

3rd – 16th August 2025 TRINITY 7 and 8 DOUBLE NEWSLETTER

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. (Romans 12:12)

Dear friends,

We've entered the height of summertime. I hope many of you are enjoying a holiday or looking forward to your summer break. 40 years ago Brian and I were married in 2 parts – at Eastertide and in the summer, because our families were unable to decamp thousands of miles from Stoke and Singapore. So this summer, Brian and I shall be returning to our first honeymoon location in Stourhead, Wiltshire. The National Trust owned Spread Eagle Inn and the Stourhead house and gardens were less visited then, so we had the run of those beautiful grounds. We are stretching this newsletter across the fortnight as I shall be having a little down time with Brian. It gives **our newsletter team** a break too: **big thank you to Lynne, Geoff, Helen, Judith, Pat, Paula, Emma, and Allison**, who share printing, posting, and delivering the newsletter on behalf of Gainford, Ingleton, Staindrop, and Winston! This image of shepherd's huts was taken a few weeks ago when we had an overnight stay while visiting friends. Our hut was a rather suped up surprise, helped by being able to throw open doors and windows to enjoy the outdoors on a perfect summer night and day.



The 80th Anniversary of VJ Day is on the 15th of August. Our churches are commemorating VJ.



- ✦ Gainford's VJ Service: St Mary's Church; 15th at 10.45am
- ✦ Staindrop's VJ Service: St Mary's Church; 15th at 2pm
- ✦ Winston's VJ Act of Remembrance with Communion: St Andrew's Church Sunday 17th August 9.30am

- ✦ On 15th August, Ingleton St John the Evangelist Church and Winston St Andrew's Church will have sheets with special VJ prayers for parishioners who wish to join the national act of remembrance at 12 noon that takes place across the country.



Among the few who remember the war and the relief of its ending are 2 of our Centenarians are **ENID BURDON and JOAN MARRIOT who are 100 and 102 respectively**. Please hold them in your prayers, Joan in a care home in Newton Aycliffe and Enid in Manor House, Barnard Castle.



War is a terrible thing, and we pray for peace to return to places devastated by the use of violence in revenge, to demonstrate vehement disagreement, and to demand territory. How long more we cry out for the people of Ukraine, Palestine, and others in more places than make the news headlines.

SERVICES THIS SUNDAY (3rd August PROPER 13 Trinity 7)

9.15am Staindrop St Mary
9.30am Winston St Andrew
10.45am Gainford St Mary

Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop
Chrissie Barnett (Lay Chair, PCC) with Sarah Fells
Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY (10th August PROPER 14 Trinity 8)

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

Worship Group – Service of the Word
Rev'd Moji Jaiyesimi
Sarah Fells & Churchwardens – Service of the Word
Rev'd Moji Jaiyesimi

Rev'd Canon Eileen Harrop

NOTICES

- † **Please pray for the family of the late Maureen Thompson** whose funeral service will take place on Monday 4th August 11am in Gainford St Mary and thereafter for committal at Wear Valley Crematorium, followed by refreshments in Headlam Hall.
- † **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

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 FUNDRAISER

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

COLLECT for 7th Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

COLLECT for 8th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here
and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free
from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your
love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your
body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever. Amen

First Reading (3rd August): Colossians 3:1-11

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The Gospel (3rd August): Luke 12:13-21

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.’ ¹⁴ But he said to him, ‘Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?’ ¹⁵ And he said to them, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.’ ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” ¹⁸ Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” ²⁰ But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’

First Reading (10th August): Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Gospel (10th August): Luke 12:32-40

³² Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ 'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ 'But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD – COMMENT FROM CHURCH OF ENGLAND BISHOPS

As we continue to pray for everyone caught up in the devastating violence and suffering in Palestine and Israel, we welcome His Majesty's Government's statement yesterday calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, pledging to work with international partners on a long-term settlement, and the additional steps being taken to help get aid into Gaza.

We call upon the Israeli Government to commit to an immediate ceasefire and to desist from actions that are leading to starvation in Gaza as well as from policies leading to the progressive annexation of the West Bank.

We condemn unequivocally the Hamas terrorist attacks of October 7, 2023. The hostages should be immediately and safely released without conditions attached to their freedom.

We continue to call for an immediate end to this war and for negotiations leading to lasting justice, security and peace.

But the fact remains: a deliberate famine is being inflicted on the people of Gaza.

Air drops of aid are dangerous and entirely inadequate substitutes for what is needed: the unimpeded delivery of aid through the UN and other established humanitarian organisations.

His Majesty's Government has a legal and moral obligation to use every possible political, economic and diplomatic means at its disposal to end this abomination. This approach is clearly still not being taken – and so the urgent question remains: what more will it take?

Meanwhile the prospect of the United Kingdom recognising Palestinian statehood is welcome, overdue, and cannot come soon enough. As settlement expansion continues in the West Bank, the UK must recognise Palestine while there is still land on which a state could be recognised.

The UK has a particular historical and moral duty to recognise the State of Palestine, and it is therefore disappointing that this recognition has been made conditional. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination is not a bargaining chip, and there can be no conditions placed on it.

We urge the Government to move ahead with recognition of Palestine regardless of the facts on the ground.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we continue in prayer each day for our Palestinian Anglican sisters and brothers and for all the Christian communities, as well as for all Palestinians, Israelis and peoples of the region.

May God bring an end to these terrible injustices and guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell; The Bishop of Southwark, Christopher Chessun (House of Lords Lead Bishop for the Middle East); The Bishop of Gloucester, Rachel Treweek; The Bishop of Chelmsford, Guli Francis-Dehqani; The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher