

St. Matthew's Church Newbottle

March - April 2019



*You are the light of the world.
A city on a hill cannot be hidden*
Matthew 5 v14

**This magazine is distributed free by the congregation
of St. Matthew's Church in your parish of Newbottle**

Parish of St. Matthew's Newbottle Diocese of Durham

Church Services

Sunday Services

9.45 am Family Worship
Holy Communion & Sunday School
6.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday

9.30 am Holy Communion

Church Open

Tuesday 10-11am
Wednesday 10.15-11.15am

Mother's Union

Wednesday 2pm Lady Chapel in Church

Church Hall

Church Hall Bookings by Email:
stmatthewshallbookings@gmail.com

St Matthew's Church Clergy

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Rev. Edward Wilkinson.
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Email: wilkinson.edward.rev@gmail.com

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From Our Registers:

Baptism	3rd March	Finley William Henry Lockey
Funeral:	23rd January	Evelyn Hoggin.
Burial of Ashes:	23rd February	Mr. Isaac William Walls
	23rd February	Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett Walls.

Send Us Your Story



If you have some local news or
an article about the Newbottle area
then email it to ...

smn-magazine@outlook.com



Vicar's Voice

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday until dawn on Easter Sunday, this year from 6th March – 21st April. During Lent the Church prepares to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday by considering the sinfulness of all mankind, both those outside and those inside the Church, and how we believe having God in our lives makes life itself so much better.

In his first letter to Timothy, St. Paul tells Timothy that “Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners”, Tim 1:15. Given that none of us are perfect it means Jesus came into the world to save everyone, to make it possible for everyone to eventually find a place in the presence of God. But we have to freely choose to accept the ways of God for ourselves, to be saved. As the bible constantly and consistently reminds us, God would never force his ways upon anyone. Having said that, support is available because those who choose to get involved with the Church, in our case St. Matthew's, can count on help along the way from fellow believers. It's always much nicer to travel with friends.

In a world, in a society, which appears to be more and more driven by self interest, (what's best for us or me), the Church is in many ways unique because it exists primarily for the benefit of non-members. The primary aim of the church is to attract new members and so all we do is driven by this goal. As soon as a new person joins a church family, the family changes, sometimes quite a lot, sometimes hardly at

all. If we are successful in the mission given to us by Jesus of encouraging everyone to join us, then the nature and character of the Church will constantly evolve in ways we could hardly have imagined a few years ago.

Hopefully, many folk who thought the Church life had nothing to offer them will come along, try it and find it rewarding as they take from and contribute to Church life. We're all different and what one person finds rewarding and moving, can be of little importance to another. In a similar way we can all offer something different to Church life. Occasionally over the years, as I've stood shaking hands at the back of church with folk as they leave, someone might say something like, “I found that third hymn this morning difficult”, “I couldn't sing it”, and a moment or two later another person might say “That was a lovely third hymn this morning vicar, we used to sing it when I was a choir boy”. We're a collection of individuals who are different, bound together by a common faith and belief. God loves me.

One thing is for sure, there'll come a time for each of us, no matter how strong our faith, when we'll need to be supported along the way by those we journey with. I'm extremely thankful for all the great support I'm receiving and have received over the last few months.

I hope and pray the time of Lent and the celebration of Easter is a blessing to us all.

Eddy Wilkinson.

Christenings at St. Matthew's Church



3rd March - Finley William Henry Lockey

New Bishop of Jarrow



Wednesday 27th February saw the consecration of the New Bishop of Jarrow, The Venerable Sarah Clark, at York Minster. The service was conducted by the Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, as Sarah has now become the first female Bishop in the Dioceses of Durham and Carlisle.

We look forward to Sarah beginning her ministry and wish her well from all at St.Matthew's Church.

A trip to pay tribute



Along a farm track to the east of Péronne in northern France lies a Commonwealth Cemetery holding the graves of 2,500 soldiers who died in the First World War. The great uncle of Wayne Marshall is buried there.

Two years ago Wayne, together with his wife, planned to lay a wreath on his great uncle's grave, but difficulties arose and they were unable to travel to France. A friend and his son from St. Matthew's were to holiday in France at the time, and they were able to help by laying the wreath on the grave for them.

