

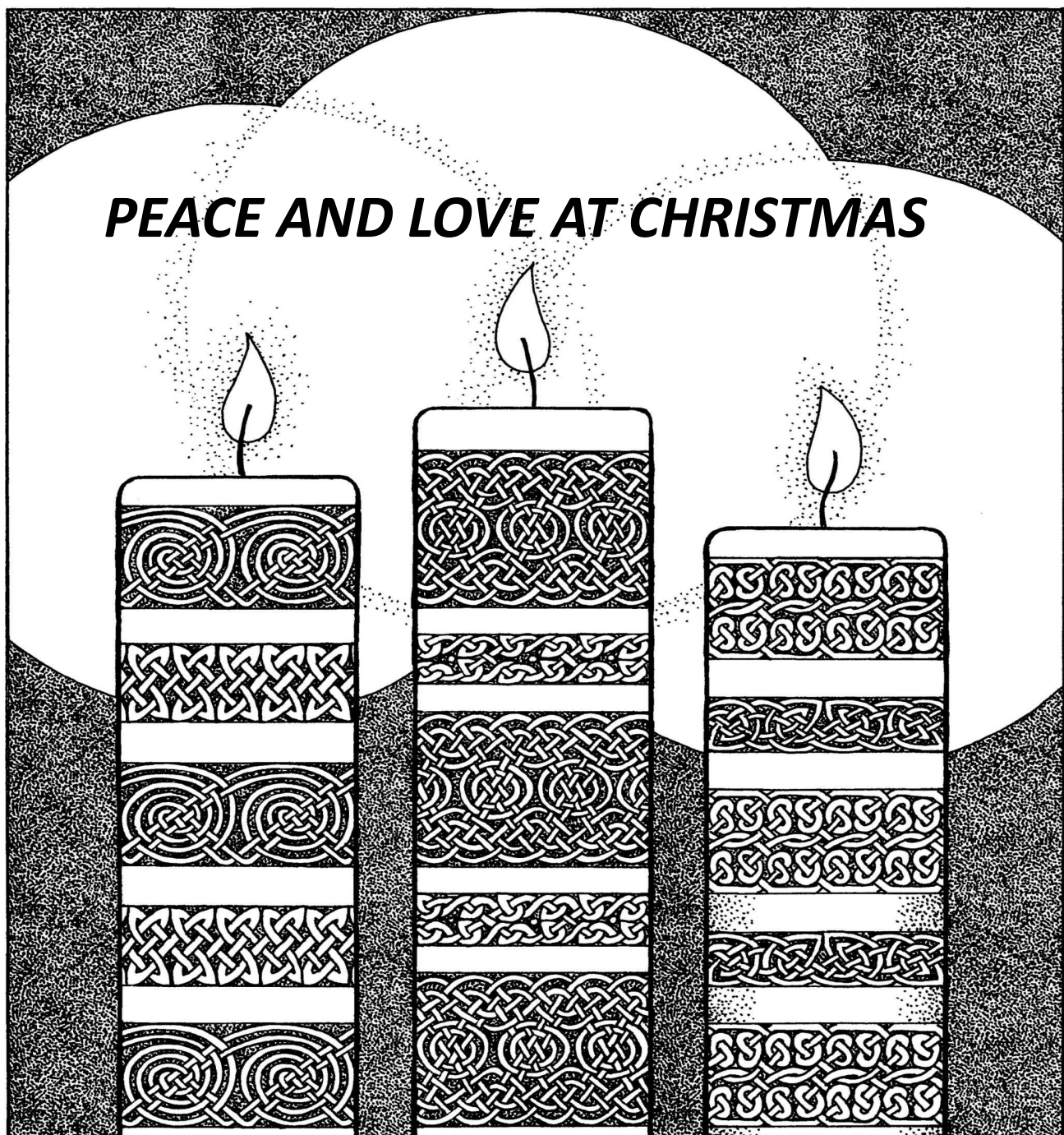
THE RIVERSIDE PARISHES

All Saints Hurworth Newsletter

December 2020/ January 2021

All Saints Hurworth, St John the Baptist Low Dinsdale and All Saints Girsby, working with St George and St Lawrence, Middleton St George

Newsletter also available on line at : www.allsaintshurworth.org



THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH

Christmas 2020 and modern day demands.

