

ST. GEORGE'S, CULLERCOATS

PARISH PROFILE



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Banners in the Church



Welcome to the Diocese of Newcastle!

Thank you so much for your interest in this role, and I hope you enjoy reading the information contained in this brochure and will find it helpful for your discernment. I am three years into being Bishop of Newcastle and I rejoice in this calling. Our diocese is a vibrant and varied blend of parishes, chaplaincies, schools, and ministry-contexts and is home to diverse geographical contexts with rich history and Christian spirituality. Our Northeast region is known for its friendliness and creativity, in city, coastal and rural areas. Our Diocese has responded to the challenges and joys of our region with imagination and resolve, mindful of our own financial challenges but undeterred in our hope and trust in God's generous provision. Shaped by the Five Marks of Mission and upheld by the dynamics of seeking, sharing, and sending, we are attentive to the need to speak the good news of God's Kingdom, and to be faithful stewards of our environment.



Foundation Northeast (a major philanthropic convenor in our region). It is hoped this will enable parishes across the diocese to bid for funding for projects that are within areas of interest to Bishop Alec (education, and children and young people being two such areas). Additionally, the diocese is undertaking a major review of its governance structures to ensure we are working efficiently across all areas of our engagement in God's mission, and to reduce silo working.

The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley
Bishop of Newcastle

You will be joining us at a crucial point in our mapping out and implementation of vision and strategy: to be confident Christians enabling more and different people to experience life in all its fullness. Your role in this will offer opportunities to grow and develop in your own ministry. The Diocese of Newcastle has a long and proud history of inclusion and speaking up for the vulnerable and marginalised. We are the only diocese in the Church of England to have a paid chaplain to the victims and survivors of Church-based abuse, and our work with victims and survivors has been upheld as pioneering and ground-breaking. We also have a paid chaplain to the LGBTQI+ community, and our Diocesan Synod passed a motion in 2025 to express its full support for progress towards full inclusion of LGBTQI+ people.

Following a refresh of our Diocesan vision, to be confident Christians enabling more and different people to experience life in its fullness, we are working towards a bid to the National Church for strategic funding. Additionally, having received a generous legacy from the 10th Bishop of Newcastle (+Alec Graham) we are in the process of establishing a new 'Bishop of Newcastle Foundation' and developing a new partnership with the Community





The Diocese of Newcastle is the Church of England’s most northerly Diocese. Formed in 1882, the Diocese covered an area almost equivalent to the then County of Northumberland. With 169 parishes across 2,110 square miles, the Diocese covers the local authorities of Northumberland, Newcastle, North Tyneside and also small parts of County Durham and Cumbria. Under the episcopal leadership of our Diocesan Bishop, The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley and the suffragan Bishop of Berwick, The Rt Revd Mark Wroe, we are resourced by two Archdeacons, and a team of lay and ordained officers who support the development of mission and ministry across the Diocese. Our Cathedral, under the leadership of The Very Revd Lee Batson, is a vibrant place of worship and outreach and plays a vital role in the life of the City of Newcastle.

There are 12 deaneries within 2 archdeaconries (Lindisfarne and Northumberland), which serve a population of 831,600 people across a variety of communities ranging from sparse rural to market towns, coastal, suburban, and larger inner-city areas. We have a current cohort of 95 stipendiary clergy (office holders), 20 self-supporting clergy, and 47 Readers, alongside a number of chaplaincies, pioneers, and new and emerging worshipping communities. A small administration team is based at Church House, North Shields. Church House is also the base for the Joint Education Team and Joint Communications Team (serving the Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle), the Lindisfarne College of Theology and a Religious Resources Centre.

The Diocese has recently increased its resourcing of safeguarding in the light of its INEQE safeguarding report, which was published in 2024. Our new Director of Safeguarding works alongside two assistant staff members in the areas of case work and training, with separate administrative support. The Diocese and its Cathedral are rightly proud of their work with the victims and survivors of church abuse, and we are the only Diocese in the Church of England to resource a chaplaincy to victims and survivors of church abuse.

The Diocese also has a new chaplaincy support for the LGBTQI+ communities, which is part of our diocesan-wide commitment to foster a climate of inclusion and welcome.

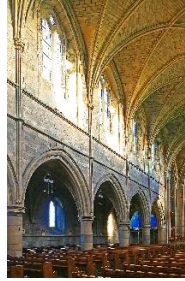
A message from The Bishop of Beverley

Thank you for your interest in St George's Cullercoats. Not only is this a delightful seaside parish, with a beautiful church building and vicarage, it is served by an equally wonderful and committed team of lay volunteers and worshippers who seek to proclaim the Gospel through their regular patterns of worship and outreach. The parish will provide the future priest with ample opportunity for meaningful engagement with the wider community and enough space for appropriate rest. Please do be in touch with me for an informal conversation if you would like to know more.