Last year, Wayne and his wife were themselves able to have the moving and tearful experience of laying a wreath. So many young men who gave their lives in battle did not have graves for families to visit and remember them, and many gravestones in the cemetery bear only the words "Unknown Soldier" or "Known to God". Looking north, east and south

from the cemetery at God's gift of the magnificent view, it will be comforting for visiting families to know that their loved ones are laid to rest in his care in such a beautiful place. Those visiting the cemetery will of course also remember those who died in the Second World War, and have been laid to rest in cemeteries elsewhere.

Lent Course at St. Matthew's

This year's Lent course "Waymark" starts on Tuesday 12th March at 7-8:30pm in the Lady Chapel at St. Matthew's, Newbottle. It continues every Tuesday for 5 weeks. The course includes a short worship activity then time to consider & discuss what blessings God has given us and what it means to be blessed in our everyday lives.

A Prayer for the Waymark Lent Course

Loving God
guiding the people of Durham Diocese
faithfully through the years:

We thank you for saints who have marked our path,
young and old, known and unknown,
from all places and in all walks of life.

Help us to find your way in our generation:
transformed by your truth,
sharing your life,
blessing our communities.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen.



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Illustrations © Jeff Anderson 2019



Diocese of Durham



Mother's Day

Mother's Day or Mothering Sunday is on 31st March this year and we always celebrate the occasion during our morning service at St. Matthew's Newbottle. The service is made special for both mothers and children. Usually the children participate in some way during the talk, which is very child-friendly. When they go off into Crafty Church they make a card or something to give their mums when they return. Towards the end of the service the children give out flowers to the congregation.

SUNDAY 31st MARCH

9:45am

Hope to see you there.

Do come and join us, you'd be most welcome.

The Bells, The Bells Again



You must surely have heard the new church electronic bells if you have been up in the village. It's a welcome addition to the both the church and the village. They were provided very kindly by several donations. Fred Davies ("Fred Anthony", the Elvis Tribute act), of Derek Moss Funeral Services, did a fundraiser In Newbottle Club and provided for the electronic bell system itself. More recently, our organist, Derek Coffey and an anonymous donor have provided for the installation of the bells. A huge thank you to all of these people. We couldn't have done it without them.

We now have bells to mark the time and to mark our church services. There are various special peels and chimes that can be used for weddings etc. They are a marvellous addition to our services and people have chimed up about how nice it is to hear the bells and how they add to the village character and atmosphere.

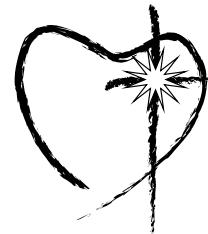


Valentine's Day

No doubt many of you will have celebrated St Valentine's Day recently.

You may have given & received cards, enjoyed a meal out, or prepared a special meal at home. Some may have indulged in or been treated to a romantic break away. Paris perhaps? Some may have become engaged. All really lovely.

While pondering on this time when we try to show our love to our nearest and dearest, it would be good to consider what Alicia Bruxvoort quotes:



*The shape of true love
isn't a diamond,
It's a cross!*



Get to know the Tech with the IT class

What is going on in the church hall on a Monday afternoon?

Since the beginning of January every Monday between 1pm and 2:30pm a group of us, a dozen or so, have been learning and laughing at the same time with John Walls of Hetton Hub.

Some of us use our iPads, android devices or laptops, while others just want to find out what it's all about. It's about building up our confidence and our ability in the digital and online world.

So, it's for the kids, the young people?

The sessions are open to anyone. Those attending at present I hope would not mind being described as more mature in years, but not too old to learn.

We've been learning how to use the Internet to research things that are of interest to us, such as Local history and family history. We've even taken part in a murder mystery quiz using online clues and prompts.

This you can do all from the comfort of your armchair.

We've also been learning how to use our devices to repair cherished photographs, how to translate to and from foreign languages and how to download apps, photographs, books and magazines - all for free!

I wish I'd known about it!

It is not too late to join. It has been so popular we are planning to continue for the foreseeable future and are open to suggestions expand this resource in Newbottle.

Just come along and say hello.

You can be sure of a warm welcome.



Newbottle Primary Academy News

We Are Nearly Halfway There

September: When we were settled in, we were all well behaved and worked really.

October: Throughout the year, we had some groovy discos. After our hard work the whole of Newbottle Primary Academy had a truly cool party for the spooky, gloomy October Halloween disco. It was really groovy. We all enjoyed dancing. Some of the hard working pupils parents have been the DJs over time. We really enjoyed it.

