



ST. PETER'S
— SHIPLEY —

ST PETER'S



SUNDAY SERVICES

9.30AM ALL IN SERVICE

11.15AM HOLY COMMUNION

3.30PM MESSY EASTER

There will be no evening service today.

WHO TO CONTACT

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2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

**This Week's Theme:
Following Jesus**

This Week's Scripture:

"Whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

John 14:12,13

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTION

I don't walk places very much. Walking is something I have strenuously avoided doing since I passed my driving test 38 years ago. But recently, I've been feeling I ought to do it more. Good for my health and all that. Maybe. Sometime. When I get round to it.....

Then, during the Holy Week 24/7 prayers, I'm pretty sure God decided to get in on the whole 'you should walk more' thing. I was praying my hour in a Travelodge in Greenwich in London, looking out of the window at a tyre yard and an overgrown, spray-painted waste ground. 'It's not like this where you live,' God was suddenly saying. 'You need to go and walk it more - see it, appreciate it. And while you're at it, pray for everyone you pass - in their houses and their cars and walking their kids to school. You don't need to know anything about them - I've got that. Just bring them before me. Ask for my blessing for them. That's what really matters.'

So I've been walking this week and I've found myself thinking about the two disciples who also found themselves walking, long ago, walking the seven miles down the road from Jerusalem to the village of Emmaus. Maybe they were walking home with their tails between their legs because everything had gone so wrong. They probably didn't notice the scenery, they were too dejected. They thought they were going to take over the world and now the leader they'd placed all their hopes in was dead and there was nothing. It was all gone. And then someone was walking with them. They didn't think they knew him; were too miserable to look at him properly. But he asked them what was up, so they poured out all their troubles and their pain and misery. And in turn, he started to tell them a story. The story of God and his creation and how it had all gone so wrong too but how he planned to fix it. And their hearts burned with excitement as they listened and got caught up in the story. And then suddenly they realised who he was. Jesus. Not dead and gone. Not all washed up and finished but alive and well and still beside them, bringing about God's plan to fix the world.

Continued...

Wherever and whenever we walk, Jesus walks beside us. The more we think we can't see him or feel he's there, the closer he is - he never leaves us. We need him to walk beside us through the streets where we live, laying it all before him, asking him, in his risen power and glory, to cover our streets and those in them with his healing and his peace.

Pope Francis, who died this week, learnt a very simple prayer from his grandmother as a boy - a prayer that he lived out the whole of his life in God's service. It was just these seven words: 'Jesus, make my heart more like yours.' Let's make that our prayer as we walk the streets we find ourselves in this Easter season - that the risen, living Lord Jesus will give us his heart for all those around us.

Viv Brealey
(Rev Natasha is having a well-earned break!)

Coming Up...

Kingdom Wrestling Event
Saturday 26th April, 6.30pm (doors open at 6pm)

Forest School
Sunday 4th May, 2-3pm, St Peter's Tennis / Bowls Club

Discipleship Meeting
Tuesday 6th May, 7.30pm, Hope Chapel

Christian Aid Week 11th - 17th May

SAFE-GUARDING:
If you have any safe-guarding concerns please contact our safe guarding officer: Frances Vose
frances@stpeter.org.uk

Forest Church for Kids!

Join us for a new outdoor adventure connecting children (ages 2-10) with God's creation! First session: Sunday 4th May, 2-3pm at St Peter's Tennis / Bowls Club. Book via QR code opposite.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Contact Joseph Buthee or Lisa Chadwick for more details.



Shipley Open Gardens

A lovely community event in aid of the Children's Society and Hive. Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th June, 1-5pm. Programmes - £4 per adult, accompanied children free, available (from mid-May) from the Children's Society Charity Shop on Gordon Terrace, or from the Welcome Desk in church.

Discipleship Meeting

Discipleship is one of the areas church family identified as being key to our ministry in mission, so is one of the strategic areas being focused on by the PCC. With this in mind, all are invited to an open meeting on Tuesday 6th May at 7.30pm in the Hope Chapel to share ideas about what to focus on in terms of discipleship.

Get your copy of 40 Days!

Copies of the **40 Days Devotional with Matthew** by Scripture Union should be available to purchase in church from this coming Sunday - £4.50 each.

People and Things to Pray for...

Pray for those in our family who are bereaved - particularly those who are saddened by the loss of Barbara Arkley. We also continue to pray for those who are ill and unwell at this time - particularly Joan Newman and Mark Jordan. We pray for those who, due to frailty, are struggling to come to church now: Christine Woodward, Ursula Moore, John Crapper, Rita and Albert Hennings, Maureen Bragg, Mary Bavington and Joan Barton.

Saturday Prayers

All are welcome to use this link to join online prayers on Zoom on Saturday 26th April at 10am as we pray for ourselves, the church and wider world.

Password: hello Meeting ID: 770 0106 7054 Passcode: hello

<https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/77001067054?pwd=NZojWjYsGzEpgPH67IRwbD93CH4Sw.1>

Pray for Our Missions...

Christian Aid

Let's raise the most we can to support this amazing NGO during Christian Aid Week: 11th-17th May. Please let Natasha or Joe Batt know if you have any creative ideas for fundraising, in addition to having envelopes available on Sunday 11th. Thanks.



Electoral Roll...



Every 6 years **EVERYONE** has to sign up to the electoral roll, so that you can be part of the democratic process of the church. This is different from the contact form! Please fill in a form from the back of church or complete the online form via this link: <https://stpeterschurchshipley.churchsuite.com/-/forms/yr7haj7w>