

St. Matthew's Church Newbottle

May-June
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

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From Our Registers:

Christening: 7th April

Amelia-Grace Hardy.

Harry Layton Blair.

Wedding: 18th April

Jonathan Lowe & Anja Birgit Sienerth

Funeral: 11th March

Margaret Ann Mason

24th April

Ada Briggs.

Burial of Ashes: 3rd April

Mr. Matthew Hoggins &

Mrs. Evelyn Hoggins.

27th April

Margaret Ann Mason.

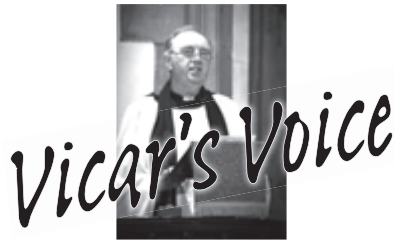
Send Us Your Story



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

smn-magazine@outlook.com

NOTE: THIS EMAIL ADDRESS IS CHECKED MONTHLY, APOLOGIES IF YOU DON'T GET A REPLY



What a marvellous five days we had over the Easter weekend this year. We started with a lovely wedding on Maundy Thursday. On Good Friday during our "Hour before the Cross" we considered the great gift of life which God has given to each and every one of us. A gift which should be treasured and enjoyed, and never taken for granted; it's a gift so precious that Jesus the son of God died on a cross to underline the fact.

Easter Saturday was a day of preparation for the remembrance of Easter Day when we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. The resurrection miracle runs completely counter to human experience – where there was death there is now life. Jesus knew his disciples after the resurrection and just as importantly, they knew him and were reassured that all was well with him, and that all would go well with them also.

In the church and churchyard on Easter day, we had an Easter egg hunt for the children. It was a lovely sunny morning, and they had a great time with plenty of crème eggs to go round for everyone. There was cake and cup cakes in the church with fresh coffee, lattes, cappuccinos, tea, orange juice etc... It truly was a lovely Easter Sunday morning.

Sadly our celebrations were touched with a heavy, heavy sadness, as we remembered the tragic events our Christian brothers and sisters in Sri Lanka were enduring on Easter Sunday. We kept them in our prayers, and continue to do so, as they come to terms with the devastation that has blighted their churches and communities. In the midst of celebration tragedy is never far away. The terrible thing is that the human tragedy on Easter Sunday was no accident, but was deliberately inflicted to make a point, just as the crucifixion of Jesus was deliberately inflicted upon him to make a point.

There are times in our lives when things happen, not by accident but deliberately instigated by others, which makes us question what on earth is going on in the world, no matter how strong our faith. It's on such occasions that the message of the resurrection becomes so important to us, and I'm reminded of a sermon preached by one of our former bishops in which he said, "Remember, you can't keep a good God down, He's there all the time looking to lift us up, all the time".

I hope and pray that the Easter message will be a blessing to everyone – good will triumph over evil and life will be celebrated.

Eddy Wilkinson.

Christenings at St. Matthew's Church



Amelia Grace Hardy Christened on the 7th April



Harry Layton Blair Christened on the 7th April



Sitting Comfy at St. Matthew's

We now have new pew cushions in church. They are very smart, with a warmer look than the old blue ones. As well as looking good they are much more comfortable to sit on. We are lucky to have them and have the late Christine Kirkup to thank for her generous bequest. There are also matching

kneelers for communion and for the chairs used for the bride and groom at weddings. An individual kneeler has also been made, with Christine's name on it. We very much appreciate Christine's kindness and feel she would thoroughly approve.



Mothers' UNION Christian care for families

The Mothers' Union deanery Lady Day service was held at St Michael & All Angels church, Easington Lane on Monday 25 March. Our St Matthew's banner was carried along with those of other churches in the deanery and we enjoyed meeting many other members and catching up with news over cups of tea and biscuits.

On Friday 1 March the service for the Women's Ecumenical World Day of Prayer was held at Houghton Methodist church. It was a most enjoyable service which had been prepared by members of the Mothers' Union living in Slovenia. A member from St Matthew's together with five others from churches in our Houghton area took part in the telling of the lives of six women living in Slovenia during a period of difficulty and now at a more settled state. Many hymns were sung and the congregation did very well to sing a not very easy song. Cakes and biscuits with hot drinks were served after the service and we all left the church with a carnation, the national flower of Slovenia.



