



Rev Allison Harding



Rev Margaret Ledger



Rev Malcolm Jones

We are happy to discuss spiritual matters with you.  
 If you know of people who are ill or in hospital please let us know. Please contact Allison to discuss Baptism, Confirmation or Marriage

The deadline date for any inclusions for the March magazine is

**Sunday 9th February.**

Please either email or hand to Helen Dawson.  
[helenrdawson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helenrdawson@yahoo.co.uk)

If you have any questions or opinions about the magazine content and style, or would like to write an article please get in touch.

All feedback welcome.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive a magazine (only £5.00 per annum) please get in touch and we will add their name to the distribution list.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2020 ARE NOW DUE.**

Newburn parish  
magazine



February  
2020

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**SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2020 ARE NOW DUE.**

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**PARISH WEBSITE: [www.newburnparish.org](http://www.newburnparish.org)**



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### Other Wellburn Homes in the North East:

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**Glenholme Day Centre**, Roker: glenholmedaycentre@wellburncare.co.uk  
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**St George's Nursing & Residential Care Home**, Washington: stgeorges@wellburncare.co.uk  
**Craghall Residential Care Home**, Gosforth: craghall@wellburncare.co.uk

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## Letter from the Clergy

Dear Readers

### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Welcome to the first magazine of not only a new year but a new decade. In the closing days of 2019 the latest fad on Facebook was called 'The 10 year challenge'. People were posting photographs of themselves taken in 2009 and alongside it another of them taken in 2019 so that they could see how they had changed over the decade. I searched through my photos and, when I saw the difference 10 years had made, decided I wouldn't bother to join in. We live with constant change and it isn't always for the better!

However, when a new year comes and perhaps particularly when we begin a new decade, we look at ourselves and think about the changes we would like to make as we look ahead to the next ten years. It's often to do with our appearance and well-being - we would like to be thinner/fitter/healthier/spend less/save more/try a new activity/join a new group. Perhaps we would like to be kinder, more compassionate, more helpful.

One change that we hear about a lot is climate change and we have been made more aware of that in recent weeks as we see reports of the Australian fires and the terrible effects on the lives of the people and wildlife. These words from the hymn 'Abide with me' may be familiar to you:

*'change and decay in all around I see;*

*O, thou who changest not, abide with me.'*

21st September 1979 was the day on which I became a Christian. I had been a church-goer for most of my life, but on that day I became aware that the great sacrifice of his life that Jesus had made on the cross was for me. I held back at first because I knew that my life would have to change and I thought that I couldn't change. Then, I realised that if God wanted me to change, he would change me. So, I can look back over 40 years and I can see that I have changed in many ways. However - I am still a work in progress!

When I receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion my prayer



### THE GRANGE CENTRE

Newburn Road, Throckley, NE15 9AF

Phone: 0191 267 3728,

Website: [www.thegrangecentre.co.uk](http://www.thegrangecentre.co.uk)

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Church Services at St Michael & All Angels		
Morning Readers will find the readings below under St. Mary's Service		
	9.30am	6.00pm
<b>2nd February</b> <b>Presentation of Christ</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Read: Ken Ladzrie Pray: Linda Frazer	<b>Evening Prayer</b> Read: Amanda Taylor John 2: 18-22
<b>9th February</b> <b>3rd before Lent</b>	<b>All Age Worship/Baptism</b> Read: Allison Harding Pray: Allison Harding	<b>BCP Holy Communion</b> Read: Colin Stafford Psalm 112 Matthew 5: 13-20
<b>16th February</b> <b>2nd before Lent</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Read: Norman Pringle Pray: Celia Waugh	<b>Evening Prayer</b> Read: Sandra Hope Revelation 4
<b>23rd February</b> <b>Next before Lent</b>	<b>Morning Praise</b> Read: Roz Cant Pray: Norman Pringle	<b>Holy Communion</b> Read: Janet Bell Psalm 2 Matthew 17: 1-9
<b>1st March</b> <b>First of Lent</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Read: Dan Stone Pray: Colin Stafford	<b>Evening Prayer</b> Read: Amanda Taylor Luke 15: 1-10