+Stephen Beverley

Office phone: 07394 545887 Email: office@seeofbeverley.org.uk





ST GEORGE'S CULLERCOATS

PARISH PROFILE

THE VILLAGE

Cullercoats is located on the East Coast of England close to the mouth of The River Tyne. Cullercoats is often referred to as "The Village" since that is the name popularly given. Strictly it should only apply to the part east of The Metro railway line.

The name Cullercoats is said to be derived from *culver*, a dialect name for doves, and *cotes* i.e. *dovecotes*. The earliest references to Cullercoats (circa 1530) indicate that salt pans provided much of the "industry" of the area. The other occupation was fishing. In the absence of regular strong sunlight to evaporate the water from the pans coal was used to provide the necessary heat. This coal was obtained from local bell pits. From the 1670s the salt, together with coal, were exported from a rudimentary harbour. A harbour and pier were constructed in 1680. The salt pans closed in 1723. In the 19th century a north and a south pier were built at the bay entrance to provide shelter for the fishing vessels (mainly cobles).

In 1848 a disaster led to the provision of a Cullercoats Lifeboat station. A coble was taking a pilot out to sea to board a ship. The coble capsized with all on board being drowned. The Duke of Northumberland paid for the setting up of Cullercoats Lifeboat Station. In 1849 a second disaster occurred. Twenty lifeboat crew lost their lives so the Duke sponsored a competition to design a self-righting lifeboat. The boat that was designed, the *Percy*, was paid for by the Duke and arrived in Cullercoats in 1852. After being home to a number of lifeboats ranging over the years from pulling boats, sailing boats and motor boats, the station has, since 1969, been home to a succession of Inshore Rescue Boats. This arose because a review by the RNLI had found that many rescues were inshore; when a response was required inshore boats were faster on the scene than the offshore boats. In 1965 the first IRB arrived and in 1969 the offshore boat was withdrawn since an offshore boat was (and is) available 2 miles away in



The Lifeboat Station from the Cliffs with The Watch House (with clock) behind.



Tynemouth. The lifeboat station remained in use, with a few minor alterations, until 2003 when the old station was incorporated into a new station. In 2022 Cullercoats had its first all-female lifeboat crew.

The Cullercoats Volunteer Life Brigade was founded in 1864, three days after the brigade at Tynemouth. and was based at what is now The Rocket Garage (1867). The purpose of the brigades was to rescue distressed seamen working from the shore by use of, for example, the breeches buoy. A new Brigade House and watchtower, located on the cliff above the harbour, were designed by Newcastle upon Tyne architect Frank West Rich in 1877–79. The house has just been restored. The Cullercoats Brigade was disbanded in 1923: only three remain in England.

In the 1880s the American artist Winslow Homer lived in The Hudleston Arms (later The Bay Hotel). His studio was nearby at No.12 Bank Top. Homer was a resident in Cullercoats from April 1881 to November 1882. The Bay Hotel was demolished in 2004 and an apartment block, named Winslow Court, has been built on the site. Homer was the most famous of the professional artists who were part of the "Cullercoats Colony" in the period 1870 –1920. Others included Arthur H. Marsh, Robert Jobling, Henry H. Emmerson, Isa Thompson, Ralph Hedley. John Falconer Slater and John Charlton. There are still artists working in Cullercoats.

Much of the original village has been demolished. However, on Simpson Street there is a row of fishermen's cottages which were preserved during the redevelopment of the village in the 1970s. There are Victoria terraces between the coast and the railway (now Metro) line. Beyond the Metro and up to Broadway there are long avenues of mainly semi-detached houses of inter-war vintage. Beyond Broadway the houses are mainly detached and semi-detached estates of the 70s and 80s, some of which are social housing. There is sheltered housing on the seafront. There is a Community Centre in the village.

There is a folk song, Cullercoats Bay. A recording can be heard at [Felling Male Voice Choir - Cullercoats Bay at St. Anne's Church in Jablonec, Czech Rep. - 18.05.2013](#)

The first Cullercoats railway station was opened in and was located approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of the current station in open countryside. This was closed and the present railway station was first opened by the North Eastern Railway in 1882, for the Newcastle – Coast suburban railway which was electrified over the period 1904 to 1909. The electrification reached Cullercoats in June 1904. In 1967, during the Beeching era, the line was changed to diesel multiple unit services, probably with a view to closure. However, in 1981 the line became part of The Tyne and Wear Metro. The original station buildings are still in use, now served by the Metro.

