

Vicar: Rev. David Bowler – 0191 237 1982 – [djbowler@sky.com](mailto:djbowler@sky.com)

Curate: Rev. Karen Charman – 07535943805 – [rev.karen.charman@gmail.com](mailto:rev.karen.charman@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator: Jean Lazenby – 0191 237 3786 – [jlazenby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jlazenby@hotmail.co.uk)

Parish Website: [www.delavalparish.weebly.com](http://www.delavalparish.weebly.com)

*The Vicar usually takes a day off on a Friday, and the Curate on a Monday*

| <b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019</b> Trinity 12                         |                |                    |
|--|----------------|--------------------|
| 8:30 am  | Holy Communion | Church of Our Lady |
| 10:00 am   | Family Service | St. Michael's      |
| 10:00 am   | Holy Communion | St. Paul's         |
| 12 noon  | Baptism        | Church of Our Lady |
| 3:00 pm  | Lego Church    | Church of Our Lady |
| <b>Readings:</b> Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33                                   |                |                    |
| <i>Please pray for and welcome Peter Thomas Slovik-Anthony and his parents</i> |                |                    |

|                                  |           |                      |                    |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup></b>     | 9:00 am   | Morning Prayer       | St. Paul's         |
|                                  | 10:00 am  | Little Angels        | St. Michael's      |
|                                  | 1-3:30 pm | All Welcome          | St. Paul's         |
| <b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>   | 10:00 am  | Holy Communion       | St. Michael's      |
| <b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup></b> | 9:00 am   | Morning Prayer       | Church of Our Lady |
|                                  | 12 noon   | Accord (music group) | St. Paul's         |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup></b>  | 10-2 pm   | Open Doors           | St. Michael's      |
|                                  | 10:00 am  | Holy Communion       | St. Paul's         |
|                                  | 2:15 pm   | Leadership Team      | St. Michael's      |

| <b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019</b> Trinity 13 |                 |                    |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| 8:30 am   | Holy Communion  | Church of Our Lady |
| 10:00 am  | Holy Communion  | St. Michael's      |
| 10:00 am  | Morning Worship | St. Paul's         |
| <b>Readings:</b> Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10           |                 |                    |

**Luke 14:25-33**

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus, and turning to them, he said: 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters – yes, even their own life – such a person cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me, cannot be my disciple. 'Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation, and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, "This person began to build and wasn't able to finish." 'Or, suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation, while the other is still a long way off, and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

**From the Vicar:** The Gospel passage today is, on the surface, one of the hardest passages in the New Testament, a passage so difficult that I should really leave it to others to explain. How on earth can the God of love expect us to hate those closest to us in order to love Him? I continually argue that we can only love others (and only truly love ourselves) if we are first loved. After all, God is love, and where love is, God is also there. That is at the heart of what Jesus is really saying to us, that we should love God above all else, that we should put God at the centre of all. 'Hating' is a Semitic expression meaning 'to love less', and so Jesus is not using the word 'hate' in the modern understanding, but as a way of saying to us that there are other more important relationships with those immediately around us. In our modern world, hate is so evident all around us. We are encouraged to hate those who think differently to us, who look different to us, or who speak differently to us. Here, Jesus, the God of Love, is encouraging us to put love at the centre of all we are, of all we do, and share that freely. This is not a risk-free strategy, as deciding to love means giving up control. That is easier to do in a relationship where you trust in the person you love. That is what Jesus is really saying to us. Remember that faith, hope and love go hand in hand, and that love is the greatest of the three. So, spend time with the one who loves you the most, and trust Him with your life. **God bless. David**

**Celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ordination of Women as Priests  
Newcastle Cathedral  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 4pm**

This year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of the first women priests in the Church of England, which came about through the prayers and commitment of many people, both male and female, lay and ordained, and these 25 years have been years of rich blessing in so many different ways. Canon Clare MacLaren has written on behalf of Bishop Christine and the Dean to invite all who wish to attend to come to the Cathedral for a celebratory eucharistic service, with Bishop Christine presiding. The Cathedral choir is preparing music for the service, which will be predominantly the work of women composers. I also propose to include in the liturgy an opportunity to give thanks for those women priests, living and departed, who have been an inspiration, and support to us along the way. You may like to bring a photo of those who have been your inspiration for display, or a candle (big, small, any colour or shape as long as it is free-standing and will burn for at least an hour – the more diverse the better!) to represent them. I do hope that many of you will be able to join us for what promises to be a truly memorable and joyful time of worship and thanksgiving!

**The Vicar adds:** It would be good to have a bus trip to support this occasion, and to take a candle in memory of Rev. Ruth Howe, who was among the first women to be ordained. Please let the Churchwardens know if you would like to go, and we will see if a trip can be arranged.

**Do you like singing?** Why not come along to Accord at St. Pauls (see notices) and test out your vocal chords? I hear it is good fun, not serious, and very friendly.