

Welcome to the Stainton Church e-News for

Friday 16th October 2026

Stainton Church Annual Gift Day and Harvest Celebration

On Saturday 3rd October 2026 we held our **Annual Gift Day; from 9.30am to 12.00 noon** our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, and our Churchwarden, Vernon Clare, were at the Church gates in Hemlington Road to receive any very kind financial donations our Members and Friends may make. The donations of non-perishable food – **tins, packets and jars** – were used to decorate the Church for our **Harvest Festival Café Church Service** at **11.00am** the following day, **Sunday 4th October 2026**. The following **Wednesday 7th October 2026**, at our Coffee and Kids toddler group session, we gathered all the tins, packets and jars together so that the children could see how much had been given and the food was then taken to the **EcoShop in Hemlington** where the staff were so grateful for our contribution.



Can we take this opportunity to say again a
HUGE “THANK YOU”
to everyone who gave generously more than **£900** to the Church
before, during and after our Gift Day!

Services and Events in our Churches over the next two weeks

On **Sunday 18th September 2026** it is **Trinity 20** – It is also the **Feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist**, which we shall be celebrating in our Family of Churches. There will be services as follows:

At 9.30m at Hilton Church a service of **Morning Praise** led by Julia Ardley, our Authorised Lay Minister;

At 9.30am at Brookfield Church an **All-Age Holy Communion Service** at which our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, will preside;

At 11.00am at Stainton Church a service of **Holy Communion** at which our Pioneer Minister, Revd Vanessa Kirby, will preside; and

At 4.00pm at Brookfield Church a **“Church Family at 4” service** led jointly by Revd Laura and Revd Vanessa.

The scripture passages set in the Lectionary for **the Feast of St Luke the Evangelist** are:

- Acts 16:6-12a
- Psalm 147:1-7
- 2 Timothy 4:5-17
- Luke 10:1-9

The scripture passages set in the Lectionary for **Trinity 20** are:

- Isaiah 5:1-7
- Psalm 96:1-end
- 1 Thessalonians 1.1–10
- Matthew 22:15-22

On **Monday 19th October 2026** at 1.30pm in **Stainton Church** there will be a **Bible Conversation** session.

On **Tuesday 20th October 2026** at 9.30am at **Stainton Church** there will be a half-hour **Church Family Prayer Gathering**

On **Tuesday 20th October 2026** at 2.0pm at **Stainton Church** there will be a Branch Meeting of the Mothers' Union (MU) with guest speaker Barbara Ford talking about the 150 years of the MU.

On **Tuesday 20th October 2026** at 7.00pm (for a 7.30pm start) at **Brookfield Church Hall** there will be **the sixth session** of our seven-week **Bible Course** led by our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild.

On **Wednesday 21st October 2026** at 10.00am at **Brookfield Church** there will be a service of **Holy Communion** at which our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, will preside.

On **Thursday 22nd October 2026** at 1.30pm in **Community Living Room, Viewley Centre, Hemlington** there will be a **Bible Conversation** session.

On **Saturday 24th October 2026** it is the **Hilton Church Annual Gift Day** when, between 10.00am and 12.00noon, our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild and the two Hilton Churchwardens, Hilary Tulloch and Angela Sayer will be at the **Hilton War Memorial** near the entrance to the Churchyard to receive any kind donations from Members and Friends of **St Peter's Church, Hilton** that will be used to support the work of the Church in the local community. The Church will be open for refreshments.

On **Sunday 25th October 2026** it is the **Last Sunday after Trinity**; it is also **Bible Sunday** which we shall be celebrating in all three of our Churches. There will be services as follows:

At 9.30am at Brookfield Church a service of **Holy Communion** at which our Pioneer Minister, Revd Vanessa Kirby, will preside;

At 11.00am at Stainton Church a service of **Holy Communion** at which our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, will preside; and

At 4.00pm at Hilton Church a service of **Choral Evensong** led by Revd Laura and our Guest Priest Revd Marie Edwards, who is Chaplain at the College of St Hild and St Bede, Durham University. We are pleased to announce that **the sung worship will be led by the Chapel Choir from St Hild and St Bede College.**

The scripture passages set in the Lectionary for **Bible Sunday** are:

- Nehemiah 8:1-4a, [5-6], 8-12
- Psalm 119:9-16
- Colossians 3:12-17
- Matthew 24:30-35

The scripture passages set in the Lectionary for the **Last Sunday after Trinity** are:

- Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
- Psalm 1
- 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
- Matthew 22:34-end

On **Monday 26th October 2026** at 1.30pm in **Stainton Church** there will be a **Bible Conversation** session.

On **Tuesday 27th October 2026** at 9.30am at **Stainton Church** there will be a half-hour **Church Family Prayer Gathering**.

On **Tuesday 27th October 2026** at 7.00pm (for a 7.30pm start) at **Brookfield Church Hall** there will be **the seventh session** of our eight-week **Bible Course** led by our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild.