There are two schools in the parish. Neither is a church school but the church has good relations with both of them. Cullercoats School is a Primary School with a nursery; Marden High School is a secondary school (11-16). (See Appendix 1). Students travel to other locations for 6th form studies. The Dove Marine Laboratory, founded in 1897 and part of The University of Newcastle, is located on Cullercoats Bay overlooking the harbour.



Cullercoats Bay by Winslow Homer 1882



A Similar View in 2024



Cullercoats was formerly a township and chapelry in the parish of Tynemouth. In 1866 Cullercoats became a separate civil parish. On 1 April 1908 the civil parish was abolished and merged with Tynemouth. In 1901 the civil parish had a population of 1743. The village was in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Tynemouth Priory until the formation of Whitley Bay Parish (officially Tynemouth, Cullercoats (St. Paul)) in 1864. It then became its own parish in 1880.

The parish is in The Metropolitan Borough of North Tyneside in the County of Tyne and Wear. It is difficult to compute the population of the parish since the parish boundaries and the North Tyneside Council ward boundaries do not coincide. It is made more difficult since the parish is in a relatively new ward, Cullercoats and Whitley Bay South.

However, *estimates* of a number of statistics based on the 2021 census are:

Deprivation rank (1=most deprived, 12,239=least deprived)	10,213		
Parish population (2021 census)	6,591		
Parish number of occupied households	2,975		
Area (square miles)	0.6		
Population density (people per square mile)	10,540		
% aged 0-4	5.0		
% aged 5-19	14.9		
% aged 20-29	7.0		
% aged 30-44	18.5		
% aged 45-69	34.3		
% aged 70 and over	20.4		
% Asian ethnicity	1.1	% Buddhist	0
% Black ethnicity	0.1	% Christian	51
% Mixed ethnicity	1.2	% Hindu	0
% White ethnicity	97.2	% Jewish	0
% Other ethnicity	0.4	% Muslim	0
		% Sikh	0
		% Other religion	0
		% No religion	42
		% Religion not stated	5

Source: Church of England Data Services

There is a small collection of shops (including a Post Office and a small art gallery) on both sides of the road near the west entrance to the Metro. There are more shops close to the Methodist Church. There are cafés and restaurants on and near the sea front. There is a library located near the shops by the Metro station. It has limited opening hours. There is a branch of The CoOp at the NE corner of the parish and a small Sainsburys on the southern edge.



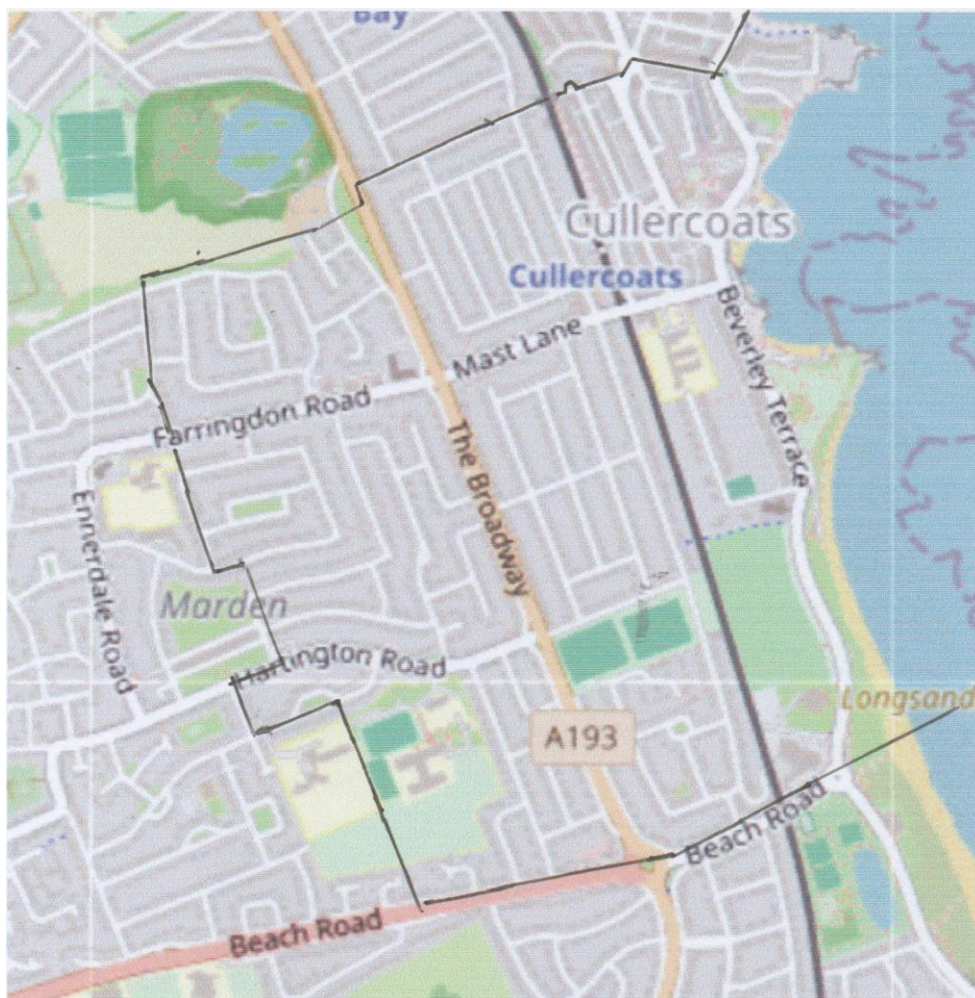
*Cullercoats Metro Station
(Former Railway Station)*



