

January 2026 50p

# Parish News

*Church and Community News for Haslington and Crewe Green*



St. Matthew's Haslington



St. Michael's Crewe Green



## Church Leadership

### Vicar:

**Rev. Dr. Jane Lloyd**

 **Mob:**

07785 752023

**Home:** 582388

 **Email:**

vicarjanelloyd@gmail.com,

### Lay Readers:

**Linda Clarke**

07752050003

**Anne Thompson**

253220

### Church website:

[www.hcganglican.org](http://www.hcganglican.org)

### Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/haslingtonandcrewegreen/](http://www.facebook.com/haslingtonandcrewegreen/)

## St. Matthew Haslington

### Church Wardens:

**Alan Wheeler**

501450

**Colin Booth**

696000

### Hon. Secretary PCC:

**Jane McCombie**

581769

### Hon. Treasurer PCC:

**Chris Betts**

589324

### Vergar

**Arleine Bloor**

216548

## St. Michael and All Angels Crewe Green

### Church Wardens:

### Hon. Secretary PCC:

**Helen Ledward**

07707948005

### Hon. Treasurer PCC:

**Thelma Malabar**

07940039010

### Vergar

**Linda Clarke**

07752050003



## *Pastoral Letter*

### **Epiphany: Following the Light When the Road Is Uncertain**

January often feels like a “between” time. Christmas joy has passed, but the days are still dark, and a whole new year stretches ahead — full of possibility, but also full of unknowns. And into this moment comes Epiphany, inviting us to follow the light of Christ even when we’re not entirely sure where the road will lead.

The Wise Men are wonderful companions for this season. They didn’t begin their journey with all the answers. They simply saw a light — a sign of hope — and trusted it enough to take the next step. They got things wrong, ended up in the wrong place, and had to ask for directions. Yet God guided them all the same.

That feels very true to the Christian life. Most of us don’t stride into January with a perfect plan; many of us carry worries, uncertainties, or hopes that feel fragile. Epiphany reassures us that faith is not about knowing everything in advance. It is about attending to the light we *do* have — a word of Scripture, a moment of peace, the kindness of another person — and trusting God for what we cannot yet see.

And when the Wise Men finally arrive, they find not a palace but a child. God meets them in ordinariness and vulnerability. It is a reminder that God’s presence is often found in the small, quiet, everyday moments of our lives — the ones we might easily overlook.

My prayer for us this Epiphany is simple: that we would notice the light God places before us, however gentle it may seem, and have the courage to follow it. We may not know the whole path, but we do not travel alone. The God who guided the Wise Men guides us too — faithfully, patiently, and with a love that never loses sight of us.

May Christ’s light be steady for you in the weeks ahead: enough for each step of the journey.

With every blessing

Vicar Jane xx



## *St. Matthew's PCC*

PCC Members— Rev Jane( Chair), Alan Wheeler (Warden) Colin Booth ( Warden) ,Jane McCombie (Secretary) Arleine Bloor, Roger Pearce, Barbara Harris, , Viv Grunner, Anna Betts, Steve Grunner, Celia Booth, Shelagh Haukinson

Our next PCC meeting will be held on Thursday 29nd January 2026 at 10 am at the home of Anna & Chris

### **Christmas Holly Wreaths**

If you place a wreath or decorations on a grave will you please remove them and take them home **ASAP** as we do not have sufficient dustbin space for them.



Thank you for your co-operation



### **Church Hall cleaning and maintenance**

The next hall cleaning is on Friday 2nd January at 9:00am.  
New volunteers welcome.



# Church Diary      January 2026

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas / Epiphany</b>
	9:30 am	Holy Communion at St Matthew's Church
	10.30am	Service of Morning Prayer at Christ Church
	11.00 am	Service of Morning prayer at St Michael & All Angels.
Wednesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	10:45 am      Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Baptism of Christ    1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>
	9:30 am	Holy Communion at St Matthew's Church
	10:45 am	Service of Morning prayer at Christ Church
	11.00 am	Holy Communion at St Michael's Church
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	10:45 am      Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>
	9.30 am	Service of Morning Prayer at St Matthew's Church
	10.45 am	Holy Communion at Christ Church
	11.00 am	Service of Morning Prayer at St Michael & All Angels.
Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	10:45 am      Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany    Conversion of Paul</b>
	9.30 am	Holy Communion at St Matthew's Church
	10.45 am	Service of Morning Prayer at Christ Church
	11.00 am	Holy communion at St Michael & All Angels
	4.30 pm	Service of Evening Prayer at Christ Church
Wednesday	28 <sup>th</sup>	10:45 am      Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church





## *Haslington Women's Institute*

The December meeting was our Christmas party, lots of fun with the Secret Santa and the raffle was all beautiful Christmas hampers.

