

## Music at Berwick Parish Church

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February, we have a Coffee Concert given by the Kielder String Quartet formed by four close friends currently studying at the Royal Northern College of Music – Jacob Wright, Georgie Bloomfield, Kirin Howat and Maya Tucker. Their programme includes Dvorak's very beautiful quartet No. 12, the "American".

The concert starts at 11.30am with tea/coffee at 10.45am in the Parish Centre.

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## Social Activities

Pancake Frivolities in the Parish Centre. Shrove Tuesday - February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5.30 for pancakes, savoury and sweet, and fun. Sign up from Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Jan.

## Tea, Cake and Chat

Sunday February 15<sup>th</sup> 2.30 – 4.00. Parish Centre.

Do come and join us to enjoy a cuppa, cake and a chat and possibly a pancake!  
All welcome.

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## Charity for this Month

### PICA (Partners in community Action)

From the Tyne to the Tweed, the initiative works with congregations to help the wider community. Grants are available to Parochial Church Councils for small projects to bring a Christian presence to every community - projects must demonstrate working in partnership with the community to help people who may be struggling with loneliness, isolation or financial hardship.

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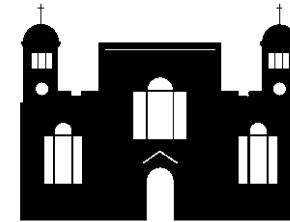
## The Fabric Group

The Fabric Group are a working party which meets on the third Saturday of the month – volunteers needed – this is an opportunity to keep up to date with the many small jobs around the church.

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## Parish Centre Booking

Bookings can be made via the website using the booking form  
<https://berwickparishchurch.co.uk/parish-centre-booking-form/>  
or by contacting Linda Foley 07810 611521.



# BERWICK PARISH CHURCH

## Monthly Messenger

February 2026

February was never my favourite month if I'm honest. Maybe because my birthday is at the end of March (hint) it felt an unnecessary delay, when nothing really happens. Until I fell in love with the Church's liturgical year, I know, weirdo! Every February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Candlemas, the year turns, away from Christmas and towards Lent and Easter. It mirrors the lengthening days, even if the weather isn't playing ball. There is a sense of renewal and refreshment about this short month that I now enjoy.

This year Lent begins in February, Ash Wednesday is 18<sup>th</sup> February. Thomas Merton called Lent a "Holy Spring," a far cry from the misery we often make it. Rather an opportunity to see where we need to do some weeding and planting in our own lives, to notice the green shoots of growth. In the parish church we have begun preparing for Lent by considering how we can prepare to make Lent a time of growth and change for all of us. We'd be delighted if you wanted to join us in that journey.

Some of that growth and change will be as a result of our second PCC away day at the end of the month, thinking about what the next steps are in becoming the parish God is calling us to be. We've already dreamed some dreams and now we need to think about making them a reality.

One thing we've already decided is very appropriate for February with Valentine's Day around the corner and this month being LGBTQI+ History Month. Given the House of Bishops' decision not to take forward the discussions on how the Church better welcomes LGBTQI+ people fully, our parish has agreed that we will offer prayers of blessing for any same-sex couple who have a civil marriage and would like to be blessed. It might not be the last step, but it is a step, and a sign that as a parish we take seriously the call to be the parish church for everyone. We'd love to hear from you if this is something you'd like.

And for a short month that's not a bad amount of stuff to fit in! As ever, if you'd like to know more or have a chat please do be in touch.

With my love and prayers

Fr Lee Taylor

Vicar of Berwick  
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## Services during the week:

### Sunday

8.30am: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10.00am: Parish Eucharist  
6.00 pm: First Sunday of the month - Sung Holy Communion (BCP)  
Other Sundays - Choral Evensong or Sung Evening Prayer

### Monday to Friday

8.30am Morning Prayer  
5.00pm Evening Prayer

### Thursday:

10:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

### Monthly Services

Third Sunday of the month, Tea, Cake and Chat 2.30-4.00pm

Last Tuesday of the month, Julian Prayer Group 11.15am-12.15pm

All are welcome in this time of stillness and silence together, with Mother Julian as our guide. We meet in the choir room at Holy Trinity.

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### Live streaming of services

Our regular Parish Eucharist is live streamed every week on You Tube.

<https://youtube.com/@holytrinityberwickstreams>

The stream can either be watched live or as a recording later.

Our privacy policy on live streaming is on the notice board.

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### Contact Details:

Father Lee Taylor 01289 306136

### Churchwardens:

David Mason 07860 360074.  
Ann Mawer 01289 763096  
Joyce Currie 07407 549543  
Roger Barrow 07872 677457

Lay Pastoral Chair Gwynneth Guthrie 01289 308580  
Parish Administrator Linda Foley 07810 611521

## Parish Centre Booking

The Centre is a perfect place to host small to medium sized events eg Family celebrations (not Children's parties), Birthdays, Lunches, Dinners, Coffee Mornings and Committee Meetings. Lots of different Organisations use the Centre for Committee Meetings. The Civic Society and Border Links use it. Exercise and Meditation groups use it. It is bright and welcoming with disabled friendly entrances and facilities. Very clean and well maintained to a high standard. All the products used are Eco friendly. An AV system is available for users at no extra charge. There is a very well equipped and well maintained user friendly kitchen. We can seat 65 people comfortably for a meal. The Hall furniture has recently been replaced to a high standard. A donations basket for the Event host would be acceptable. The patio can be used to extend the numbers...weather permitting of course. No smoking anywhere in the premises or the patio, the Cemetery or the Church. Free Parking in the Parade Car Park for three hours.

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### Space for Shorebirds

The church and community Shorebirds Walk on Little Beach on 20<sup>th</sup> January, organised and led by expert rangers, was very successful, enjoyable and informative. Well done to all who braved the weather!

### RSPB Garden Bird Watch 2026

The results of the Holy Trinity and St Mary's churchyard bird watch on 24<sup>th</sup> January were encouraging:

Goldfinch 8, Blue tit 6, Great tit 2, Feral pigeon 2, Wood pigeon 2, Chaffinch 2, Blackbird 2, House sparrow 1, Coal tit 1, Carrion Crow 1

### Caring for God's Acre: Love Your Yew Trees Week, 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> February

The organisers aim to set one achievable task every year. This year's task is 'ground level maintenance', to clear under the canopy and for about 1 metre out. Our yews are not ancient, planted in the millennium year, but they are becoming veteran trees, so need TLC. A large proportion of the country's ancient and veteran yew trees, about 800, are found and preserved in churchyards like ours. Britain is home to more ancient and veteran yews than almost any other country, so we must do our bit to preserve this ancient species.