*The Longsands with St George's
in the distance*



The Crescent Club (CIU Affiliated) is located on the sea front overlooking the harbour. Cullercoats Tennis Club is opposite the church. Cullercoats Football Club fields male and female teams of all ages and is in the parish. Tynemouth Aquarium is also in the parish. The Tynemouth Castle Hotel is located at the southeastern corner of the parish. There are numerous cafés, restaurants and B&Bs scattered over the parish.



Map of the Approximate Boundaries of the parish. (Source: Open Map / A Church Near You)



St George's at dawn



Christmas Midnight Mass



THE CHURCH

By the 1870s it had become clear that a church was needed for the village of Cullercoats because the villagers had to travel some distance to church. In 1878 The Sixth Duke of Northumberland chose the architect John Loughborough Pearson to design a church in memory of his father, George, The Fifth Duke of Northumberland. At that time Pearson was working on converting St. Mary, Truro to become the new cathedral for the Diocese of Truro. St. George's Parish came into being in April 1880.

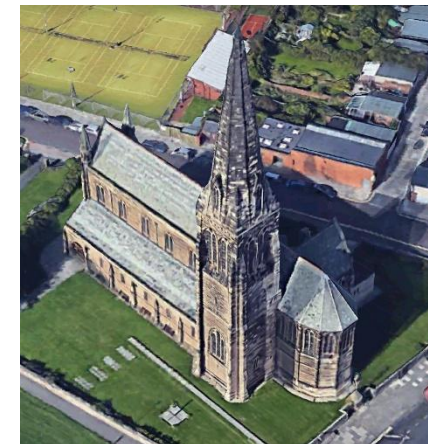
The foundation stone of the new church was laid by The Duke on 4th August 1882; the church was built with stone from The Duke's nearby quarry. After starting services in nearby public buildings, a temporary church (a "tin tab") was erected opposite the site of the permanent church. It was popularly known as "the iron church".

The Church was completed and then consecrated by The First Bishop of Newcastle, The Rt. Revd. Ernest Wilberforce, on 16th December 1884. The church, including the vicarage had cost approximately £25 000. At the consecration the church was without the organ because of a delay in its completion. The organ was supplied by T. C. Lewis and cost £1 040. It is one of the few largely unaltered Lewis organs remaining. It was dedicated in February 1885. There are four bells in the tower but they are only capable of being chimed.

The church is in the Revived Gothic Style with spectacular vaulting. Pearson preferred a church without a Rood Screen and St. George's is so styled. There is a low stone barrier (wrongly described by Pevsner as a Communion rail) marking the division between nave and chancel. The church was designed with a High Altar only, without chapels. A Lady Chapel, located in the north transept, was erected in 1912 furnished with an "English" Altar. From 1924 The Blessed Sacrament has been reserved in a chapel located in the west gallery. The Altar is, again, of "English design".

In the 1930s a statue of St. George was placed in the church. It was later placed on the organ case facing west along the south aisle; originally it was intended to form part of a shrine to St. George. In 1934 the High Altar was replaced a part of the re-ordering of the church to mark the 50th anniversary of the Consecration of St George's and also as a memorial to Fr. John Gregg who died early in his ministry. In 1953 an Altar was set up before the Statue of St. George for the Coronation (1953) Vigil. This Altar was replaced in 1972 with a plain modern wooden altar facing west for celebration *versus populo* (all the other altars in the church are *ad orientem*). The chapel is (anomalously) called St. George's Chapel. The church is Grade 1 listed.

