



ST. PETER'S

— SHIPLEY —



St Peter's

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 26th January 2025

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.



"Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" Romans 5:1

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Following Jesus – making disciples – serving others

Link to Sunday Mornings Service – Sunday 26th January

During the month of January, we will be broadcasting our 11.15am service to make sure our service is accessible for those who can't make it during this month.

Sunday 26th January:

<https://youtube.com/live/3Stnbl369Ys?feature=share>

This weeks reflection from Rev Natasha Thomas

As I sit looking out of my window, I am looking at a very muddy 'mossy' lawn and it all feels a bit of a mess and I am wondering where to begin in getting it to looking like a garden I feel joy from and it has reminded me of the glimmer of hope that is found in Amos which I have been reading for the last couple of weeks through Morning Prayer.

It hasn't really very cheery reading. Once again, the people have deserted God, and Amos tells us that God seems, by turns to be just and merciful, but also furious and wrathful; that he is bent on harsh punishment and yet is willing to change his mind. Amos is a prophet that wants to the people to understand that to follow God justice and religious action are one thing, that to know God and be in relationship with God will mean that you will do good. Yet, the people turn from God, they fail to understand the significance of this relationship and seemingly do not want to have a relationship with Him or to obey His commands, and so Amos tells us God is angry ready to abandon His people. And even when bad things have happened, they do not see it as a wake-up call to return to God and change their behaviours, they continue in religious practice but did not reduce the oppression and injustice to the poor and the weak. They didn't understand that for things to go right, that for creation and its people to be redeemed a right relationship with God is necessary.

Amos could see that his people were on the verge of bringing disaster on themselves. The solution had to be found in the people changing their attitudes and understanding towards God rather than asking God to avert punishment. By chapter 8 Amos has had enough, he has pleaded he has warned, but the people are not interested. And so he turns to God who says that everything is over and that he will not return, that death and destruction will follow. Bad things are going to happen.

"I will raise up...Repair its breaches and raise up its ruins and rebuild...I will restore."

Amos 9: 13-14

And then Chapter 9, God offers a glimmer of hope. Hope that things can be restored. That it is not just a matter of starting totally afresh, but that God will repair, rebuild, recreate. There will be a reckoning, but God will not obliterate everything. Rather He will use what is good. He will not reject everything but will build from the ruins. I find this so hopeful,

because when things are bad or difficult, we may want to run away and totally start again. We may even feel that about ourselves, that we cannot forgive what we have done. Can't believe that God loves us totally despite these things. But the amazing thing is that He

does. And as we seek Him, He will rebuild up, using the bits of us that we may think are useless, but actually can be used as cornerstones for something new and amazing. So how does this all reflect on my garden?!? Well very tenuously, I see that there are barebones that can be used to make something lovely. I do not need to start from scratch, there are things I might move around, and plants I can introduce, and perhaps with a bit of feeding and additional grass seed, I might get something of a green lawn!

Alive in Christ - Resource

This week as we continue to consider how we can feel Alive in Christ we are considering where we find our identity. Do we find it in the world? As we seek approval from others by gaining, status, qualifications, money, friends? Or do we find it through our understanding of God's grace – that we know that we are accepted by and adopted as a child of God.

If we know where we are rooted, we can feel safe, we can act in ways that are perhaps more daring and responsive to the needs of others. If we know we are loved, we can then love. To read, the daily readings throughout this week follow this link by copying and pasting it in your web browser: [Alive in Christ — Resourcing Renewal](#)

Christians Against Poverty - CAP



Mayme Small, the Shipley Debt Coordinator will be coming to speak on Sunday at the 11.15 service to tell us how through our support she is helping people who find themselves in a cycle of debt and poverty. Poverty is so much more than going without. Poverty destroys lives. It robs people of joy, hope, and opportunities. It tears families apart, isolates those most in need of support, and leads many to believe there is no way out. Mayme tells us that:

“A year ago I was doing my CAP training ready to see my first clients in the new year - what a lot has happened in that year!

We've seen 28 new client households, 7 clients have gone debt free, and we've wiped £71,174.28 of debt through insolvency!

Behind all these statistics are loads of amazing clients - it's been great to get to know their stories, to pray with them, and to journey with them as they work their way out of debt.

It's been great to see friendships between clients and befrienders build, to see clients come along to church events - my prayer is that the seeds sown this year will bear much fruit for the kingdom of God. Thank you for your support and prayers this year. If you want to receive Mayme's regular newsletter and video updates, please contact her on her email: maymesmall@capuk.org

Prayer and support

Pru Price

As many of you will know by now Pru Price died just after Christmas. Pru belonged to St Peter's for many years and was an enthusiastic member of our choir.

Pru's funeral will be held here at St. Peter's on Tuesday 28th January at 3pm.

Please pray for her daughter Allison, her sons Gareth and Mark and their families.

Everyone is invited to join the family at the end of life celebration at the Mercure Hotel after the church service.

Saturday Prayers

All are welcome to join an online prayer meeting on Saturday 25 January /01 February at 10 am for half an hour or so of prayers on Zoom as we pray for the church, community, and wider world. For further information please contact

gemmarichards15@hotmail.com Password if needed is hello

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79300655912?pwd=zwatTeFSGOFGgguBd8HJtcdHVHmPQ4.1>

Meeting ID: 793 0065 5912

Passcode: hello



Prayer requests

We pray for all those we know who this time are not well particularly Viv and pray that she recovers quickly from her pneumonia. Keith and Carol Brown and Hugh who continues to suffer from an ongoing virus.

