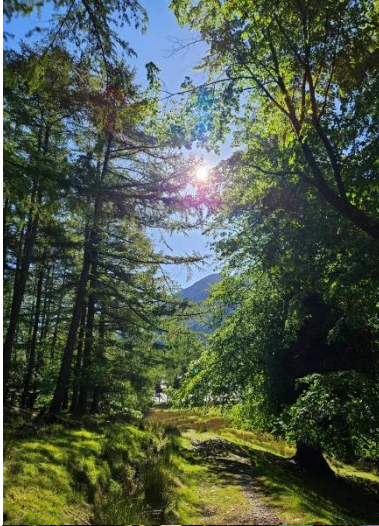




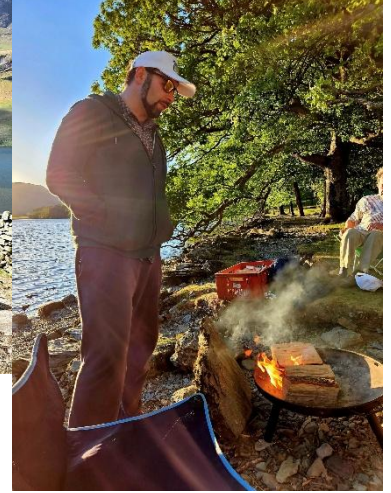
EASTER 6 NEWSLETTER

25th – 31st May 2025

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us.

(Psalm 67.1)

Dear Friends, before it surely changes, we continue to enjoy glorious sun-bathed and stunningly blue canopied days. Last weekend, **GATHER welcomed 12 retreatants to its 2nd residential gathering in Buttermere**, Lake District. 6 were new to this retreat and 4 not from our parishes. With a welcome by the lakeside fire-pit, led reflections each day, fell-side worship and Communion, we were embraced by the Holy Spirit, and enveloped by such beauty of landscape and vista. From this inspiring and affirming experience, GATHER is considering more retreats so that many more would come along to be renewed, refreshed, and restored.



All welcome to worship by the river Tees in Gainford at **8am Thursday 29th May** for our joint parishes **ASCENSION SUNRISE SERVICE** with hot **BREAKFAST** in church afterwards. Come along to enjoy fellowship over bacon or sausage butties, the vegetarian equivalent, perhaps croissants, and hot drinks.

THIS SUNDAY is our **Ordinand in Training CLAIRE MEAD'S LAST SERVICE** with us, **10am COMMUNION SERVICE IN GAINFORD**. In 2021, while still living in Bishop Auckland, she joined us in Gainford St Mary's as soon as services were permitted. We have been blessed by her discipleship and lay leadership for 5 special years. She will move to Hartlepool where her ordained life begins after Ordination, 10am Sunday 29th June, in Durham Cathedral. (See appended, Claire's personal invitations to this Sunday's service and to her Ordination).



Flowers everywhere! Places may still be available: **FLORAL WORKSHOP Saturday 31st May from 9.30am WINSTON VILLAGE HALL**. Contact Joyce: 07786072830

SERVICES ON EASTER 6 (Communion)

9.15am
10am

Staindrop St Mary
Gainford St Mary
 with **Winston St Andrew**

Rev'd Canon Jane Grieve
Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop
 with **Rev'd Steve Muneza**

*Note: There is **no service in Winston St Andrew's at 9.30am** as the congregation is invited to join the 10am special service in Gainford St Mary for this Sunday.*

11am

Ingleton St John

Rev'd Canon Jane Grieve

*Note: The porch entrance at Ingleton St John's is being declared safe by the diocese so we are able to **return to entering church from the main west door** and porch.*

...as the morning stars sang together, all the angels shouted for joy!
 Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

NOTICES

Thank you to Tyneside choral group **A Cappella** who generously sang for us at Gainford St Mary's last Saturday without a fee to raise funds for the church.

Bereavements

Pray for Betty Woodman, family and loved ones of the late **Robert (Bob) Woodman** of Balmer Hill, Gainford, who died on 25th April, whose funeral services took place on Thursday 22nd May in St Mary's Gainford and at Darlington Crematorium Chapel.

INGLETON'S SUMMER FAYRE and **GAINFEST** shares **SATURDAY 14th JUNE 1-4pm**



Both our churches, St Mary's Gainford and St John the Evangelist's Ingleton, are actively engaged in our communities and represented at these events. Have fun!



GATHER invites us to another Pilgrimage Walk: Pentecost Sunday 8th June 1.30pm Gainford to Piercebridge (return). Contact Sheila for information: info@gatherchurchteesdale.com

Regular **DISCIPLESHIP AND FELLOWSHIP** opportunities:

- † **PRAY TOGETHER EVERY TUESDAY 12.30** at Jen's in Gainford jim.hindhaugh@btinternet.com for Ministry and Mission in our Parishes
- † **EXPLORE FAITH THROUGH SHARING & BIBLE READING** with **GATHER** fortnightly 1st and 3rd Thursdays 7pm at 32 North Green, **STAINDROP** info@gatherchurchteesdale.com
- † Join our **YOUTH AND FAMILIES MINISTRY TEAMS**: Youth Saints meet every 2nd Thursday 6.30pm and **Holiday Clubs** (contact Sarah or Sheila: stmarys@gainfordwinston.church); **Open The Book** (contact Sue Taylor: geoffandsue379@gmail.com); **Mini-Disciples** at Staindrop, Gainford, and Ingleton Primary Schools contact Sarah: stmarys@gainfordwinston.church

CONFIRMATIONS: Are you baptised and would like to be confirmed? Do you feel ready to receive Communion? Adults and teenagers are also welcome to be Baptised and Confirmed at the same service. Please speak to your churchwardens, Missioner Sarah, or young people minister Paula and leader Sheila.



COLLECT for EASTER 6

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your
disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen

COLLECT for THE ASCENSION

Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature to the throne
of heaven:
help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,
now and for ever.
Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (E6)

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal
life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for
ever. Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (ASCENSION)

God our Father,
you have raised our humanity in Christ
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual
blessings,
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

First Reading (EASTER 6): Acts 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

The Gospel (EASTER 6): John 5:1-9

¹ After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?' ⁷ The sick man answered him, 'Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.' ⁸ Jesus said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.' ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.



**EVERYONE WELCOME
TO CLAIRE'S FINAL SERVICE!**

Sunday 25th May
St Mary's Gainford
10am, All -Age Communion

Guest speaker: Revd Steve Muneza
(Cranmer Hall, Theological College)

DRINKS AND CAKE AFTER THE SERVICE



OF YOUR CHARITY PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE TO BE
ORDAINED THIS PETERTIDE AMONG THEM:

CLAIRE MEAD

TO BE ADMITTED INTO HOLY ORDERS
BY THE RT REVD SARAH CLARK,
BISHOP OF JARROW, ACTING BISHOP OF DURHAM

IN DURHAM CATHEDRAL
SUNDAY 29 JUNE, 10 AM

(DRINKS FROM 12.30 AT THE APPLEBY
ROOMS, CHURCH STREET, DH1 3DQ)

PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR REVD JOHN BELL AND THE WHOLE
PEOPLE OF GOD AT ST LUKE'S & ALL SAINTS, STRANTON
(HARTLEPOOL) WHERE CLAIRE IS CALLED TO SERVE.

"I CAME THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE, AND HAVE IT
ABUNDANTLY." (JOHN 10: 10)