



Holy Trinity Washington



***Holy Trinity Church is open and welcoming to all,
united in God's love and committed to serving the
community.***

Training Incumbent

In my secular job as Executive Head Teacher, I took great satisfaction in empowering and developing both children, staff and volunteer parents to achieve their full potential in a positive, conducive environment that took account of the individual's strengths and areas for development. **As Training Incumbent**, I am looking to share ministry with a curate who is ready to bring new life and ideas to our church. My aim is to nurture your unique vocational calling, ensuring you have the space to lead and experiment, supported by structured, regular 1-2-1 supervision. This is a partnership in ministry, where your learning is prioritised. I am committed to your ministerial formation and believe in cultivating a healthy, sustainable pattern of ministry that balances pastoral care with intentional reflection. My goal is to ensure you finish your curacy feeling confident, equipped, and spiritually refreshed for your next role.

Clergy Training

Holy Trinity Washington has had a long-standing role as a provider of training for clergy. The wealth of experience and the warmth of the welcome and support provided by our lay members and congregation have contributed greatly to the progress of our curates and students on placement. We have also benefitted greatly from the freshness, creativity, and variety of approach they have brought with them.

A Lively and Committed Parish with a Strong Sense of Community

We have a thriving church family at Holy Trinity. We serve a population of approximately 20,000 people and have an electoral roll of 160. In addition to the regular worshipping community, we are widely regarded as "their church" by many in the community who turn out in numbers to our seasonal services. We are a popular choice for weddings and funerals, and we have held numerous baptism services in the last twelve months, often attracting congregations of 100+. We see these activities as potential opportunities for mission and outreach and are keen that they should continue.

Following our **Vision Day** in February 2025, we identified our church priorities as;

- Engaging more effectively with children and young people and families.
- Identifying and developing Lay led people for church activities and for future mission, outreach activities and providing sustainability for these activities to continue.
- Raising the profile of the church to the whole parish.
- Engaging more effectively with those on the outskirts of the village and become more of a hub in the wider community.
- Engaging more effectively with the bereaved / Occasional Offices
- Identify and improve the building to achieve our vision. (Create new Kitchen and toilet facilities to encourage further mission and outreach opportunities, explore the possibility of extending the building to create more space.)



Our parish is very active within the local community, offering a wide range of social and cultural activities, which we see as key to our outreach programme – raising our profile and welcoming people into church. This is a flavour of some of our activities:



- Ceilidhs in church (we have our own “resident” band who also perform at other events and services).
- Summer Garden Party
- Church Fairs (Christmas / Summer).
- Coffee mornings and Beetle Drives.
- Parish Lunches.
- Annual National Trust Heritage Open Days.
- Local schools have used us as a venue for some events and visits.
- A monthly “Food Bank Sunday” event.
- A weekly quiz held over Zoom, established during the pandemic and still regularly attended by up to 20 people.

As our congregation is growing in number, we are encouraged that more people are wanting to be involved with the many activities that we already have and new activities that we would like to explore.

We would like to progress plans for increasing the role of our church in the local community. We recognise that we need to improve the present kitchen and toilet facilities if we are to extend and develop our community links and make the building suitable for more flexible worship and group activities of church. Our plans have now passed the faculty stage, and we await further approval from the planning department.

A Strong Team

Our ministry team is made up of Rector (in post since September 2024), two licensed lay ministers (LLM) with permission to officiate, two lay pastoral ministers (LPM).

We have a strong tradition of lay participation in worship, with a rota of readers, intercessors, chalice assistants and servers. There is also an enthusiastic team of volunteers who act as welcomers, greeters and supporters at services including baptisms, funerals and weddings. A team regularly takes communion to care home residents and to people in their own homes who are no longer able to get to church.

Our regular pattern of services

Tuesday	10am	Said Eucharist	Weekly
Wednesday	7pm	Iona Service	Monthly
Saturday	2.30pm	Family service	monthly
Sunday	8am	Said Eucharist	Fortnightly
	10am	Sung Eucharist with robed choir	Weekly
	1.30pm and 2.30pm	Baptisms	Monthly

“I love having the opportunity to receive Holy Communion on a Sunday and at a midweek service and having fellowship with all who attend.”



We have a Eucharist-centred tradition with robed clergy, following the Common Worship Rite. We observe the seasons of the church with appropriate vestments and altar dressings. We enjoy significant lay participation and are clear that we would wish this to continue. Our usual Sunday attendance at the main service is around 80 - 100 adults. Tuesday mornings see around 30 - 40 adults attending while Iona services see smaller but regular and committed numbers.

We started a regular service for children and young families in January 2026 and this is held every month. It is an informal mix of music, craft, stories, prayer stations and other activities.

Trinity Tots.

We started a preschool tot's group in January 2025. We have 36 children registered who attend during term time. It has been a real joy and some of the families who attend have started to come to our children and family service.



