



Sunday 11th January 2026
Baptism of Christ

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion
6.30pm Evening Prayer

St Hugh's

11.00am Parish Communion

Baptism of Christ

Today's Gospel reading sees Jesus appearing on the public stage to begin his ministry and his baptism by John the Baptist serves as a confirmation of his identity and his mission.

Jesus' baptism was clearly a problem for the Gospel writers: why would Jesus need a baptism of repentance if he was without sin? Hence, perhaps the conversation between Jesus and John apparently acknowledging that there is an issue to be resolved, primarily the question of the relationship between Jesus' humanity and divinity – a question that has kept theologians arguing for centuries.

However, Matthew's language and imagery conveys a clear message to his audience. The heavens opening finds a parallel in the tearing of the temple curtain at the time of Jesus' death, both of these events signifying that the gap between heaven and earth has been bridged, that both are united in the person of Jesus. The Spirit of God descending like a dove also recalls God's Spirit sweeping over the waters at the Creation indicating that with Jesus there is a new creation.

We like to think that in his baptism Jesus identifies with humanity so surely God's message is addressed to us all: we are all God's beloved in whom he is well pleased.

Ruth Birnie

Bible Readings and Hymns:

Old Testament: Isaiah 42:1-9
New Testament: Acts 10:34-43
Gospel: Matthew 23:13 to end

Hymns

Processional Green 353 Dear Lord and Father of mankind
Gradual Brown 169 Love is His word
Offertory Booklet page 8 I am the light
Communion Brown 18 As we are Gathered, Jesus is here
Recessional Brown 66 From heaven you came
Anthem Torches - John Joubert

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

9.30am Parish Communion

Presiding: Revd Canon Andrew Shipton

Preaching: Revd Ruth Birnie

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Psalm: 146; 47 Hymns: 52, 393, 486

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

Tuesday's Holy Communion is at 10.15am in Church

Notices

There is an Epiphanytide Bring and Share Brunch after the 9.30 service today, Sunday 11th January 2026, when we can catch up on each other's news.

The next Mothers' Union meeting is tomorrow (12th at 2.00pm in the church centre. There will be a Wave of prayer service, the AGM, updates, forward planning, refreshments and fellowship. Everyone welcome to join us as we also celebrate Katy's birthday. Come along, bring a friend.
Pam Taylor

The Bug Hotel - as some of you may know - is situated at the very back of the church green, in front of the fence. It was created by a group of Scouts a few years ago, and has undergone some refurbishment since then. It is now in need of a bit of an overhaul however, so if anyone has any bits of broken (clay) flowerpots, hollow plant stems, pine cones, sheep's wool or other **natural materials**, then please feel free to stuff it into any of the spaces to see the Hotel through the winter, and we can look at further work in the spring. Let's keep our little 6 and 8 legged friends warm and dry during the winter months! *The Eco Group*

Men's Group. The next meeting of the Men's Group will be on Wednesday 14th January at 7.30 in the Job Bulman.

Don't miss the 'Listening from the Heart' films which show bereaved Palestinian and Israeli parents in conversation. They bring a message of true HOPE to this desperate situation. Newcastle Quakers are screening them on **Thursday 15th January** at 6.30pm at Quaker Meeting House, 1 West Ave, Gosforth, NE3 4ES and also providing a shared vegan meal - all for Free! Register via Eventbrite or phone/text Janet Chapman 07484630984
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/listening-from-the-heart-film-screening-tickets-1977830200371>

Tree planting 17th January As previously noted we will be planting a number of trees at the west end of the green (still leaving plenty of space for our outside activities). Tree planting will take place on Saturday 17th January from 10am – 12noon. We need some 20 volunteers to help with planting. If you are interested, please would you let me know, email cbwillas@gmail.com.

Refreshments and a warm space inside the church will be provided. Trees are being funded by the NE Community Forest, and the planting project is led by Northumberland Wildlife Trust. If you are interested in finding out more about what we and these organisations are doing, please do drop into church on the day. Trees will include: 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. Whip extension to the existing beech hedge. We hope this will contribute to the attractiveness and biodiversity of the green for many years to come. *Christine Willoughby*

The Funeral of Lesley Brookfield will take place in church on Thursday 22nd January at 12 noon. We pray for Emma, Darren, Eleanor and Alice in their grief.

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.

The Service for the Interment of the Ashes of Alan Mace will be held on Friday 23rd January at 12 noon.

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*

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 via the QR code – please see poster or at:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/valentines-by-candlelight-tickets-1975853247251?aff=oddtcreator>

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.

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! [Click here for Handlebards Tickets](#)
Rosamund Place and Claudia Newbegin

News from St Hugh's:

- Revd Ruth Birnie is leading worship today.
 - The next St Hugh's PCC meeting will be on Sunday 18th January at 11.45am.
 - The first wedding at St Hugh's for more than a decade will take place on Sunday 18th April. Our best wishes to Emma and Jake.
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Dates for your 2026 Diary

- PCC: Wednesday 14th January at 7.30pm in the Upper Room.
- Special PCC Meeting to discuss the development of the Parish Centre: Monday 19th January, 6–8pm in the church.
- The next messy Church will be on Sunday 25th January at 3pm.
- Christians Together in Gosforth Service to mark the 2026 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Trinity Church on Sunday 25th January at 6.30pm
- 'Exploring Leading Worship': Thursday 5th February and Thursday 12th February at 7.30pm in the Upper Room with Nicola Denyer from Newcastle Diocese.

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

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** We meet again **on Tuesday 13 January** from 2:30 in the Upper Room for refreshments Looking forward to seeing you all; are you ready to sing? *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.*



For 2 weeks only, you can unlock a **£5 bonus donation** for All Saints ...

1. Enable the donation reminder on your iPhone or iPad by next Sunday
2. Raise £5 using it within 6 months (opt in now, spend later).
3. The majority of brands have opted into the The Donation Reminder will pop up as you're browsing – just tap to get your free donations.
4. Easyfundraising will give All Saints a £5 bonus donation.

NB You need to be on the latest version of the easyfundraising app to be able to add the Donation Reminder. **Please** speak to me if I can help you use the 'easyfundraising' app or update it.app. *Diana Lavin*

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		
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





Tree Planting

17th January 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.

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

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

Supported by



Northumberland
Wildlife Trust



North East
Community
Forest



All Saints
Gosforth



Sunday 25th January
at 3.00pm

in the
All Saints Centre
West Avenue, NE3 4ES

Tel 0191 2130450 for more details

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