“I waited patiently for the Lord: he inclined to me and heard my cry.” –

Psalm 40:1 (500+ BC)

“I want it all and I want it now!” – Freddie Mercury (1989)

“Buy now, pay later.” – circa late 20th Century

We live in a time of instant gratification. For those of you who remember 3 TV channels and no remote control, life was slower. We were more patient. Why? Because we had to be. There was no technology to change it. You couldn't just simply press a button and something happened. We now live in a time where Uber Eats, Netflix, Sky and the internet allow us to do everything on demand. I want it all, and I want it now and I'll pay for it later.

Imagine 1000s of years ago. Isaiah prophesied the coming of the Messiah. Did the people wait? Yes, they did! The prophecy was passed down from generation to generation for literally thousands of years. What a wait.

But wait they did and arrive, he did. A small child, born in a stable, not an Air B'nB or Premier Inn. Threatened with murder, his family fled as immigrants to a foreign land. They settled, made a life for themselves and returned years later to their homeland. Patience is virtuous and indeed, he was and so should we be.

We are all living through unprecedented times both politically and medically and as we head towards the season of Advent, it's essential we look for a truer meaning of Christmas this year, without the instant gratification, but a more mindful thought for the season.

Patience will make us more virtuous and we certainly need it. The virus will hopefully pass, our exit from the European Union will play out and the USA will have elected a president, but Christmas 2020 will arrive and the Messiah will be amongst us – Emmanuel = God with us.

AMEN.

Pete Snowdon



CHRISTMAS IS NOT CANCELLED, THIS YEAR ITS JUST DIFFERENT !



Christmas is a very special time of year when we celebrate Gods gift the world of his only son in the form of the baby Jesus.

To celebrate this wonderful event we would normally have a number of high profile activities at All Saints Hurworth embracing all age groups which we are doing this year too, but differently.

Our Christmas services are listed on page 6 and you are very welcome to join any of them by Zoom, link available on request. These include Nine Lessons and Carols at 10.30 am on the 20th December and a Christmas Days service at 9.30am, both by Zoom.

Please note the church will not be open on these days, these are Zoom only services.

With this newsletter we are enclosing our Daily Advent Scripture Reading leaflet to spread the Christmas story and hope you enjoy reading it.

In addition we are inviting villagers of all ages to join together in the spirit of the season by tying Christmas ribbons on and around the lychgate in front of the church at anytime in December.

Above all we wish everyone a Peaceful and Restful Christmas with family and friends close to you.



WHAT'S ON OFFER FOR OUR YOUNGSTERS?

Until the current Coronavirus restriction are lifted it is not possible to say when the following youth activities in the village will begin again:

All Saints Church Creche—cancelled until further notice

Hurworth Friday Hangout—cancelled until further notice

Friday Night Drop In—cancelled until further notice

HAPPY CHRISTMAS—WE ARE REALLY MISSING YOU !

SHOEBOX UPDATE

Thank you so much to everyone who so generously helped us with our Annual Shoebox Appeal.

Despite the exceptional circumstances we despatched 76 boxes plus £261 contribution towards transport costs. We had a further £195 donated on line together with other direct donations known to have been made together. We also had numerous hand knitted toys, blankets, hats and scarves which are being made into boxes by Link to Hope.

They were collected as planned on the 1st November and taken to the depot from where they will be transported to Romania by two volunteers, one of who is Romanian.

Our heartfelt thanks are sent to everyone involved with this exceptionally worthwhile cause spreading a little hope this winter.



Hurworth Churches Working Together at Christmas

LETS LIGHT UP OUR VILLAGE ON CHRISTMAS EVE

In previous years All Saints and Hurworth Methodist Churches would have been sending every home a Christmas greeting and details of our church services.

