



NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

# INCLUSIVE -MINDED CHURCHES

CELEBRATING THE  
EXPANSIVE AND  
INCLUSIVE  
WELCOME OF ALL  
GOD'S PEOPLE!

JULY 2024





# NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE INCLUSIVE -MINDED CHURCHES

The list of churches and faith communities below are the result of an informal, friendly gathering of faith leaders who want to share an ecumenical listing of communities which aspire to an expansive and inclusive welcoming of all God's people. There is no formal test to be included in this list, but we agreed to be guided by a value that each community aims toward being a people who are exploring what inclusion means.

It is very likely that a community is missing. If you want to be added to this list, contact Ryan at [minister@stjunc.org.uk](mailto:minister@stjunc.org.uk). Visit Canny Yem ([www.canny-yem.co.uk](http://www.canny-yem.co.uk)) to view or share an online version of this booklet, or scan the QR code!

The listing is in alphabetical order.

- **Brunswick Methodist Church**
- **Canny Yem**
- **Christ Church Shieldfield**
- **Jesmond Methodist Church**
- **Jesmond United Reformed Church**
- **Newcastle Cathedral**
- **Newcastle upon Tyne Unitarians**
- **Northern Lights Metropolitan Community Church**
- **Northumbria Chaplaincy:**
  - **'Weekday Church of the Everyday Disciple'**
- **Proud Catholics**
- **St Francis' Church, High Heaton**
- **St George's Church, Jesmond**
- **St Hilda's Church, Jesmond**
- **St James's Church (United Reformed)**
- **Trinity Church, Gosforth**





**BrunswickMethodist**  
A church with a heart for Newcastle

## Brunswick Methodist Church

### Contact details:

Office: 0191 2321692

Email: [admin@brunswickmethodist.org.uk](mailto:admin@brunswickmethodist.org.uk)

Rev. Paul Cleever Thorpe

[paul@brunswickmethodist.org.uk](mailto:paul@brunswickmethodist.org.uk)

0191 2844762

Rev. Gail Morgan

[gail.morgan@methodist.org.uk](mailto:gail.morgan@methodist.org.uk)

Mr. Rob Wylie

[rwyliecoyote@gmail.com](mailto:rwyliecoyote@gmail.com)



### Website/Social media:

Website: <https://brunswickmethodist.org.uk>

X: [@Brunswick\\_Church](https://twitter.com/Brunswick_Church)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BrunswickMC>

### About our church:

Brunswick Methodist Church is situated in the heart of the city of Newcastle Upon Tyne. We aim to offer a welcoming community committed to following Jesus. We are open 7 days a week. Brunswick Coffee Shop is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:30am – 1:15pm and on Saturday 10:30am until 12:30pm.

We offer face to face prayers in our prayer chapel Monday - Thursday mornings at around 10.00am, lasting about 15 mins. We also offer 'Facebook live' prayers on a Friday at 10.00am from our Facebook page.

We hold a small group that meets monthly on a Thursday afternoon at 2.00pm.

We also offer 'BREW' which is a Renew Wellbeing Hub on a Tuesday afternoon. This is a space for conversation, connection over a brew, with the intention to give support around wellbeing and mental health.

Our worship is traditional in style with the occasional modern twist! We have an ethnic diverse community with a few young families and some PHD Students. We meet at 10.45 on a Sunday Morning.

We also have a Chinese congregation, speaking Cantonese and Mandarin that meets at 1.00pm. Occasionally we join together for a united service that is translated into English.

Our purpose – to proclaim the love of God in the city through worship, serving, caring and learning together.

Our purpose – to proclaim the love of God in the city through worship, serving, caring and learning together.





---

## Canny Yem

**Contact details:** <https://www.canny-yem.co.uk/contact-us>

**Website/Social media:**

<https://www.canny-yem.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093262294522>

**About our church:**

We call our gathering 'Canny Yem' because we're trying to emulate a good home in Newcastle for folk to meet and spend time sharing with each other. We celebrate our wonderful differences. We know we are not perfect but we're open to learning and

discovering and we always endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming atmosphere. Canny Yem is for those with faith and those without faith. It's for those exploring faith and those who've lost faith. It's for those with big questions and those with doubts. We don't know everything and we're certainly not experts, but we enjoy meeting with each other. So why not come along and join us for some good food and interesting conversation. We look forward to meeting you!

