

7th June 2026

First Sunday After Trinity

Collect

God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen

Bible Readings

[Romans 4:13-25](#)

[Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26](#)

14th June 2026

Second Sunday After Trinity

Collect

Faithful Creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Bible Readings

[Romans 5:1-8](#)

[Matthew 9:35-10:8 \[9-23\]](#)

21st June 2026

Third Sunday After Trinity

Collect

God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of
peace won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Bible Readings

[Romans 6.1b-11](#)

[Matthew 10.24-39](#)

What's On Over the Next Three Weeks

Sun 7 th June	Trinity 1	10am	St John's Chapel	Eucharist
		10am	Stanhope-Hall	Eucharist
		3pm	Stanhope-Hall	Informal Worship
		3pm	Durham Cathedral	Installation of Bishop
Mon 8 th June		9.30am	Stanhope-Hall	Morning Prayer
		6pm	Stanhope-Hall	Stanhope PCC
Tue 9 th June		8pm	Zoom	Faith through Music
Wed 10 th June		10am	Stanhope-Hall	Eucharist
Thur 11 th June		9.30am	Stanhope-Hall	Morning Prayer
Sat 13 th June		12.15-4pm	Cowshill Church and Hall	Farming Exhibition
		7.30pm	Barrington Hall	Folk Night
Sun 14 th June	Trinity 2	10am	Heatherycleugh	Eucharist
		10am	Stanhope-Hall	Eucharist
		12.15-4pm	Cowshill Church and Hall	Farming Exhibition
Mon 15 th June		9.30am	Stanhope-Hall	Morning Prayer
Wed 17 th June		10am	Stanhope-Hall	Eucharist
Thur 18 th June		9.30am	Stanhope-Hall	Morning Prayer
Sat 20 th June		9.30am	Frosterley Hall	Breakfast Church
		3pm	Heatherycleugh	Farming Celebration Service
Sun 21 st June	Trinity 3	10am	St John's Chapel	Eucharist
		10am	Stanhope-Hall	Eucharist
Mon 22 nd June		9.30am	Stanhope-Hall	Morning Prayer
		5pm	Cowshill Hall	West Weardale PCC

Tue 23 rd June		7pm	Eastgate	Eastgate PCC
Wed 24 th June		10am	Stanhope-Hall	Eucharist
		3pm	Barrington Hall SJC	Strawberry Tea
Thur 25 th June		9.30am	Stanhope-Hall	Morning Prayer
Sun 28 th June	Trinity 4	10am	St John's Chapel	Eucharist
		10am	Stanhope-Hall	Eucharist

A full and up-to-date calendar of church events can be found on the [Benefice website](#).

For Your Prayers

We keep in our prayers all in our community who are in any kind of need. Our prayers are asked particularly for Kathleen Kirby.

We pray for Bishop Rick as he is formally installed.

We continue to pray for peace and reconciliation between warring countries around the world, especially remembering the innocent and vulnerable caught up in violence.

We pray for our own nation in a time where our unity and tolerance come under pressure through political division and uncertainty. We pray for calm and wisdom for all those who seek to lead us.



News

Bishop of Durham

The Rt Rev Rick Simpson will be installed as Bishop of Durham this Sunday at Durham Cathedral. At the recent Diocesan Synod he made an inspirational speech about his conviction that the Church is at a turning point. You can find a link to a video of the speech [here](#).

“Do What You Love but Do It For God”

Rev Graeme is often to be heard telling us to do this, but what does it look like in practice? We know how important cycling is to him – now he has written a beautiful description of his 40mile cycle route around the benefice, interwoven with prayer and reflection. [Read it here](#)

Choir Director Sought

IS there anyone out there who may be interested in becoming a Choir Director for churches around the Dale?

Rev Graeme Holdsworth is experimenting with the idea of perhaps developing a Christian Choir that would move up and down Dale, singing in churches on Sundays. They would also, of course, practise together and become a social group, enjoying rehearsing and making new friends.

Anyone interested is advised to contact Rev Holdsworth via email at Rev.Holdsworth@pm.me

Stanhope Sponsor a Stone Project

Ann Hodgson of the Friends of St Thomas' Stanhope has asked me to share the following message about the project. If you would like to know more about the project itself please contact Ann (contact details are at the end of her message)

Sponsor a Stone Project

St Thomas Church, Stanhope

Dear Sponsor,

On behalf of the Friends of St Thomas Church, Stanhope, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous support of the *Sponsor a Stone Project*. Your kindness and commitment to the church are truly appreciated and play an important part in helping to preserve this special place.

I am writing to share a brief update on the progress of the renovation works. While the project is continuing to move forward, the commemorative stones have not yet been laid. At present, we do not have a confirmed date for when this stage of the work will be completed.

As a result, we are not yet in a position to allocate individual stones. Please be assured that this will be one of our priorities once the stones have been laid, and we will ensure you are informed as soon as this becomes possible.