November: After a hard working week, as the sweat trickled down our foreheads, our lovely teachers decided to let us do some absolutely amazing water colour poppies. The school looked beautiful. It was amazing. The children of the school had all completed Armistice art .Our teachers were so proud of what we had made. We weren't expecting it but we had came 4th in the Armistice 100 challenge.

December: As time flew by Christmas was ahead and the temperature was minus 2. We knew a tough winter was ahead as our concerts were coming up. As we started singing, it sounded beautiful and sweet as it glided through the corridors. The concerts included songs sung by year 6 and the rest of the years. Then we had our parties. They were really fun.

We continued doing our best as the rapid months travelled by and we all worked very hard.

By Jack Y3



More Great Stories Coming Soon

KARATE CLUB SUCCESS

Well done to the whole Kazen Kai squad for a fantastic display at the Liverpool open on Sunday 27th January. The club results from the squad were fantastic, even those who didn't medal put up a tough display. Cam Roper and Ethan Auty took hard fought bronzes in the individual section and Amelia Robson took silver in the individual kata. Jess Walsh and Amelia Robson made it to the girls final to face each other after again tough fights, with Amelia winning gold and Jess silver. Team events showed the most metal in the cadet final with a draw and a loss, it was down to Ethan Auty to take it with the last punch for gold. Jess and Amelia didn't drop a point in the girls team also taking gold. Great support from the club and brilliant team spirit!" - Ed Gillespie.



**KARATE SESSIONS ARE ON IN OUR CHURCH HALL
ON A WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SUNDAY EVENING.**

crafty



Our Crafty Church meet every Sunday, during the morning service, in the Lady chapel. The chapel is transformed for a Sunday morning, the tables come out and are usually filled with various crafting resources. It is all lead really well by Heather and Charlotte, who plan the activities carefully, so that all ages are catered for and all have something to take home.

As well as enjoying the activities the children take part in the beginning of the service and the church is trialling a very short, special children's feature, where the children are all involved. We normally ask for feedback with any changes, but the children have offered their feedback without being asked! Thankfully, it was all positive and they love participating.

come and

church

The children also have various jobs they like to do. Claudia & Emilia do a lovely welcome to the congregation, giving out the hymn books and service sheets. Joe is our resident barista and not only makes a good cup of coffee, but keeps the machine working well. Tiffany used to be the apprentice bell ringer, but was made redundant when the electronic bells were fitted. However, don't be dismayed, she now sometimes plays the piano at the end of the service. We couldn't mention Crafty Church without mentioning our youngest member Eloise, who brings her Paws Patrol characters to church and helps her mum to tidy up after the activities.

We welcome any new young members to any of our morning services.

and try it!





BATTERED, FLIPPED & EATEN!

You had batter sit down to read this article!

The Saturday coffee morning on the 2nd March at the church hall wasn't just a coffee morning, it was pancakes and coffee. Pancakes were coming out of the kitchen in their **shroves!!** There was a range of delicious toppings, fresh lemon and orange juices, honey, Nutella, maple syrup and treacle and lots of friendly chat and humour. Yes once again Pancake Tuesday has **crêped** up on us. It seems like no time since we last indulged in them.

Pancake Day is also known as Shrove Tuesday and it's all part of Lent. "Shrove" is the past tense of "shrive" which the Oxford English Dictionary defines as "presenting oneself to a priest for confession, penance, and absolution". It's basically the day in which Christians traditionally confessed their sins in church ahead of Lent. It's a Christian festival and the roots come from people replicating the suffering, sacrifice and temptation of Jesus Christ in the 40 days journey he spent in the desert.

A lot of people use Lent as a way of

testing their willpower - often giving up things like chocolate or other sweet treats before Easter. The three key ingredients in pancakes are flour, eggs and milk and were once very common things to give up for Lent, so it made sense to use them all up in one handy dish the day before Lent started.

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent and comes straight after Shrove Tuesday. The ashes that give the day its name are created from burnt palm leaf crosses from the previous year's Palm Sunday. The ashes used to be smeared on the heads of Christians during mass. Some churches such as Houghton Parish Church, have carried out this custom recently.

A final note and we hope this doesn't leave you feeling **flat...**

If you need a laugh read some of the jokes to make you laugh.



