



# May 2026



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# Letting down our nets

Hello everyone, hope you are enjoying the nice weather that spring seems to have brought! If you don't know, every week on a Tuesday morning we meet as a staff team to plan what's happening in the life of the church and of course to pray.

Often this looks like one of us preparing a little devotional based around whatever bible verse they felt we needed to hear and then afterwards us all praying together for the church, each other and you lovely people too. Recently Kathryn led us in a reflection based on Luke 5:1-11, which is all about Jesus calling the first of His disciples whilst they are fishing.

And during this devotional there was one bit that really stood out to me. As far as I am aware this was the first time Jesus had met Simon, James and John. Perhaps they had heard of Jesus with Him already attracting large crowds to come and hear Him speak but most likely they had never met before.

What's more is they all would have been exhausted after fishing unsuccessfully for many hours and I imagine they just wanted to go to bed and sleep. But for some reason they decide to let Jesus onto the boat so he could better speak to the crowd. Perhaps this was because they had heard of who He was but then Jesus decides to tell them to set out into the deep water and begin fishing again.

This is the bit that really caught my attention so thank you Kathryn, the credit belongs to you! Simon responds to Jesus by saying, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets'. I imagine if it had been anyone other than Jesus, Simon might have told him to go away, and probably for good reason, he had been fishing all night and caught nothing, so why would it suddenly change now?

He does however decide to trust Jesus and from there we read that they caught so many fish that their nets began to break, they even had to call for help from another boat and even then the boats began to sink because of how much they had caught.

It is a wonderful image of the generosity of Jesus and a reminder of our need as disciples to follow Him. Because after this extraordinary moment Simon, James and John all decide to leave what they had known to follow Jesus, they had seen enough and decided to place all of their trust in Him.

And so I wonder if there is something God is calling us to trust Him in as a church? Maybe it's something we've tried before that didn't really work in the past? Maybe God is asking us to place our trust in Him again even when our past experience tells us 'it won't work this time because it didn't work last time'.

That is not the attitude the disciples had, and as disciples, as followers of Jesus, it isn't the attitude we should have either. Instead our response should be the same as Simon's, 'Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets'. I will do it. Recently as a church we have tried Alpha again after it didn't work in the past and it has been successful this time. And so we are going to be running another one throughout May.

Perhaps you have invited a friend along to church, or even to Alpha and they didn't respond in the way you wanted. Perhaps now is the time to try again, to trust that it might be different this time, to trust that God is at work. Throughout the next month there are lots we could invite others too, we have Alpha, men's breakfast, make and mingle, prayer and worship meetings and Pentecost praise in the Cathedral all of which would be worth taking a risk and inviting someone to.

If you want to find out more you can get all the info on church suite, our website, or on the dates for your diary sheet that Shiromi makes. So as May begins let's take a moment to say to ourselves and to God, 'Yet if you say so, I will do it', and if you feel God is saying something to you that is for all of us as a church, please do let us know and we can all practise the trust it takes to follow God.

Bless you all, Ben.

**Ben Scott**



# Youth Hub

We are excited to share that our church has recently become a Youth Hub, but what does this mean? One of the key priorities of the Church of England nationally is 'doubling the number of children and young people' in churches. With this vision, Durham Diocese has received funding to establish Youth Hubs. Youth Hubs are strategic, resourced spaces where new mission with young people can flourish. They create opportunities for young people to explore faith, grow as active disciples and belong to a supportive church community. The wider vision is that every young person can access a place where they can be encouraged and equipped in their faith journey.

We are delighted to have received funding to become a Hub, which is also enabling us to employ Madi Wachepa as Assistant Youth Pastor (21 hours per week) for the next three years. As a Youth Hub, All Saints' Church will focus on three priorities:

## 1. Expanding engagement with young people in our community

- Running Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing Groups in Egglecliffe Secondary School
- Partnering with Social Prescribers
- Running Alpha Youth for local students

## 2. Growing our youth ministry numerically and spiritually

- Training young people to share their faith confidently
- Hosting events where they can invite friends
- Developing volunteers and additional discipleship groups
- Investment in adult mentors
- Recognise young people as missionaries to their generation

## 3. Supporting youth ministry in other local churches

- Offering support, encouragement and constructive strategic conversations to churches as they seek God's direction for their ministry with young people
- We look forward to partnering with Holy Trinity with St Mark Church (Fairfield) and St Aidan's Church (Billingham)

We believe this is an exciting time, with many young people demonstrating an openness to explore faith and spirituality. Please do pray for us as we enter this new season! If you would like to support through prayer or if you sense a call to explore the possibility of joining our team, please do let me know.