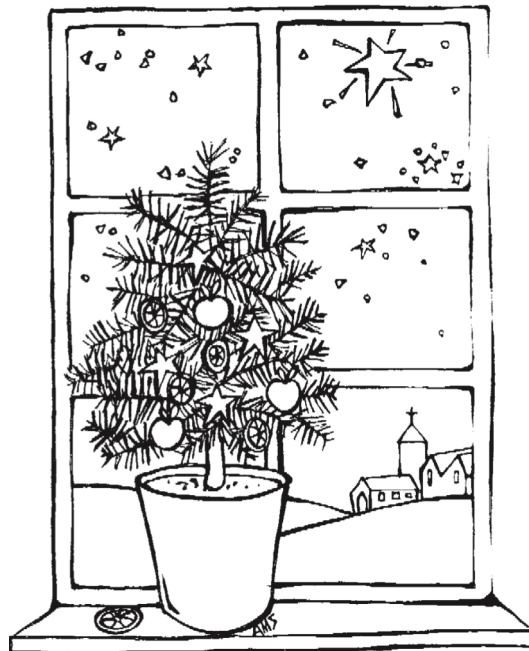
This year we are not able to have many of our usual services to mark the birth of Jesus.

The most well attended service is the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve. So we thought "how can we celebrate together the amazing gift of Jesus?"

So, on Christmas Eve at 4pm we encourage every home to stand on their doorsteps with their own Christingle or light and sing together

Hark the Herald Angels Sing:

**Hark! the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing"
Glory to the newborn King!"**



**For an easy to do at home recipe to make your very own Christingle
see page 8**



Church Services in Hurworth, Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby



DECEMBER 2020



<u>Thurs 3rd</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Sunday 6th</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service (MSG Community Centre)
	Hurworth	10.30am	Holy Communion
<u>Thurs 10th</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Sunday 13th</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service
	Hurworth	10.30am	Service of the Word
<u>Thurs 17^h</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Sunday 20th</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service (MSG Community Centre)
	Hurworth	10.30am	Nine Lessons & Carols (<u>by Zoom Link only</u>)
	Dinsdale	11.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Thurs 24th</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Friday 25th</u>	Hurworth	9.30am	Christmas Day Worship (<u>by Zoom Link only</u>)
	MSG	10.00am	Christmas Day Worship (MSG Community Centre)
<u>Sunday 27th</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service
	Hurworth	10.30am	Service of the Word
<u>Thurs 31rd</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer

Middleton St George (MSG) services are held at St Georges Church,
Low Middleton unless stated otherwise

Church Services in Hurworth, Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby



JANUARY 2021

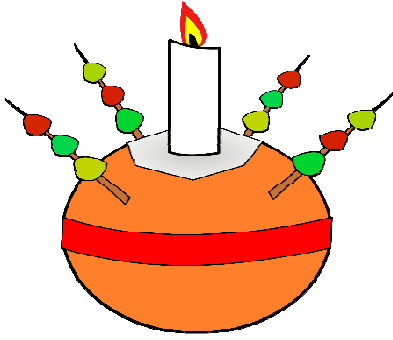


<u>Sunday 3rd</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service
	Hurworth	10.30am	Holy Communion
<u>Thurs 7th</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Sunday 10th</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service
	Hurworth	10.30am	Service of the Word
<u>Thurs 14th</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Sunday 17th</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service
	Hurworth	10.30am	Service of the Word
	Dinsdale	11.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Thurs 21st</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Sunday 24th</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service
	Hurworth	10.30am	Service of the Word
<u>Thurs 28th</u>	Hurworth	8.00am	Morning Prayer
<u>Sunday 31st</u>	MSG	10.00am	Short Spoken Service
	Hurworth	10.30am	Service of the Word

PLEASE NOTE

- * **10.30 Hurworth Sunday Services are streamed live on Zoom**
Link details are available on request from the editor
- * **For venue details of MSG services please visit MSG web site**

THE ABOVE LIST OF SERVICES IS SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT/CANCELLATION SHOULD WE
BE ADVISED ABOUT ANY FURTHER CHANGES BY THE GOVERNMENT OR THE DIOCESE.
WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO KEEP YOU INFORMED



CHRISTINGLE 2020

RECIPE

Due to current Covid restrictions sadly we will not be able to hold our annual Christingle service this year.