Caramelised Onion Tartlets with Goat's Cheese and Thyme

Method

- Pastry. Sift the flour, & add the butter. Then add the Parmesan, mustard and a pinch of cayenne pepper, plus about 1½ tablespoons cold water to make a smooth dough. Then place in the fridge to rest for 30 minutes.
- Pre-heat the oven to gas mark 4, 180°C. After that, roll it out as thinly as possible, stamp out 24 rounds and line the tins with them. (The pastry will stand proud of the rim of the cups to allow for shrinkage.) Then prick the bases and brush with the beaten egg. Now bake on the middle and top shelves of the oven (swapping them over halfway through) for about 10 minutes, or until the pastry is just cooked through, then cool them on a wire rack.
- For the filling, melt the butter in a frying pan and cook the onions very gently, uncovered and stirring often, for about 30 minutes, or until they have turned a lovely golden brown caramel colour. Then leave to cool .
- Now whisk the egg with the cream and mustard and add some seasoning. Next, spoon a little of the onion mixture into each pastry case, spread it out evenly and pour the egg mixture over.
- Cut each cheese log into 12 thin slices, wiping the knife between slices;
- Place a slice on the top of each tartlet, then top with a sprinkling of thyme and a sprinkling of cayenne pepper.
- Bake for 20 minutes, or until puffy and golden, swapping the tins again halfway through cooking.

Ingredients

For the pastry

6 oz (175 g) plain flour
3 oz (75 g) butter, at room temperature,
1½ oz (40 g) Parmesan (Parmigiano Reggiano), finely grated
½ level teaspoon mustard powder
cayenne pepper
1 large egg, beaten

For the filling

2 large Spanish onions, peeled and finely chopped
2 x 4 oz (110 g) Welsh goats' cheese logs
Thyme
1 oz (25 g) butter
1 large egg
4 fl oz (120 ml) single cream
¼ level teaspoon mustard powder
cayenne pepper
salt and freshly milled black pepper

Margaret Ann Mason 1935 -2019

It was with great sadness that we heard the news of Margaret's death. She was an important and well loved member of our congregation. Margaret was born in Sunderland, but when she was still very young the family moved to High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, so that her father could find work. The family settled very happily there and Margaret had very happy memories of her childhood.

Margaret's aim when she was young was to be a cleaner, but she trained as an upholsterer in the furniture industry, which was centred in High Wycombe. Margaret met Roy and after his national service, they married when Margaret was 21. They were very happy together, until tragically Roy lost his life after a fall from scaffolding at the gable end of a house.

Margaret met second husband Bill Mason when she came to visit her sister Doreen, who lived in Houghton. They got married at Chester-le-Street registry office, followed by a blessing in St Matthew's church, by Michael Bates. After marrying Bill, Margaret moved from High Wycombe into a newly built bungalow, "Rosewillow", in Coaley Lane. By 1977 Margaret had moved into her current house at 14, Maidstone Terrace, Philadelphia. She was blessed with two loving daughters, Angie and Dawn, who she used to take to High Wycombe to visit her family. Angie and Dawn have great memories of these holidays with their mam.

It was after Bill died at home 20 years or so ago, that Margaret became more actively involved in the life of this church. She voluntarily took on the job of cleaner and would spend most Tuesdays up in church, and often a large part of Saturday. Everything had to be perfect. She was the verger and so was present at all christenings, weddings



and funerals, and Sunday and mid-week services. Margaret was an active member of the Mothers' Union and helped to run the GFS. She also helped to run the Thursday lunch club for many years and eventually joined everyone for lunch. Margaret was a member of the PCC and the church hall management committee. She was at the heart of church life until her declining

health and the passing of time slowed her down and we are very thankful for all she did. Everything that Margaret did in her church life was done quietly and thoughtfully as an expression of her faith.

At Margaret's funeral, Eddy read out eulogies that both Dawn and Angie had written for their mam. They said how very gentle, dutiful, unassuming and generous Margaret was, giving them everything she could afford. Margaret was always there for them, encouraging and praising, so proud of her daughters. Angie felt that Margaret was "mum". That's what Margaret liked to be called, and how she always signed herself. It was the Southerner in her and she refused to pick up any North East accent! To Dawn she was "mam" – Margaret Ann Mason.