**Kathryn Belmont**





## We are so pleased to introduce you to our new Assistant Youth Pastor, Madi Wachepa!



### Can you share about how you came to faith?

I did not grow up in a Christian home and was introduced to faith and church through my childhood best friend. After a few years of occasionally going to church with her and her family she then invited me to a church summer camp when I was 11 and it was at that camp where I decided to follow Jesus.

### In what ways do you feel God has prepared you for this role?

In my almost 10 years of living and serving in Teesside I feel like each church I have worked in God has continued to teach me more about who He is and how much He loves the young people of Teesside. Through each group of young people I have had the blessing to work with, they have taught me as well as me getting to teach them and I am able to bring to All Saints' all the different lessons and nuggets of wisdom that I have collected over the years.

### What excites you most about working with the young people at All Saints'?

All Saints' has such an amazing group of young people who love Jesus and have a desire to know more and I am so excited to get to know each of them and to help support them on their own journey of faith.

### What do you think you'll bring to the team and the young people here?

I think I will bring a fresh perspective to the team and am excited to be able to share my own personal experiences with the young people to help them and support them in their lives.

### How can we be praying for you as you step into this role?

Please pray for wisdom, fresh ideas for the youth ministry and for my family as we find our community here at All Saints' and adjust to me stepping into this role.

# Meet our new Churchwarden

At our recent APCM (annual meeting), Andrew Eley was appointed to be a Church Warden. We are very grateful that he will be serving at All Saints, you can find out more about him here:

I was born and grew up in Coventry. I was baptised as a child, brought up to go to church and asked Jesus to be my Lord and Saviour when I was 17 after going to a Christian camp in South Wales. I studied civil and structural engineering at Sheffield University but couldn't find a job after university. After 6 months I got a job at Middlesbrough Council designing and supervising construction of roads, drainage and a footbridge for the then new development of Coulby Newham. I worked mainly in road design for several employers until retirement.

I met Elaine at Lightfoot Grove Baptist Church where I was baptised by full immersion. We got married in 1980 and have two sons, one living in Bicester and one in Chester-Le-Street, and four grandchildren. We moved to Emmanuel Fellowship (now Tees Valley Community Church) and stayed there for 30 years before moving to All Saints in 2022. Whilst at TVCC we took a year out to go to the Salt and Light Bible college in Oxford and later were privileged to do short trips to Namibia and Thailand to visit missionaries and do some Bible teaching.

I have been interested in railways since I started secondary school and went on trainspotting trips to many parts of the UK. I have followed Formula 1 on and off and my favourite drivers have been Jackie Stewart, Ayrton Senna and Lewis Hamilton.

I enjoy co-leading a life group and serving on the prayer team. I am looking forward to joining the warden team and serving with them to help the All Saints Church community to fulfil their vision to be a blessing to the local community and help people to know God and find their place in the church community.

**Andrew Eley**



A  
*different*  
kind of  
*peace.*



***Try Alpha.***

***Unpack the  
Christian faith  
together.***

Tues 5 May 7pm for 6 weeks,  
see our website for more info & to sign up,  
or email Ben Scott: revbenscott@gmail.com

**CLICK HERE  
FOR MORE INFO  
AND TO  
SIGN UP**

**All SAINTS CHURCH**

# SOCIAL NIGHT

PIZZA · QUIZ · DANCING

LOCATION:  
*All Saints Church*

MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> | 5:30 PM

**DRESS CODE:**  
*Wear something you never get to wear!*  
(Have fun with it – fancy, quirky, bold, or unexpected!)

**ENTRY PRICES:**

ADULTS <b>£10</b>	CHILDREN <b>£5</b>	UNDER 2 <b>FREE</b>
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Join us for a fun-filled evening of food, laughter, music, and dancing!

Tickets available on ChurchSuite & our website

**CLICK HERE  
FOR TICKETS**

## Welcome Lunch



Our Next Welcome Lunch is on **Sunday 10 May** for anyone who has recently joined us.

If you would like to attend, please email the office or

**CLICK  
HERE**

# Pentecost Praise 2026

Prayer & Worship Night  
Durham Cathedral  
Sunday 24 May 6.30pm



## Sharing Faith course



Sunday  
17 & 31 May  
7.30pm-8.30pm  
Youth Room

Designed to help us feel like we can talk to our friends about Jesus without it being awkward and difficult.

