



# 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

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## 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](mailto: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 7<sup>th</sup> December, 6.30pm

**The Jam Club** - Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 3.30pm, Snooker Room

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

**Messy Christmas** - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 3.30pm

### SAFEGUARDING

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact our safeguarding officer:

Frances Vose -

[safeguarding@stpetes.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stpetes.org.uk)

### PASTORAL SUPPORT

If you want prayer or support, please email [pastoralsupport@stpetes.org.uk](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> December, 6.30pm**

## Calling all Bakers!

We will be needing mince pies or similar Christmas goodies for our Welcome Space Christmas Party on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December and for the Christmas Carol Evening on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:fellowship@stpetes.org.uk)

## TakeTime - Advent Series

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

**Wednesdays, 8.30pm on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 17<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

On Zoom - Meeting ID: 545 396 6983

Email Helen Scott for a weekly reminder: [helsplatt@hotmail.com](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> December, 10am.** For more information or to pass on a prayer request, please contact [gemma.richards@stpetes.org.uk](mailto:gemma.richards@stpetes.org.uk).

<https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/71690333188?pwd=4cngFZPgq4MloTzzYYEPRtLB42ehi.1>

Meeting ID: 716 9033 3188

Passcode: hello

## SCT Christmas Lunch

The SCT Christmas lunch will take place at Shipley Baptist Church on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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?

**Shopping list**

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



Scan to donate

01274 292 256

[bradfordnorth.foodbank.org.uk](http://bradfordnorth.foodbank.org.uk)

Registered charity number 1160080 | Registered Charity in England & Wales

## Inn Churches - Volunteers Needed!

Shipley Baptist Church is hosting the Inn Churches Winter Shelter from **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm.

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

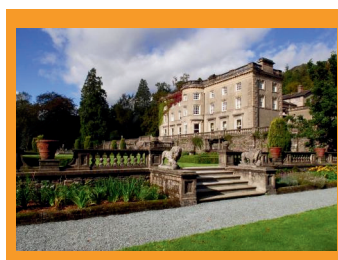
**21 DECEMBER** **Christmas Carol Evening 6.30pm**  
Sing along to classic carols by candlelight

**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  
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[office@stpetes.org.uk](mailto:office@stpetes.org.uk) / 01274 400381  
[www.stpetes.org.uk](http://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 - **10-12<sup>th</sup> July 2026.**

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