jesus begins to reveal to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem, suffer at the hands of the elders, chief priests, and scribes, be killed, and on the third day be raised (*Matthew 16.21-to end*)



Collect

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Collect

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven;
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more;
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.

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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**

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Worship and notices week beginning Sunday 30th August 2026

Services and Prayer

St Helen's
Sunday 30th August
9.30am Eucharist

Revd Canon Michael Hampel presiding (incl. a baptism)

Wednesday 2nd September
St Helen's Eucharist 12 noon
NO SERVICE

Sunday 6th September
9.30am Eucharist

Revd Barry Abbott presiding (incl. a baptism)

Wednesday 9th September
St Helen's Eucharist 12 noon
NO SERVICE

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

Sunday 30th August
Revd Canon Dorothy Snowball presiding

Sunday 6th September
Service of the Word

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

Visit by the Bishop of Durham 20 September

The Bishop of Durham will attend the service at St Helen's on 20 September.

This will be a Family/All Age service starting at 10.00am.

Bishop Rick will meet the congregation, bless the new church doors and celebrate our 150th Anniversary.

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](#)

St Helen's PCC meeting Tuesday 1 September

The next meeting of Str Helen's PCC will be on Tuesday 1 September. Please let us know if you have anything to raise at the meeting. office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com

St Helen's Social and Pastoral Committee Friday 4 September

The next meeting of Str Helen's Social and Pastoral Committee will be on Friday 4 September. Everyone is welcome to support this work. office.sthelenschurch@gmail.com

Church Working Party Friday 4 September

All are welcome to help tidy and declutter the church and vestries in preparation for the Project 150 celebration service, from 12 noon on 4th September.

A Songs of Praise Special Event at The Glasshouse International Centre for Music

Tuesday 6th October 2026 – start at 19:00,
doors open at 18:00



Join Aled Jones and some very special guests at the iconic The Glasshouse International Centre for Music for a spectacular Christmas concert. Bring your singing voice and Christmas jumper for an evening of classic carols and traditional hymns

To book your FREE tickets, visit the [Lost in TV website](#).

Apologies, the previous information regarding booking tickets, was incorrect. We are unable to block book tickets. You will need to apply individually on the website above.

Dates for Your Diary

Heritage Open Days 18-20 September

There will be guided tours of the church during this weekend. Details tbc

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

(change of date from 3 October)

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*



We would be grateful if anyone has a mannequin they would be willing to lend us for this exhibition. Please contact Lynn: 07902 648959

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.



**Come and join us for
Coffee and Company at
St Helen's Church Hall**

**Sundays from 10.30am to 12noon.
Everyone is Welcome**

Thursday Luncheon Club at St. Chad's Rawling Road Bensham

Thursday Luncheon Club Time 11am -1pm

WE WILL BE CLOSED 27 AUGUST AND 3 SEPTEMBER, REOPENING ON 10 SEPTEMBER

Join us each Thursday for a freshly cooked two course lunch

Re-opening 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

North East Youth Trust Fund (YTF) campaign!

Over the summer, young people from across the North East have helped design and promote a campaign, encouraging other young people to check whether they have money waiting for them in a Child Trust Fund.

If you were born between 1 September 2002 and 2 January 2011, you may have a Child Trust Fund worth hundreds or even thousands of pounds that you've not yet claimed.

If you're a young person aged 16+, a parent, carer, teacher, youth worker or someone who works with young people, please help spread the word and check out the campaign webpage.

The young people will be out and about in venues over the summer or you can visit our landing page here: [YTF — The Share Foundation](#)

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,

4th August was our last session before the Summer break. We will open again on Monday 7th September for donations and Tuesday 8th September for food distribution.

Thank you for your continued commitment. 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](#)

Commented [TG1]:

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 30th August 2026

Sick	Sick	Sick/Other needs
Maria Barrell	Amelia Grace	Sarah Hamilton
Mark Adams	Felicity	Michael
Lucy	Margaret Clayton	Maryam
Roger Barrell	Ollie Sutcliffe	Sienna
Joyce Rowell	Tom Spence	Ian
Ann	Les Gibson	John T
Stan Conway	Carole	Helen
Niraj	Pauline	Gordon
John	Joe	Rowan
Valsa	Sharok	Joyce Tindale
Ruth	Ali Hsami	Linda Richardson
Jennifer Elliott	Kirsty	
Joe Huddleston	Elsie Johnson	
Michael Mion	Susan Gaddess	
Brian Carr	Jacqueline Crichton	
Baptism: Please pray for Jude Lorcan Harvey, and his family and friends, on the occasion of his baptism on 30th August		

Anniversary of Death

David William Mack	Ann Anderson	Olene Ellison
Ridley Potts	Charles Eke	Margaret Milne
Harry Taylor	Wyn Percy	
John Hutchison	Violet Taylor	

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 Schools

St Helen's Church - Monthly Diary September 2026

Sunday 30 August St Helen's 9.30am Eucharist *Revd Canon Michael Hampel* presiding Baptism at 11.30am: Jude Lorcan Harvey

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

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 10am 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 – 30th August
13th After Trinity Proper 17

Day/ Date	Morning Prayer	Psalm	Evening Prayer
Sunday 30 th	Rev. 3. 14-end	107 v.1-32	Acts 18. 1-16
Monday 31 st Aidan, bishop of Lindisfarne, 651	Acts 10. 34-end	126	Mark 8. 11-21
Tuesday 1 st September Giles of Provence, hermit, c.710	Acts 11. 1-18	132	Mark 8. 22-26
Wednesday 2 nd The martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 and 1942	Acts 11. 19-end	119 v.153-end	Mark 8. 27- Ch.9 v 1
Thursday 3 rd Gregory The Great, bishop of Rome, 604	Acts 12. 1-17	143	Mark 9. 2-13
Friday 4 th Birinus, bishop of Dorchester, apostle of Wessex, 650	Acts 12, 18-end	144	Mark 9. 14-29
Saturday 5 th	Acts 13. 1-12	147	Mark 9. 30-37

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.**