

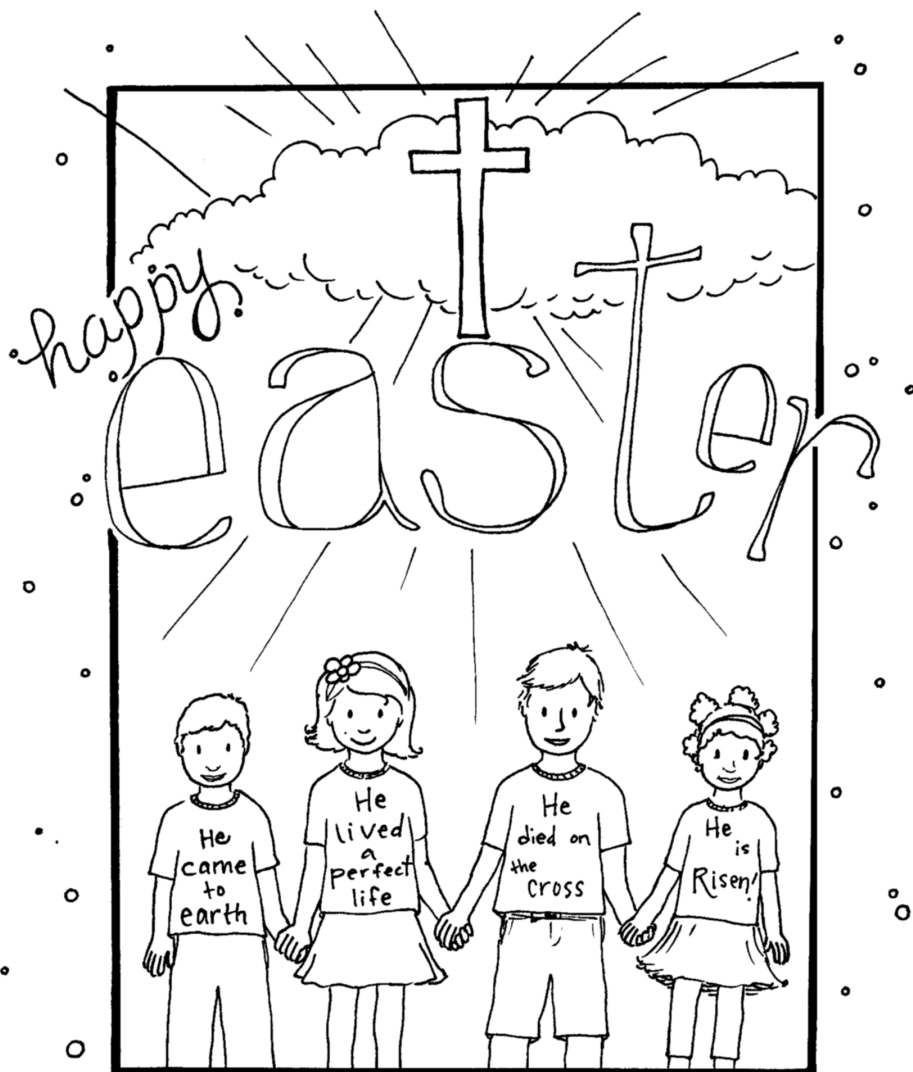


St. Andrew's URC
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay

NEWSTAND

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Mandy Groce '12

ministry-to-children.com

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please contact Carole Mallett or Tim Cooke.
You can also download it from the website.



Dear friends,

With the arrival of Easter, we can begin – finally – to see the start of spring. There have been many of our fellowship who have struggled in the long winter, and it has been particularly difficult with the weather through February and March – especially with all that the ‘Beast from the East’ has brought.

The season of Easter gives us the opportunity to think about New Life – about the way that the cold and dark of winter can be transformed into a season of gradual warmth, longer days and brighter gardens. The arrival of the daffodils and the crocuses during the past few days and weeks has shown that the barren and colourless ground can bring forth something bright and cheerful.

The season of Lent can be one of challenge and questioning, and it can leave us with many things to consider. It can be a period of deep and profound examination of who we are, how we respond to God’s call upon our lives, and what opportunities God is laying before us to seize and to savour. It’s a season to spend in prayer – as some of us have in our Lent Groups – and to seek to hear God’s voice to us as devoted followers.