A Strong Musical Tradition



“I have been a part of the choir since I was old enough to join and now love helping run the choir and accompanying on the piano or the organ.”

Our robed choir has a consistent membership of between 20 and 25, ranging in age from teens to 70+. We sing an eclectic range of church music ranging from the 16th Century to the modern, traditional to popular in style and with regular use of Taizé and similar chants.

Several of our members play musical instruments and they are included in accompanying worship to

great effect. As well as the main weekly sung eucharist service, the choir takes part in special services throughout the year and gives concerts of sacred and secular music.

We have had a robed SATB choir for over 140 years and have been a member of The Royal School of Church Music since 1957.

Community Support

Our new Community Support Group offers space for individuals to connect with others facing similar challenges or interests, providing emotional support, practical advice, and a sense of belonging. We have a dedicated team of people from church and one of the Funeral Directors we work with who assist at the sessions. We have a regular group of 10-12 people who attend.

A Popular Venue for Occasional Services

As well as a venue for occasional offices, our church is well used for other special services and civic events. We love to share special times with the wider community. We host the Washington Town Remembrance Sunday Service in Church and then at the War Memorial. Our Christmas programme includes a very popular Carol Service, and our Christingle Services are so popular that we hold two each Christmas Eve.





Regular memorial services are held to which the families of the recently bereaved are invited and an annual Hope and Light service is very well attended. Easter Week is a highlight of our year, and we hold different services each day leading up to the Day itself.

We have a dedicated technical team who enable us to Zoom our 10am Sunday Eucharist and special services during the year. This is vitally important in allowing us to stay in touch with those who cannot attend in person.

Mission and Outreach

We recognise this as a priority for our church. We already recognise existing opportunities, particularly in our contacts with baptism families and the bereaved as previously stated. We are especially keen to be present in the new communities which have sprung up in the parish, as new housing developments have emerged. We are open to embracing these opportunities further. Within the parish boundary there are 5 primary schools, 2 secondary schools, and 1 co-educational school for children with severe learning difficulties. We have started to engage with some primary schools but would like to develop this further. We are in collaboration with two other churches and have secured funding for three years for a youth hub lead across the three churches. We are currently in the process of inviting applicants for this exciting new post.

There are 4 care homes and 4 assisted living residences that our Lay ministry team regularly visit.

There has been a branch of MU at Holy Trinity for over 125 years, currently with 30+ members, with a regular attendance of around 20. We are a very active group engaged in lots of activities.

Caring for God's Creation

We are extremely conscious of responsibilities towards the environment and nature conservation, though the nature of our building and setting in a conservation area present a challenge in this regard. In 2019, a small group made up of members of our church family and the local community, Friends of The Churchyard, began to respectfully restore our closed churchyard and continue to maintain and develop it as a community friendly wildlife area and green space. It is a haven for wildlife, and a variety of habitats are being developed to improve biodiversity.





There has been overwhelming interest, support, and appreciation from members of the congregation and local community, Washington Old Hall (National Trust), Sunderland City Council, local businesses and the Washington Village in Bloom group.

Many people visit the churchyard and find it a peaceful place to be close to nature. In 2025 the Washington Village Churchyard was awarded Northumbria in Bloom Gold Award for Conservation. 2026 judging has just ensued, and we are hopeful to achieve the same recognition again this year.

Governance

The PCC is a lively and committed group made up of clergy, two licensed lay ministers (ex officio), two churchwardens and the elected members including Deanery Synod members (our safeguarding lead attends as an observer). We usually meet bi-monthly. All our members play a full and active part in church life. We are mindful of our obligations and responsibilities as trustees according to Charity Commission rules and regulations.

We have a part time, paid administrator who has responsibility for the implementation of a wide variety of administrative tasks. We also have a paid Music Director.

We are supported by many volunteers forming groups dedicated to specific activities and functions.

Training and development

We regularly hold Lent Courses. Last year we studied The Lord's Prayer and what it means to us. This year we studied The Creeds. We also held Bible Study sessions. The courses were well attended, and fabulous discussions challenged our thinking and our understanding.

We held Confirmation classes for our confirmation candidates and members of our congregation came to support them too.

The Deanery Confirmation service was held at our church this year, where 28 candidates were confirmed at the service with 10 candidates from Holy Trinity Church. We also have a growing number of candidates wanting to be confirmed this year.

We have a number of new and regular volunteers who would like to get more involved with our activities in church and we are currently putting together a development and training package to assist people to use their skills, experience and gifts to further and enhance our church life.

Holy Trinity Church

Our beautiful church was opened in 1834 on a site previously occupied by an earlier building (late Saxon/early Norman), very little of which survives. It is Grade II listed and, in its history, has undergone several changes. The chancel was added in 1903 and the Bell Tower in 1962.

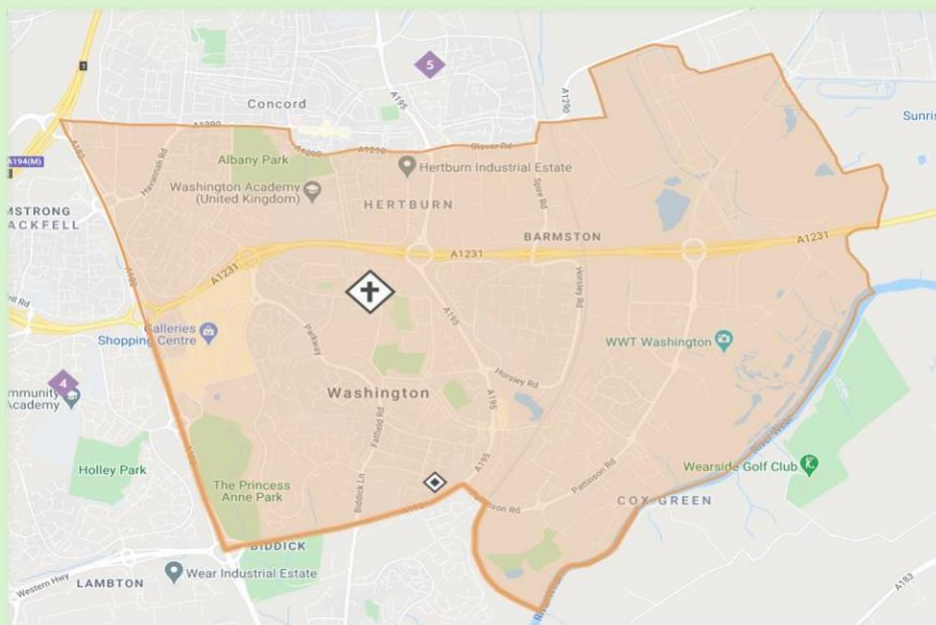


The most recent change was a re-ordering of the nave in 2016. A new floor was laid, the pews were replaced with chairs, the font moved to a more prominent position at the front of the church and new heating and lighting system installed. This has allowed for much more flexibility of use.

The Parish

“I have worshipped at this church for many years, and I feel this is my spiritual home.”

Our church serves a parish which stretches from Albany Village to Teal Farm and Biddick Village to Barmston.



As a location, Washington is situated in the heart of the North-East of England and has many attractions which make it a wonderful place to live and work. It is very close to major cultural and commercial centres such as Durham, Sunderland, Newcastle and Gateshead just a few miles away.

The historical origins of the area are many, with St Cuthbert's churches at Chester-Le-Street and Durham, and Bede's Jarrow Monastery close by.

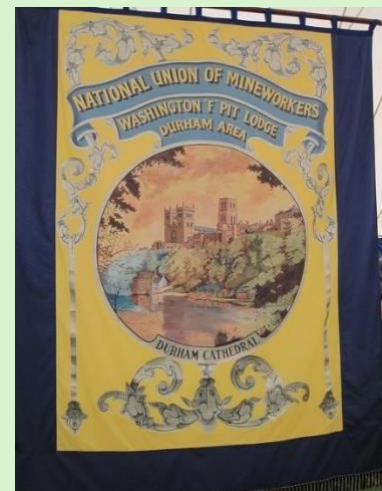
The rugged north Pennines, varied attractions of Northumberland and County Durham, and the glorious Northeast coastline are within easy reach, and the internationally recognised WWT Washington Wetland Centre is within the parish itself.

Holy Trinity Church, in the Diocese of Durham, is situated prominently in Washington Village, a conservation area and the historical centre of Washington, alongside the National Trust Property "Washington Old Hall," the ancestral home of George Washington. Known locally as the "Church on the Hill", we are physically and spiritually at the hub of life in the local community.



But Washington isn't just a pretty village. For centuries we were a mining and agricultural community, and those traditions are still proudly remembered. Much of the surrounding area still shows signs of the communities which grew around the pits although the mines themselves are long gone,

Washington was developed extensively in the 60s and 70s when Washington New Town sprang up with its mix of private and social housing estates and commercial and industrial activity. The town's design was based on a series of villages, and the parish of Holy Trinity is at their heart. The parish has a mixed ecology, with pockets of prosperity alongside areas of deprivation, with the challenges and opportunities this brings. Large, new estates have also been built in the parish more recently and we are very keen to make our presence felt more in these.



Do you feel that our church is the place that you would like to come and be part of.

We are looking for someone who is excited to be part of a lively and flourishing Parish with lots of further opportunities to be creative and explore possibilities.

We want someone who is rooted in prayer, is approachable and has a love for all. Someone who is a team player but also can work individually. Someone who can offer possibilities and has a passion for working with children and families including engaging with schools. Someone who is keen to learn but also keen to teach.

If you would like to enquire about this post, please contact

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