

WE REMEMBER THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND IN OUR PRAYERS:

Vivienne Bell, Joyce Powell, Elsie Smith, Ann Bordess, Claire Froud, Colin Thompson, Nathaniel, Pete Henderson, Colin Graham, Ann Harrison, Marion Neville, Harry Hindess, Eileen Smith.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY BECOME ILL:

Graham Walton, Maureen Palmer, Gillian Butler, Jennie Willis, Pat Watson, Ashley Powell, Judith Harrison, Michael Slack, Linda Astley, Mary Gunn.

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH FALLS AT THIS TIME:

Florence Slowther, Valerie James, Robert Lewins, Margaret Nicod, Betty Judson, Abraham Clements, Ken Scott, Thornton Scorer, Melvin Burrell, Julie Thompson, Bill Jordan, Olga Dykstra, Keith Belbin, Roy Henderson, Enid Hardy, John Watson, Frank Dawber.

CHURCH DIARY THIS WEEK

Tuesday 30 December

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Service of the Word

Epiphany Sunday 4 January 2026

10.00am Holy Communion in church and with choir

Bible Readings for next Sunday:

Reading Ephesians 3.1-12

Gospel Reading Matthew 2.1-12

Church office: 0191 418 7911 office.htcw@gmail.com

Website: www.holytrinitywashington.org.uk

Facebook: fb.me/holytrinitywashington



28 December 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY 8.00am Service of the Word in church
10.00am Service of the Word in church

TUESDAY 10.00am Service of the Word in church

COLLECT

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one
family, and draw us into your holy
life through the birth of
Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the
life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience, and bring us
all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

FIRST BIBLE READING

Hebrew 2.10-end

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’ And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’ And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the

people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2.13-end

Alleluia, Alleluia

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

All Alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ‘A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.’

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard

that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, ‘He will be called a Nazorean.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

NOTICES THIS WEEK

Good News!

We are pleased to report that the status of Rector for the parish (the benefice), which was suspended for five years after David Glover left, can now be reinstated, and Bishop Sarah has confirmed that she would like to appoint Teresa, currently Priest in Charge, to this role. The Parochial Church Council were pleased to vote unanimously in favour of this appointment.

As this position is a change in authority and legal status, we are required to post a public notice from Durham Diocese on the church door for two weeks.

We wish Teresa all the very best on her promotion to Rector. Her licensing will be on 18th January at the 10am service.

Olive Sangha, PCC Secretary.

Flowers

Many thanks to Ann Harrison for the donation towards the Christmas flowers in memory of her dearly loved husband Clive for his anniversary on the 22nd December and for all loved ones of the Harrison and Bushell family.

Foodbank Sunday

Next Sunday is our Foodbank Sunday where any donations, especially carrier bags will be welcome.

It’s not goodbye, it’s see you later!

Thank you to everyone for my presents, cards, and well wishes on my official retirement! It has been an absolute pleasure working with some amazing people and I know I will see you again at some point.

Merry Christmas and very best wishes for 2026. Eunice

Bible Study in the New year

Luke believed that Jesus was the Saviour for ALL people. If you are interested in discussing this and other themes in Luke's Gospel come along to the new Bible study group. Thursday evenings 6pm -7pm, 15th, 22nd, 29th of January and 5th, 12th of February. Please bring your Bible to the first session.

For more information or to borrow a Bible talk to Chris Scorer.

Rough Sleepers

We are collecting donations again this winter to support local homeless people through the provision of sleeping bags. The appeal will run throughout January.

Donations can be made as follows:

Bank transfer: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Washington. Sort code 09-01-29, Account number 12650840, REFERENCE HOMELESS.

Cash or cheque: (payable to Holy Trinity Washington PCC). Please drop this off at the back of church or post through our letter box.

Any questions, please contact the church office and we will be happy to help.

Thank you, Geoff and Val.

The Sunday service will begin at 10am. If you would like to join us online, please email office.htcw@gmail.com to be included in our circulation list. If you would like to join the service by phone, please dial 0131 460 1196. The meeting ID number is 867 8264 7023 followed by # (hash). The password is 463692, followed by # (hash).

Quiz/Games Night – Tuesdays at 7pm

Our Quiz team are on their Christmas break and will be back on Tuesday 6 January.