When Dawn got married Margaret gave her away and happily accepted Bart into the family, as she did with Paul, Angie's husband. She was there in court in 2012 when Dawn and Bart adopted Leah and was very giving to all their fostered children, a true foster grandparent. Angie said what a lovely grandma she had been to Rhys and she loved nothing better than playing with dinosaurs or jigsaws on the floor with him.

Both Angie and Dawn said they missed being able to phone her, and tell her news or funny stories of the children.

Margaret will be greatly missed by all. It was a privilege to know her.



Mother's Day Banner

made by the children in Crafty Church



Thanks to all the children who attend Crafty Church during the Sunday morning services, for making the lovely banner for Mother's Day. They've been busy along with Heather, Charlotte and Stephen preparing the banner. Unfortunately, due to the church boiler breaking down, the Mother's Day service had to be held in the Lady Chapel. Everyone was squashed in like sardines, but nevertheless it was a lovely service and the banner was held aloft at the end of the service, after the children had distributed a bunch of daffodils to everyone at the service. They made cards and a little gift for

their mams. It was a "little box full of love", containing a candle, a chocolate truffle, some tiny flowers and a little scroll saying, "Happy Mother's Day" and "I promise to tidy my room".

During the service we were reminded of how special a mother's love is and how it is like God's love – unconditional and forgiving. The children told us they'd given cards and presents to their mams and were asked how they might show their love to them. It was also considered how we might show our love to God.





On the 14th-15th March, Cyclone Idai made landfall in central Mozambique, near Beira City, Sofala Province, leaving almost 90% of the city submerged in flood water. The cyclone also hit Zimbabwe and Malawi, destroying homes, roads, bridges, and vital crops, in its wake. An estimated 3 million people have been affected by Cyclone Idai, at least 750 people have been killed and some 400,000 have lost their homes, and so are in need of vital humanitarian aid to survive, being in desperate need of food, water, clothing, shelter and medicine.

Christian Aid is working with local partners on the ground in Zimbabwe and Malawi, helping to provide this much-needed emergency assistance.

To help with this Appeal, we at St. Matthew's asked for donations and gave the proceeds from our monthly coffee morning in April as well as adding a large donation from church funds. We hope you agree that the final sum donated of £450 was a fantastic show of Christian love, bringing hope and dignity to ordinary people facing a terrible situation.

A prayer for Sri Lanka on Easter Day

Creator God, who loves peace and concord,

We bring before you the people of Sri Lanka.

Just as your Son suffered betrayal and agony on Good Friday,

They have faced brutality and violence on Easter Day.

May the church and hotel communities who have faced attack,
find reassurance and healing;

May the bereaved friends and families, find consolation after tears,

May those who believe terrorism changes things, discover the power of love and hope.

Loving God, who hates nothing you have made,

We bring before you the divisions we have created,

Ethnic, religious, national, class and many more.

May we be hopeful rather than harsh,

May we avoid the barbed word in favour of affirming phrases,

May we offer a smiling eye rather than an uncaring glance.

Compassionate God, who brings healing and peace for all,

Look now on the bereaved, the injured and the fearful in Sri Lanka.

We pray in the name of Jesus, friend and companion.

Amen

An Eggcellent Newbottle Academy Easter service at St Matthew's

At eggsactly 9:45 on Monday 1st April the school's service began. No eggsams or eggercises, instead the eggitement of the walk up to St Matthew's! No eggspense had been spared, the church had been decorated, music recorded and palm crosses were at the ready.

The children's behaviour was eggsemplary throughout the service and they sang all the Easter songs and hymns eggseptionally well. The KS1 choir entertained us all with, "Spring in my toes" and "Clever little Bulbs". A Lego video of the Easter story was shown, then all the children sang Tom's favourite, "The Chicken Song". It eggceded all of Tom's eggspectations, so beautiful were all the voices, together with eggcellent actions.

Tom spoke to the children about it being April Fools' Day and that if you told the story of how a very good man was let down by a friend, was put to death on a cross and rose again, then people would think it was an April Fool. But no, that is all true!

When they read out their prayers, Y6 eggspressed themselves really well. They thanked God for their families, friends, homes and for hope, which God gives us. They also thanked God for sending us his only son and for showing us how to live.

Their prayers eggspained how we should all appreciate what God has given us and how he shows us the difference between what is good and what is bad.

After holding up their palm crosses it was time to sing the final hymn, Easter Jubilation. It was eggstraordinarily loud and lively and meaningful! All were eggstra keen to participate.