We usually gather at Brunswick Methodist Church in the city centre.





## Christ Church Shieldfield

**Contact details:** Fr. Allan Marks, Parish Priest.  
[fatherallan@fatherallan.com](mailto:fatherallan@fatherallan.com)

**Website/Social media:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchShieldfield>

**About our church:** Christ Church is an Anglican Church within the catholic tradition with a tiny congregation that is welcoming of all people of all ages and backgrounds, who want to be a part of a loving faith community, where all are welcome as the person God has made us to be, and wants us to become. We are very much here to serve the local community, including the many students who live on our doorstep. We support a local and very diverse Church Primary School in a community where resources are limited but a desire for community is highly valued.

Sung Mass on Sundays at 9.30 a.m.

Said Mass Thursdays at 12.30 p.m.

Night Prayer 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 5.15 p.m.

Holy Hour & Benediction 5 times a year on Sunday afternoons at 4.00 p.m., usually in Advent, Epiphany, Easter/Ascension, Feasts of Our Lady, and the Transfiguration.

CHRIST CHURCH

YOUR  
LOCAL  
CHURCH

SERVING  
OUR  
LOCAL  
COMMUNITY



2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday @ 5.15 p.m.  
Christ Church, Shieldfield

*Prayer & Reflection*

*or just come in and enjoy this peaceful church*

student  
night prayer



Contact Fr. Allan for more information  
07963 144064 or [fatherallan@fatherallan.com](mailto:fatherallan@fatherallan.com)



# Jesmond Methodist Church

## Contact details:

[students@jesmondmethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:students@jesmondmethodistchurch.org.uk)

## Website/Social media:

<https://www.jmc-newcastle.org.uk/>

Instagram: [@JMC Newcastle](https://www.instagram.com/JMC_Newcastle)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JesmondMethodistChurch> (Livestream)



## About our church:

We welcome everyone, whoever you are! What is 'JMC DNA'? We describe our church with these 4 'All' statements:

"All are welcome. God meets with All. All have a place. All is transformed in the kingdom of God."

JMC is an open friendly and accessible church for all in the vibrant heart of West Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne. We are a growing gentle charismatic, contemporary Methodist Church in Jesmond, a 20-minute walk from town.

Our church community represents folk from every walk of life aged between 80 to newborn! We are primarily a congregation of students, young professionals and families but we love folk of all ages. We have a growing family and kids ministry supported by our JMK (Jesmond Methodist Kids) team. We offer a warm welcome to all, providing hospitality and lunches throughout the year, lasting friendships and support. Our services are led by our worship band and members of our congregation alongside our minister Alison. We are informal in style, but serious about following Jesus. JMC strives to be a place of for everyone, with engaging worship, inspiring preaching and teaching, a challenge to live in the power of the Spirit, as we grow in our discipleship, and share our faith. Our services are livestreamed each Sunday on Facebook. We are developing work with our partner community Shieldfield Art Works, an art based mission project in Shieldfield. [saw-newcastle.org](http://saw-newcastle.org).

Twice a month mid-week we meet in small group for bible study and fellowship. On the other weeks, task groups meet to help plan the life and ministry of JMC. From our Musicians and Tech team, to our Eco hub, Evangelism and Justice group, and Gather Worship team. These teams are open to all. We train people to worship lead and preaching, if you feel called to those ministries. We encourage people to serve, so if you want a church to get involved in, JMC could be for you.





# Jesmond United Reformed Church

**Contact details:** Rev Ryan Sirmons, Minister  
[sirmons.urc@outlook.com](mailto:sirmons.urc@outlook.com)

**Website/Social media:** [www.jesmond-urc.org.uk](http://www.jesmond-urc.org.uk)

**X:** [@JesmondURC](https://twitter.com/JesmondURC)

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/JesmondUnitedReformedChurch>



**About our church:** We are disciples seeking to live in the way of Jesus in the world, as we are, and where we are in the Brandling Park neighbourhood of Jesmond. We aren't perfect. We're a smaller congregation. We're committed companions on this journey of faith and discipleship, joining together in worship, study, mission, prayer, and ministry together. We believe Jesus called us into an open and expansive form of love, to be with people as Jesus sought to be with us. We now seek to live that 'being with' ministry alongside our neighbours. You are welcome to join us on that journey!



