

24th – 30th August 2025 TRINITY 10 PROPER 16 NEWSLETTER

I will refresh the weary soul and replenish all who are weak (Jeremiah 31:25)

Dear friends,

It's been a seasonal Summer with long warm sunny days. Positioned in the middle of our calendar year we are encouraged to pause for a change of scene and pace, to refresh the spirit and replenish the soul. When God created life and the world, he led by example resting after his task, to reflect on what had been created, and to enjoy it. God modelled rest, and from his pause comes the Sabbath (from the Hebrew word *shavat* meaning 'to rest'). We rest differently. For some, it's the option to unleash energy: to climb mountains, run marathons, swim in



the ocean. For others, the change of pace means to down tools, slow down, sleep in, less doing. And for both the energised and restored, this is an opportunity to take stock and to ask, "what's next?" For Brian and me, a year ago this period of rest was hijacked. What began as family commitments in the Summer stretched into the Autumn and Winter, and required more than the Spring to recover. So if you have had the opportunity of an undisturbed Summer, give thanks to God; treasure it fully, and enjoy its blessings.

Staindrop St Mary's PCC and the Worship Group have set aside 30th August, a Saturday morning, to take stock. We shall be gathering to seek God's Vision, to look at how we can get to know the people in this community afresh, and how we might introduce them to Jesus and the love of God anew. We have a distinctive heritage and legacy. It is right that we make a joyful noise unto the Lord. But even being joyful requires courage and it's countercultural. Pray for us!

On Thursday 29th August, our Youth team leads our HOLIDAY CLUB based in Gainford. A day of fun is planned for 7 to 11 year olds, with former Youth Saints members welcome to co-lead. Pray for many children and young people to come, and let us hold Sheila, Sarah, and the team in prayer.

Our world continues to be a troubled and noisy place, where the hope for peace has not yet been the result of talks. Here is part of a statement from the Anglican Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East.

And the Ukrainian people are still repelling their aggressors, after so many that lost their lives defending their country.

Both these places have been devastated, and there has been such loss and suffering. We must pray with faith that hard hearts be changed and for violence to stop.

SERVICES THIS SUNDAY (24th August PROPER 16 Trinity 10)

9.15am Staindrop St Mary
9.30am Winston St Andrew
10.45am Gainford St Mary
11am Ingleton St John the Evangelist

*The Episcopal Church
in Jerusalem and the Middle East
The Diocese of Jerusalem*



الكنيسة الأسقفية
في القدس والشرق الأوسط
مطرانبة القدس

STATEMENT ON YESTERDAY'S MULTIPLE ATTACKS
ON AL-AHLI ARAB HOSPITAL

August 18, 2025

Yesterday morning, Sunday, August 17th at 12:15 am, armed members of a local outlaw band entered the grounds of our Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, demanding the treatment of one of their wounded gunmen. The medical staff readily complied and treated him promptly and with full respect, as they do with all their patients. Despite this, after doctors discharged him in good health, members of the band proceeded to set on fire the hospital morgue and staff prayer room, meanwhile blocking the hospital entrance to prevent firefighters from entering to extinguish the blaze.

As a result, the fire came dangerously close to tents currently serving as the hospital's emergency department, forcing terrified doctors and nurses to quickly evacuate their equally alarmed patients. Although the outlaws' leader subsequently arrived and intervened so that the fire could be extinguished, the two aforementioned sections of the hospital were left severely damaged.

Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop
Rev'd David Spokes
Rev'd David Spokes
Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

*God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested.
Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop*

NOTICES

- † **Please pray for Sam Brown and Niamh Bourne** who were married on 1pm Saturday 23rd August at St John the Evangelist Church, Ingleton.
- † **Please pray for the family of the late Rory Cameron BURKE** whose funeral and service of thanksgiving takes place on Wednesday 27th August 1.45pm in Gainford St Mary and thereafter for committal at Darlington Crematorium. Friends are invited to The Cross Keys in Gainford afterwards.
- † **WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONFIRM YOUR FAITH? If you've not been baptised you're welcome to be baptised and confirmed.** Please get in touch with Paula Harrison or Sarah Fells stmarys@gainfordwinston.church

This is the last **Sunday at Gainford St Mary's for LLEWELYN JOSHUA BLEZARD-GREENWELL** as our assistant organist before he leaves for St David's Cathedral, Wales. We wish him God's blessings. We shall follow his unfolding career, and hope he will return to play as a Visiting Organist and as a member on our electoral roll!

ADVANCE NOTICES

- ✦ **SARAH FELS** is being licensed as our **LICENSED LAY MINISTER** in **DURHAM CATHEDRAL** on **SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER AT 11am!** Sarah, whose home church is Staindrop St Mary's, is being licensed to all 4 of our parish churches. She will share our ministry leading worship, preaching, conducting collective worship of schools in church and helping children and adults to explore and grow their faith. Sarah is hoping to arrange mini-bus transport. **We hope you'd come to the cathedral to support Sarah on the occasion of her Licensing.** Everyone is welcome.
- ✦ **CHURCH SOCIAL FUNDRAISERS: Reserve these dates!**



Join us for a night of fun and dancing
with local band
JAKES IGUANA
Pie & Pea Supper
please advise when booking
for vegetarian or dietary options
Saturday 20th September 2025
Start at 7.30 pm
Winston Village Hall
Bring your own alcohol/drinks and glasses
Tickets £15.00
Available from Joyce
07786072830
Bring cash for the raffle!
St Andrew's Fundraising Committee



Ingleton Village Hall
Ingleton, Darlington, DL2 3HL
presents
Fool's Gold Siren Song
songs and stories of the sea
17 Oct 2025
7.00pm (doors 6.30pm)
All proceeds to St. John's Church
Tickets £10 (U11 free)
treasurer.ingletonpec@gmail.com
Refreshments Available
www.foolsgoldacoustic.co.uk

COLLECT for 10th Sunday after Trinity

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

First Reading (Trinity 10): Hebrews 12:18-29

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' ²⁷ This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The Gospel (Trinity 10): Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰ Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.