Although Easter brings an end to the season of Lent, in many ways the challenges of listening to God and to God’s way for us become more acute. The New Life that we celebrate at Easter comes from the empty tomb – from where the dead body of Jesus was laid. The encounter of

Pilgrims on the Road to Emmaus came about because of the death of Jesus on Good Friday. The doubting disciple was enlightened because of the cross and the grave. We can only see the New Life that we celebrate at Easter because of the challenging story of death and crucifixion. Without them, the Resurrection has no story to tell.

In our lives as a Church and as Christians, we are often quick to deny the challenges and the difficulties – perhaps even to ignore the decline and death that we find around us. But the Easter story – God’s Good News – is that the pain of Good Friday is transformed into the unexpected of Easter morning, where the Risen Christ meets with disciples and strangers and shares the news of God’s transforming love.

Perhaps as we move into this Easter season, our response as faithful disciples is not to deny but is to recognise the challenges around us, and look and listen for how God is transforming and giving us hope in our lives. For the disciples, it was the shock of the crucifixion that led them to be fearful and afraid, and to be brought face-to-face with the catastrophic end of Jesus’s life. God met them in their grief and in their sorrow and showed them that love is stronger than hate.

As we enter the Easter season, may we be able to hear God’s Good News amid the challenges of our lives and in the difficulties that face us as a congregation, and may we know Christ’s peace among us.

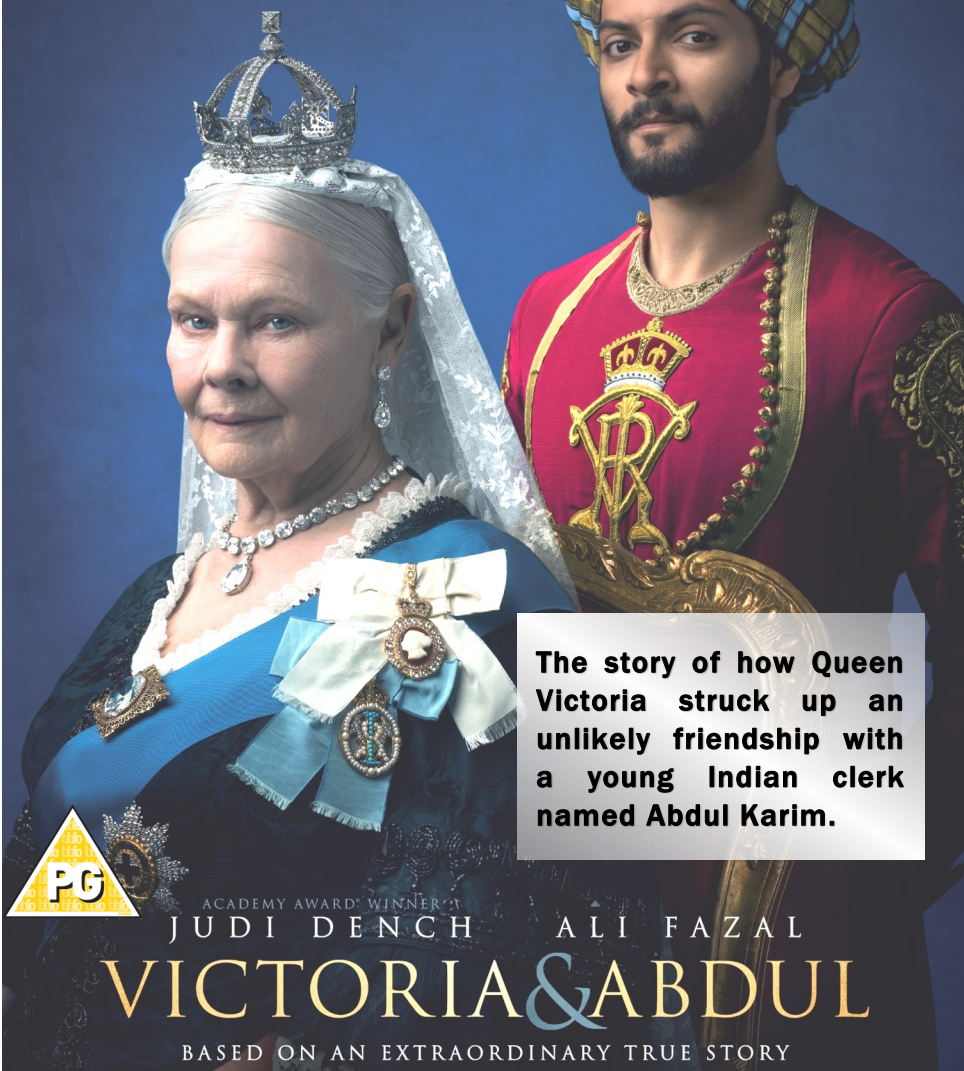
Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew". The script is cursive and fluid, with a large initial 'M'.