The font, constructed of stone, is under the west gallery. The font cover has four figures representing the Northumbrian Saints, Paulinus, Aidan, Oswald and Cuthbert; the figure of Christ The Good Shepherd stands at the top. There is extensive stained glass by Charles Eamer Kempe and by Leonard Evetts (the Baptistery).



St George's from above



The Vaulting



In 1909 a Scout Troop was set up. In 1923 a Guides Company was formed. In 1932 the Mothers' Meeting morphed into a branch of The Mothers' Union.

The churchyard is an open grassed area. It is not a burial ground. However, ashes are interred there. There is a cross, erected in 1969, overlooking the interment area. The War Memorial for The First World War was erected in the churchyard in 1921. It is located between the apse and the church boundary. It now commemorates the Second World War as well. The War Memorial is Grade 2 Listed.

The church is open every day from c.9.00 a.m. to 6 p.m in summer and to dusk in winter. for private prayer

Quinquennial Survey

The Quinquennial Report was received in late 2023. Excluding the work required on the West End window the report has identified the need for repairs estimated at £ 41 500 (excluding VAT). However further remedial work has been found to be necessary and the costs are being determined. Sources of funding are being investigated.

SERVICES

The longstanding worship tradition of the church is Eucharistic and Sacramental. However, our congregation includes people of all traditions. The Eucharist is celebrated during the week and the Blessed Sacrament is reserved; vestments are worn and incense is used. There is also considerable lay involvement (e.g. The Pastoral Committee, the Servers, the Choir) and there is one Reader (LLM). There are two retired priests, the one able to give limited help and the other having some commitments to other parishes.

The normal times of services are:

Sunday	07.30	Morning Prayer
	08.00 Mass	Common Worship CW Order 2 Traditional. language
	09.30 Parish Mass	CW Order 1 Contemporary language
	16.00 Evensong	BCP.. (First Sunday)*
Monday	09.00 Mass	CW Order 1 contemporary language
Tuesday	19.00 Mass	CW Order 1 Contemporary language
Thursday	10.00 Mass	CW Order 1 Contemporary language
Saturday	10.00 Mass	CW Order 1 Contemporary language

*Before Covid, Evensong was every week at 18.30 with Benediction on the First Sunday. There was a Friday Mass at 12 noon but this was discontinued because of poor attendance post Covid. Normally festivals are celebrated on the day and not transferred to Sunday.



The Interior Looking West



The Interior Looking East



Times during the vacancy (due to shortage of priests):

Sunday	08.00 Mass	CW Order 2 Traditional. language
	09.30 Parish Mass	CW Order 1 Contemporary language
	16.00 Evensong	BCP (First Sunday)
Tuesday	19.00 Mass	CW Order 1 Contemporary language
Thursday	10.00 Mass	CW Order 1 contemporary language

Christmas and Easter are high points in the calendar. An extensive range of Carol Services take place around Christmas, some of which involve the local schools. For example, Christmas and End-of year services are held by several of the local schools, including one from outside the parish. There is a Crib Service on Christmas Eve. Midnight Mass, The Mass at Dawn (08.00) and The Parish Mass during the day are all celebrated. The Easter Triduum is observed in full. On Rogation Sunday there is a procession to the harbour to bless the lifeboat and the fishing boats. The church hosts Remembrance Sunday services and a service is held at The War Memorial at 11.00 a.m. on 11th November.

The church is also used by local choirs, bands and orchestras for public concerts. These are well attended. Meetings of The Mothers' Union start with The Office in church. (There is more about the Mothers' Union below.)

OUR VISION

The Mission Action Plan agreed in 2023

- Deepen our Discipleship
 - corporately : in our common liturgical life.
 - individually : identifying opportunities to explore our faith and grow as disciples.
 - collectively : to work with other churches to help us with this.
- Engage with young couples and families. ("Pulling those on the periphery into the centre")
- Community Engagement ("Taking the centre to those on the periphery")
- Honouring our Responsibilities
 - for developing our culture of making our church a safe place for everyone.
 - for maintaining and celebrating our heritage, particularly our building and musical tradition.
 - for the flourishing of the church in the Diocese, notably in our financial support
 - for becoming more conscious of environmental issues & the need for action in all areas of our common life.



The Baptistry



WHAT WE OFFER

A parish in an attractive seaside location which offers both opportunities and challenges;

- A welcoming church family with an established pattern of tasteful catholic worship, supported by servers, choir and organist;
- A well-loved and maintained church building suited to the requirements of modern worship;
- A church hall;
- A Vicarage next to the Church with a manageable garden;
- A supportive and active PCC with a wide range of skills; the members are ready and willing to work with a new incumbent;
- Fully paid-up Parish Share;
- A range of social events throughout the year organised by members of the congregation;
- A genuine pride and love for our church and its community.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We understand that this is a half time post.