A Christingle meaning Christ Light is a symbol of the Christian faith. It is made up of an orange representing the world with a red ribbon round it representing the blood of Jesus. Sweets and dried fruit are skewered onto 4 cocktail sticks which are pushed into the orange representing the fruits of the earth and the 4 seasons. A candle is pushed into the centre representing Christ, the light of the world.

So why not make your own Christingle this year? Light the candle on Christmas Eve, put it into your window and let its light shine out into the darkness or join us on your doorstep at 4pm on Christmas Eve to sing Hark the Herald Angels Sing, see page 5 for further details

YOU WILL NEED:

An orange (adults you may need to cut a small slice from the bottom to form a flat base), red tape or ribbon, 4 cocktail sticks, small sweets (dolly mixtures or similar), dried fruit, tin foil, a small candle (perhaps a birthday candle).

- ◆ Fasten the red tape or ribbon around the centre of the orange as if it was the Equator
- ◆ With a sharp knife (children, ask an adult to help you) cut a small cross in the top of the orange
- ◆ Lay a square of foil (about 75mm/3" square) over the cross.
- ◆ Place a candle on top and wedge it firmly into the orange.
- ◆ Load the 4 cocktail sticks with the sweets and dried fruit, alternating them (about 5 pieces on each stick) and insert them around the base of the candle like the 4 corners of the Earth.

Light your candle and enjoy your Christmas Eve.

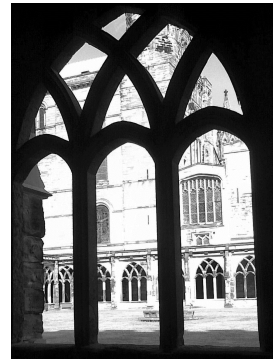
From the Parish Records

Funeral:

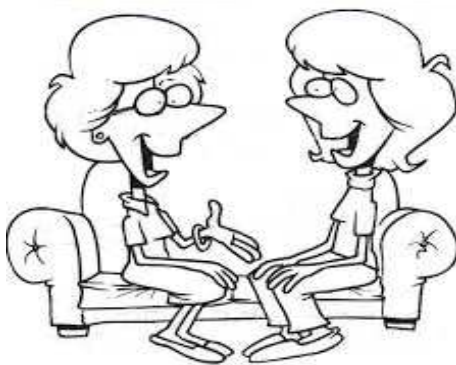
November 10th

Joyce Abbott (aged 97 years)

Darlington Crematorium



CHURCH FELLOWSHIP



Whilst the current Coronavirus restrictions remain in place no further meetings are planned.

**We look forward to seeing you
soon**

APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Hurworth Rogers Charitable Trust is a local charitable fund, created to benefit people living in the Hurworth area.

The Trustees of this fund very much welcome funding applications relating to at least one of the following charitable purposes of the Trust.

To assist the elderly who are suffering financial hardship or are in poor health.

To assist those suffering from mental illness.

To promote the development of young people.

Such other charitable purposes as defined by law and which advance a public benefit.

These points provide a brief and general description of the Trust's charitable purposes and are intended only to guide anyone in deciding if they may qualify for assistance.

We look forward to receiving and considering applications, but please note that all final decisions will be made by the Trustees.

The Trustees are always happy to receive donations to further the charitable objectives of The Trust.

If you would like an application form, please contact the Trust Secretary, Mrs Milly Stoney. milly.stoney@outlook.com

MISTLETOE

This time of year you can see all sorts of traditions played out with regard to Christmas decorations. Strict adherents use holly, ivy and of course, mistletoe. While holly and ivy are to be found in gardens and hedgerows, mistletoe usually only appears in greengrocers' shops, or high in a tree well out of reach.