We also host a regular 'Big Questions Café' ([bigquestionscafe.org.uk](http://bigquestionscafe.org.uk)), aimed at fostering community cohesion, which features a (free) delicious meal with deep discussion on a topic of interest across the wider community. Our next café is Thurs, 24 Oct, 6-8pm, featuring Dr Eve Poole OBE discussing what we owe the future with regards to AI.

A recurring Repair Café is offered regularly, with one scheduled for Sat 5 Oct 2-4pm, and another on Sat 11 Jan 2025. Just show up, bring along any broken household items, and enjoy free tea and cake with neighbours. If you have a skill to offer in repairing stuff, let us know!

Our Community Garden, located on Burdon Terrace, is always open for prayer and reflection, to just sit, or read a book, or watch the world turn.

Sunday worship at 10.45am.

Taizé Service on fourth Tuesdays of the month, 6-7pm, beginning Tues 24 Sept.

Book studies run throughout the year, with the current study being reading the Gospel of St John for 90 Days, with an in-person study on first and third Tuesdays, 6.30-7.30pm, beginning Tues 3 Sept.





**NEWCASTLE  
CATHEDRAL**

## **Newcastle Cathedral**

### **Contact details:**

[office@newcastlecathedral.org.uk](mailto:office@newcastlecathedral.org.uk)

### **Website:**

<https://newcastlecathedral.org.uk/>

**Facebook** [@NewcastleCathedral](https://www.facebook.com/NewcastleCathedral)

**X** [@nclcathedral](https://twitter.com/nclcathedral)

**Instagram** [@newcastlecathedral](https://www.instagram.com/newcastlecathedral)

**YouTube** [@NewcastleCathedral](https://www.youtube.com/NewcastleCathedral)



### **About our church:**

- Newcastle Cathedral has stood at the heart of our city for over 900 years. While we may look grand, we aspire to be a place that offers a warm welcome to all who cross our threshold. Regardless of who you are, or why you may be choosing to enter the building, we want you to know you are valued, and to leave feeling that you would like to come again.
- Our worship is spirit-filled and full of beauty. Our music, led by fabulous singers and musicians aspires to offer excellence to God. Our outlook is open and very inclusive – and we really value good and thought provoking preaching.
- You will find at Newcastle Cathedral all the best of traditional anglican worship – whether you seek the community and familiarity of the Sunday Eucharist, the quiet sacred space of midweek services, or the feast of scripture and song that is Choral Evensong.
- Our congregation is very ethnically diverse, and ranges in age from toddlers to the very elderly. Many undergraduate and postgraduate students have found their spiritual home here with us. We hope that you might too!
- Do visit our website for more information about service times and other events and activities.



## Newcastle upon Tyne Unitarians

### Contact details:

Louise Reeve, Church Secretary  
[info@newcastleunitarians.org.uk](mailto:info@newcastleunitarians.org.uk),  
07506 255 731

### Website / Social media:

<https://newcastleunitarians.org.uk/>

X: <https://twitter.com/NUnitarians>

Facebook: [NewcastleuponTyneUnitarians](#)

**About our church:** We welcome all who seek the meaning of life, and who believe that human spirituality is wider than any one tradition, and deeper than any one set of opinions. With a respect for our Christian origins, we seek to explore truths from all sources. Our fellowship gives us strength and encouragement in daily living.



Unitarians do not have a set of central beliefs or a profession of faith. We are liberal and free-thinkers and are guided by our reason and conscience. Our name originally meant that we believed God is One. In the modern world, whilst this is still a view held by many Unitarians, we tend to think of ourselves as being united in the search for truth and meaning in life, and understanding the life lessons from all human philosophies and belief systems. We welcome all, supporting equal marriage, and equal rights for people of all ages, genders, sexual orientations, ethnicity and disability. We are happy to welcome visitors from other religious traditions.