Please pray for Inn Churches as they prepare to open the doors of the Baptist church to 12 people who have no where warm to sleep It opens for 7days. So pray for warmth, hospitality, and safety for all.

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.

Upcoming events

Safeguarding Training – Basic Awareness

Thank you to those of you who volunteer here at St Peter's. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without you.

To continue with our work, we need anyone and everyone who volunteers with us to undertake 'Basic Awareness Training'. If you're unable to complete the training online we are holding an in-person session on Sunday 9th February.

Pastoral Meeting Thursday 30 Jan at 7pm in the Hope Chapel

Our Church Away Day feedback identified pastoral work as an important area of our church life. There is already a small team doing much pastorally, as well as informal pastoral support many of us offer. The aim of this meeting is to look at where the gaps might be, and how we as church members might respond to them. You are all warmly invited to this meeting, please come to share your ideas! Zahida Mallard, Karen Parkinson, Gemma Richards

Men's Group - Curry Night

Friday 7th February 7pm at Shimla Spice Shipley, please sign up on sheet on welcome desk or email martinforbes@gmail.com by Sunday 2nd, remember if you like a alcoholic drink to take your own. Thanks, Martin

Gordon Dey & Mervyn's Sri Lanka Trip

Initial meeting – Sat 25th 2pm St Peter's Lounge

Some of you might be interested in exploring a pilgrimage tour of Sri Lanka later in the year. For all of us, having a personal glimpse of their rich and wide faith heritage may be enriching as we seek to build a more loving world in our own 'backyard'. For more information, please ask Mervyn or collect a flyer at the Welcome Desk.

Collective Clear Out Day!

Clear up Saturday for 1st February 10.30am, A time to make the church and its buildings feel truly welcoming to our guests.



Parish Prayer Walk

We'll be continuing our regular 'Parish Walk' on Tuesday 28th January at 9am, starting from Church and seeing which we are called to pray. All are welcome, please make sure you wear sensible shoes and bring a waterproof in case it rains.

Church Notices

Deadline to complete contact form (in preparation for Who's Who)

We are working on producing the latest copy of the 'Who's Who' contact directory for the congregation. We ask for all complete consent forms to be handed back to the office by **Sunday 23rd February** for the admin team to produce the 'Who's Who' booklet. Any forms handed in after that date will not be added and will have to wait until the next one is produced. If you're unsure if you've filled in a form can you please email or call the office and the admin team can let you know. If you need a form there's plenty on the 'Welcome Desk'. Thank you.

Mission & 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



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!

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 07849 768435 or make a donation in the usual way into the church, clearly identified as "Helping Hands Fund".

Welcome Space




ST. PETER'S
— SHIPLEY —


**Every Friday
11am - 2pm
St Peter's Church,
Moorhead Lane**


A place just to come and be.


**Hot drinks, cake, a light lunch, a
warm welcome and a chat
available every Friday.**

Open to all - just drop in!

01274 400381 

stpetes.org.uk 

office@stpetes.org.uk 

Moorhead Lane, Shipley, 

BD18 4JH

Services for the next two weeks

Services on Sunday 26 th January					
Epiphany 3					
9.30 am	All Age Worship Alive in Christ – Facing temptation! John 13:3-5 (Natasha Thomas)	11:15 am	Morning Worship Christians Against Poverty Luke 4:14-21 Ephesians 2: 4-10 (Natasha and Mayme - CAP)	6.30 pm	Holy Communion Becoming co-workers of truth Deut. 30:11-15 3 John 1, 5-8 (Andy Thorbly)

Services on Sunday 2 nd February					
Presentation of Christ in the temple / Candlemas					
9.30 am	All Age Worship Alive in Christ – Responding to Temptation Luke 4:1-15 (Jessica Criddle)	11:15 am	Holy Communion Christians Against Poverty Luke 4:1-15 Hebrews 2:14 – end (TBC)	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Reset Becoming co-workers of truth Hebrews 2:14 – end Luke 2:22-40 (Natasha Thomas)

Daily Prayer and Readings for this week

Morning Prayer takes place on Tuesdays & 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](#)

27 th January 2025 – 1 st February 2025					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning Prayer					
Ps. 108 Hosea 2.18 – end of 3 1 Cor. 9.15 - end	Ps. 36 Hosea 4. 1-16 1 Cor. 10. 1-13	Ps. 46 Hosea 5. 1-7 1 Cor. 10. 14-11.1	Ps. 47 Hosea 5. 8-6.6 1 Cor. 11. 2-16	Ps. 65 Hosea 6.7 – 7.2 1 Cor. 1.17 - end	Ps. 68 Hosea 8 1 Corn 12. 1-11
Evening Prayer					
Ps. 138 Matt 26. 1-16	Ps. 145 Matt. 26. 17-35	Ps. 29 Matt. 26. 36-46	Ps. 24 Matt. 26. 47-56	Ps. 67 Matt. 26. 57 - end	Ps. 118 Heb. 4. 11- end

This Church operates a Safeguarding Policy in line with national and diocesan guidelines. Our Safeguarding Officer is Frances Vose, T: 07972647427, E: safeguarding@stpetes.org.uk
ChildLine can be contacted on 0800 1111