Lent was invented so Christians could take another shot at their New Year’s resolutions.

FROM THE ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR OF
'THE QUEEN' AND 'PHILOMENA'

HISTORY'S MOST
UNLIKELY FRIENDSHIP



The story of how Queen Victoria struck up an unlikely friendship with a young Indian clerk named Abdul Karim.

PG

ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER

JUDI DENCH ALI FAZAL

VICTORIA & ABDUL

BASED ON AN EXTRAORDINARY TRUE STORY

Friday 20th April 2.00pm

**All profits from the Film Club are in aid of
church funds and charitable works.**

St Andrew's Granny's Attic returns to the heart of Whitley Bay!



Good news! The renowned St Andrew's Granny's Attic has once again found a shop in Whitley Bay on Park View (some of you will know the venue as Ryles Corner) which we will be opening after Easter and be running for a number of weeks. We are therefore seeking stock in the form of good quality clothing, small items of furniture, bric-a-brac, jewellery, books, toys etc. We will also need people to serve in the shop each day – a rota will be available – please help if you can.

It is hoped loyal customers will return and we look forward to welcoming everyone to the shop on Park View for fun, friendship and bargain hunting.

Dates for the Diary

Table Top Sale – Saturday 12th May, 10 am – 2 pm.
If anyone is interested in booking a table at £8 please contact Ray Hammond (Tel 252 3319)

Northumbrian Evening – Saturday 2nd June, 7.30 pm

Ann Hammond

I gave up lots of stuff for Lent. I lent my neighbour my mower,
I lent my son my tuxedo, and I lent my daughter my car.

A number of us were expecting the usual talk about the origins of Hadrian's Wall on 5th March – but no, this was not in any way like that.

Instead, it was the tale of four friends walking along the wall in “bite sized” stages and of the history of the interesting bits, live music and poems about the particular areas they passed through, along with pictures projected onto the big screen.

However we did note that their route seemed to navigate to the best tea shops, cafés and restaurants en route.

Here is a brief overview:-

They started for Segedunum (ye naa, in Wallsend) and gave fascinating stories as they passed through Newcastle and Newburn. Not many of us knew that Newburn had been a Royal Borough and the high spot of the Newcastle area. They told us about Harry Clasper, one of the many rowing competitors from Newburn, who went on to become a world champion.

A poem described “The Trooth Aboot the Waall” by Ripyard Cuddling and the songs were largely well known Geordie songs. Waters of Tyne was beautifully played as a flute solo.

We learnt about why the Military Road was built and that Winshields Crag is the highest point of the wall.

Their journey progressed via Cawfields Quarry, Thirlwall Castle and Gilsland, then via Willowford Bridge, Banks Turret, Walton, Rickerby and followed the River Eden into Carlisle, a city which came into being long before Newcastle. We noted that by this stage our intrepid travellers were visiting hostelryes and cafés with much greater frequency.

I wanted to give up my children for Lent,
but nobody would take them.

After describing the failed attempt to build a canal between the Solway Firth and the Tyne — in fact it only got as far as Carlisle from the Solway and then fell into disuse — the final part of their walk was from Carlisle to the Solway via Glasson, Port Carlisle and Bowness on Solway — effectively the other “Wallsend”.

They then finished with the poem “Walk on the Wildside”.

A wonderful presentation of history, story, music and poetry which completed this season for 2017 and 2018.

Coffee Morning - 10th March.

What a great success, thank you all who attended, one of the best ever. A special thank you to everyone who helped in the setting up, the running of the Coffee Morning, donating prizes & cakes along with other nice things, and to those who helped with the clearing up afterwards.

58 Society 60th Anniversary Dinner – 19th March

It is a reflection on the membership support given to the 58 Society over the years that we have been able to prosper for 60 years and to celebrate this the Society held a dinner in the hall. Again this was very well supported with a fine two course meal. Long may the 58 Society continue.