Eddy, the vicar, then gave God's blessing and eggspained to the children that by blessing we mean God's love and his presence with us.

And that was it! Time to eggst the church and take the eggsausting trek back to school.

It really was an eggcellent service and everyone at church would like to thank all of the pupils for their beautiful decorated crosses, which they painted, coloured and glued. We have displayed these works of art around the church for over the Easter period.





Bonjour! We arrived safely at our beautiful hotel and set ourselves up with skis, boots and a helmet. Our rooms were chalet chic and quite the luxurious setting we hoped for. The views were breathtaking and it was even snowing with a light flurry.

Jour Un What a day! We had had our first taste of skiing at Les Ménuires, and loved it! After some tricky starts, we all made great progress. Lunch was delicious too. The weather was really sunny. We all got along great and were not missing home.

Jour Deux The fluttering snow all day left us in no doubt as to where we were! At times, we couldn't see, but that didn't stop us...far from it. We loved the speed and even began to explore the ski runs around us by going on lifts for the first time. We had a trip to the shop to buy drinks and toured the village before settling down for a meal and karaoke.

Jour Trois As the strong sunshine beamed down upon us, we had the best day on the slopes! We made amazing progress, skiing all over the mountains. Just when we thought the day couldn't get any better, we

went to an authentic French restaurant. We had a games night and a quiz. Mrs Brown brought, 'Play your cards right'.

Jour Quatre You would not believe just how good we were all getting at skiing!. It taught us that if something is difficult, you need to keep trying, keep practicing, keep listening and you will improve. We had a games night in the hotel and a quiz.

Jour Cinq We conquered our fear of chairlifts and were ready to spend our last day exploring high up in the mountains. Our instructors were so kind. Martin, Danny and Carole were great skiers and passed on all they knew. We went shopping for a little gift for them to say thank you.

Jour Six Today we went to the very top; an altitude of over 3000m. Despite cloud covering the summit of Mont Blanc in the distance, we still had amazing views. After skiing we packed, leaving only our disco clothes out for the last night. Before tea we had a presentation, where we received a badge.

Au revoir





Thank Cod on Good Friday

Up and down the UK we all seem to go in droves to our closest fish and chip shop like it is the last time we will ever get fish and chips. The queues can be so long and people wait patiently for ages just to get their portion.

Then I overheard a couple whilst walking along the coast, "you would think it's the only time you can get fish and chips, utter madness."

Why do we do this tradition of getting fish and chips on Good Friday?

For many Christians it is important that no meat should be eaten on Good Friday, but there are many that just seem to do it out of a national tradition without perhaps knowing the real reason.

It's believed Jesus Christ suffered and died on the cross on a Friday, Christians from the very beginning have set aside that day to remember this and 'unite their sufferings'.

This led the Church to mark every Friday as a 'Good Friday', where people remember the Passion by offering the 'penance'.

Meat was seen as a worthy sacrifice as it was linked with feasts and celebrations.

In ancient cultures meat was seen as a delicacy and "the fattened calf" wasn't slaughtered unless there was something to celebrate.

Fridays were seen as a day of penance so eating meat on a Friday to "celebrate" the death of Jesus didn't sit well with the Church.



Women's Fellowship

On Wednesday 20 March Paul Robinson of Co-op Estate Planning came to our evening meeting. His lengthy talk was most interesting and useful for us. He stated that preparation for the future involves more than just making a will, and that we need to ensure that the inheritance – which we have worked hard for – for our loved ones is used the right way. He referred to long-term care fees, mental incapacity and the putting in place of an Enduring or Lasting Power of Attorney. Paul left us with much thinking to do and the phone number 0161 256 9042 and name Charissa Malpass for anyone who wishes to have a talk and information.



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• Manager Paul Thompson Tel: 0779 0094 116

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Step It Up

The Sunderland Wellness Walking Programme is here to help with "Walking for Health" where you can take part in a FREE short walk near to Newbottle to help you get active and stay active at a pace that works for you. It's a great way to stretch your legs, explore what's on your doorstep, and make new friends. For over 12 years, this programme has helped thousands of people discover the many benefits of regular group walks. From reducing stress, to losing weight, to sharing laughs, Walking for Health has something for everyone!