We also had a talk "Charles Dickens"

The Mercia Link Christmas Event at The Vagrants was good fun. Homemade soup, mince pies and coffee. Corrine entertained us by singing songs and playing the ukulele.

Our annual Christmas meal at the Golf Club was great as usual. Wonderful food and good company.

Coming up next year we will have fun packed events like we enjoyed this year.

The WI meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30.

Janet Dake.....Haslington WI



## *St. Matthew's Social Committee*

Our next coffee morning is on Friday 23rd January in the church hall, between 10:00am and 12:00 noon, all are welcome.

In January we will be planning the church social events for the year ahead. If you would like to join us or have any suggestions or ideas for the coming year, please let me know.

Anna Betts





## *United Benefice Mothers Union*

It's December so after notices and thoughtful prayers, nine members and a guest enjoyed an afternoon of quizzes, a Christmas reading, mince pies and cake (always cake)! Our brains were tested and our knowledge of emoji's extended! Try this - 🍷🍰👉 Thanks to Anne, Viv & Brenda.

In January we will continue our celebrations with a new year lunch at the Old Hall in Sandbach. Members who were unable to attend in December, please let me know if you would like to be included on the list.

2026 is the 150th Anniversary of the creation of the Mothers' Union by Mary Sumner, so hopefully plenty of celebrations to come.

Happy New Year to everyone and if you would like to join us you would be most welcome.

Jane McCombie (581769).

### **Children's Society**

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to our Christingle Service, this is the special service of light of the world in support of the work of the Children's Society.

Also, thank you to everyone who holds a collecting box for the Society.. All the pennies when collected together add up to a very useful donation.

It is with much regret that I feel that it is necessary for me to retire from being the local coordinator for Haslington. I have enjoyed being involved in this support of the Children's Society. So, if anyone feels they would like to take over the role, please, do let me know.

Jane McCombie

***Regular Church Hall Activities If you require any  
information, please contact any of the below***

**Young People**

Cubs	Tuesday	17:45 – 19:15	Katrina Fearn email: <a href="mailto:crewegreenscouts@hotmail.co.uk">crewegreenscouts@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Scouts	Monday	19:30 – 21:00	Verity Ashcroft / Jamie Davies email: <a href="mailto:crewegreenscouts@hotmail.co.uk">crewegreenscouts@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Rainbow	Wednesday	16:30 – 17:30 Tel: 258821	Mrs Maria Pickersgill email: <a href="mailto:haslingtonbrownies@yahoo.co.uk">haslingtonbrownies@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Brownies	Wednesday	17:45 – 19:00 Tel: 214832	Mrs Cathy Consterdine email: <a href="mailto:haslingtonbrownies@yahoo.co.uk">haslingtonbrownies@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Guides	Wednesday	19:15 – 20:15	Mrs Cathy Consterdine

**Groups**

Cameo	Our Cameo Group, a luncheon club for the bereaved and anyone else who, through circumstances, finds themselves alone. On the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month (at the present) at 1:00 in St. Matthew's Church Hall. We welcome anyone from anywhere. Contact Viv Grunner (501538) for further information.		
Mothers Union	Meet on a Wednesday please Speak to Jane McCombie (581769) or Viv Grunner (501538)		
Coffee Mornings	Friday Morning Coffee Mornings are held in St. Matthews Church Hall 10:00 –12:00 on the 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday of the month.		
Café Church / Open table	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in the month at 4:00pm		
Prayer Breakfast	4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday every 2 months		

**Health/Wellbeing/Hobbies**

Pilates	Tuesday	19:30 – 20:30
Pre School Dance	Thursday	10:45—11:45
	Friday	10:45—11:45
Gardening Club	Meet on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month 19:30 – 21:00	





## Revani cake *(Mediterranean semolina cake)*

### Ingredients

125g self-raising flour  
125g semolina  
1 lemon, zested and juiced  
1 tsp baking powder  
3 eggs  
175g natural yogurt  
175ml olive oil, plus extra for greasing  
275g caster sugar  
2 tbsp desiccated coconut  
2 tbsp pistachios, finely chopped



### Method

Heat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan/gas 4. Grease a 30cm x 20cm baking tin and line it with baking parchment. In one bowl, combine the flour, semolina, lemon zest and baking powder. In another bowl, whisk together the eggs, yogurt, olive oil and 175g sugar, then gradually mix into the dry ingredients until you have a thick batter.