Church Services at St. Mary the Virgin		
Date	11.00am	
<b>2nd February</b> <b>Presentation of Christ</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Read: Harry Stoker Pray: Jennie Jones	<u>Readings</u> Psalm 24: 1-10 Luke 2: 22-40
<b>9th February</b> <b>3rd before Lent</b>	<b>All Age Worship/Baptism</b> Read: Allison Harding Pray: Allison Harding	<u>Readings</u> Psalm 112 Matthew 5: 13-20
<b>16th February</b> <b>2nd before Lent</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Read: Becky Simblet Pray: Brian Ledger	<u>Readings</u> Psalm 136 Matthew 6: 25-end
<b>23rd February</b> <b>Next before Lent</b>	<b>Morning Praise</b> Read: Margaret Ledger Pray: Mary Weatherall	<u>Readings</u> Psalm 2 Matthew 17: 1-9
<b>1st March</b> <b>First of Lent</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Read: Harry Weatherall Pray: Gill Read	<u>Readings</u> Psalm 32 Matthew 4: 1 -11

is always; 'Lord, you have given your life for me, help me to live my life for you.'

Our New Year resolutions very rarely last - we may make changes for a while but then we slip back. On our own we are not strong enough to be the person we would like to be. With Jesus alongside us as we go through life we are more able to overcome the temptations that would drag us backwards.

St Paul writes in 2 Corinthians chapter 3, verses 17 to 18:

*'The heart is free where the Spirit of the Lord is. The Lord is the Spirit. All of us, with no covering on our faces, show the shining-greatness of the Lord as in a mirror. All the time we are being changed to look like Him, with more and more of His shining-greatness. This change is from the Lord Who is the Spirit.'*  
(New Life Version of the Bible)

In this coming year and decade, may the unchanging Lord Jesus be in our lives, changing us to become more and more like him.

Yours,  
Margaret

#### A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Eternal Lord God,  
we give you thanks for bringing us  
through the changes of time  
to the beginning of another year.  
Forgive us the wrong we have done  
in the year that is past,  
and help us to spend the rest of our days  
to your honour and glory;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### From the Registers

Richard Landale, age 65 years, died 28/12/19

Edna Lewins, age 99 years, died 13/01/2020

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Throckley Community Hall

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## Samaritan's Purse

A big thank you to all those who contributed to the shoebox appeal last year. At the end of October, Newburn Parish collected 46 gift filled shoeboxes and £100 of donations for the appeal. The boxes went to Liberia and Belarus, and the money went to providing copies of "*The Greatest Journey*" which is used to tell families about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and his love for us all.

Samaritan's Purse has had a good response to this and many children and their families have come to faith through this ministry. So thank you again to Joan for providing the boxes, to all the box fillers, knitters and donors for your generosity. It really makes a difference to so many people.

Sylvia Allen

## Poet's Corner

If we need to change our lives,  
Now is the best time to start  
Remove all the cobwebs from our eyes,  
And cleanse every corner of our hearts.  
Let us rid our mind's of self and greed,  
Save only God's wisdom and love.  
We must pray for those who are in need,  
And pass on knowledge from above.  
Try to remember day by day,  
To scatter seeds of gladness,  
Let's smile at everyone we meet,  
And brighten up their sadness.  
Cherish God's love, and timeless grace,  
May our thoughts be pure and try.  
We are only a mite of this vast human race;  
But our kindness will flourish in all that we do.  
So let us try to understand, the ways  
Of a sister, friend or brother,  
Maybe then we'll come to realise,  
How much we need each other.

