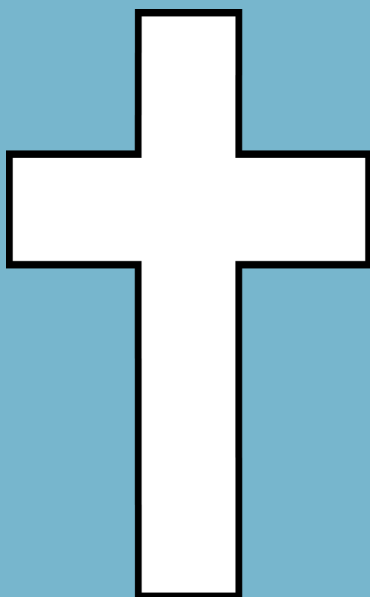




**St. Alban's Earsdon**



# **CHURCH VIEWS**

**June**

**2025**

**£1.00**



**St. John's Backworth**



**Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea**

# THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

## JUNE 2025

### Time and Tide

On Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>, nine of us from St Alban's enjoyed a rich Quiet Day. Based in the Watch House at Cullercoats, 'Time and Tide' enabled us to watch the incoming tide. We had space to make connections between what we were seeing and our own lives. What does life feel like at 'low tide'? What does life feel like at 'high tide'? And what about those 'mid tide' moments?

The tide pattern was our friend on May 10<sup>th</sup>. As we started, the tide was right out. As the day progressed it got higher and higher. Till, when we finished, the bay was full of water (and life).

After a brief word of introduction, we went down onto the beach at low tide...



'Low tide' meant different things to different people in the group. For some, 'low tide' made us think of moments in our lives of low

ebb. Perhaps we'd allowed the tide to go out on a relationship that now needs more work. Perhaps we reflected on times in life when we didn't have much to show for our efforts.

Others, though, enjoyed the *space* that low tide brings. With the sea right out, there's plenty of beach to explore – just like we can give each other space to try new things. What might low tide mean for you? Back in the Watch House we read Psalm 130 ('Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD') and the famous words from Ecclesiastes 3 ('there is a time for everything...')

After a coffee break, we went down to the beach again at mid tide...



It was striking that, while we were engaged in what we were doing, the tide had inexorably been coming in. It was quite something to walk along the North Pier and see water now sloshing around rocks that had previously been well exposed.

I personally was struck by the thought that, if I live until I'm 90 (I've just turned 65) then 'mid-tide' for me would have been fully twenty years ago, in a house full of teenage life. We're empty nesters now. What might the mid tide mean to you? Back in the Watch House we read Psalm 86 ('give me an undivided heart...') and a passage from Ezekiel 47 about someone wading through ever deepening water.

We had a communion service, with two readings about rough seas (Jonah – 'throw me into the sea', and Jesus – 'Quiet! Be still!') even though the weather was very kind to us. The sea was like a millpond.

After communion, down to the beach at high tide...



By now, Cullercoats Bay was full of water. On a beautiful sunny day it was also full of *life*, with people swimming, paddle-boarding and jumping off the piers. I choked up, walking along the North Pier, and thinking of all the times in my life when life has felt like this. We did also reflect, though, that sometimes

high tide can be a bit frightening – especially just along the coast at Whitley Sands when high tide beats against the sea wall.

What does ‘high tide’ mean for you? Back in the Watch House we read Psalm 96 (‘let all creation rejoice before the LORD’). We reflected on the ‘wonderful abundance’ both of the amazing catch of fish in Luke 5, and of all the family fun outside the window.

A special day. Make a note in your diary for the next one. On October 11<sup>th</sup> ‘living bread’ will see us mixing, kneading, resting, kneading, shaping and baking our own bread, and reflecting on life as we go.

*Rev’d Tim Mayfield.*

*(See more pictures on pages 10 and 11.)*



Come and celebrate with us the patronal festival of the parish church of St Alban, inside the church. This is a summer concert of easy listening well-known songs and the evening includes a glass of wine. Tickets are £8 and are available at the back of St Alban's church.



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More shots of St Alban's Quiet Day, "Time and Tide".



