



**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**The Conversion of Paul**

8.00am	Holy Communion
9.30am	Parish Communion
3.00pm	Messy Church in the Centre
6.30pm	Evening Prayer

**St Hugh's**

11.00am	Parish Communion
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**Called to be Apostolic**

Today we remember how Saul of Tarsus, persecutor of the first Christians, became Paul the Apostle - not only promoting the faith he previously was trying to destroy, but shaping doctrine for all Christian history. No wonder Saul's Damascus road experience has become a byword. But dare I say most of us tend to use this to define what our experience is *not*? "I never had a Damascus Road experience."

Yet today it is becoming more and more important for us to be able to give a fuller account of our faith! This is not so as to justify ourselves, but to enlighten our mystified families, friends and neighbours, who are curious as to why we bother with faith, Church, and prayer. Perhaps it may help us if we consider in what ways Saul's "conversion" was and was not a conversion. He was and remained a faithful pious Jew. His legendary zeal, first anti-Christian then pro-Christian, was the same zeal for God. The name Paul was the Roman name he had always had, perhaps his business name, which was more appropriate to use on cosmopolitan travels.

But on the Damascus road the risen Christ appeared to Saul (that's how he saw it), and forced him to admit that he was the Messiah and Son of God. That launched Paul on a lifetime of working out what that meant for himself, and for all believers in Christ.

Before embarking on his famous missionary journeys, he spent formative times in "Arabia" (desert retreat?), back home with his community in Tarsus, and with the nascent community of believers in Syrian Antioch. Only then did he become our intrepid Paul sowing the seed of the Gospel throughout the Greco-Roman world, and nurturing the first churches.

Now, can we articulate, first of all for ourselves, the story of how Christ has changed and formed us as people of faith? And having thus reflected, can we think of better answers when opportunities for witness arise naturally? For example when someone says to us "It's in the lap of the gods, isn't it?" Do we just shrug our shoulders, or do we try to express the way in which such a commonplace grates for people of faith?

*Adam Romanis*

## **Bible Readings and Hymns:**

**Old Testament:** Jeremiah 1:4-10

**New Testament:** Galatians 1:11-16a

**Gospel:** Matthew 19:27 to end

## **Hymns**

**Processional** Green 377 Immortal, invisible, God only wise

**Gradual** Green 431 O Thou who camest from above

**Offertory** Green 391 King of glory, King of peace

**Communion** Brown 281 What child is this?

**Recessional** green 486 We have a Gospel to proclaim

**Anthem** Oh for a closer walk with God – Stanford

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 Adam Romanis

Preaching Revd Adam Romanis

### **9.30am Parish Communion**

Presiding: Revd Canon Andrew Shipton

Preaching: Revd Adam Romanis

### **3.00pm Messy Church in the Centre**

### **6.30pm Service at Trinity Church**

**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**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 - Thursday:** 8.45am Morning Prayer in Church. Enter by South Porch

**Tuesday's Holy Communion** is at 10.15am in Church

## Notices

**Messy Church** on the Theme of 'Candlemas' is today Sunday 25th January at 3pm in the Centre

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**There will be no** Choral Evensong at 6.30pm. Instead, we are invited to Trinity Church at 6.30pm for a United Service marking the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service will be led by Deacon Jill Henderson, with Andrew preaching, and will be followed by refreshments. Christians Together in Gosforth includes the Quakers, Trinity, St Nicholas, St Charles, and ourselves.

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**Thank you so much** to all those who came to plant trees on 17th Jan. I cannot apologise enough that there were no trees to plant. Nonetheless it was wonderful to see so many people and feedback seemed to be positive, sharing refreshments and enjoying an improvised tree identification talk by Callum from the Wildlife Trust. The trees did finally arrive at 1pm, having left their nursery on Friday morning, and are now being safely stored for us. We have arranged a repeat event for **Saturday 7th Feb, 10-12**. I do hope you will feel able to join us - secure in the knowledge we will have trees! With many thanks for your support, *Christine Willoughby*

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**The PCC met recently** at a special session to discuss potential plans to upgrade the Centre. All agreed that the Centre needs improvement and with a couple of minor changes, have plans which we will be sharing over the coming weeks. The improvements include accessibility upgrades, like moving the kitchen into the space currently known as the Columba Room to make an allowance for a second large room on the ground floor. Delivering these upgrades will mean that we need to have a funding campaign to pay for the work. We will be sharing the proposed plans soon and will be arranging times for people to ask questions and find out more about what is proposed.

