



ST. PETER'S
— SHIPLEY —

ST PETER'S



SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday 7th December

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

Sunday 14th December

11.15am Holy Communion
3.30pm Messy Christmas



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 2

Isaiah 11:1-10
& Matthew 3:1-12

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTION

This week I am being reminded very much of the fragility of life in and amongst the busyness of preparing for Christmas, the extra services, the pastoral visits, the creaking of boilers and dishwashers!

Christmas rightly focuses on the joy that comes when a new baby is born, but for some it is a hard time because things are not what they should be according to the world. A bereavement, an argument, a broken relationship and silence between friends and family. A world where there is still war between Ukraine and Russia, in Sudan, in Gaza where men and women are being killed daily. Life can feel so dark and difficult.

And this was the case when Isaiah pronounced these words of hope to the Israelites. That the waiting for a new king - a Messiah, is not in vain. That out of the hurt, the brokenness and the pain there is hope. A shoot will come out of something that is believed to be dead and brings the hope for change.

And that is the joy that comes from knowing our Lord and Saviour is coming to this earth. It is to acknowledge that we currently live in a time of

brokenness. A time of chaos and hurt, but to know that God came to save us through sending a baby, who was born in the dirt and mess of an outhouse. So fragile. Mary and Joseph must have been very concerned and confused. They knew this baby was special - God had told them so, so how come the beginning of his life was so hard?

It does seem strange, but then I suppose life on earth is hard. It is full of challenges and struggles, and our Lord came not as a great King - although he had all the angels to call on if he needed. Rather he chose to come and live a life of hardship. I love this poem The Coming by RS Thomas, which for me says it all about God's amazing love.

The Coming....

And God held in his hand
A small globe. Look he said.
The son looked. Far off,
As through water, he saw
A scorched land of fierce
Colour. The light burned
There; crusted buildings
Cast their shadows: a bright
Serpent, a river
Uncoiled itself, radiant
With slime.

On a bare
Hill a bare tree saddened
The sky. Many People
Held out their thin arms
To it, as though waiting
For a vanished April
To return to its crossed
Boughs. The son watched
Them. Let me go there, he said.



A shoot will come up from the stump
of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear
fruit.

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him

—
the Spirit of wisdom and of
understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and
fear of the Lord—
and he will delight in the fear of the
Lord.

(Isaiah 11:1-3)

Pastoral Care

We at St Peter's want to provide support by way of prayers, visits and Home Communion, to those who need them. To find out more email: pastoralsupport@stpetes.org.uk or phone Keith and Carol on

01274 585242

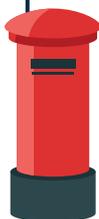


Sri Lanka Stories

A chance to hear about the trip to Sri Lanka on Sunday after the 11.15am church service.

Christmas Post Box appeal

Every year we encourage members to donate the amount they spend on average on a Christmas present to our Christmas appeal. This year we are supporting Sri Lankan projects (eg education for street children) and Christians Against Poverty in Shipley.



Mingling between the 2 services!

Just a reminder that coffee is only available until 11.05, as the 11.15 congregation members need to prepare themselves for worship.



Coming Up at St Peter's...

Angel Service - Sunday 7th December, 6.30pm

The Jam Club - Tuesday 9th December, 3.30pm, Snooker Room

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

Messy Christmas - Sunday 14th December, 3.30pm

SAFEGUARDING

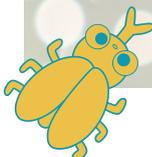
If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact our safeguarding officer: Frances Vose - safeguarding@stpetes.org.uk

PASTORAL SUPPORT

If you want prayer or support, please email pastoralsupport@stpetes.org.uk

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 Beetle Drive returns!

Christmas would not be Christmas at St Peter's without a Beetle Drive! Fun for all the family! Please come and join Eric Parker as he leads us in another evening of fun together on **Wednesday 17th December, 6.30pm**

Calling all Bakers!

We will be needing mince pies or similar Christmas goodies for our Welcome Space Christmas Party on Friday 19th December and for the Christmas Carol Evening on Sunday 21st December. Please sign up in church.

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!

Voices of Hope: Street Carol singing for Gaza and the Middle East

Please join us on Saturday 13th December, 10.30am at the top of Wellcroft in Shipley (by the library), to raise awareness and funds for Christian Aid's work in Gaza and the Middle East.

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

Take Time - 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 the loss of Albert. Albert's funeral will be held at **Shay Grange on Monday 8th December at 11.15am.**

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 6th December, 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.



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?

01274 292 256
bradfordnorth.foodbank.org.uk

Registered charity number 1160060 | Registered Charity in England & Wales



Scan to donate

Shopping list

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

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

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



SAVE THE DATE!

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.