To sign up go to ChurchSuite, or our website, or



### Chinese Buffet

Come along and enjoy an evening of lovely food and great company. £10 each.

If Chinese food isn't your thing let us know



Thursday May 21st, 7pm - 9pm

All Saints Church Eaglescliffe  
sign up via ChurchSuite or our website or



## Life Groups

Share life together

Small groups for support, friendship, bible study and prayer



Join one today!

For more information contact: office.allsaints@gmail.com



# Church Camp, Fri 26 - 28 June 2026



To find out more details and book your place  
(camping or day visitors)

**CLICK HERE  
FOR MORE INFO  
AND TO SIGN UP**



## Services May

### Sunday 3 May

Creation

Genesis 2:4-22, Psalm 104:24-35

9am Communion

10.45am Morning Worship

Speaker: Matt Levinsohn

### Sunday 10 May

Covenant

Genesis 12: 1-9, Ephesians 2:10-18

9am Communion

10.45am Morning Worship

Speaker: Kevin Storer

The sermons from our 10.45am services are live-streamed,  
you can watch live, just after 11.15am or later

<https://www.youtube.com/@AllSaintsVideo/streams>

### Sunday 17 May

Rescue / Salvation

Exodus 12:21-32, Luke 22:7-20

9am Morning Worship

10.45am Communion

Speaker: Ben Scott

### Sunday 24 May - Pentecost

Spirit

Pentecost Acts 2:1-21, Titus 3:1-8

9am Communion

10.45am Morning Worship

Speaker: Matt Levinsohn

### Sunday 31 May

No Other Gods

1 Kings 18:16-39, Acts 4:1-12

9am Morning Worship

10.45am Morning Worship

Speaker: Sean Sankey

May

Worship	Midweek	Youth	Children & Families	Other
<b>Morning Prayer by Zoom:</b> 862 4733 2301 Password 316316 Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am	<b>Life Groups</b> various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	<b>Doulos</b> Mon 11 May 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms	<b>Family Life Group</b> Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Meeting Room	<b>Favourite Hymn Singing</b> Mon 25 May 6.30pm-7.30pm Meeting Room
<b>Informal Holy Communion</b> Weds 9.30am Youth Room	<b>Monday Morning Coffee</b> Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room	<b>Youth Life Groups</b> Term time, Weds 6pm-8pm Youth Rooms	<b>Baby Saints</b> Term time Wednesdays 10.30am-12pm Meeting Room	<b>Social Night</b> (see above) Tues 2 May 5.30pm-10pm Centre
<b>Prayer &amp; Worship</b> Sat 9 May 9am-10am Meeting Room	<b>Connect Lunch</b> Tues 12 May 11.45am-2pm Centre	<b>Youth Club</b> Term time, Fri 7pm-9pm, Centre	<b>Toddlers</b> Term time Thursdays 9.30am -11.30am Centre	<b>Make &amp; Mingle</b> Thurs 21 May 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms (details above)
<b>Pentecost Praise</b> Sun 24 May 6.30pm-8pm Durham Cathedral	<b>Connect Coffee &amp; Discussion</b> Tues 26 May 11am-12.15am Youth Rooms	<b>Youth Church</b> during our Sunday 10.45am services Youth Rooms	<b>God's Giants Group</b> (Y5&6) Thurs 21 May 4pm-5.15pm Youth Rooms	<b>Welcome Lunch</b> Sun 10 May 1pm (see above) Meeting Room
	<b>Joyful Craft</b> Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Youth Room	<b>Youth Apprenticeships</b> Sun 17 May during our 10.45am service	<b>Gems</b> (up to reception) during our Sunday 10.45am service Meeting Room	<b>Alpha Course</b> (see above) Tues 5, 12, 19, 26 May 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms
	<b>Ukraine Family Support Café</b> Thurs 14 May 7pm-9pm Youth Room	<b>Big Questions Lunch Club</b> Egglecliffe School Weds lunchtime, Room 106	<b>Trailblazers (Y1-Y6)</b> during our Sunday 10.45am service Centre	<b>Sharing Faith Course</b> Sun 17 & 31 May 7.30pm-8.30pm Youth Rooms
		<b>Refresh</b> Sun 10 May 6pm-8pm Church		

**Standing Committee**

Mon 14 May 7.30pm-9pm, Vicarage

**PCC**

Mon 18 May 7.30pm-9.30pm, Meeting Room