On **Wednesday 28th October 2026** at 10.00am at **Brookfield Church** there will be a service of **Holy Communion** at which our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, will preside.

On **Thursday 29th October 2026** at 1.30pm in **Community Living Room, Viewley Centre, Hemlington** there will be a **Bible Conversation** session

On **Saturday 31st October 2026** at 5.00-7.00pm at **Hilton Church** there is a **“Light in the Night”** gathering to mark All Hallows’ Eve [*Editor’s note: All Hallows’ Eve is the evening of “All Saints Day” or “All Hallows”*]

Teesside churches unite to open up Bible conversations

Across Teesside, more people are asking questions about Jesus, exploring Christianity, and stepping through church doors. This autumn, churches across the region will respond together through **[Bible Conversations: Teesside](#)**, an initiative led by the [Bible Society](#) in partnership with [Transforming Teesside Together](#).

Churches across Stockton, Middlesbrough, and Redcar and Cleveland, **including the three Churches in our Church Family**, are creating opportunities to continue those conversations by hosting courses, small groups, one-to-one conversations, and relaxed spaces where people can explore the Christian faith together.



You will be able to find out what is happening where and when, and book free tickets, [by clicking on this link](#) or by scanning this QR Code with your smart-phone.



From 15th September 2026, our Church Family will be hosting **[The Bible Course](#)**, an 8-week course with videos and informal discussion that aims to give an **[overview of the Bible and its 'big questions'](#)**. This is open to **everyone** from our three Parishes (and beyond...) – no experience necessary! The course will be held at St Margaret's Church, Brookfield on Tuesday evenings at **[7.00pm for a 7.30pm start, beginning on 15th Sept 2026](#)** and then each Tuesday evening until 3rd November. [Editor's note: Our Vicar, Revd Laura, has asked me to include the following link which will take you to **[the YouTube website where you will be able to watch the whole set of the Bible Course videos](#)** – here is the link: [\(49\) The Bible Course Collection - YouTube](#)]

We are excited to be holding **[Bible Conversations](#)** – an opportunity to chat and share our understanding or questions about the Bible with others - in each of our three Parishes as follows:

- ~~St Peter's Church, Hilton~~ Thursdays at 11.00am from 10th Sept to 1st Oct 2026
- **[St Peter and St Paul's Church, Stainton](#)** Mondays at 1.30pm from 5th Oct to 26th Oct 2026
- **[Community Living Room, Hemlington](#)** Thursdays at 12.00noon from 22nd Oct to 12th Nov
- **[St Margaret's Church, Brookfield](#)** Wednesdays at 11.15am from 4th Nov to 25th Nov 2026

Pease join us in praying for Teesside, for churches preparing to welcome people, and for everyone who will encounter God's Word through the campaign.

Please pray

... for the people of Middlesbrough and the surrounding area following the recent deaths after the crash on the A66 and the house fire.

To help guide our prayers – yours and mine - here are four specific areas [that Bishop Barry has mentioned]:

1. **The timing of recent events coincides with a major ecumenical outreach across Teesside, funded and supported by the Bible Society.** As Christians, we know the life-changing difference knowing the love, identity, hope and call of Jesus Christ makes individually, and in a community, **so please pray that much fruit and transformation will result [from the Bible Conversations Teesside campaign] that will last many years across our region;**
2. **The emergency services continue to face extraordinary pressures. Please pray for** Firefighters, Paramedics and Ambulance Crews and Police Officers [who] continue to serve the community as they deal with their own grief and trauma;
3. **And finally, as a community many people have lived in fear for some years and for others recent events have highlighted and heightened anxiety. Please pray for** a spiral of de-escalations rather than a pattern of escalating violence. May God's peace and protection be known across our community.

... for Nepal and Tibet following the recent flash-floods that have occurred.

Here is a prayer from [The Methodist Church](#):

Loving God,

We pray for all those affected by the floods in Nepal and Tibet.

Be near to those who mourn the loss of loved ones, and to all who wait in uncertainty for news of family and friends.

Hold close those whose homes, livelihoods and communities have been swept away, and all who are shocked, displaced or afraid.

Strengthen rescue workers, local communities, churches and all who are searching, serving and offering care in the midst of this crisis.

Grant courage and resilience to those waiting for news, facing uncertainty, and fearing the days ahead.

As we witness the growing fragility of creation, renew our commitment to care for one another and for the earth of which we are a part.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

... and for Venezuela following the recent double-earthquake that hit the city of Caracas and the state of La Guairá and especially for the aid-agencies seeking to support the Venezuelans at this difficult time.

Here is a guide from the Christian Charity [Tearfund](#) to help us pray for the people of Venezuela;

Pray for:

- search and rescue teams;
- those grieving the loss of loved ones;
- everyone dealing with extreme emotional distress;
- those who have been injured;
- provision of emergency aid and supplies;
- local churches; and
- those co-ordinating the response.

... for Ukraine and Russia for an end to the war started by Russia.

