



ST. PETER'S

— SHIPLEY —



St Peter's

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 22nd December 2024

The vision of St Peter's Church is to see the town of Shipley changed by the power of God. We want to see this happen through a Church which is filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and committed to the Word of God, which serves others in order to bring God's Kingdom. We want St Peter's to become a key transforming community bringing about this change, as a church alive with the joy of knowing and worshipping Jesus Christ.



"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace." Colossians 3:15

Email: office@stpetes.org.uk Tel: 01274 400381

Website: www.stpetes.org.uk

Rev. Natasha Thomas

Email: natasha.thomas@stpetes.org.uk

Tel: 07887 707221

Following Jesus – Making Disciples – Serving Others



This week's reflection from Rev Natasha Thomas

Christmas is nearly here! Only 3 more days to go until we celebrate the arrival of our Lord and Saviour as a baby in a dirty stable! I do so pray that your day is filled with God's peace, as we reflect on what this really means for us in our daily lives and what it means for 2025!

I wonder what it is you hope for? I have been thinking a lot about what we mean by the word 'hope' and realising that a Christian's hope is underscored by an assumption, an expectation of the truth that we know. That Christ has already come, and we have seen the miracles that occur because of him, and so our hope is for the dawning day of all healing, of mercy and justice for all, when Christ returns. Our hope is not based on wishful thinking. It is a glorious hope based in knowledge and experience. I pray that throughout this coming year, we will all grow in confidence and the expectation of God's kingdom coming. That as we start to think about how we can play our part in building God's kingdom here in Shipley we do so with joy. Perhaps you feel drawn to pastoral work – and thinking how we might do things better; perhaps you feel drawn to thinking through how we might organise prayer and support for our parish and for Shipley; perhaps you are passionate about thinking how we might share God's love, and want to plan ways in which we can reach out creatively into the community; perhaps you want to think about the ways in which we can support families and youth work specifically and think how we might utilise the funds we have for a worker (this is in no way about favouring one group over another! IT is about being clear how we make our activities/services accessible and inviting to different ages – so the church continues to grow and be sustainable); Perhaps you are really interested in our discipleship – how we support our home groups, how we engage our congregations to grow in the love and fellowship of God...

2025 is also the City of Culture – so much for us to think about how we might witness to visitors coming to Saltaire. What is God asking us to do?

A reminder of the forthcoming services: Christmas Eve Crib service at 4pm; Midnight Communion at 11.30pm; or Christmas Day Communion service at 10.30am!

Office Closures over the Christmas Period

Please note the Office is now closed until the 5th January. Thank you to everyone who has supported the admin team over this past year. If you have any enquiries please contact a member of the staff team! Thank you, Jenni and Kerry x

Can you help?



Volunteers to help with the Alpha course due to run in January...

PLEASE, PLEASE be PRAYING and thinking about asking people to attend. If you would like a couple of fliers there are plenty in the office or at the back of church. Thanks. Please get in touch with Natasha if you want to know about the course on 07887707221.

Children and Youth tasks you can do at home!.. please!

We have a few tasks we need help with that you can do whilst watching tv!! We need help preparing craft activities, cleaning equipment and much more. If you're willing to help please speak to Jessica (jessica.criddle@stpetes.org.uk) or see the Welcome Desk and take a 'Children and Youth Task' home with you. Thank you very much!

The Immanuel Project – Christmas Appeal

The Immanuel Project serves homeless and vulnerable adults in Bradford city centre. Every year we give out 120 goody bags at our Christmas celebration and would like donations of the following:

- Chocolate
- Socks (mens and ladies)
- Hats
- Scarves
- Toothbrushes and paste

Please leave donated items in the box at the back of church.

We are also hoping to buy a flask for each guest - if you would like to donate money towards this you can find our appeal here: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hotdrinksflaskchristmas>

Thank you so much - our guests really appreciate your support. Mandy Thorlby

Shipley Baptist Church is hosting the Inn Churches Winter Shelter from Monday 20th January - Monday 27th January.

For the shelter to run smoothly we require a team of volunteers each evening/night. There will be a team leader overseeing the shelter each night.

Volunteers are needed to cover the following:

Befrienders – to socialise with our guests. Make conversation, play games etc.

Dinner Team – to prepare and cook a 2-course hot dinner for guests and volunteers (up to 20 people). Tidy and wash up after.

Overnight Team – to supervise the shelter overnight.

Breakfast Team – to prepare and cook hot or cold breakfast.

If you would like to sign up to volunteer, please follow this link (It's good to have a mixture of females and males for each shift):

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11zoN-3uAwpibtGwNzMyjv-bqqkYhMikNbnVtwseOQzk/edit?usp=sharing>

(If you are unable to click into this link, please paste it into your browser)

To volunteer you are required to attend some specialist training which will be held at Shipley Baptist Church in January, before our hosting week. The date and time for this will be confirmed after Christmas.

For further information on the volunteer roles or if you have any questions, please get in touch, by email catherinefroud@hotmail.com, or feel free to give me a call on 07756 675029.

Many thanks, Cath Hardy

Prayer and Support



Prayer requests

Pray for those who are ill or have other needs, especially members of St. Peter's family: David Hartley and his sons as they grieve the passing of Lorna. We pray for all those who are unable to attend church due to disability, illness or frailty.