We are looking for a male Priest (not necessarily a member of the Society but who is sympathetic to its aims):

- Who has a burning desire to serve the Lord Jesus and his people and a strong belief in the power of prayer;
- Who is nurtured in the catholic faith and will maintain our tradition and high standard of inspiring sacramental worship;
- Who is an approachable, sociable, friendly pastor with a sense of humour;
- Who can bring the faith alive to people of all ages and will walk with people at critical times of their lives;
- Who is community focused and will be actively involved in representing Our Lord and his church to the community;
- Who can regenerate areas of church life after the pandemic and will enable others in their discipleship and contribution to parish life;
- Who has great enthusiasm for the development of strong active links with our local schools and success in the area of developing child centred activities;
- Who is prepared to embrace the mission opportunities the parish offers;



The High Altar



The Lady Chapel



THE HALL

The hall is opposite the church. It is used for parish activities, meetings of the Guides, The Mothers' Union and is let to many other local organisations such as the Local History Society.. It is also used for occasional children's parties. The hall has a kitchen, toilets and a toilet for the non-ambulant. However, the time has come to consider a replacement.

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Guides etc

The Guides started in 1923. The church has representation of girls in all sections and ages, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers meeting weekly together in the church hall and following the Girlguiding programme of activities. Through fun, friendship, challenge and adventure the Guides leaders aim to empower girls to find their voice, inspiring them to discover the best in themselves and to make a positive difference in their community. At their regular meetings, girls take part in activities related to things that matter to them. They are encouraged to help choose activities and help organise and run them. Living at the coast we have many opportunities to head to the beach and to enjoy outdoor fun.

The girls also actively take part in larger scale events organised within the County meeting girls from other units helping them to understand the wider organisation they belong to. The girls also take part in weekend holidays and camps developing independent living skills. The girls are invited to join the family of St Georges especially at special services with Church Parades (e.g. Remembrance Sunday) when they bring their flags and help with readings and prayers.

Scouts etc

The Scout Group was formed at St Georges in 1908 and continues to go from strength to strength with a membership of 100 young people. There is a Beaver Colony, Cub Pack and two Scout Troops who meet each week at the Group's Scout Headquarters close to the church. The programme of Scouting activities is delivered by a strong volunteer leadership team and is based around the Scout badges, aiming to give young people 'skills for life'. Across a year the young people will have the opportunity to enjoy camping, sailing, canoeing, shooting, rafting, hiking, learning first aid, fire safety, cooking, learning skill, map and compass work, crafts, learn to work in teams as well as much more.



The Interior Looking West



The Crib



THE MOTHERS' UNION

A Branch of the Mothers' Union was opened at St. George's Cullercoats in 1932 and has run continuously since then. There are approximately 35 members. Several of our members have had key roles in MU Newcastle diocese in recent years, including President, vice-President, Unit co-ordinators and roles at Deanery level.

The branch meets monthly and opens in church with the office. The meeting continues in the hall with a speaker or with other activities to support the work of the Mothers Union. The branch supports local projects such as knitting for premature babies, fiddle muffs for dementia patients, bags of toiletries for sudden admissions to hospital and providing starter rucksacks for prisoners released from HMP Northumberland. The branch supports the holiday scheme for needy families (AFIA) and also supports appeals from Mary Sumner House.

St. George's church supports the work of the Newcastle Peoples Kitchen with donation of non-perishable food items at Harvest, and our congregation is also very supportive through our MU branch of the annual MU Diocesan appeal to provide bags of essential items at Christmas time.

The branch sends wedding cards to couples married at St. George's and supports baptism families. At least two of our members always attend the service, welcoming all the guests and helping to set up and clear away afterwards. Cards are sent on the first 4 anniversaries of the baptism of each candidate. The fifth anniversary card includes a leaflet advising parents of children's activities at our church.

The branch is involved in the community and supports the local Lent courses and the holding of an annual branch Advent service to which members of ladies' groups from all the neighbouring churches are invited. The branch is also on a rota in Tynemouth deanery with the other 6 branches in the deanery to host deanery events including an Advent Service, a Quiet Afternoon and a Deanery Festival.