A lovely, relaxing gathering, complete with Dinah the dog, fast asleep on the floor behind Sue.



Lesley, Mabel, Buster and Jean after a walk in the sea. Rob braved the sea, too, but he was taking the picture.



Pearl, enjoying the beautiful sunshine at The Tower House.



What a wonderful day we all had... Rob, Tim, Jean, Lesley, Sue (with Dinah), Pearl, Linda, Mabel and Buster !

## **Weather Outlook for the month of June 2025.**

### **Direct from the Captain's Charts.**

#### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June to Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025.**

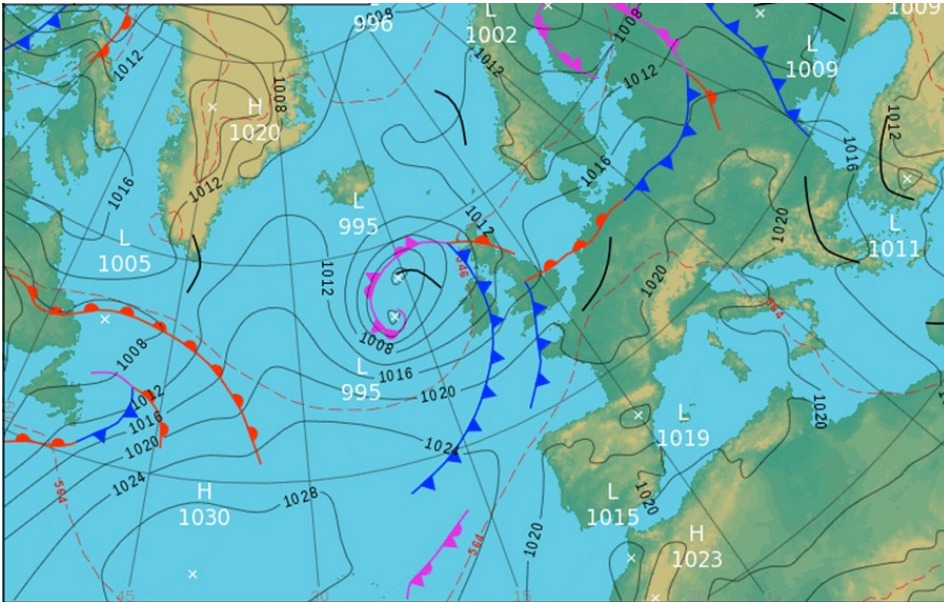
Continuing changeable with prolonged frontal systems running east into the UK, bringing further spells of rain, with showery interludes in-between. Strong winds may also develop at times, particularly towards the northwest. There is an indication that the weather systems will increasingly track to the northwest of the country, the south will likely see longer and drier interludes while the northwest & occasionally the northeast continues to see more in the way of rain and at times strong winds. Temperatures are expected to be around or below normal, but will be cooler in any prolonged periods of rainfall. There is the possibility of some very warm or even hot conditions developing later in this period, especially in the south, bringing the chance of thunderstorms.

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.**

Changeable weather across the UK continues due to a mixture of Atlantic weather systems moving in from the west, interspersed with dry and sunny periods. Wetter conditions tending to be towards the northwest of the UK also affecting the northeast at times, the south & southeast of the country will see more drier weather. Temperatures are most likely to be near or slightly above normal, perhaps with some hot spells at times, especially across the south. High temperatures often increase the chance of thunderstorms at this time of the year.



North Atlantic Surface Pressure Chart Prediction for 12:00 hrs  
(UTC) on Saturday  
31<sup>st</sup> May 2025.



28<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

David Gibson

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* If you have any suggestions, comments or requests \*  
\* regarding the magazine, or for anyone thinking of \*  
\* sending in their contribution for publication, please \*  
\* email it to **magazine@StAlbansEarsdon.org.uk** \*  
\* or call **Jean** on **0191 2377273**. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

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## **CHURCH VIEWS FOR JUNE 2025 FROM THE PARISH OF OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA**



### **Pope Leo XIV**

The election in Conclave of Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost has raised some unusual questions concerning his citizenship since he is now entitled to hold three passports. His first passport was US having been born in Chicago. His first degree was in Maths at Villanova University in Pennsylvania, but he later completed a PhD in Rome. He is a naturalised Peruvian citizen since he began his Augustinian ministry in Trujillo and received his first appointment as a Bishop in Peru in 2015. Pope Francis called him to Rome as President of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, appointing him as Archbishop on January 30, 2023, later creating him Cardinal in September 3, 2023.