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**What, you may well ask**, could Burns's Night have to do with our efforts to improve on our Eco-Congregation Bronze Award? Initially, I felt I could do no more than recommend the provision of MacSween's Vegetarian Haggis at any Burns's supper you may be planning; meat-free, but still "warm-reekin, rich". However, a little research reveals that Burns could teach us a lot about respect for nature. You might have thought that as a struggling tenant farmer he would have had little time for animal welfare, but he famously puts himself in the place of a mouse disturbed by the harvest, and in less well-known poems is concerned for a wounded hare and a dying ewe ('Ode to a Mouse', 'On Seeing a Wounded Hare' and 'The Death and Dying Words of Poor Mailie') . "Is a River Alive?" by Robert Macfarlane, published in 2025, seems to be the last word in eco-thinking, arguing that we need to give rivers rights in law – but we find Burns almost 240 years earlier, in 'The Humble Petition of Bruar Water' demanding that the Duke of Atholl reforest the denuded river banks. So, I'm sure Burns would join us to thank the volunteers who last week planted trees at the West end of the green, and remind us that living in harmony with nature isn't something modern, but something our ancestors were much better at than we are. *Andrew Cole on behalf of The Eco Group*

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**The funeral of** Barbara Urwin will take place on Wednesday 28th January at 1.30 pm at West Road Crematorium. Our thoughts and prayers are with Keith, Pamela, and their families in their grief.

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**The 'Heavenly Host'** will be dismantled on Sunday 1st February at around 11.00 am. This will give people time to enjoy a coffee in the Centre after the 9.30 am service! If you would like to retrieve the Angel that you made, they will be put in a large box in the baptistery for a couple of weeks until they are taken. This has been a wonderful display, and thanks must go to all involved in its creation. Do come along and help if you can.

**Next Sunday we celebrate Candlemas.**

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Our first **Fellowship Lunch** of 2026 is on **Sunday 1st February** at 12.00 in the Church Centre. If you would otherwise be dining alone, please do come and join us for a light lunch and good company. We look forward to seeing you. *Pauline Gallacher*

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**There will be** the opportunity to explore skills in Leading Worship with Nicola Denyer from the diocese, on Thursday 5th February at 7.30pm in the Upper Room. Please speak to Andrew for details.

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**Brundibar Arts Festival** are holding a Short Concert Series at All Saints Church on Saturday 7th February 2026. Tickets are available from: <https://www.brundibarartsfestival.com/>

**1pm Concert programme:**

Hans Krása: Three songs for Baritone, clarinet and cello

Samuel Quatermain Smith: "You will be loved" Special Commission 2021

Viktor Ullmann: Piano Sonata

**6.30pm Concert Programme**

Adolf Strauss: Ich weiss bestimmt, ich werd dich wiederseh'n

Hans Winterberg: Suite for Clarinet and piano

Prach Boondikulchok: "Songs without Words" Special Commission 2023

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**There will be a** sale of secondhand books after the 9.30 service on Sunday 8th February. All proceeds will go to church funds. A chance to pass on all those books you've been reading over the holiday! *The Book Group*

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**MY LIFE IN MALAWI....**is the title of Felicity Shoesmith's talk at the next Mothers' Union meeting on Monday 9th February - 2.00pm in the parish centre. EVERYONE IS WELCOME to come and join us - men and women. Refreshments will be served.

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**Valentines by Candlelight** The EverReady Band is holding an evening of music and romance by candlelight at **All Saints Church on Saturday 14th February 2026 at 7.30pm** Tickets are £15 and are available to book here: [Valentines by Candlelight tickets](#)

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**Looking to Lent.** It is hoped that each church in Christians Together in Gosforth will provide a simple Lent lunch on Wednesdays. A series of speakers are being invited to offer reflections at Sunday Evening Prayer on the theme "*The Heart of the Gospel.*" A leaflet with details of all Lent and Easter services will be printed.

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**Save the date! The Handlebards are coming back!**

We are very pleased to confirm that the Handlebards (a travelling Shakespearian theatre group who transport themselves and all their gear by bike) are coming back to All Saints. They will be performing 'As You Like It' on **Wednesday 12th August 2026** on the church green. This has been a fantastic and well attended event over the past few years and we are delighted that they are returning. Tickets are already on sale on-line! For tickets go to:

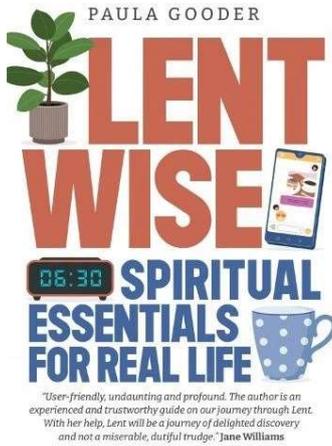
<http://www.handlebards.com/show/As-You-Like-It-All-Saints-Church-Gosforth/>

*Rosamund Place and Claudia Newbegin.*

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**News from St Hugh's:**

- Revd Canon Andrew Shipton is leading worship today.
- The first wedding at St Hugh's for more than a decade will take place in July. Our best wishes to Emma and Jake.