We meet on Sundays at 11am and online via Zoom livestream. The service may be led by a Unitarian Minister, a worship leader or minister from another religious tradition, or one of our lay worship leaders from within the congregation. Our service format varies! During some weeks we have a more traditional format with readings, hymns, prayers and an address. On others, we sit around our coffee table and share our thoughts on a particular topic. More recently, we've had a service led by a Buddhist minister, and a workshop on the parable of the Good Samaritan.



# Northern Lights Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)

## Contact details:

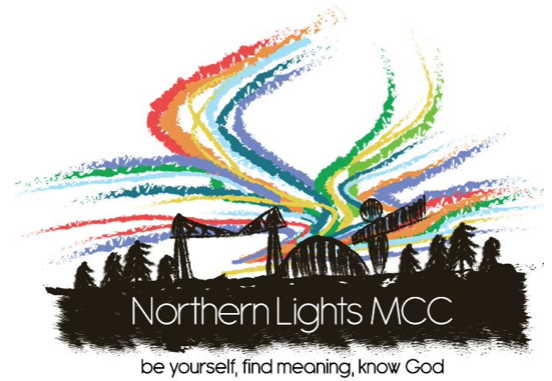
Contact: Pastor Kai Millar (they/their)

[RevKai.nlmcc@outlook.com](mailto:RevKai.nlmcc@outlook.com) or

[admin@northernlightsmcc.org.uk](mailto:admin@northernlightsmcc.org.uk)

Church Phone: 07770543407 or contact via social media DMs

We worship at St James's URC, Northumberland Road,  
Newcastle, NE1 8JF.



## Website/Social media:

Website: <http://www.northernlightsmcc.org.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fabandbeautiful>

X: [@nl\\_mcc](https://twitter.com/nl_mcc)

Insta: [@northernlightsmcc](https://www.instagram.com/northernlightsmcc)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@nlmcc>

## About our church:

We are an inclusive Christian church founded by LGBT+ people in North East England. For 30 years we have been worshipping together weekly, sharing an open communion table. We meet every Sunday at 6.30pm - at St James's URC in the centre of Newcastle, and livestreamed on YouTube. We also have other social and worship events throughout the week.

At Northern Lights MCC, we **value**:

- the fabulous and the beautiful in each of us.
- a warm, safe, welcoming home.
- worship that deepens our intimacy with God.
- the strength we have together when we are each doing what we are passionate about.
- love, fun and laughter.

At Northern Lights MCC, we **believe**:

- God is always present. God loves and accepts everyone unconditionally.
- Jesus offers everyone chances for new life and hope, especially to those on the edges of society. His life is an important example to follow
- The **Holy Spirit** moves in different ways, such as inspiring, challenging and healing us, and deepening our relationship with God.
- Faith** gives us strength, hope and meaning through good times and bad.
- The **Bible** is there to inspire and guide. It is not a rule book and can be read with love, compassion and questioning.
- Church should be a safe home for all people. We welcome diversity and believe it brings strength. We believe that ministry is open to everyone and through it, people develop their gifts.
- Worship** is a two-way communication between people and God, expressed in different ways. It should be inclusive and bring people together.

Our mission statement sums up what we are called to be and what we do at Northern Lights MCC, and this never ending process is best represented as a sacred circle:

Be yourself • Find meaning • Know God







**“Weekday Church of the Everyday Disciple”  
-aka Northumbria University Chaplaincy**

**Contact details:** [andii.bowsher@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:andii.bowsher@northumbria.ac.uk)

**Website/Social media:**

<https://mysite.northumbria.ac.uk/personal/rjhd6/Blog/layouts/15/start.aspx#/default.aspx>

**About our church:** A network of people who meet in various ways during the week: for daily prayer, discussions on scripture, breaking bread together, one-to-one spiritual conversations or just hanging out. There's no Sunday stuff regularly at present. Occasionally there are one-off activities like praying about climate emergency or reaching-out activities. Get in touch for chat more about things.