Please let us know if you would like to be included on the prayer list or if there is someone we should include. Thank you.

Prayer Ministry Team

We can all be helped by talking and prayer with others from time to time. This does not just have to be limited to times when we are ill, although prayer for physical healing is very powerful and important. The Prayer Ministry Team are there for anyone, during Communion, at 11.15am services. Please do go and see them in the Hope Chapel.

A thank you from Frances

As many of you know my dad (Frank) has been in the prayers for the sick list for several weeks. Sadly he died on 10th December. He was at home and died peacefully with my sister by his side. He was 96 and had lived a good life. Thank you all for your prayers and care over the past few weeks.

TakeTime Advent and New Year series

Are you wondering what TakeTime is? This short video explains: <https://youtu.be/q-i77D2mnbA>

Join me (Helen Scott) on Zoom at **8.30pm** on any of these Wednesdays **4th December, and then 1st, 8th, 15th January 2025**

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5453966983> or Meeting ID: 545 396 6983.

Relax, have a break, enjoy the sense of peace. Just 20 mins long. For a weekly reminder email: helsplatt@hotmail.com

Make Christmas last longer!

Christmas is not just the day of 25th! We actually continue to celebrate through to Epiphany. To help us think and reflect about these days, please pick up a Follow the Star booklet at the back of church.

Mission and Outreach

Sudan 2025 Calendars

At the back of the church are some copies of the '2025 Calendar from the Diocese Sudan Link'. Each copy costs £2.50 (if you would like to donate more, please do!). The details to pay for them are displayed at the back of the church next to the calendars. Alternatively please contact the Church Office. Thank you.

Generosity and giving

A Helping Hand

We operate a Helping Hands Fund for any member of our congregation struggling financially. This is there to help with short term one - off needs. You can pick up a leaflet with more information from the 'Welcome Desk' or 'Church Office' or contact Mandy Thorlby (mandythorlby@gmail.com, or 07801 138180). If you'd like to donate to the Helping Hands Fund, please contact Andy Thorlby thorlbya@yahoo.co.uk or 01274 510951 or make a donation in the usual way into the church, clearly identified as "Helping Hands Fund".



Giving at St Peter's

Just to remind those wishing to give to St Peter's we have multiple options. For more information, please look for the 'Giving to St Peter's Shipley' print out on the 'Welcome Desk', alternatively please speak to a member of the staff team. **Don't forget** we claim 'Gift Aid', so please fill in a form if you pay income tax! Or Scan the QR code on the left to donate to St Peter's!

Services For This Week & Next

Services on Sunday 22nd December

Advent 4

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|--|----------------|---|
| 9.30 am | All Age Worship Luke 1:39-45 (Mark Davies) | 11.15 am | Holy Communion Luke 1: 39 - 45 Hebrews 10: 5-10 (Natasha Thomas) | 6.30 pm | Carol Service Follow the Star: Calm & Bright (Natasha Thomas) |
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Services on Tuesday 24th December

Christmas Eve

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| 4 pm | Crib Service (Helen Scott & the Crib Service Gang) | 11.30 pm | Midnight Communion Christmas Eve Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 (Viv Brearly) |
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Services on Wednesday 25th December

Christmas Day

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| 10.30 am | Christmas Day Worship with Short Communion (Natasha Thomas) |
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Services on Sunday 29th December

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|-----------------|---|
| 10.30 am | All Age Holy Communion with St Paul's Colossians 3: 12-17 Luke 2: 41-end (Natasha Thomas) |
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Daily Prayer and Readings

Online Morning Prayer will be taking place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9am (ish) on the St Peter's page on Facebook – you can join live or watch the recording later. The set readings for the week are as follows. You can find the liturgy for prayers on our website [here](#)

[Lectionary Readings](#)

[Please see the attached sheet for the lectionary readings over the next few weeks](#)

This Church operates a Safeguarding Policy in line with national and diocesan guidelines.

Our Safeguarding Officer is Frances Vose, Tel: 07972647427

Email: safeguarding@stpetes.org.uk Childline can be contacted on 0800 1111



Christmas

At St Peter's, Shipley

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER, 4PM

WELCOME SPACE CHRISTMAS PARTY

FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER, 11AM - 2PM

CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER, 3.30PM

CHURCH THANK YOU PARTY

WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER, 7PM - 9PM

 **ST PETER'S & ST PAUL'S CAROL SERVICE** 

WITH ST PETER'S UNIFORM GROUPS

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER, 6.30PM.

CRIB SERVICE

TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER, 4.00PM.

MIDNIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE


TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER, 11.30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

WITH A SHORT COMMUNION

WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER, 10:30AM

St Peter's Church, Moorhead Lane,
Shipley, BD18 4JH



Do you have questions about God?



Alpha

No questions are off limits you might want to ask:

- **Why is there suffering in the world?**
- **Does prayer work?**
- **What is the purpose of life?**

**Join us for an evening meal at
6.30pm - 9pm
On Tuesday 14th January 2025
At St Peter's church**

**Contact the office to sign up or ask more
questions:**

Tel: 01274 400381

Email: office@stpetes.org.uk