Pour the batter into the lined baking tin and level with the back of a spoon. Bake for 30–35 mins until golden and a skewer comes out clean.

Meanwhile, make the syrup by heating the lemon juice with the remaining sugar and 100ml water in a saucepan over a medium-high heat. Bring to a boil, then simmer until the sugar has dissolved. Remove from the heat and leave to cool slightly.

Prick the cake all over with a skewer or fork, then pour the cooled syrup over the warm sponge and sprinkle over the desiccated coconut and pistachios. Leave to cool completely before removing from the tin and cutting into 15 squares.



# *Church Rotas* *For St. Matthew's*



## **St. Matthew's Reading Rota**

04/01/2026	Arleine Bloor
11/01/2026	John McC
18/01/2026	Darren Evans
25/01/2026	Colin Booth
01/02/2026	Pat Hills

## **St. Matthew's Intercession Rota**

04/01/2026	Darren Evans
11/01/2026	Viv Grunner
18/01/2026	Pat Hills
25/01/2026	Rev Jane
01/02/2026	Arleine Bloor

## **St. Matthew's Eucharist Server Rota**

04/01/2026	Arleine Bloor
11/01/2026	Steve Grunner
18/01/2026	—
25/01/2026	Alan Wheeler
01/02/2026	Colin Booth

## **St. Matthew's Sides-person Rota**

04/01/2026	Janet D & Shelagh H
11/01/2026	Jane & John McC
18/01/2026	Sheila M & Anne A
25/01/2026	Jean T & Ann F
01/02/2026	Andrea D & Mike S

## **St. Matthew's Flower Rota**

03/01/2026	<b>Christmas Flowers</b>
10/01/2026	———”———
17/01/2026	Jane McCombie
24/01/2026	———”———
31/01/2026	TBA

## **St. Matthew's Church Locking up**

04/01/2026	Vicar Jane
11/01/2026	Steve Grunner
18/01/2026	Sheila Hauksson
25/01/2026	Roger Pearce
01/02/2026	John Brassington

# January Sudoku

			9	3			7	
	8	3			2		9	
		7		1	4			2
		5			9		1	7
	1			5			2	
7	6		1			9		
2			3	6		5		
	3		7			2	6	
	5			2	1			

Easy

	1			6				
		2			9			
3				4			5	
1	2		4			9		
7		8	9		1	4		5
		6			8		2	1
	6			8				9
			3			5		
				9			8	

Medium

		8			4		5	
		2	7		3			
	3				5	2		
						9	2	
3			5		6			7
8	5							
		4	3				2	
			1		7	6		
	7		2			1		

Hard



## *St. Michael's PCC*

P.C.C. Members: Rev Jane( Chair), Helen Ledward (Secretary, Deanery Rep), Thelma Malabar (Treasurer) Linda Clarke (Deanery Rep), Nancy Kay, Ron Taylor, Anne Thompson, Jeanette Allman, Barrie Blood, Margaret Hepburn,

**Notes From The PCC Meeting will now be posted at the back of church.**

St. Michael's next PCC meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd January at 2.00 pm at 30 Portland Grove, Haslington



## *St. Michael's Social Committee*

### **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**



**ST. MICHAEL'S PANCAKE COFFEE MORNING**

**SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 10.00- 12 NOON**

**COME ALONG AND ENJOY FELLOWSHIP**

**.....AND DELICIOUS PANCAKES**



### **ST. MICHAEL'S CAR WASH**

**OUR CHARITY CAR WASH WILL BE UP AND RUNNING AGAIN ON**

**TUESDAY 13TH JANUARY 2026 FROM 10.00 - 3.00**

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED US IN 2025**



**WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2026  
FROM ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH FAMILY.**