His appointments in the Vatican gave him citizenship of the Holy See, a sovereign State issuing its own passports. Now as Pope Leo XIV he is also an independent Head of State. Additionally the Vatican is represented at the United Nations, although it retains the position of observer rather than claiming full membership, and therefore avoids conflicts which could compromise its neutrality and impartiality.

The US State Department stated that his role as Head of State “raised complex questions of international law,” including ones related to immunity from American legal jurisdiction. However, it was happy - and no doubt very relieved – to eventually affirm that after serious investigation, regardless of his role as Head of a foreign State with multiple passports, he can remain a US citizen.

## **Sister Clare's Appeal**

Early in May, Sister Clare of the Missionary Order of the Daughters of Divine Love appealed for funds to assist the work of the Order. Its name may be unfamiliar, because it was formed only in 1969 in Nigeria. It is committed to the care and education of abandoned children especially those with educational special needs, and feeding and housing adults in need. It works in Africa, North and South America and sadly also in the UK and Europe. Sister Clare's address to the parish obviously struck a chord, raising £1,315 for their essential work.

## **Our Lady's and St Edmund's**

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is entering sale discussions with Northumberland Estates. The baptismal font is to be given to Bishop Paul Mason, whose family have a long connection with the church, for use by the Forces. It is hoped that some of the pews in the former church may also be put to good use. Happily, various other items from the church are already serving their original purposes in other churches of the parish.

## **OLSS Summer Fair, 8 June at Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Stalls with cakes, preserves, bottles, plants, books and many more will cater for tastes of all kinds to make a wonderful afternoon. Come and give it a try.

## **Bishop Dunn Memorial Lecture, 23 June 2025**

This year's Lecture, *Hope in a Time of Darkness* will be presented by Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe at 7.45 pm in the Galilee Chapel of Durham Cathedral. Tickets are necessary, and queries should be made to [ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk), the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University.

## **Plant and Garden Fair, 14 June 2025, 10am – 3.00pm at Ushaw**

The Specialist Plant and Garden Fair with Plant Heritage North East, is back for a third time with 20 plant nurseries and growers represented and over 35 garden and nature related craft stalls.

*Gerry Latimer, Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea*

## **Parish Mass Times:**

*St Edward's: Sunday 9.30am, Tuesday and Friday 9.30am*

*Immaculate Heart of Mary: Saturday 6.00pm, Wed 9.30am*

*St Mary's: Sunday 11.00am, Thursday 10.00am*

*St Oswin's: Sunday 9.30am, Tuesday 10.00am*

You are invited to...

# JAMBO!

A Tanzanian evening  
in aid of the new St Andrew's Church  
in Majeleko Village



7.30pm Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup>

*St Alban's Church, Earsdon*

In pictures and videos:

- Helping Tanzanian farmers grow their crops
- Why St Andrew's needs to build a bigger church
  - Tanzanian finger food
  - Learn some Swahili

The first of St Alban's Open Gardens Season begins this Saturday, 7th June. Season tickets are £5.00 and give the details of all the gardens opened up by St Alban's church parishioners, including locations and dates.

First to open their garden this year are Bob and Barbara.

St Alban's Ramblers have restarted for the summer period. If you'd like to join in, the next walk is Tuesday 3rd June. The Ramblers meet every Tuesday outside the Vicarage, at 7pm. All are welcome to turn up and join in.



This is St Alban's set up for worship in a way we could never have envisaged until 'The Netty Project'. The removal of the wall next to the font enabled us to put this circle of chairs around it, crowned with flickering tea lights. This is the church set up for Holy Week worship. We might well do the same for our time of waiting on God on June 4<sup>th</sup>.