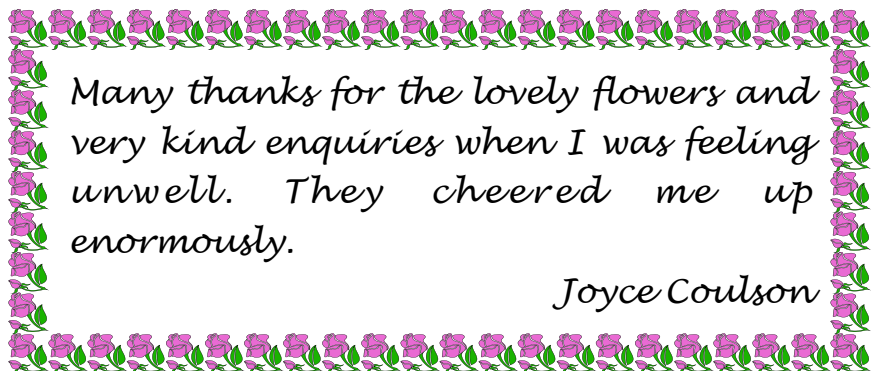
The New Season

The new season starts in October and we will be publishing our calendar of events as soon as it is fully finalised.

Time flies and it will be October in no time and we look forward to seeing you then and will warmly welcome anyone interested in joining us.

Richard Varley

My father was so cheap. Every Easter we'd wear the same clothes,
but he'd take us to a different church.



Many thanks for the lovely flowers and very kind enquiries when I was feeling unwell. They cheered me up enormously.

Joyce Coulson

Tuesday Evening Lent Prayer Groups

Every Tuesday evening during Lent, a small group of us have gathered to spend time together considering the theme of prayer. The sessions have taken the form of Bible study, prepared by Matthew, alongside the chance for us to engage together in conversation. At times, it has been challenging, but we have had some interesting and fruitful discussions. I have found taking part especially inspiring as prayer is something I struggle with personally. I have been able to take both the Bible study and practical elements of our sessions and incorporate them into my own prayer life, which has been greatly enriched as a result.

Given how much I have got out of the sessions, I think it is a real shame that more church members didn't take the opportunity to join us. Aside from all the preparation put in by Matthew, taking part in sessions like this are key to our development as disciples of Jesus. I sincerely hope that, should Bible study of this nature be offered again, more will be able to participate. The more people join in, the better it will be for all of us.

Lucy Cooke

Easter tastes better than Halloween,
and you don't have to ring a lot of doorbells.

ST. ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

February Draw

92 numbers went into the draw on 25th February.

The Winners were:

1st	No. 85	John Cook	£138.00
2nd	No. 15	Marjorie Peel	£69.00
3rd	No. 29	Bill Hopper	£23.00

£230 was given to Church funds.

The “100 Club” is a fund raising activity for Church funds. Each member pays £5 per month and the money is allocated as follows:

50% to Church funds
50% towards prize money

A monthly draw is held at a Church event or on the last Sunday of the month during morning coffee.

If you are interested in joining the “100 Club”,
please contact:

Kathleen Hopper (2522345)

Forget the Easter bunny. I need one that can do me some good –
like the Energizer bunny.

Home-Thoughts, from Abroad

by Robert Browning

Oh, to be in England
 Now that April's there,
 And whoever wakes in England
 Sees, some morning, unaware,
 That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf
 Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,
 While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
 In England — now!

And after April, when May follows,
 And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!
 Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the hedge
 Leans to the field and scatters on the clover
 Blossoms and dewdrops — at the bent spray's edge —
 That's the wise thrush; he sings each song twice over,
 Lest you should think he never could recapture
 The first fine careless rapture!
 And though the fields look rough with hoary dew,
 All will be gay when noontide wakes anew
 The buttercups, the little children's dower
 — Far brighter than this gaudy melon-flower!

Easter: time to throw caution to the wind
 and put all your eggs in one basket.

Festival of Remembrance & Reconciliation 2018



We need your help!

Thank you to everyone who has donated wool, fabric and buttons for our poppy installation.

We now have enough of some colours but would still appreciate donations of **RED** wool, fabric and felt. Donations can be placed in the box in reception or handed directly to **Una Ketteridge**.

If you are unsure about what to donate, please talk to Una.

Thank you!

