

**WE REMEMBER THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND IN OUR PRAYERS:**

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

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY BECOME ILL:**

Maureen Palmer, Gillian Butler, Jennie Willis, Pat Watson, Judith Harrison, Linda Astley, Mary Gunn, Colin Graham, Margaret Rigby, Julie Ann Parson, Margaret Pigott.

**WE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:**

Doris Hawkes.

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

Eleanor Longstaff, Ethel Ranson, Cliff Hylton, William Brown, Audrey Hoggett, Fred Beaumont, Jim Lennon, Tom Gilmaney, Lesley Chappell, Verna Leach, Alex Andison, John Marshall, Nancy Roberts, Isabel Longstaff.

**CHURCH DIARY THIS WEEK**

**Monday 9 March**

10.15am Funeral Doris Hawkes

**Tuesday 10 March**

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion in church

7.00pm Quiz night (online)

**Wednesday 11 March**

9.30am Trinity Tots

6.00pm Office Hour

7.00pm Lent Course

**Thursday 12 March**

7.30pm Choir Practice

**Saturday 14 March**

9.00am – 3.00pm Filming in church

**Sunday 15 March 2026 – Mothering Sunday**

10.00am Holy Communion in church and with choir

**Bible Readings for next Sunday:**

**Old Testament Reading** Exodus 2.1-10

**New Testament Reading** Colossians 3.12-17

**Gospel Reading** Luke 2.33-35

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**8 March 2026**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**SUNDAY** 8.00am Holy Communion in church  
10.00am Holy Communion in church and with choir

**TUESDAY** 10.00am Holy Communion in church

**COLLECT**

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**POST COMMUNION COLLECT**

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Exodus 17.1-7**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God**

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**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

**Roman 5.1-11**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God**

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**GOSPEL READING**

**John 4.5-42**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Blessed are those who have endured temptation, they have stood the test and will receive the crown of life.

**All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

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

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said

to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## NOTICES THIS WEEK

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### Lent Course

Throughout the Lent season, we will be studying The Creeds together. Please join us in church at 7pm on Wednesday evenings until 25<sup>th</sup> March.

### Weekly Giving Envelopes

These are now available at the back of church for those who usually give in this way. If you visit someone who uses envelopes but doesn't get to church, could you please deliver their envelopes to them? Thank you.

### Thank you

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me while I have been receiving treatment during the last year. I have really appreciated your kindness and prayers, Graham.

### Easter services

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm – Easteringle Service for families

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 10am - Palm Sunday Sung Eucharist

### Holy week services

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 7pm – Eucharist

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 7pm – Service at St Michael and All Angels, Sulgrave

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 7pm – Iona Lent service with anointing

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 7pm – Maundy Thursday Eucharist with Stripping of the Altar

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2pm – Good Friday service around the Cross

### Easter Day services

5.30am - Dawn Service followed with breakfast

8am - Easter Day Eucharist

10am - Easter Day Sung Eucharist

### Easter Raffle

We are proposing to have our customary "Easter Chocolate Raffle" again this year and would be most grateful for the donation of prizes for the event. The proceeds will of course go to much needed Church Funds.

**The Sunday service** will begin at 10am. If you would like to join us online, please email [office.htcw@gmail.com](mailto: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 850 2953 3415 followed by # (hash). The password is 473130, followed by # (hash).

### Quiz/Games Night – Tuesdays at 7pm

All are very welcome to join in, just click on the link in this month's email, or if you are joining by phone, please dial 0131 460 1196 the meeting ID is 870 6505 4582 followed by # (hash) and the password is 726138 followed by # (hash) and remember to press \*6 to talk to us.

**Monday, 2 March 2026**

**A message from Canon James Morgan, Diocesan Secretary**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Following the announcement that Ven Rick Simpson is to become the next Bishop of Durham and that Bishop Sarah Clark is to become the next Bishop of Ely, we would like to set out the timescale for these changes over the next few months to ensure there is clarity during this period of transition.

Bishop Sarah will continue to be Acting Bishop of Durham until Easter Sunday (April 5th), which will be her last formal day in the Diocese, after which she will cease to be the Acting Diocesan Bishop. She will remain Bishop of Jarrow until her confirmation of election as Bishop of Ely on April 17th. Bishop Sarah will preside at a farewell service at the Cathedral on 'Cuthbert Saturday', March 21st at 4pm to which all are welcome. Further details are available on the Cathedral website: St Cuthbert's Day - Durham Cathedral. The date of her installation at Ely Cathedral is not yet confirmed but is hoped to be held in early summer.

From April 6th, Bishop Frank White will become the Acting Bishop of Durham. Bishop Frank is well known to us as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese, and we are very grateful to him for taking on this additional responsibility.

On 11 March, the College of Canons will meet at Durham Cathedral to elect Ven Rick Simpson to be the next Bishop of Durham. The Confirmation of this Election will take place at York Minster on 29 April, followed by Rick's consecration, also in York Minster on 30 April. From that point, Rick will legally become the Bishop of Durham, however many of the duties of that role will continue to be delegated to Bishop Frank until after Rick's installation. The date of Rick's installation at Durham Cathedral is yet to be confirmed, although we hope it will take place in early Summer. Further details of all these services will be made available closer to the time.

Over the next few months, Rick will step back from some of his archidiaconal duties as he prepares for his new role. These duties will be covered by Archdeacons Libby Wilkinson and Katherine Bagnall and arrangements will be made to support Libby and Katherine soon. Please continue to direct archidiaconal queries related to Auckland Archdeaconry to the Archdeacon's office during this period. We will also begin the discernment process for the next Bishop of Jarrow and Archdeacon of Auckland shortly. If you have any queries about these arrangements please do contact me.

Please hold all of our leadership team in your prayers during this time of transition and change.

In Christ,

Canon James Morgan – Diocesan Secretary