# Proud Catholics

## Contact details:

Isabel Hill, Secretary (she/they)

07858 934457

(leave a message and we will get back to you)

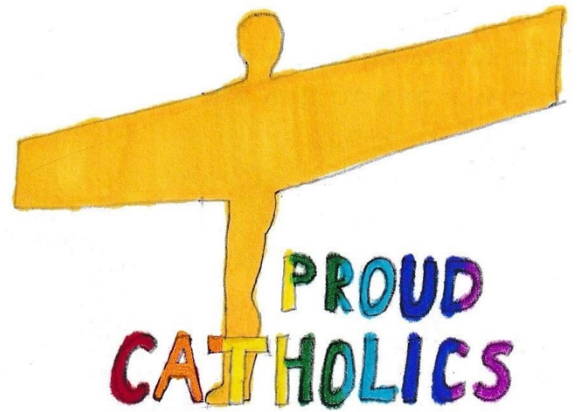
[proud.catholics@yahoo.com](mailto:proud.catholics@yahoo.com)

**Website/Social media:** <https://proud Catholics.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/proud Catholicsuk>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/proud Catholicsuk/>



## About our church:

- Proud Catholics is a support group for Catholics in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle who identify as LGBTQ+ or who are questioning their sexual or gender identity.

- We were founded in November 2018, and we are now an established group within the Diocese and part of the Vicariate of Caritas.

- We provide a forum in which LGBTQ+ Catholics, those questioning their sexual or gender identity, and their friends, family and other allies, can encourage one another both in faith and in acceptance of each person's unique identity.

- We also provide support, information and signposting to Catholic family members of individuals identifying as LGBTQ+ or questioning their sexual or gender identity.

- We meet every third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at St. Andrew's RC Church, Worswick St, in central Newcastle, usually with a Zoom link for those who are unable to attend in person or prefer to connect online.

- Our meetings vary from celebrations of Mass to sharing spiritual practices we have found helpful, from praying the Stations of the Cross to discovering Queer perspectives on the Bible. We always end with social time and bring-and-share refreshments.

- You can find more information about our aims, beliefs and activities on our website, as well as a link to subscribe to our mailing list and a contact form for enquiries.



# St Francis' High Heaton

**Contact details:** Robert Lawrance 07888693850

[stfrancisnewcastle@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisnewcastle@gmail.com)

**Website/Social media:** [www.stfrancisnewcastle.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisnewcastle.org.uk)

**X:** [@stfrancisnwcstl](https://twitter.com/stfrancisnwcstl)

**About our church:** St. Francis Church reveals Jesus Christ through worship and loving service. We encourage open hearts and minds, help people to grow in their relationship with God, and support the building of an inclusive and engaged community.

We are located at the junction of Melville Grove and Cleveland Gardens NE7 7QH near the rear entrance to the Freeman Hospital in High Heaton, a garden suburb of east Newcastle. The nearest Metro is Longbenton and the 38 bus stops regularly nearby. We are an Eco-Church and follow in the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi whose values were love, joy and humility.

We run a Place of Welcome on Wednesdays 2-4pm, and in term time Tea & Toast for Y7-Y13 Mondays 3-4.30pm and a Baby & Toddler Group Thursdays 1.30-3pm. There is a monthly soup lunch first Tuesday of the month 12.30pm-1.30pm Sunday worship is in Church at 8am and 10am and there is a midweek service every Tuesday at 6.30pm. Morning and Evening Prayer are usually said on weekdays at 8.30am and 5pm. We hold a Taizé service from 6.30pm-7pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month except in August (and not if it coincides with a bank holiday!), a time of meditative worship with chants, readings, prayers and silence. We wish you peace and all good!





# St George's Church, Jesmond

Contact details:

[office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

Website/Social media:

<https://www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk/about/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesJesmond>

## St. George's Jesmond



*A worshipping community: inclusive, nurturing, engaged*

**About our church:** St George's is a vibrant and active parish church. We aim to be friendly, diverse and to welcome all in Christ's name. Our worship is inclusive and in the catholic tradition, with high quality music.

St George's is a beautiful Arts and Crafts church which inspires our prayers and our imagination, but it is also a building that offers peace and quiet away from the hustle and bustle of Jesmond and Newcastle.