# *Church Rotas* *For St. Michael's*



## **St. Michael's Prayer Rota**

04/01/2026	Ron
11/01/2026	Nancy
18/01/2026	Anne
25/01/2026	Linda
01/02/2026	Ron

## **St. Michael's Reading Rota**

04/01/2026	Ron
11/01/2026	Linda
18/01/2026	Anne
25/01/2026	Helen
01/02/2026	Ron

## **St. Michael's Cleaning Rota**

03/01/2026	Ron & Irene
10/01/2026	Barrie/Janette
17/01/2026	Linda
24/01/2026	Helen
31/01/2026	Ron & Irene

## **St. Michael's Coffee Rota**

04/01/2026	Ron & Irene
11/01/2026	Linda
18/01/2026	Helen
25/01/2026	Barrie/Janette
01/02/2026	Ron & Irene

## **St. Michael's Sides-person Rota**

04/01/2026	Margaret
11/01/2026	Barrie
18/01/2026	Helen
25/01/2026	Nancy
01/02/2026	Margaret

# December Sudoku Solutions

Easy

9	2	1	8	5	3	7	6	4
8	5	3	7	4	6	9	1	2
6	7	4	2	9	1	8	5	3
2	1	5	4	6	7	3	9	8
3	9	6	1	8	2	4	7	5
4	8	7	9	3	5	6	2	1
7	3	8	5	2	9	1	4	6
1	4	2	6	7	8	5	3	9
5	6	9	3	1	4	2	8	7

Medium

2	9	1	5	6	7	4	3	8
8	6	4	2	3	9	5	7	1
5	7	3	8	1	4	6	9	2
4	3	5	9	8	6	1	2	7
7	2	9	1	4	5	8	6	3
6	1	8	3	7	2	9	5	4
1	8	6	7	5	3	2	4	9
9	4	7	6	2	1	3	8	5
3	5	2	4	9	8	7	1	6

Hard

3	1	5	4	6	2	7	9	8
8	7	2	3	9	5	6	1	4
6	4	9	8	7	1	2	5	3
7	8	3	1	2	6	5	4	9
5	9	1	7	4	3	8	6	2
4	2	6	9	5	8	3	7	1
2	5	8	6	1	9	4	3	7
9	3	4	5	8	7	1	2	6
1	6	7	2	3	4	9	8	5



## *Prayer Subjects*

### ***Some Prayers for Epiphany***

#### **Prayer of Light and Revelation**

Radiant God,  
As the star once guided wise seekers to Your presence,  
shine in our hearts today.  
Dispel the shadows of doubt,  
illuminate the path of peace,  
and help us recognise Your presence in unexpected places.  
May our lives reflect Your light to all we meet.  
Amen.



#### **Prayer for the Journey**

Lord of the Way,  
You call us to follow,  
sometimes through deserts,  
sometimes under starlit skies.  
Grant us courage to take the next step,  
faith to trust the unseen road,  
and joy in the journey toward You.  
Amen.



#### **Prayer of Offering**

Generous God,  
As the Magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh,  
we bring You the treasures of our hearts—  
our hopes, our struggles, our love.  
Receive them,  
and use them for the healing of the world.  
Amen.



#### **In Memoriam**

Funeral of Robert Holland, 19th December, at St Michael & All Angels.  
Funeral of Roy Aitken, 23rd December, at St Matthew's.



## *Around The Community*

### Christmas Quiz

1. Complete the title. 'All I want for Christmas is ....' by Spike Jones and his City Slickers (1948)
2. In "A Christmas Carol", what does Scrooge have for his Christmas dinner?
3. In which ocean can you find Christmas Island?
4. What should be eaten on each of the 12 days of Christmas to ensure good luck for the year ahead?
5. Which Christmas carol includes the lyrics "Star with royal beauty bright"?
6. In the song The 12 days of Christmas how many gold rings are given during the 12 days?
7. In the book by Raymond Briggs, The Snowman, what is the name of the boy?
8. In the USA how many Cities are called 'Christmas'?
9. What is Australia's dessert, White Christmas, made out of?
10. Who wrote the words for 'Silent Night'?
11. Which Disc Jockey had hits with Renta Santa in 1975 and Bionic Santa in 1976?
12. Who wrote 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas'?
13. Which Saint is commemorated on December 27th?
14. Which Christmas vegetable has over 110 varieties?
15. The 4th verse of which carol begins 'Yea Lord we greet thee'?
16. Merry Christmas Everybody was a hit in 1973 for which group?
17. Name the reindeer in 'A visit from St Nicolas' by Clement Clarke Moore.
18. Which agency tracks Santa making his deliveries on Christmas eve?
19. Dresden is famous for which Christmas bread?
20. The song 'White Christmas' featured in which 1942 film?