Here is a prayer from the [Baptist Union of Great Britain](#):

Lord God

Three years after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine we pray for the people of Ukraine who have suffered so terribly.

We bring before you each person affected, for you know their suffering better than ourselves. We pray for those on the frontlines, for families torn apart, for the widows and for the orphans. We pray for those displaced from their homes, whether living in Ukraine or exiled in other countries.

We are thankful for the strength that your faithful followers have found in you, their witness to hope in the face of such adversity, and for the Ukrainian churches that have served their communities sacrificially with love.

Grant your grace to us. Help us, sinful human beings that we are, so that we learn to forgive one another and love, recalling Christ's love for us.

We relentlessly pray for peace in the hope that you have placed before us. We pray for the efforts of leaders who seek to negotiate a just and lasting peace. May all in Ukraine and Russia be encouraged to hope for a better future.

In your precious name, we pray.

Amen

... for Israel and Palestine, for Lebanon, for Iran and the wider Middle East

especially for the war between America and Iran and its proxies, and that the fighting between Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah would endure and become a lasting Peace. Please pray too for Jewish and Arab Christians, and especially for the Iranian people at this time of civil unrest.

[Embrace, the Christian Charity tells us](#) (accessed 8/10/2026)

Unsurprisingly, Christianity in the land where Jesus walked dates back to the days of the Apostles. In Arabic, Christians are known as *Nasrani* (from the Arabic word for Nazarene) or *Masihi* (from the Arabic *Masih*, meaning Messiah). In Hebrew they are *Notzri*, which also means Nazarene.

How many Christians are in Israel and Palestine today?

Approximately 45,000 out of the West Bank's Palestinian population of 3.2 million are Christian. Before 7 October 2023, an estimated 1,000 Christians lived in Gaza, representing 0.05% of the population. In Israel there are around 180,000 Christians. These are made up of indigenous Christian citizens of Israel, Christians who have emigrated to the country, and a growing number of Messianic Jews.

The two largest churches in Gaza, Jerusalem and the West Bank are Catholic and Greek Orthodox. A smaller number also belong to other Christian denominations, including Protestant and Anglican communities.

What are the challenges facing Christians in Israel and Palestine?

One of the biggest challenges facing churches in Israel and Palestine is to persuade Christian families to stay. In 1948 Christians made up around 10% of the population, compared to around 2% today. In Gaza more than half the Christian population is estimated to have left over the past decade, while the human cost of conflict since 7 October 2023 continues to unfold, amid catastrophic humanitarian conditions and the displacement of around 90% of the population.

The main drivers of emigration include limited economic opportunities and the ongoing Israeli occupation. Like their fellow Muslim Palestinians, Christians in the West Bank face restrictions on their movements, military check points, [Settler expansion and attacks](#) and military raids. Access to water, electricity, and healthcare is limited, and the use of [child detention](#) and forced displacement represents a denial human dignity.

Since the escalation of violence following the Hamas attacks on 7 October 2023, the situation for Christians in Gaza has deteriorated dramatically. Many have lost their homes and livelihoods, and the collapse of healthcare, and severe shortages of food and water have created a critical and long-term humanitarian crisis. In this context, a growing number of Christians have either left or expressed a strong desire to leave Gaza in search of safety and stability.

Please join us in praying for our Churches to Grow

Our Bishop Barry and Archdeacon Amanda have asked us to pray fervently for people to come forward to fill a number of clergy vacancies in our Archdeaconry. Praise God for the vacancies that have already been filled, and pray for all involved in the recruitment leading up to the Licensing of Priests in remaining Parishes/Benefices.

Can we invite you to use our **Revitalise** "prayer for growth" in your personal quiet times with God?

Revitalise us Lord,
Enthuse in our congregations the desire for mission. Give
Vision to our planning and
Inspire our thoughts as we seek Your will.
Teach us to be more like You, Christ
Abiding in You and
Loving one another.
In growing healthy churches,
Sharing our faith, living Christ's story
Every day, help us to be faithful disciples and bear much fruit. Amen.

This autumn the Parishes in our Stokesley Deanery and the Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) will begin the preparation of a revised Deanery Plan to help us all Live Christ's Story. **We are asked to use this prayer often:**

Gracious God,
You are the source of all wisdom and the giver of every good gift.
As we gather to plan for the life and mission of our deanery,
fill our hearts with your spirit of discernment and peace.
Guide our conversations so they may be rooted in love,
our decisions so they reflect our desire to live Christ's story together,
and our vision so it may serve the needs of all in our communities.
Help us to listen well, speak kindly,
and work together in unity for the sake of your kingdom.
May all we do bring glory to your name and bear fruit that will last.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen

Pastoral Support - Here are the contact details for our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild:

Address: The Vicarage, 89 Low Lane, Brookfield, Middlesbrough TS5 9EF
Phone: 01642-598621
E-mail: rev.laura.wild@gmail.com

Laura's normal "day off" is Friday - if you need to contact her on that day, please leave a message on the answerphone.

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