THE PCC

The parish is in Tynemouth Deanery. Most of the churches in the North Tyneside Council area are in Tynemouth Deanery; a few are in Newcastle Central, Newcastle East and Cramlington Deaneries. The PCC has 18 elected members including the Vicar. There are two Churchwardens, 3 members of the Deanery Synod and 12 elected members, each for three years with one third retiring each year. The PCC met 12 times in 2023 to September 2024.

The PCC has passed a resolution requesting a male priest under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests: we are under the episcopal care of the Bishop of Beverley. Since the beginning of the vacancy this has been reviewed by the PCC and its continuation agreed unanimously.



They shall grow not old...



The Scout "Hut"



There is a pastoral team that assists in visiting in the parish and in taking The Sacrament to the sick and housebound. In 1979 The Cullercoats Team Ministry, comprising St. George's, St. Hilda, Marden, and St Aidan Billy Mill, was created. This continued until 2006 when the Team Ministry was dissolved and St. Hilda's and St. Aidan's became separate parishes. The team sends first anniversary cards to couples married at St George's.

The comparison of the parish statistics with the deanery average is a crude measure but indicates that the recovery of St. George's in many areas has probably been slightly better than average.

The PCC has adopted the Diocesan Model Safeguarding Policy and the Action Plan has been updated. Members of the PCC have (or are undergoing) undergone safeguarding training, as appropriate. Health and Safety Risk Assessments have been carried out as appropriate.

Finance

The accounts for 2025 are in Appendix 2. The parish paid its full share (£48 000) in 2023. Urgent repairs to the fabric of the church have reduced the ability of the parish to pay the parish share in full.

Parish Statistics:

<i>Total for each calendar year.</i>	2018	2023	Deanery average 2018	Deanery average 2023
Baptisms	20	14	17	12
Marriages	10	9	3	2
Funerals	30	15	14	8
Easter Day Attendance	226	165	97	65
Christmas Attendance	835	689	239	211
Usual Child Sunday Attendance	20	10	1	3
Usual Sunday Attendance	147	114	53	32
Electoral roll	153	163	100	90
Worshipping Community	129	153	88	71

Source: Data presented to Tynemouth Deanery Synod 2024



The Mothers' Union Banner



The Mothers' Union Office in St George's Chapel



THE VICARAGE

The vicarage is next to the church. It is a substantial, detached five bedroomed Victorian house built at the same time as the church. There is on-road parking for visitors but it is often occupied by dog walkers and tourists. There is a detached double garage at the rear. At the side and rear of the house is a garden, mainly given over to lawn, surrounded by flower borders and hedges and a few trees. There is a lawn between the church and the house. The garden has been occasionally used for parish garden parties or barbecues. Inside, the house comprises an entrance hall leading to the study, dining room and lounge and a downstairs cloakroom. The entrance hall then leads to the kitchen equipped with an Aga and a utility room. Upstairs there are five bedrooms (four large and one small), a bathroom and a stairway leading to the attic space (which is not used): this can also be reached from the outside by a stair from the ground floor. The property has gas central heating.

The vicarage is Grade 2 listed.



The Vicarage

MUSIC

The church has a longstanding musical tradition: the choir and organists have, over the course of time, made several recordings. The Director of Music is Timothy Hone.

The Organ

The organ was built by T. C. Lewis in 1885 and is largely unchanged. (A balanced swell pedal and a Discus[®] blower have been added). It was restored by Harrison & Harrison in 1987. It stands on the south side of the chancel. The pipework facing north is not enclosed in a case. The console is encased. The specification is in Appendix 3. The organ is listed by The Incorporated Society of Organists.

The Choir

There is a mixed age 4-part choir which sings for the Parish Mass, on Festivals and for occasional Choral Evensong. The choir has sung services in several nearby cathedrals.

SERVERS

There is a team of servers who assist at most Masses and other services. Most of the servers are members of The Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary.



*The Organ
(showing the lack of a case)*



CHILDREN

There are children in the congregation but there is no Sunday School or similar provision. This ceased when Covid struck and has not restarted. However, children's workshops take place at Christmas, Easter and other occasions. There is a children's area at the back of the church. Older children and young people read lessons and sing in the choir. At present there are no young people in the serving team.

ECUMENISM

There is one other place of worship in the parish, Cullercoats Methodist Church. There are three just outside the parish boundaries. These are The Cullercoats Fishermen's Mission (Methodist), which also hosts The Coast Congregational Church (and which is part of the Congregational Federation and not part of the URC), St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. St. Hilda's, Marden which originally was a daughter church of St. George's and later one of the churches in the now dissolved Cullercoats Team Ministry is located just outside the parish).