We are a member of Inclusive Church and try to be engaged in our parish and the wider world. We are passionate about our care for creation, involved in different campaigns across Newcastle, and have a various social and learning events over the year.

If you are a singer you may be interested in joining our choir, information about this can be found on the website or via the director of music.

Along with St Hilda's we have a group of 20–30-year-olds who are at varying stages of education and employment who meet regularly to discuss, pray and study as well as share in conversation and hospitality.



# St Hilda's Church, Jesmond

**Contact details:** Lesley Dinning

[ledinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ledinning@yahoo.co.uk)

**Website/Social media:**

<https://www.sthildasjesmond.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/sthildasjesmond>

**About our church:** St Hilda's is located in the heart of Jesmond, just around the corner from Starbucks. We are a small but friendly congregation who seek to offer a warm and generous welcome to all in the name of Christ. Whether you are looking for a new spiritual home or simply wish to say a prayer, we hope that you will feel close to God in this beautiful building.

At the moment we gather for worship every week at 11am on Sunday for the parish Eucharist. A Tuesday 9.30am Eucharist is expected to return in October, but is not currently scheduled.

Throughout the year we have a number of community events, not least our Christmas tree festival in December and Summer flower festival; it is always good to receive entries from members of the wider Jesmond community and get the opportunity to celebrate creativity and good humour (there are a lot of Christmas tree related puns each year). Once a month we host a Knit 'n' Natter group.

We are looking for ways that we can support our parishioners, a great number of which are students and young professionals. Along with St George's we have a group of 20–30-year-olds who are at varying stages of education and employment who meet regularly to discuss, pray and study as well as share in conversation and hospitality.

We hope to offer you are a warm welcome and through that share something of the generous love of God.





# St James's Church (United Reformed)

**Contact details:** Revd Ryan Sirmons, [minister@stjurc.org.uk](mailto:minister@stjurc.org.uk)  
Tony Harbottle-Noppen, Lay Chaplain, [tony@stjurc.org.uk](mailto:tony@stjurc.org.uk)  
07379 097238

**Website/Social media:** [www.stjurc.org.uk](http://www.stjurc.org.uk)

Insta: [@stincl](https://www.instagram.com/stincl)

TikTok: [@stincl](https://www.tiktok.com/@stincl)



*St James's Church*  
UNITED REFORMED  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
[stjurc.org.uk](http://stjurc.org.uk)

**About our church:** We're a canny church with bright orange welcoming doors in the heart of the city centre Northumbria University campus. Though a small congregation with a traditional feel, we are exploring anew what it means to be followers of Jesus in this time and this place, aspiring to greater inclusion and welcome. If you feel called to be part of shaping that, then perhaps this is a church for you! We do want to welcome everyone, everyone, *everyone*, regardless of race, class, ability, or sexuality, because our (serious) study of Jesus reveals a radical welcome which invites all people into discipleship.

