



ST PETER'S



SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday 30th November

9.30am All-In Service
11.15am Morning Worship
6.30pm Ionian Communion

Sunday 7th December

9.30am All-In Holy Communion
11.15am Morning Worship
6.30pm Angel Service

CONTACT US

Office

office@stpetes.org.uk

Tel: 01274 400 381

Rev Natasha Thomas

natasha.thomas@stpetes.org.uk

Tel: 07887 707221

THIS WEEK'S THEME

Advent - Wk 1

Romans 13:11-end
& Matthew 24:36-44

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTION

I am not sure why but Advent always seems to creep up on me! A time when the rest of the world is ramping up busyness that also requires us as Christians to find quiet, space to listen in our waiting for Christ's arrival. Advent is the time when we can focus our attention on what it means that our God came to this earth as a fragile human baby. That our creator God announced through an angel that His son would be born to a teenage unmarried girl and then be born at an unsafe time in an unsafe place. This fragility of God reflects so many lives and experiences.

This is the time when we remember the shocking absence of wealth, security, worldly status and power of our God. That everything about His arrival speaks about including people who would otherwise have expected to be left out of any grand king's arrival and birth.

The angels announce to the shepherds that now is the time for good news and joy for all the world. Emmanuel has come - God with us. Our hope in a life that can be changed for the better is re-lit. Light has come to conquer the darkness.

So we wait and get ready for Jesus' arrival. We count each Sunday down remembering the great patriarchs and matriarchs, the prophets and saints,

John the Baptist and Mary - each playing their part in being obedient to God. Each listening and following Him, risking themselves because they love and know God. As our Romans reading highlights "The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light". (Romans 13:12)

The approaching season of Advent calls us to be watchful as we wait for God's coming and God's kingdom. There are many situations in the world where we yearn for God's coming - hoping for the new dawn. But the times remain dark and difficult - we watch whilst wars destroy our world, where broken relationships between people shoot cruel unforgettable words and actions shatter hearts, where greed over rides the care for others. We as Christ's followers and apprentices are to seek and offer His light. Offering an alternative way to living life, because we have the hope of salvation and bringing reconciliation to the world through Christ's transforming love.

I pray that each of us, this year will find a way that we can spend more time with God, asking Him to show us new insights into God's almost incomprehensible act of love and generosity of allowing His son to come as a fragile baby to a life of uncertainty. That we will be shown how we too, can reflect His love and kindness to those around us, that in this Christmas time we find a time of new found joy in this love.

Lord Jesus, Light of light,
you have come among us.
Help us who live by your light
to shine as lights in your world.
Glory to God in the highest.
Amen.



Rev Natasha Thomas

Blue Christmas Service

Tuesday 2nd December, 6.30pm

A reflective service for those who want to celebrate Christmas but are not feeling too sparkly this year.

Arthur Baxter's Carol Service

Wednesday 3rd December 6.30pm

A short carol service at St Peter's Church hosted by Arthur Baxter Funeral Directors.

Shipley Christians Together reports available at the back of church

Mingling between the 2 services!

I love that we have coffee, cake and refreshments between the 2 services enabling a time of being together with our whole family. That said we will be shortening the time that coffee is available so that those who are coming to the 11.15 service have time to be still and focus on coming to worship God. So be warned that no new cups of coffee will be served much after 11!



Coming Up at St Peter's...

The Jam Club - Tuesday 2nd December, 3.30pm, Snooker Room

Blue Christmas Service - Tuesday 2nd December, 6.30pm

Arthur Baxter Funeral Directors Carol Service - Wednesday 3rd December, 6.30pm

Hot Aire! & Fresh Aire Christmas Concert - Saturday 6th December, 7pm

Angel Service - Sunday 7th December, 6.30pm

Vicarage Christmas Party - Saturday 13th December: Open House from 2-4pm at the Vicarage, 2 Glenhurst Rd

SAFEGUARDING:

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact our safeguarding officer: Frances Vose - safeguarding@stpetes.org.uk

Hot Aire! & Fresh Aire! Christmas Concert

Saturday 6th December, 7pm, St Peter's Church

Tickets: Adults £8, Under 17's £6

Available from the church office - please bring the correct change.

Join a Fellowship Group at St Peter's Church!

Meet regularly for Bible study, discussion, worship, prayer and support. Each group has its own unique character, evolving according to the needs of its members. For more information, or if you would like to join a group, please contact Linda Furze: fellowship@stpetes.org.uk



And that's a wrap!

Congratulations on our Alpha group for completing the 10 week course! We think this was the best ever Alpha course. Some awesome testimonies and conversations (especially from young Theo pictured).

Decorate the church for Christmas

Come along on **Saturday 6th December at 10.30am** to decorate the church for Christmas!

Vicarage Christmas Party

Everyone is very warmly welcomed to come to the Vicarage for refreshments of mince pies, cake and mulled wine on **Saturday 13th December, 2-4pm**
The vicarage, 2 Glenhurst Road, BD18 4DZ

The Jam Club



Toast, Chill and Your After-School Fix
Tuesdays after school just got sweeter! Swing by for free toast, jam, chats, games and chill vibes on your way home **For Secondary and 6th Form age**
Tuesdays, 3.30-5pm in the Snooker Room. **Volunteers needed - contact Joseph!**

TakeTime - Advent Series

Enter in to the Christmas story in a meditative, prayerful way, just 20 minutes.