The Methodist Church is part of the Whitley Bay and Tynemouth Circuit. The RC church is clustered with Whitley Bay RC Church. Both churches look to a wider area which is outside Cullercoats. There is no *Churches Together in Cullercoats* organisation and so no formal ecumenical work. However, St. George's has good relations with both the Methodists and The Roman Catholics. For example, members of St. Mary's RC Church and the Methodist Church attend events organised by The Mothers' Union (*and vice versa*). Some ecumenical work is organised at Deanery level. Pulpit exchanges with the Methodists have taken place.

The re-dedication of The War Memorial located inside the church was both an ecumenical and a civic event.

PASTORAL AND CHARITABLE WORK

There is a Parish Pastoral Committee which organises parish visiting. The members take Communion to many of the sick / housebound. Until Covid the Parish Reader was a voluntary chaplain at North Tyneside General Hospital and good relationships have been maintained. The Chaplaincy Team is informed when any parishioners go into hospital.

Non-perishable food is collected regularly for *The Bay Foodbank* and the food given at Harvest is given to *The People's Kitchen*. Used stamps are collected for *Sight Research UK*. Several members of the congregation volunteer for charities, for example. *Cruse Bereavement Support*, *Cullercoats RNLi* and *Walking With in North Tyneside* (a Charity for refugees and asylum seekers).



The Choir



The Serving Team



Half of the collection at each wedding, baptism and funeral is given to a charity chosen by the families. The list of charities supported is included in the financial statement (Appendix 2).

COOPERATION WITH OTHER PARISHES

Since St. George's is "a resolution parish" attendance at other churches services is generally limited to non-Eucharistic worship. Members of other churches attend Mothers' Union events at St. George's (*and vice versa*). The members of The Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary join with members from other churches and travel around to say The Office in other parishes.



A Service for Children from Cullercoats School



*Re-dedication of
The (Interior) War Memorial*



APPENDIX 1

Expanded Parish Statistics

Deprivation rank (1 = most deprived, 12,239 = least deprived)	10,213
Parish population (2021 census)	6,591
Parish number of occupied households	2,975
Area (square miles)	0.6
Population density (people per square mile)	10,540

Age Distribution		Ethnicity		Religion	
0-4	5.0%	Asian	1.1%	Buddhist	0.3%
5-19	14.9%	Black	0.1%	Christian	51.0%
20-29	7.0%	Mixed	1.2%	Hindu	0.2%
30-44	18.5%	White	97.2%	Jewish	0%
45-69	34.3%	Other	0.4%	Muslim	0.6%
>70	20.4%			Sikh	0.1%
				Other	0.3%
				No religion	42.2%
				Not stated	5.2%

Schools

	<i>Cullercoats Primary School</i>	<i>Marden High School</i>
<i>Phase of Education</i>	Primary	Secondary
<i>Gender</i>	Mixed	Mixed
<i>Number of pupils</i>	432	910
<i>% free school meals</i>	8.8	13.3
<i>Type</i>	Community school	Foundation school
<i>Religious character</i>	None	None
<i>Trust status and provider</i>	Not applicable.	Supported by a trust. The North Tyneside Learning Trust
<i>Local authority</i>	North Tyneside	North Tyneside
<i>Address</i>	Marden Avenue, North Shields, NE30 4PB	Hartington Road, North Shields, NE30 3RZ
<i>Status</i>	Open	Open



APPENDIX 3

THE ORGAN



The Console

Organ Specification

PEDAL ORGAN

Open Diapason	16'
Sub Bass	16'
Octave	8'
Bass Flute	8'
Posaune	16'

GREAT ORGAN

Bourdon	16'
Open Diapason No. 1	8'
Open Diapason No. 2	8'
Salicional	8'
Lieblich Gedact	8'
Octave	4'
Flute Harmonique	4'
Twelfth	2 ² / ₃ '
Fifteenth	2'
Mixture	IV
Trumpet	8'
Clarinet	8'

Manual compass 56 notes
 Pedal compass 30 notes
 Drawstops, mechanical
 Pedalboard straight flat
 Four composition pedals to Great and Pedal
 Three composition pedals to Swell
 Pedal to Great to Pedal
 Balanced swell pedal (1967)

SWELL ORGAN

Lieblich Gedact	16'
Geigen Principal	8'
Rohr Flöte	8'
Viole de Gambe	8'
Voix Célestes	8'
Geigen Principal	4'
Flautina	2'
Horn	8'
Oboe	8'

COUPLERS

Swell to Great
Swell to Pedal
Great to Pedal

Wind pressure 3¹/₂". Manual: action tracker;
 Pedal: action pneumatic: stops mechanical.
 Discus blower (bellows can be raised by hand using the original system).