Mistletoe is *hemiparasitic*, meaning that although its leaves enable it to feed itself through photosynthesis, its roots invade the host tree or shrub to extract water and other nutrients. Its favourite host trees are apple, lime, hawthorn, poplar or oak and it normally hangs as a large globe, tantalisingly high and totally visible once winter arrives and it is the only green left on the tree. There are some spectacular examples in Windsor Great Park, clearly visible from the path on the opposite side of the River Thames.

We all know about the almost translucent white berries, fleshy and sticky, which form in the forks of mistletoe's many branches. While they are toxic to humans, they are attractive to birds. When birds have enjoyed the juicy flesh, they wipe the remaining seeds off their beaks onto the nearest branch [somewhat like small children wiping sticky hands on any surface close by – mummy's face or clothes?]. With luck the seed remains stuck to the bark and solves mistletoe's problem of reproduction.

In Greek mythology, mistletoe gave access to the Underworld. Romans thought



it represented Peace, Love and Understanding and perhaps that is how it has sidled into our Christmas celebrations. The earliest documentary evidence for kissing under mistletoe dates from the sixteenth century. Some people think a berry should be removed after each kiss. Given the small size of pieces generally available these days, perhaps that is a practice not to be pursued!



Expecting the Unexpected

The original Christmas—the birth of Jesus, it was unexpected.

Who would have expected the Saviour of the world to come as a meek and mild child?

Who would have expected the King of Kings to be born among livestock and placed in a manger?

Who would have imagined that that Saviour would end up on a cross?

You see God specializes in the unexpected.

God longs to show up in ways that are humanly impossible so that we may realize His might and strength and connect in love and trust.

As we face looming lockdowns and pandemic problems we don't know what is next, do we? We don't know what to expect.

We all at this time face challenges of employment, staying afloat financially and emotionally, we may struggle with loneliness as we cannot connect properly with family, and being forced to wrestle with technology so that we can at least see and “meet” others on frustrating screens.

We in the Methodist church (like all the churches in the area) are finding it difficult to make any plans for Christmas.

So let's get back to the original Christmas and its meaning. May I implore you to this Christmas expect the unexpected.

It is my hope and prayer that you will enter this Christmas season expecting God to do the unexpected in your life. May I invite you to pray for it, believe in it, and prepare for it.

Because we know and believe that God according to Ephesians 3:20 is ready to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. (Ephesians 3:20)

So I invite you this Christmas to dare to expect the unexpected...and just maybe we all will be a witness to new miracles.

Extra thought: Sometimes we are the miracle for each other and so I invite you to consider a reverse Advent calendar, where instead of taking you donate every day food/toiletries to others in need. Or maybe consider buying a Mustard Tree café gift voucher, or a local business venture as a gift to your loved ones?

Rev Brian Hutton

So many denominations!

Church leaders often talk about new churches and church planting, but probably talk less about new denominations. Yet new denominations are also being started. In the UK the number has grown from the 97 listed, when they were first counted in 1977, to 250 by the year 2000, falling to 230 by this year.

The number of denominations has grown worldwide also. When first counted globally in 1970, the total number was 16,100. It reached 33,100 by 1995, and the number is now reckoned to be 44,800.

In 2020, Africa had almost half (46%) of all the global denominations. This is primarily because the charismatic Pentecostals are extremely strong in Africa, and, as in the UK, they are formed of many small denominations. Across the rest of the globe inter-continental comparisons are fairly even in terms of number of denominations, although Oceania, which embraces Australasia, has fewer.



*We don't sing carols no more...
you 'ave to listen to 'em off me iPod!*



"Nice idea, Amelia, but I don't think that the Angel of the Lord Zooming with the shepherds would have the same dramatic effect."

Newsletter Information

This Newsletter is compiled and printed by members of All Saints Church Hurworth and distributed by a team of volunteers in the spirit of Christians Working Together in Hurworth and the surrounding villages.

Appropriate copy is always welcome as are offers to assist with the distribution to our growing community.