Nordic walking uses special Nordic Walking poles which engaging the upper body as well as the legs. This results in a more complete full body workout, burning more calories than normal walking. Research shows that Nordic Walking is ideal for those with neck, shoulder, knee and back problems. The two nordic walks listed below provide these poles FREE for use at the walk – so go and try it if you haven't already (its great!)

For other walks and further information contact: laura.bartlett@sunderland.gov.uk or telephone her on: 0191 5614693.

<https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/north-east/sunderland-city-councils-wellness-walking-programme>

The nearest walks to Newbottle meet at Herrington Country Park and Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve, and are timetabled April – September 2019 as follows:

DAY	WALK TYPE	TIME	MEETING POINT
Mon	Health	10am-11am	Herrington Country Park (Play Park Car Park DH4 7EL)
Tues	Nordic	10am-11.30am	Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve (Car Park DH4 6PU)
Thurs	Nordic	6.30pm-8pm	Herrington Country Park (Play Park Car Park DH4 7EL)
Sat	Nature	2pm-3pm	Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve (Car Park DH4 6PU)



Zumba Gold To Take Ahold!



Zumba Gold is a new fitness group starting at our Church Hall on Friday 17th May from 10.10am-11am! Its suitable for all levels as its low impact (no jumping) and great for older active adults as well as those returning to fitness or those wanting to try Zumba for the first time. Its great fun, and you dance to pop music but mainly those Latin beats that Zumba is famous for! Why don't you give it a go at only £3.50 per session? Join the instructor, Janet Webster, on the 17th to go for gold!!!

Notices & Information

In loving memory of Margaret our sister in law and auntie, sleep tight with the angels always in our hearts Peter and Margaret Mason and nephews.

FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA

Mrs Lydiatt Mrs Towers Mrs French
Mrs Wilson Mrs Martin
Flower preparation at 10.00am on the following
May 3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st
June 7th 14th 21st 28th

SANCTUARY GUILD DONATIONS

Anonymous donation for Easter flowers
Donation for Easter Flowers Special
thoughts of Alan loving Husband and
much loved Dad also Mam and Dad From
Margaret Craig Scott Deborah and Carly

In memory of Mam Elizabeth Strafford
(Betty) Sister Janice Nordstrom, Aunt and
Grandparents Alice Chrisp and Frank
and Lena Chrisp from Kathleen Allen and
Family

Donation for Mothering Sunday Flowers
In Memory of Parents from Dorothy
Beaumont

Fond Mothers Day and Easter Memories of
Mam and Dad Peg and Jack Smith Loved
always Carole Brian and Family

Easter Memories of Mam and Dad Ellen
and Jack Wilson from John and Rita
Flowers in celebration of the Wedding of
Anja and Jonathan

To all who donated and arranged flowers
for Easter many thanks. The Church
looked splendid to welcome our Risen Lord
and Saviour on the day of resurrection.

FABRIC FUND

Birthday memories of a dear husband and
brother in law, from Maud & family and
Kate & family.

Sunnyside Methodist Church

Donation to flower fund:

In loving memory of a dear sister Margaret
on her birthday from Jean, Ron & family.

"Coffee Mornings" commenced at Sunnyside
on Wednesday 24th April, to be held weekly
from 9.00am. All are welcome to drop in for
a cuppa and a chat.



You're invited to our Big Brekkie



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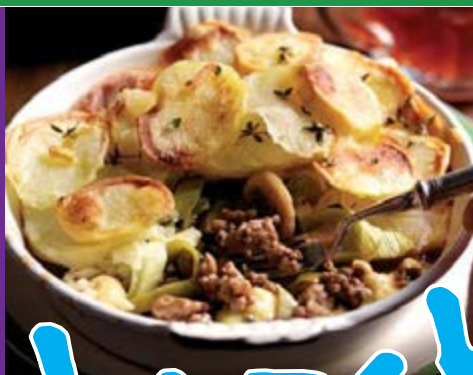
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Lunch Club

at the St. Matthew's Church Hall

Thursdays 12.30 - 1.30pm

*****Please Book A Place In Advance*****

to ensure numbers can be catered for

To Book Contact: Malcolm 0191 5844995



St. Matthew's Church
Newbottle

Summer Fayre

July 6th
2.00pm

in the Vicarage Garden

Tombola Childrens Games
Jewellery & Gifts Grand Raffle

Homemade
Cakes & Cards

Coconut Shy
Strawberry
Tea

...and much more

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	10.10am to 11am	Zumba Gold (Janet)
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