What a great time everyone had at the VE Day 80th anniversary celebrations.

*(Thanks to everyone for the pictures.)*

**From Bede:**

**'The Ecclesiastical History of the English People' 1.7**

When infidel rulers were issuing violent edicts against the Christians, Alban, though still a heathen at the time, gave hospitality to a cleric who was fleeing from his persecutors. When Alban saw this man occupied in continual prayers, divine grace shone upon him: he forsook idolatry and became a wholehearted Christian. When this cleric had been staying with him for some days, it came to the ears of the evil ruler that a man who confessed Christ was hiding in Alban's house. He ordered his soldiers to search for him there. When they came to the martyr's dwelling, St Alban at once offered himself to the soldiers in place of his guest, and so he was brought in bonds to the judge.

Now when Alban was brought in to him, the judge was standing before the devils' altars and offering sacrifices to them. Seeing Alban, he immediately flew into a rage because this man had dared to give himself up to the soldiers. He ordered Alban to be dragged before the images of the devils and said, 'You have chosen to conceal a profane rebel; so you will have to take the punishment he has incurred if you attempt to forsake our religion'. Alban had declared himself a Christian, and was not at all afraid of the ruler's threats.

The judge said to him, 'What is your family and race?' Alban answered, 'Know that I am now a Christian and ready to do a Christian's duty.' The judge said, 'I insist on knowing your name.' The saint said, 'My parents call me Alban and I shall ever adore and worship the true and living God.' The judge

answered very angrily, 'If you wish to enjoy the happiness of everlasting life, you must sacrifice at once to the mighty gods.' Alban answered, 'The sacrifices which you offer to devils cannot fulfil the desires of their supplicants. On the contrary, he who has offered sacrifices to these images will receive eternal punishment in hell.'

When the judge heard this he was greatly incensed and ordered the holy confessor of God to be beaten by torturers. Alban, though he was subjected to the most cruel tortures, bore them patiently and even joyfully for the Lord's sake. So when the judge perceived that he was not to be turned from the Christian faith, he ordered him to be executed.

As he was being led to his execution, Alban saw a great crowd of people. They packed the bridge over the river so tightly that he could hardly have crossed it. Moved by a divine prompting, the executioner who was to have put him to death hastened to meet the saint as he came to the place appointed for his execution; then he threw away his sword which he was carrying and cast himself down at the saint's feet, earnestly praying that he might be judged worthy to be put to death with the martyr.

So while the executioner was turned from a persecutor into a companion in the true faith, the most reverend confessor ascended the hill with the crowds. And in this spot the valiant martyr was beheaded and received the crown of life which God has promised to those who love him.

*(St Alban's day. 22nd June.)*

# St. Alban's and St. John's

## Diary Page for June 2025

Sunday	1st	<b><u>Seventh Sunday of Easter</u></b>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Saturday	7th	12.00 noon	Harpsichord Recital	St Alban's
Sunday	8th	<b><u>Pentecost</u></b>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
		4.00pm	Children's Church	St John's
Thursday	12th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St John's
Sunday	15th	<b><u>Trinity Sunday</u></b>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Saturday	21st	7.00pm	Musica Johannis Concert	St Alban's
		(See poster on page 6)		
Sunday	22nd	<b><u>First Sunday after Trinity</u></b>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's
Thursday	26th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St John's
Sunday	29th	<b><u>Second Sunday after Trinity</u></b>		
		9.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St Alban's

Wednesday communion services are currently suspended at St Alban's. This is because we intend to relaunch in the autumn as a **Warm Hub**. Those who wanted to could turn the heating off at home, and come for all or part of communion... coffee... and simple soup and roll lunch. Watch this space. ...

# St. Alban's and St. John's

## Sunday Gospel Readings for June 2025 :

<b>1st</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>15th</b>
Luke 4.16-21	Acts 1.4-8; 2.1-4	John 16.12-15
<b>22nd</b>	<b>29th</b>	
John 12.24-26	Luke 9.51-end	

## Sneak Previews...

On **Wednesday June 4<sup>th</sup>** at 7.30pm in St Alban's, we'll have a time of waiting on God in prayer. This is in honour of the Jesus who told his disciples (before his Ascension) to do nothing but wait – they needed the strength of the coming Holy Spirit.

**Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup>** is the Festival of Pentecost. God pours out his Holy Spirit, creating the church. This is seen by some as the birthday of the church. So Children's Church that afternoon at St John's will be a kind of birthday party.

**Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup>** is when St Alban's will be remembering the martyrdom of Alban. We're delighted to welcome Archdeacon Rachel Wood to lead our Dedication Festival worship.

On **Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup>**, Bishop Mark is coming to St Alban's to confirm. Please let Revd Tim know if you would like to be confirmed on that occasion.

Building our new parish-to-parish link with St Andrew's Majeleko, on the evening of **Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup>** St Alban's hosts a Tanzanian evening. The church is growing quickly in Tanzania, and St Andrew's needs to build a new, bigger church. Our Tanzanian evening will be in aid of that building project.



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Please note - all material for next month's magazine  
(July 2025) will need to be in before  
Wednesday 28th June . Thank you, *Jean*.



# Earsdon

plants centre



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# SUDOKU

Complete the 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 blocks contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.

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

There was no room in May's magazine for the Sudoku puzzle, so here you can enjoy both months' challenges.

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



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## **All in the month of June**

*It was ...*

500 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> June 1525, that German Protestant Reformer Martin Luther married Katharina von Bora, a nun whom he had helped to escape from a convent.

250 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1775, that the first Thames Regatta was held in London.

175 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1850, that Herbert Kitchener, the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl Kitchener, was born. This Irish-born British Army officer and politician became Secretary of War during WW1, when he appeared on an iconic poster asking people to join the army. He was killed in 1916 when his ship was hit by a German mine.

150 years ago, on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1875, that George Bizet, French Romantic composer, died of a heart attack at 36. Best known for his opera *Carmen*.

90 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1935, that driving tests became compulsory for all new drivers in Britain.

70 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1955 that the Le Mans disaster took place. A car spun off the track during the Le Mans 24 Hour race in France, and the driver,

Pierre Levegh, and 83 spectators were killed, with 100 more injured. It was the greatest loss of life in the history of motorsport, but bizarrely, the race was not stopped. The survivors carried on for the full 24 hours, while the dead and the injured were removed from the site.

50 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1975, that the first Cricket World Cup to be held in England began.

Also 50 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1975, that the first North Sea oil was pumped ashore to Britain.

40 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1985 that UEFA banned all English football clubs from playing in European competitions following the Heysel Stadium disaster of 28<sup>th</sup> May. The ban was lifted after five years.

30 years ago, on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1995 that Ernest Walton, Irish physicist died. He was the first person to split an atom.

25 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2000, that the Millenium Bridge opened in London. It closed for a while two days later, when it was found to sway uncomfortably when people walked in step.

# WORDSEARCH

## June 2025

### Pentecost

The story of Pentecost is found in Acts 2. After the Ascension of Jesus, the disciples had obeyed His command to stay in Jerusalem and to ‘wait for the promise from the Father’. Jesus said this would be the ‘baptism of the Holy Spirit’, but the disciples had no idea what that meant. They soon found out! Acts tells us that at about 9 o’clock one morning, a sound like a rushing wind from heaven suddenly filled the house, and divided tongues as if of fire rested on each one of them. The Holy Spirit had come down and filled them with His divine power! Praise, preaching and witnessing followed that morning – and the Church was born.

Pentecost  
Trinity  
Jerusalem  
Disciples  
Praying  
Tongues  
Power  
High  
Fires  
Flames  
Languages  
Praise  
Drunk  
Wine  
Nine  
Morning  
Glory  
Waiting  
Place  
Wind  
Father  
Son  
Holy  
Spirit  
Eternal



## Church Contacts

### St. Alban's Earsdon:

#### *Vicar*

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NE25 0SR

Tel: 07841 986 019

#### *PCC Secretary*

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NE25 0SR

Tel: 07841 986 019

#### *PCC Treasurer*

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#### *Safeguarding Officer*

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