All copy for the Newsletter, including events, articles for publication, advertisement design or payment **MUST** be received by 10th of the previous month at the latest, or inclusion may not be possible

Advertising rates are as follows :-

Quarter page - 1 insertion £16, 5 (half year) £75 10 (1 year) £145

Half page insertions £32 each, £140 per half year

Contact details :-

Denis Pinnegar - Email denispinnegar@aol.com Tel 01325 720835,

A.W Tree Care Tree & Hedge Professionals Time Served Royal Horticultural Society Arborist

Fully Insured
All Aspects of Tree
Work Undertaken

Tree Felling, Dismantling & Pruning

Hedge Cutting

STUMP REMOVAL—GRINDING

Site /Garden Clearance

Tree Inspections and Reports

Woodland Management

T -01740 620216 M – 07544802052

Alexander Walker TechArborA., ND Arb,. SOC Arb



Electrician



Do you find it difficult to get someone to come and do a small job?

- ◆ Fault Finding / Repairs
- ◆ Extra lights and sockets
- ◆ New Fuse Boards
- ◆ Rewires
- ◆ P.A.T Testing
- ◆ Landlord Inspections
- ◆ Qualified Electrician
- ◆ Fully Insured
- ◆ Reliable Service
- ◆ Tidy Work
- ◆ Free Quote
- ◆ Satisfaction Guaranteed

Call Steven on 01325 244491 OR 07809 771623



Your car does a lot for you, what do you do for your car?

Get it serviced at Bosch Car Service



Contact us today and make an appointment for your next service. We will make sure that your car is going to thank you.

Oxford Garage Hurworth

27 Hurworth Road
Hurworth Place
Darlington DL2 2DF
Phone: 01325 720231 – info@oxford-garage.co.uk



For everything your car needs.



CLEAR LEGAL ADVICE

clarkwillis
lawfirm LLP

Darlington 01325 28111 | Catterick Garrison 01748 830000
Email enquiries@clarkwillis.co.uk | www.clarkwillis.com



LUCY'S
PILATES

Classes online and at
The Mustard Tree,
Hurworth

Classes on Sunday at 18.30
and 20.00 and Monday at
12.30, 14.00 and 19.00

Beginners welcome

BOOKING ESSENTIAL!

Contact Lucy on 07944 037515
lucyspilates@gmail.com

Do YOU want to PROMOTE your BUSINESS or EVENT ?

This Newsletter is distributed to over
1,650 homes in Hurworth, Hurworth
Place and the surrounding villages and is
hand delivered 10 times per annum by
villagers.

Advertising space is becoming available
in the near future which could be used
to great effect promoting your business
or event.

For advertising rates see Page 13

**Or contact Denis Pinnegar at
denispinnegar@aol.com**

The Riverside Parishes are currently in Interregnum and as such awaiting the appointment of a new Priest in Charge.

If you wish to seek advice or guidance on church related matters please direct your enquiries to one of the members of the team listed below:

Hurworth Church Wardens

Julia Clarke 01325 720662

Email addresses :

juliahclarke@aol.com

Lay Reader

Paul Mallett 01325 722089

mallett26@hotmail.com

Authorised Pastoral Assistant

Jill Bramwell 01325 721863

bramwelljill@hotmail.com

Hurworth Baptisms - initial contact:

Jill Bramwell 01325 721863

bramwelljill@hotmail.com

Hurworth Weddings

Ruth Everson 07792 148205

rutheverson9480@gmail.com

Hurworth Funerals - initial contact:

Enid Thompson 01325 720746

enid.thompson@gmail.com

Dinsdale Church Warden

Reuben Robson 01325 332439

win.sam@hotmail.co.uk

Girsby Church Wardens

Allen Harrison 01609 881534

harrisoncanda@hotmail.co.uk

Jane Alderson 01609 881305

pommiegrannie@gmail.com

(For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals in Dinsdale and Girsby, please contact the appropriate Church Warden initially.)

“Where there is only one set of footprints, that is where I have carried you”.