Dorothy Duggan

## Recent Parish Events

### Christingle Fair—30/11/19



## Recent Parish Events

### Christingle Service—01/12/19



I am delighted that, despite the financial pressures we faced, our churches still supported a large number of charities in 2019:

- Both churches collect food for the Newcastle West End foodbank
- The young people held a sponsored sleep out in February 2019 that raised money for the homeless charity Changing Lives
- We gave new clothes to the People's Kitchen
- Once a month we hold a collection at St Mary's for Tear Fund
- We collected for the Children's Society at our Christingle service
- Collections at our Christmas services raised significant sums of money for the West End Refugee Service and the People's Kitchen
- Money was raised through the soup and a bun for the RVI children's cancer ward

We also have members of our congregations who support charities by giving as individuals and by working for the charities: for example, as 'Street Pastors'.

The total amount of money that we raised for charities during the year was greater than the sum that was raised for the church through the Christmas fair.

Thank you for your support; we hope and pray that we can again both meet the costs of the church, and raise money for good causes, in 2020.

*"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:7-8.*

Rev Allison



# Thank you!

I want to say a big thank you to everyone who helped to run, or came along to, the Christmas fair. There was a great buzz about the place as we set up on the Friday and then again during the fair on the Saturday. We really enjoyed seeing so many people come along and take part. The quality of prizes on all of the stalls demonstrated the value that everybody puts on this occasion.



One purpose of the fair is to invite the community in and to meet with people, which is why we are so keen that people take time to have some refreshments and a chat. Another purpose is to raise money for the church – I am delighted that we raised over £1800. This money is urgently needed, because the church is in a challenging financial position, both nationally and locally. The church of England (like all other Christian and other faith groups) receives no money from the government and must raise the money itself to cover the cost of maintaining church buildings and vicarages, paying clergy and meeting all other expenses. In the past, it has had considerable sums of capital to draw on, but these sums of money have dwindled with time, and now it must meet its costs largely through the giving of its members. There is a national scheme whereby the wealthier churches subsidise the less wealthy ones but we at Newburn Parish must raise approximately £60,000 per year if the churches are to remain open for regular worship as well as baptisms, weddings, funerals and other community activities. That we are able to do this is due to the **generosity and sacrificial giving** of our members, many of who are on low incomes, and to fundraising activities, of which the Christmas fair is the most significant.

## Recent Parish Events

### Newburn Christmas Tree switch on—02/12/19



## Recent Parish Events

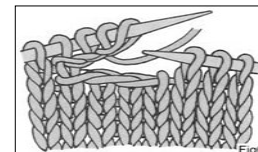
Soup and bun—14/12/19



## Your 'Knit and Natter' Group needs you!!

### **WANTED: Members who can and cannot knit!**

We need more members in order to keep this group going. Numbers have dropped off to just 3 or 4 who regularly turn up. Come along to knit (or learn to knit) and natter. (Sewing, embroidery and other yarn crafts also welcome)



We meet in the Parish Hall Supper Room on the last Friday of the month from 2.15pm—3.45pm.  
The February group will meet on **Friday 28th February**.  
For more info, contact Marjorie Patton 0191 2643221

**Bethany Club**—The next meeting in St Mary's will be 12pm on **Wednesday 19th February**.  
More info from Margaret Ledger 0191 2672953



## THE PARISH HALL

Every Wednesday during school term:  
Noah's Ark Toddler & Baby Group 1.00pm.  
£1.50 per family group.  
Everyone welcome. Includes Juice etc

Every Saturday Morning 10.00am - 11.30am  
Coffee Morning

Every Monday 1.30pm Tea Dance  
Everyone welcome. £2 includes tea and biscuits.





Our 2nd Messy Church will be on  
**Saturday 29 February, 2020**  
 in Newburn Parish Hall  
 4pm to 6pm  
**COME ALONG AND JOIN US!**



**YOUTH GROUP**  
**Sunday 1 March @ 6.00pm**  
 in St Mary's Throckley  
**PANCAKE PARTY**

And bring a friend with you who  
 hasn't been before !  
 (Guess who's behind this?!) >



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020**  
**Friday 6th March - 1.30pm**  
**Westerhope Methodist Church**  
**RISE! TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK**



This special ecumenical prayer  
 day led by women right across  
 the world, is put together this  
 year by the Christian women of  
 Zimbabwe.