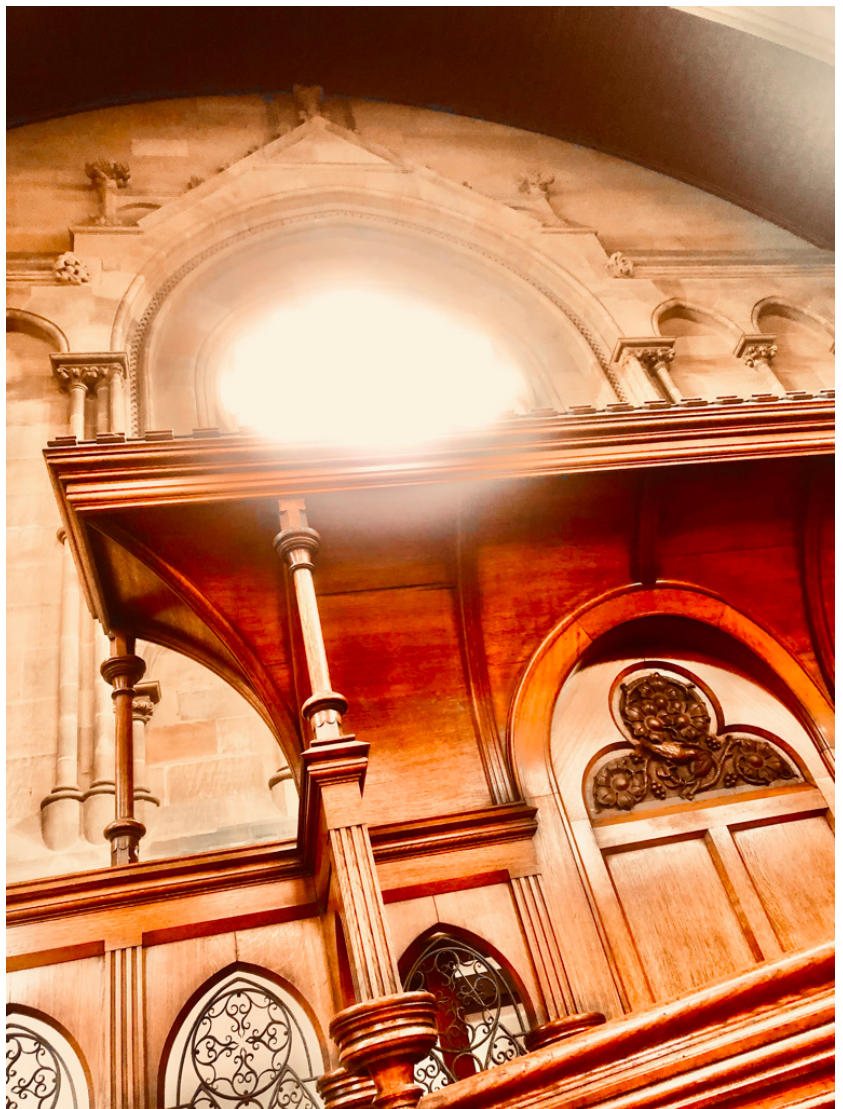
Sunday worship at 10.45am.

A new 'drop-in space' launches on Thursdays starting 26 Sept, 6-9pm for food, conversations, and exploring questions.

The 'Uplift' praise service is offered on the first Wednesday of each month, 5.30-6.15pm. We offer 'Twilight Church' on the last Wednesday of each month from 5-7pm, where you can come, light a candle, and offer a prayer or sit and just be.

Book studies run throughout the year, with the current study being reading the Gospel of St John for 90 Days, with an in-person study on first and third Tuesdays, 6.30-7.30pm, beginning Tues 3 Sept.

Many other organisations worship at our church building, including Northern Lights MCC, Newcastle Dream Church, and the Newcastle Chinese Christian Fellowship. A 'Food for Thought' evening, run by another Christian student ministry, meets on Wednesdays at 6.30pm for food, friendship, and a deep discussion. It seeks to be a neutral place where people from different backgrounds can have meaningful conversations and are able to share freely, knowing different opinions will be respected. It seeks to form deep connections, share from honest experiences, and listen carefully and compassionately—not debate or push agendas.





# Trinity Church, Gosforth (Methodist/URC)

Contact details: Alex Mabbs - [rev.alexmabbs@gmail.com](mailto:rev.alexmabbs@gmail.com)

Website/Social media: [www.trinitygosforth.org.uk](http://www.trinitygosforth.org.uk) /

X: [@TrinityGosforth](https://twitter.com/TrinityGosforth)

**About our church:** We are a lively, friendly, community-based church on Gosforth High Street, with excellent public transport links to the city centre.

Our congregation is increasingly diverse, with a wide age range. Worship (Sundays, 10.30) is a mix of old and new, in a straightforward free-church style. Our busy community centre hosts a variety of activities, some church-based, some from the local community.

Our aim is to be good news on the High Street. We recently agreed these values to describe what's important to us: Welcome and Inclusion, Reverence, Personal Growth, and Community-building. We're somewhere on a line between aspiration and lived reality with these values, but working to go in the right direction. Overall, we see ourselves as travellers on a journey of following Jesus, as we explore together how to live this new life of Christ in our lives today. We'd love to share the journey with you!



TRINITY  
CHURCH





NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE  
**INCLUSIVE  
-MINDED  
CHURCHES**

Available electronically