We are looking for venues and meeting times for our Lent groups, which will be following *Lentwise* by Paula Gooder. We hope to include at least one group meeting on a Monday or Thursday afternoon. Please get in touch if you can help. Andrew

**Mission of the Month for January St Paul's Community Partnership** in Willington Quay. The aim of the Partnership is to enable Willington Quay to be a better place in which to live and work, for the flourishing of the community in this very deprived area through offering different groups, resources and help through the centre. [stpaulscommunitypartnership.weebly.com](http://stpaulscommunitypartnership.weebly.com)

**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.

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

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**SING** at the **Centre Tuesday 27 January** from 2:30 in the Upper Room for refreshments Looking forward to seeing you all; are you ready to sing Labi Siffre and ABBA? Go on...  
*Diana Lavin*

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**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.*

**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>

‘Thank you’ to all who’ve got the App and used it!

**Summary of 2025**

- Donations: £50+
- Shopping trips completed: 128
- Supporters joined: 20
- Cause page views: 191
- Popular: Amazon, eBay, Vionic shoes

Newcomers: These current offers may interest you -

- Supersavers on car insurance with MoneySuperMarket - donation increased to £15
- **RAC** 40% off – donation increased up to £65
- **McAfee** Total Protection from £34pa – donation up to 17.5%
- Get EV ready with £50 off **Pod** home charging using code EFJAN26
- **Tesco Mobile** up to £15 donation
- 3 months **SAGA** Health Insurance for free – donation up to £37.50

**NB** Insurance—many more whopping offers with some of the biggest donations.

*Please speak to me if I can help you use the ‘easyfundraising’ app or update it.*

Diana Lavin

**Contact us**

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



**All Saints Gosforth**

**Messy Church**

**Sunday 25th January at 3.00pm**

in the  
All Saints Centre  
West Avenue, NE3 4ES

Tel 0191 2130450 for more details

# Tree Planting

7th February 2026

10am - 12 noon

We will be planting trees at the West end of the green including:

8 trees of 100-200cm - e.g. Alder, Walnut, Rowan, Crab Apple,

Lime, Field Maple, Silver birch.

15 'understory whips' of 40-60cm - e.g. Cherry, Plum, Wych Elm,

Silver Birch, Yew, Hazel, Rowan.

If you can volunteer to help please contact:

[post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk](mailto:post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk).

Refreshments and a warm space inside the Centre will be provided.

Please come and talk to us if you would like more information.

Supported by



**Northumberland**  
Wildlife Trust



North East  
Community  
Forest



# FILM CIRCUIT

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January  
showing at 7.15pm

The Upper Room, (All Saints Centre)

This month's film is  
**North by Northwest**  
a Hitchcock Film  
Starring Cary Grant

A New York City advertising executive goes on the run after being mistaken for a government agent by some foreign spies. He falls for a woman and then begins to doubt where her loyalties lie.'

All welcome, do bring a friend.

Entrance is free, but a donation (suggested £1.00) is invited towards costs.

# Valentines by Candlelight



## EVERREADY BAND

All Saints Church, West Avenue, Gosforth  
7:30pm, Saturday, 14th February

An evening of music  
and romance by candlelight.

Tickets £15



Scan QR code for tickets

# BRUNDIBAR Arts Festival

## A Voice Not Stilled

31 JANUARY - 8 FEBRUARY 2026

As we celebrate the 10th Brundibar Arts Festival, a milestone year, we are reminded that in today's divisive times our festival holds a vital role: to honour the losses brought by hatred and to affirm the unifying strength of art and remembrance.

Yet, music speaks louder than words, join us as this year's festival will be a musical feast!

- Alexandra Raikhlina, Artistic Director

**SATURDAY 31 JANUARY**

OPENING CONCERT

ST JAMES'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, 7.30PM

**THURSDAY 5 FEBRUARY**

A VOICE NOT STILLED

ST JAMES'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, 7.30PM

**MONDAY 2 FEBRUARY**

SHORT CONCERT SERIES: CONCERT 1

LITERARY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 6.30PM

**SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY**

SHORT CONCERT SERIES: CONCERT 4

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, GOSFORTH, 1.00PM

**TUESDAY 3 FEBRUARY**

SHORT CONCERT SERIES: CONCERT 2

LITERARY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 1.00PM

**SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY**

SHORT CONCERT SERIES: CONCERT 5

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, GOSFORTH, 6.30PM

**TUESDAY 3 FEBRUARY**

SHORT CONCERT SERIES: CONCERT 3

BRUNSWICK METHODIST CHURCH, 6.30PM

**SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY**

CLOSING CONCERT

KING'S HALL, NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY, 7.30PM

**WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY**

THE LAST MUSICIAN OF AUSCHWITZ

FILM SHOWING

TYNESIDE CINEMA, 7PM



Community  
Foundation  
North East

MOTEL ONE



Newcastle  
City Council

The Joicey Trust