



Sunday 30th November 2025
First Sunday of Advent

8.00am	Holy Communion
9.30am	Parish Communion
3.00pm	Advent Messy Church in the Centre
6.30pm	Advent Carol Service with the illumination of angels

St Hugh's

11.00am	Parish Communion
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Thought for the Day

As we begin Advent, we are reminded that it is a time of watching and waiting for God's coming to our world in the Incarnation. Today's reading from Isaiah was written at a time when the people were in captivity and were longing for release and a time when their opponents would "beat their swords into ploughshares" and hostilities would end.

The early church lived in imminent expectation of the Second Coming, which would be preceded by a time of cosmic upheaval, which is graphically described in Mark's Gospel.

Our context is one of knowing to some extent what we are waiting for – God will come as has happened in the past but we should also be ready to be surprised by something new. John Bell of the Iona Community writes:

"God cannot do anything in our souls, nor in our politics, if what we yearn for is a little more of the same for a little longer God will not grant us a quiet heart if we keep clutching the very things that are making us anxious".

May we hope for swords to be beaten into ploughshares in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan and other places of conflict?

Ruth Birnie

Today we light our first Advent candle. Each candle in the Advent wreath reminds us of those who prepared for the coming of Christ. Please join in the prayer:

Lord Jesus, Light of the World,
Born in David's City of Bethlehem,
Born like him to be a king:
Be born in our hearts this Christmastide,
Be king of our lives today



An Advent Prayer:

The Light of Christ brings hope into our world
Hope to steady anxiety
Hope to calm fear
Hope to accompany illness
Hope to befriend loneliness
Hope to thwart Despair

Hope to reconcile hatred
Hope to forgive
Hope to be forgiven

Hope to dream of better times
Hope to encourage the future
Hope to rebuild what lies in ruins
Hope that God's Kingdom will come

Bible Readings and Hymns This Week:

Old Testament: Isaiah 2:1-5

New Testament: Romans 13:11 to end

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Hymns

Processional Green 9 Lo He comes with clouds descending

Gradual Green 3 Come thou long expected Jesus

Offertory Green 2376 I heard the voice of Jesus say

Communion Brown 24 Be still, my soul

Recessional Green 338 At the name of Jesus

Anthem: Zion Hört die Wächter singen - J.S. Bach

Please join us for tea and coffee after the 9.30am Parish Communion Service, in the All Saints Centre, adjacent to the Church.

Presiding this week:

8.00am Holy Communion

Presiding Revd Ruth Birnie

Preaching Revd Ruth Birnie

9.30am Parish Communion

Presiding: Revd Canon Andrew Shipton

Preaching: Revd Ruth Birnie

3.00pm Advent Messy Church in the Centre

6.30pm Advent Carol Service with the illumination of angels

Just before the dismissal the choir will sing the Advent prose

For centuries, it has been a tradition to chant or sing the text known as Rorate Caeli, or the Advent Prose, during services in the Advent season. This beautiful composition weaves together passages from various chapters of the prophet Isaiah. It powerfully expresses the deep longing of the Patriarchs and Prophets- and, symbolically, of the Church for the coming of the Messiah.

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity for ever:
the holy cities are a wilderness,
Sion is a wilderness,
Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee.

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away;
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen;
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people,
my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:
Fear not, for I will save thee:
for I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

A warm welcome to you if you are a newcomer. Please complete a green Contact Card and place it in the box provided, or hand it to one of the clergy or churchwardens.

Children in church: children are always welcome in church, and there is a dedicated Children's Corner at the back, with activities available for them to use there or take to their pews. They are also invited to enjoy drawing and activity sheets at the table at the back in the baptistery. We kindly ask that parents or guardians supervise their children both in the baptistery and in the Children's area.

Have you problems with mobility? Please let a steward know if you need assistance going up for communion, or would like communion to be brought to you.

Hard of hearing? If you use a hearing aid, please switch it to the 'T' position to use our loop system.

To gain access to the All Saints YouTube channel please go to:
<https://www.youtube.com/@allsaintsgosforth6306/streams>

Prayer and Worship

Sunday: Services at 8.00am, 9.30am and 6.30pm

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 8.45am Morning Prayer in Church. Enter by South Porch

Tuesday's Holy Communion is at 10.15am in Church

Notices

The Angel Festival: we extend our heartfelt thanks to John Lewis and his team for assembling the net, as well as to everyone who contributed by creating angels and helped to display them.
The Advent Carol Service is today Sunday 30th November at 6.30pm.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Joyce Jennings - praying for her recovery - and with her daughter Sally and son Philip. Andrew is able to take written messages and cards to Joyce if they are posted in through the office post box.