We are very grateful for your patience and understanding during this time. Your support means a great deal to us, and we will be in touch again as soon as we have more definite information to share, including a confirmed completion date.

Thank you once again for your generosity and for being part of this important project.

Yours faithfully,

Anne Hodgson

Secretary

Friends of St Thomas Church, Stanhope

Email: annehodgson57@outlook.com

Coming Up...

Faith Through Music – Tuesday 9th June

On Tuesday 9th June, at 20:00 and by Zoom, the Faith through Music group will be looking at the well-loved hymn "Take My Life and Let Me Be"

As ever, Richard will offer a brief overview of the song, perhaps looking at the circumstance of its composition or some of the underlying theology, but will then facilitate a free-flowing discussion, addressing questions such as:

- Do we like or dislike the hymn?
- How do we see this song fitting into our personal or corporate worship?
- How do the words and music speak to us?

If the discussion dries up, Richard will try and have some Difficult Questions prepared.

Richard thinks it would be great to have some new faces peering out of his computer screen - particularly folk from a non-Anglican tradition. It would also be fantastic if folk could suggest songs we could look at, especially if they're songs that are not well known in the Church of England.

So if you want to join the fun, give Richard a shout via the newsletter.

Farming Exhibition at Cowshill 13th-14th June

A Farming Exhibition

will be held in

Cowshill Church

13th and 14th June

12.15 - 4pm

Photographs

Old Equipment

'Disappearing Farms' Books

Refreshments served in

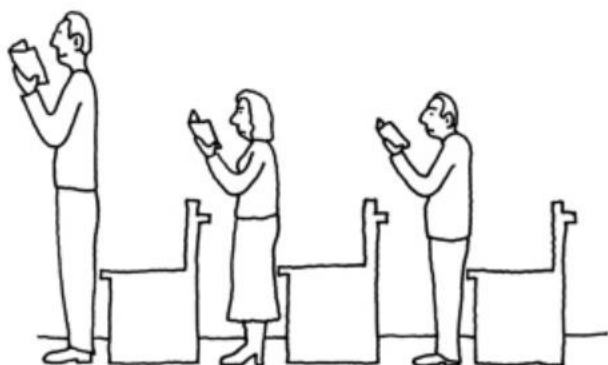
Cowshill Hall



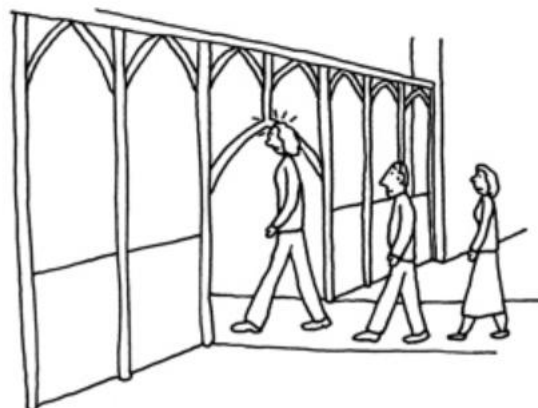
Please use the attached poster to publicise this event if you are able. There will also be a farming celebration service on Saturday 20th at 3pm

And finally...

THE PERILS OF BEING TALL



CAUSING AN OBSTRUCTION



BANGING ONE'S HEAD



IT IS DIFFICULT TO HIDE WHEN A VOLUNTEER IS REQUIRED



BEING ASKED TO RETRIEVE THINGS FROM HIGH SHELVES

CartoonChurch.com

This cartoon by Dave Walker was originally published in his book "Peculiar Goings On" and is used by permission

General Information

To add any items of news to this newsletter please contact Sandie Barton at westwardalenews@gmail.com. Photos of church events etc. would be lovely (but do make sure any people in the photos have given their permission!)

The deadline is 3pm on Thursday for issue by email on Friday. Sandie is also happy to add people to the circulation list, on request.

Durham e-News: a regular email from the Diocese for worshippers and people with an interest in the diocese. It contains the latest news and

features from the Diocese, and can be delivered directly to your inbox. To sign up simply fill in your details via this link: [Diocesan newsletter](#).

Contacts

Priest-in-charge: The Rev Graeme Holdsworth

01388 531460 rev.holdsworth@pm.me

Associate Priest: The Rev. Heather Ross

01388 537439, 07713 388106, heather.ross9@btopenworld.com

Parish Safeguarding Officers:

Stanhope: Katharine Adams 07783659089

Eastgate: Liz Curry 07921 176012 safeinupperweardale@outlook.com

West Weardale: Jan Wright 07415 046392

safeinupperweardale@outlook.com

To arrange a baptism, marriage or funeral please contact Rev Heather Ross as above.

Facebook Weardale Parish News: to keep up to date, join [Weardale Parish News on Facebook](#)

Basic information on all churches is available at www.achurchnearyou.com

Our **Benefice Website** can be found at

<https://upperweardalebenefice.org>