Northern Synod Prayer Diary

1	PCM, its congregations in and around the capital, Maputo. Darlington Methodist Chair, Revd Ruth Gee.
8	St Andrew's URC, Blackhill; Bethel URC, Chester-le-Street; Christ Church URC, Stanley.
15	St George's URC, High Heaton; St Cuthbert's LEP (Methodist/URC), Heaton; Revd Dr Grant Wilson.
22	St Mark's URC, Amble; Revd Alison Mills. The work of Children & Youth Work Committee and for its convenor, Mr Sandy Ogilvie and Synod Children's Work Advisor, Mrs Hannah Middleton.
29	PCM, ministers in training at Ricatla Ecumenical Seminary. The RC Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, the Rt Revd Seamus Cunningham.

When you're grown up you realize that it's not the number of Easter eggs you find that's important, but how many are dark chocolate.



*The names of those we remember
this month are*

Karen Watkin

David Smith Fisher

Helen McNeil Dall

Janette A. Charlton

Gladys Wilson

Nell and Eric Hammond

William Noel Jackson

John Arthur Melding (Jack)

St. Andrew's Book of Remembrance is open to all who wish to be remembered in the prayers of those in the church, be they former members or adherents, relatives, loved ones or friends, or just someone who had a connection with the life of the church.

To have a name entered, please complete a form available on the table at the rear of the church or email Tim Cooke via the Newstand address.

Easter combines the best of the present with the traditions of the past – like Cadbury cream eggs with hunting and gathering.

Monthly Duties

Elders	Vestry: C.Hales Reception: H.Hall Communion: C.Mallett
Stewards	A.Mood, H.Carr
Flowers	Beryl & Mary

Weekly Duties

Sun 01-Apr18	Readers: T.Cooke, K.Hopper Prayers of Concern: J.Hooper	Organ: Pete
Tues 03-Apr18	Prayers: D.McFarlane	
Sun 08-Apr-18	Readers: I.Ord, S.Clarke Prayers of Concern: C.Hales	Organ: TBC
Tues 10-Apr-18	Prayers: C.Mallett	
Sun 15-Apr-18	Readers: Junior Church, K.Ames Prayers of Concern: J. Durell	Organ: Helen
Tues 17-Apr-18	Prayers: U.Ketteridge	
Sun 22-Apr-18	Readers: C.Lynch, C.Fenwick Prayers of Concern: U.Ketteridge	Organ: Pete
Tues 24-Apr-18	Prayers: L.Cooke	
Sun 29-Apr-18	Readers: B.Burgess, S.Pine Prayers of Concern: A.Cooke	Organ: Hymnal

Newstand Dates

Next edition, published 4th Sunday of month	Sunday 22 Apr 2018
Hardcopy contributions in Editor's box	Sunday 15 Apr 2018
Email copy to standrewsnewstand@gmail.com	Monday 16 Apr 2018
Earlier contributions are appreciated!	

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Disclaimer: Details of events, contacts and other material were correct at time of publication based on information received by the Newstand publishing team.

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Open Door Coffee Mornings
every Tuesday and Thursday
from 10am to Noon

CHURCH CALENDAR

April / May 2018

A short Act of Worship is
held in the Church Foyer
every Tuesday at 9.30am

Sunday	1	Sunrise Service at Spanish City Plaza	6.30 am
		Easter Day Communion Service; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
		PLEASE NOTE: NO PRAYER GROUP MEETING OR MESSY CHURCH TODAY	
Sunday	8	Morning Worship; Revd Kevin Watson	11.00 am
Friday	13	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	15	Communion Service; Revd Douglas McFarlane	9.30 am
		Morning Worship; Revd John Durell	11.00 am
Monday	16	Activities Team Meeting	1.30 pm
Tuesday	17	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Wednesday	18	Coast Mission Partnership (Joint Elders) Meeting at St Andrew's	7.30 pm
Thursday	19	Elders' Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	20	Film Club — Victoria and Abdul	2.00 pm
Sunday	22	Morning Worship; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
Friday	27	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	29	Morning Worship; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
May 2018			
Tuesday	1	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Saturday	5	Flower Team Concert – The Darling Dollies	7.30 pm
Sunday	6	Prayer Group	10.30 am
		Communion Service; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
		Messy Church	3.30 pm
Thursday	10	Pastoral Team Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	11	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Saturday	12	Table Top Sale	10.00 am
Sunday	13	Morning Worship; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
		Scones of Praise	3.30pm