*Answers next page*

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHARITY CAR WASH



EVERY TUESDAY FROM  
10.00 AM TO 3.00 PM

## CARWASH

On The Church Main Car Park - £5 Per Car

FREE REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE







# *Around The Community*



## **Christmas Raffle.**

St. Matthew's Christmas Hamper Raffle Winners.

The night before Christmas.	308 Angela Griffiths.
A Partridge in a Pear Tree.	187 John Timmins.
Two Turtle Doves.	518 Chris Betts.
Three French Hens.	43 Chris Dennel.
Four Calling Birds.	540 Chris Betts.
Five Gold Rings.	592 Kath Roberts.
Six Geese a-Laying.	391 Celia Booth.
Seven Swans a-Swimming.	295 Isabella Harrison.
Eight Maids a-Milking.	63 Brie Dennel.
Nine Ladies dancing.	529 Lucy Betts.
Ten Lords a- leaping.	361 Katie Lowes.
Eleven Pipers piping.	266 Tony Peake.
Twelve Drummers Drumming.	89 Anne Armstrong.



Many thanks to all the people who kindly provided donations for the Hampers. Thank you to everyone who made the soup, baked cakes and worked in the kitchen at the Lunch. Thank you to Chris Dennel for playing the piano for us to sing the Carols. Finally, thank you to everyone who supported the event, we hope you enjoyed yourselves. Many thanks from Chris Wheeler and Anna Betts.

### *Christmas Quiz Answers*

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. My two front teeth | 11. Chris Hill   |
| 2. Gruel              | 12. Dr. Suess  |
| 3. Indian             | 13. John the Evangelist  |
| 4. Mince pie          | 14. Sprout   |
| 5. We Three Kings     | 15. Oh Come All Ye Faithful  |
| 6. 40                 | 16. Slade  |
| 7. James              | 17. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen,<br>Comet, Cupid, Donder, & Blitzen |
| 8. 4                  | 18. NORAD  |
| 9. Dried fruit        | 19. Stollen  |
| 10. Joseph Mohr       | 20. Holiday Inn  |

## Winter weather forecast.



The middle of Winter and the Weather Forecast,  
Is promising us a sudden Arctic blast;  
With warnings coloured yellow, amber and red,  
Filling the nation with anxiety and dread.

We're told to check that the elderly are ok,  
But the children are happy that School is closed today.  
The gritters are out to help the traffic flow,  
Only the side roads are soon covered in snow.



Just when you think it's done its worst,  
The thaw sets in and frozen pipes burst.  
Snow and ice melt, all in a rush;  
And all we're left with is slush!



Then the clouds gather and the skies are grey,  
As another named storm is on its way.  
We are battered as a strong wind blows,  
And drenched with rain, sleet and hailstones.

Another warning for no unnecessary travel,  
And everyone's plans begin to unravel.  
Power cuts and flood warnings swiftly follow,  
Adding to people's misery and sorrow.



Yet some days are warm, crisp and fine,  
Then we're lifted by the winter sunshine.  
The air is fresh, cold and clear;  
And for once the forecast holds no fear.



Christine Wheeler.

# *Prayer Breakfast*

*Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 10:00am  
St. Matthew's Church Hall*



Christmas Hamper Draw Prizes

# January Quick View Diary

Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30pm	Gardening Club in St. Matthew's church hall
Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00am	Church Hall Cleaning party
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Christmas / Epiphany</b>	
Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
Wednesday	6 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Baptism of Christ 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>	
Tuesday	13 <sup>h</sup>	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
		7:30pm	Haslington WI meet at the Cosy Club
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	CAMEO in St. Matthew's church hall
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>	
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club
			MU new year lunch at the Old Hall in Sandbach
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00pm	Coffee Morning at St. Matthw's church hall
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany Conversion of Paul</b>	
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club



St. Matthew's Church  
and Community Hall  
Refurbishment

Please use the following

QR Code

To Make a Donation



Parish News Deadline for the **January** edition is **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January**  
Chris Betts, 3 Park Rd. Haslington Tel: 589324 Email: chris\_betts\_@hotmail.com