There are a few bundles of Parish Christmas left for delivery. Please help deliver to a street or two near you.

Volunteers Needed for a Time-Limited Financial Task Group Although we have reduced our parish share to the diocese, the overall cost of running the church - combined with a decline in planned giving - remains a concern. We are therefore seeking volunteers to join a small, time-limited task group to review our current financial practices, identify areas for improvement, and explore new ways to raise funds in support of our ministry and mission. We hope this group will be able to bring forward suggestions and ideas by early March. If you are interested in taking part, please contact the clergy or Felicity Shoesmith. felicity.shoesmith@icloud.com

When leaving Church, via South Porch entrance, or the Centre, in the dark please exit through the Garden of Remembrance where it is well lit.

Messy Church on the theme of Advent will take place today Sunday, 30th November at 3pm in the Centre. All Welcome.

Mulled wine. I am serving mulled wine and mince pies after the Advent Carol Service on 30th November. Any help would be appreciated. Call me on 07515 825367 or email paulcross505@gmail.com. **Paul Cross**

There is no morning Prayer on Wednesday 3rd of December.



Christmas Fair is NEXT WEEK, December 6th 11.00 - 1.00pm. Donations for the bottle stall can be left in the office between 9.30 - 12.30pm, Monday to Friday. The cake stall will be very happy to receive cakes, pies, jams, chutneys etc just prior to December 6th or on the day. Please remember to list all ingredients used. We are also asking for contributions to the garden stall, raffle prizes and gifts. There is to be a jewellery stall and also a recycling stall

where contributions of Christmas decorations, wrapping paper etc would be much appreciated.

Contributions can be brought to the office during office hours (9.30 - 12.30pm Monday to Friday) **as well as from 9am on the 6th.**

This is a perfect opportunity to catch up with friends over coffee, biscuits and purchases. Please mention this date to family and friends. Pray for fine weather. Valerie Farthing and Francine Bain Valerie.farthing@btinternet.com 2851419 francinebain9@gmail.com 07506462783

Autumn Leaves are Still Falling The Gardening Group are planning to rake up leaves around the church on Monday 1st. December from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. A covering of snow prevented the previous attempt from proceeding. We recommend that you wrap up warmly and wear gardening gloves. We will provide the rakes. Tea and cake break at 11 a.m. Please come and help.

Men's Group. The next meeting of the men's group will be in the Job Bulman at 7.30 on 3rd December. *Paul Cross*

Our pre-Christmas **Fellowship Lunch** is on **Sunday 7th December at 12.00** in the Church Centre. We look forward to welcoming anyone who would otherwise be dining alone for a light lunch and good company. Do come and join us! *Pauline Gallacher*

For Parish Carol Singing on Tuesday 9th December, at 6.00pm, we will meet outside the church and visit two care homes and Kenton Lodge. The singing will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies at the vicarage.

The service for the interment of Edith Davison's ashes will be held on Friday, 12th December at 12 noon at All Saints.

Preparation of oranges for the Christingle service. If anyone can help with this, please meet in the Columba Room at 10.00am on Saturday 13th December. If 3 or 4 people turn up, it can all be done within an hour. Many thanks, Pam Taylor

At the Midnight Eucharist at 11:30pm on Christmas Eve, we welcome many visitors who may be unfamiliar with our services. We are looking for one or two people to act as churchwardens - welcoming worshippers and being a caring presence at the back of the church. The service usually finishes around 12:20am. If you are able to help, please speak to Andrew.

People's Theatre: 30 seats have been reserved for Thursday 22nd January to see The Mirror Crack'd by Agatha Christie. Please could you let Helen Poole know if you would like to go to this, or confirm with her if you expressed interest earlier. Payment is not needed yet.

News from St Hugh's:

- Revd Canon Andrew Shipton is leading worship today.
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Some members of the Sew, Knit and Natter group have made the ark shown here to raffle at the Christmas Fair. It is made of plastic canvas work and has its own storage box. If anyone would like to buy tickets for it and may not be able to attend the fair, you are welcome to let me know and I shall let you have some tickets. I shall be at parish today or you can ring me on 07474040267. Diane Henderson.