Your flippin Yoking

*Did you hear about the angry pancake?
It just flipped!*

*I can't believe it's pancake Tuesday again. Honestly,
it just crêped up on me.*

*What did the young pancake say to the old burnt pancake?
I don't like your flip side.*

*How do you make a pancake smile?
Butter him up.*





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You're invited to our Big Brekkie

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money for Christian Aid Week.

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Notices & Information

FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA

Mrs Lydiatt Mrs Towers Mrs French Mrs Wilson Mrs Martin

Flower preparation at 10.00am on the following

March 1st

No flowers in Church for the season of Lent
Easter Flower preparation Saturday 20th April 9.00am

SANCTUARY GUILD DONATIONS

Anonymous Donation For Flowers

Memories Of A Loved Mother

Donations From The Flower Collection Box In Church

Anonymous Donation For Flowers

FABRIC FUND

Three donations from Susan Pickering
In loving memory of a very dear Husband,
Dad and Grandad, from Maud & Family
In loving memory of a very dear
Brother-in-Law and Uncle, from Kate &
Family

Anonymous donation of memory of a loved one

Sunniside Methodist Church

Mrs. Una Shearer:

Our dear friend, Mrs. Una Shearer, passed away on Wednesday 13th February after a long illness.

Una was a lifelong member of the church at Sunniside, as were her parents, Gilbert & Lily Clement. She was introduced to church life as a member of the "Sunday School" along with most of us at that time.

She married Brian in 1960 and then a number of years later, they moved briefly to York where they successfully managed a guest house. However they moved back to Carrville and resumed their membership here at Sunniside.

Most of us are aware that Una was a trained singer and we recall how she sang as a soprano soloist on "Goof Friday" 1977 when the choir performed the cantata "Olivet to Calvary".

Then in 1991 she was appointed organist along with Hilda Hartburn and May Hedley, a role she performed until July 2017 when illness prevented her from attending worship.

She has been and will continue to be greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers are with Brian at this sad time.

Una's funeral was held on Friday 1st March at Sunniside.

TICK TOCK

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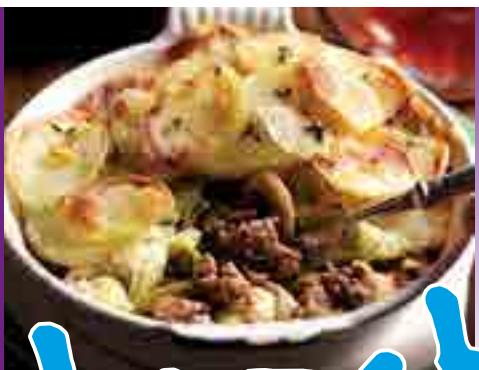
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*****Please Book A Place In Advance*****
to ensure numbers can be catered for

To Book Contact: Malcolm 0191 5844995



Easter Services at St. Matthew's Church



Please come and join us at our Easter services

Palm Sunday 14th April

9.45am Parish Eucharist. & Blessing of Palm Crosses
6.00pm Evening worship.

Maundy Thursday 18th April

7.00pm Parish Eucharist – “Thanksgiving for Holy Communion”.

Good Friday 19th April

1.00pm Holy Communion.
2.00pm “An Hour Before the Cross”.
3.00pm Ends by singing “When I survey the wondrous cross”.

Easter Day 21st April

9.45am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer with Holy Communion.

St. Matthew's Church & Community Hall

...part of the local community spirit

Weekly Timetable

DAY	TIME	CLUB
Monday	1.00pm-2.30pm	Computer Skills (John)
Monday	6.30pm-8.30pm	Judo (Brian)
Tuesday	9.30am-12.00noon	Arts & Crafts Club (Kathleen)
Wednesday	1.30pm-2.30pm	Time For Rhyme
Wednesday	6.00pm-7.30pm	Karate (Ed)
Thursday	9.30am-10.30am	Coffee Morning
Thursday	10.30am-11.15am	Sit and Be Fit
Thursday	12.30pm-1.30pm	Lunch Club
Friday	6.00pm-7.30pm	Karate (Ed)
Sunday	5.30pm-6.30pm	Karate (Ed)

Would you like to book the Church Hall for a party or club meeting?
Contact Steven or Julie by Email: stmatthewshallbookings@gmail.com

For all information on St. Matthew's Church and the Church Hall

www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org

We're on Facebook
St. Matthew's Church, Newbottle