All welcome - further info from  
 Mary Weatherall or Jennie  
 Jones

## Recent Parish Events

### Carol Singing at Sainsbury's



### Noah's Ark Christmas Party





## Recent Parish Events

### Carol Service (St Mary's)—22/12/19



## 25 February – Shrove Tuesday: Who's for pancakes?

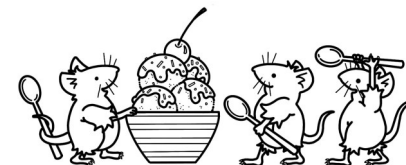
Why do we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, as we call it today? And what is Shrove Tuesday? And why do thousands of people feel it rewarding to race along a street somewhere tossing pancakes from their frying pans as they go?

Well, the answer to the first question is that it is the day before Lent begins and for well over a thousand years that has meant it was the last chance to enjoy meat, fat and other tasty dishes until Easter Day. The 'Lent Fast' was widely and strictly observed. The food in the larder wouldn't keep for six weeks so it had to be eaten. With all these rich foods no wonder the French call it 'Fatty Tuesday' – Mardi Gras.

So, what have pancake races got to do with all this solemnity? 'Shrove' is an old word for 'forgiven' and in those days to prepare for the rigours of Lent people would want to confess and seek forgiveness – not quite what you want at a party. The answer is quite simply enjoying yourself while you can! So, on Shrove Tuesday this year let's have some fun and make it last as long as possible.

The most convincing (and amusing) of the explanations of pancake races is of outwitting the Sexton who rang the curfew bell that marked the start of Lent. He was reluctant to do it while the race was unfinished. So, the revelry caused by dropped pancakes, postponed the inevitable.

Since the Reformation it has not been so rigorously observed in Britain, but still people will resolve to 'give up something for Lent'. Six weeks is about right as a duration and Sunday has always been exempt but make the most of those pancakes. They may well not reappear until April 12<sup>th</sup>!



## Just for fun...

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I've decided to have a break from the crossword of last year. Let's have a go at Sudoku instead! If anyone can complete all the Sudoku's in this year's magazines (Feb to Nov), and send them all to me by 30th November, I'll pop them all in a draw to win a prize, to be announced in the Dec/ Jan magazine—good luck!

## Recent Parish Events

### Nativity Service—24/12/19





## Prayers for February - compiled by Noah's Ark

Thank you Lord for all the children in our community who we are in contact with. Pray for the leaders and that all would know how much You love them.

Pray for Noah's Ark toddler group, for the parents and carers who bring their little ones.

Pray for Open the Book as we go into our local primary schools telling Bible stories to the children

Pray for Messy Church. This is new for 2020, and will be a time for families to enjoy crafts, to make new friends, to share a simple meal together and to learn about Jesus

Pray for our schools in the parish, pray for the children and teachers. Lord watch over the children who are doing exams at this time

Pray for our young children in Junior church and the youth group . May they continue to grow in your strength and guide them in your way of wisdom

Pray for the community youth project .We thank you for the local youth who come into St. Mary's on a Thursday evening. Please pray for the leaders, pray for Allison, for good conversations with young people and leaders. Pray that all would know how much God loves them and they continue to interact with the church

building and start to question their surroundings.

Pray for children all over the world. Pray for the children and their families in Australia who have been forced to leave their homes because of the bush fires. Lord be with them and comfort them.

Pray for the children in war torn countries who through no fault of their own are caught up in fighting and live in fear. Lord put your arm around them and give them hope

Pray for all the children in the world who are hungry and thirsty and the charities who help them

Pray for the volunteers who help with the different activities that take place in our parish who bring the word of Jesus to our young people