Mission of the Month for November

In Malawi many of children are reliant on charitable schooling because the government can often only fund teachers. MACS has funded the building of many school class-room blocks, each accommodating up to 180 pupils in two class-rooms. Prior to these building projects pupils were taught outside - a particular problem during the rainy season. On the medical front, MACS has recently purchased a medical instruments sterilizing machine for St Anne's hospital on Lake Malawi. Before that the staff had to travel over 50 miles on very poor roads to have their equipment sterilized, tying up valuable people and vehicle resources. If you would like more information please go to www.malawimacs.org or speak to Felicity.

Weekly Small Group Events

Coffee and Conversation in the Centre Mondays from 10.30am – 11.30am in the All Saints Centre. Please come along and join our companionable group.

Little Saints Pre-School Children and Parents/Carers Group Tuesdays 1.00 – 2.00pm in the All Saints Centre.

SING at the Centre

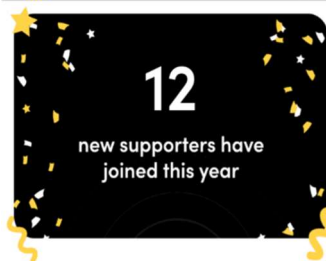
On Dec 09 it's our 'Christmas Sing' event , 2pm at St Hugh's

Why not come join us to prepare, when you can pop in? These events are designed with everyone in mind. I guarantee singing on any level is good for you!

Tuesdays from 2:30 in the Upper Room for refreshments, to start at **2:50**.

Thank You! *Diana Lavín*

Sew, Knit and Natter. This friendly group of knitters, ranging from the totally inexperienced to the very skilled, meets each Wednesday morning from 10-12 in the upper room of the Centre. There is plenty of knitting and nattering, with coffee and biscuits always provided. All are welcome. If you would like to know any more about the group, do ring me on 07474040267, or you can just turn up and see what we do. *Diane Henderson*.



...and YOU can join in too!

Over 8,000 retailers will donate to All Saints on your behalf when you shop with them. *Plus*, sign up to support us on the easyfundraising app and we'll get a BONUS £2 donation – beat that!

Donations



We now have a number of ways to donate to All Saints online:
By QR code. Simply hold your mobile phone camera over the code, follow the link to your browser and follow on-screen instructions

Or go to:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/8ecfe5b6-18c7-4179-aba0-2ebc43a82f7b>

Contact us

Vicar of All Saints and Priest in Charge of St Hugh's Rest Day: Saturday	Andrew Shipton	284 5540	andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Assistant Priest Not available on Wednesdays	Ruth Birnie	284 1393	ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Director of Music	John Lewis	07981 156751	jonnyonthekeyboards@gmail.com
Churchwarden	Joyce Jennings	07904415316	Joyce.jennings@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Churchwarden	Dana Corso	07909 456577	Dana.corso@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Treasurer	Contact the Parish Office		
Safeguarding Officer	Kath Davies	07880 618911	kath.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Louise Waugh	0191 213 0450	post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk



ADVENT CAROLS

30TH NOVEMBER 2025

AT

6.30PM

An evening of music and readings to mark the beginning of the countdown to Christmas. Featuring this year The Heavenly Host – a magical display of hundreds of angels spread across the church ceiling and illuminated from below.

Come along, and sing along with the angels.



**Sunday 30th November
at 3.00pm**

in the

All Saints Centre
West Avenue, NE3 4ES

Tel 0191 2130450 for more details

CHRISTMAS SING

ALL WELCOME

REFRESHMENTS FROM 2PM

SING AT 2:30

Get into the Christmas mood with
us & sing along

DECEMBER 09 FROM 2PM

ST HUGH'S CHURCH GOSFORTH



CHRISTMAS FAIR

6th December 2025

11.00am - 1.00pm

**ALL SAINTS CENTRE
LINDEN ROAD, NE3 4ES**

ENTRY £3.00

Children free entry

Includes tea/coffee/orange juice
& shortbread biscuit

We welcome you to our Christmas Services and Events

Advent Sunday 30th November

3.00pm Advent Messy Church

6.30pm Advent Carols with the Illumination of Angels
followed by mulled wine

Saturday 6th December

11.00-1.00pm Christmas Fair in the All Saints Centre

Tuesday 9th December

6.00pm Parish Carol Singing from Church

Sunday 14th December

3.30pm Christingle service

Monday 15th December

2.00pm Carol Singing at Gosforth Shopping Centre

Christmas Eve

2.00pm Children's Service

4.00pm Carol Service*

6.30pm Carol Service

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist of Christmas

Christmas Day

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Christmas Communion

Sunday 4th January

9.30am Epiphany Service

**This is a very popular service and for Health and Safety reasons once Church capacity has been reached a welcome will be issued to the 6.30pm service.*