Wednesdays, 8.30pm on 26th Nov, 3rd Dec, 17th Dec.

On Zoom - Meeting ID: 545 396 6983

Email Helen Scott for a weekly reminder: helsplatt@hotmail.com

Prayers for People

Please pray for Rita Henning and her family as they come to terms with their loss, as Albert died last Sunday. The funeral will be held at Shay Grange on Monday 8th December at 11.30am.

Saturday Prayers

All are welcome to join us for half an hour of online prayers on Zoom as we pray for ourselves, the church, the community and the wider world - **Saturday 29th November, 10am.** For more information or to pass on a prayer request, please contact gemma.richards@stpetes.org.uk.

<https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/71690333188?pwd=4cngFZPgq4MloTzzYYEPRrTLB42ehi.1>

Meeting ID: 716 9033 3188

Passcode: hello

SCT Christmas Lunch

The SCT Christmas lunch will take place at Shipley Baptist Church on **Thursday 25th December at 12.30pm.**



Can you help us mount this great adventure in faith, which last year served a good Christmas meal to 140 people in Shipley, Saltaire, Windhill, Heaton, Frizinghall and further afield?

Help needed with the following:

Now

Invite people likely to be on their own on Christmas Day to share a communal meal with others which will include a welcome non-alcoholic drink, turkey or vegetarian option, roast potatoes, seasonal vegetable, stuffing and sausages, vegetarian gravy, dessert, tea and coffee, cake and mince pies.

Christmas Eve

Set a festive table and decorations at Shipley Baptist Church, prep vegetables - carrots, sprouts etc...

Christmas Day

Welcome guests, serve the meal, wash up and some people willing to take out, by car, hot meals for shut-ins etc...

If you are able to help with any of the above or if you would like to make a contribution "in kind" or a financial gift to support this work, please let Keith Jones know - kdsaltaire@yahoo.co.uk.

Carols@AvondaleClub

Join us on **Thursday 4th December, 7.30pm** for an evening of carols with live music. Free entry with alcoholic and soft drinks on sale. Donations in aid of the Christian Aid Christmas Appeal welcomed. Come along and get the Christmas season in full swing - wear your Christmas jumpers and hats!

Kindly hosted by The Avondale Club, 19 Bradford Road, Shipley

City of Culture 2025

Diocese of Bradford: Carol of the 7 Hills

A story about Bradford past and present, in which an intriguing stranger walks through every scene... the audience are left to decide who he is.

All performances begin at 7pm.

Tickets: Adults £5, Under 16's £2 - Available via Eventbrite for the following dates / locations:

Thursday Nov 27th: Immanuel College, Idle

Friday Nov 28th: All Saints, Ilkley

Saturday Nov 29th: St Andrew's, Keighley

Thursday Dec 4th: Bradford Forster Academy, Bowling

Friday Dec 5th: Buttershaw Business & Enterprise College

Saturday Dec 6th: Fountains Church, Bradford



The 3 Anglican BD18 Churches plan to go away to Rydal Hall in the Lakes together and we would love as many of us to go as possible - **10-12th July 2026**.

Let Natasha or Frances know if you would like to know more.



Bradford North Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Winter appeal

This winter, many people in our local community are facing cold nights and empty cupboards.

But with your help, we can provide essential food and hope to those struggling through the season.

Donate food



Can you donate an item or two from our shopping list to help feed people in your community?

Donate money



Can you help ensure food reaches those in urgent need - as well as supporting sustainable projects?

Shopping list

- Christmas cake
- Selection box
- Biscuits
- Tinned meat
- Custard
- Tinned fruit

01274 292 256

bradfordnorth.foodbank.org.uk

Registered charity number 1160080 | Registered Charity in England & Wales



Scan to donate

Inn Churches - Volunteers Needed!

Shipley Baptist Church is hosting the Inn Churches Winter Shelter from **Monday 19th - 26th January**.

For the shelter to run smoothly, we require a team of volunteers each evening/night for the following teams:

Befrienders
Dinner Team
Overnight Team
Breakfast Team

If you would like to volunteer, please click [here](#).

A training session for all volunteers will take place at Shipley Baptist Church on Monday 12th January, 7.30pm.

For further information on the volunteer roles or if you have any questions, please contact:
catherinefroud@hotmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

Christmas Services



ST PETER'S CHURCH, SHIPLEY

02

DECEMBER

Blue Christmas

6.30pm

A reflective service for those who find this time of year challenging

07

DECEMBER

Angel Service

6.30pm

A short interactive service for all ages to reflect on the announcement of the coming King

14

DECEMBER

Messy Christmas

3.30pm

Creative Christmas-themed fun for all ages with food provided

19

DECEMBER

Christingle Service

4pm (refreshments served from 3.30pm)

Make a Christingle, enjoy mulled wine and mince pies

21

DECEMBER

Christmas Carol Evening

6.30pm

Sing along to classic carols by candlelight

24

DECEMBER

Crib Service - 4pm

A fun, festive nativity service for families

Midnight Mass - 11.30pm

Our first Communion of Christmas

25

DECEMBER

All-In Christmas Communion

10.30am

Christmas celebration service with Holy Communion



St Peter's Church
Moorhead Lane, Shipley, BD18 4JH
office@stpetes.org.uk / 01274 400381
www.stpetes.org.uk