



ST PETER'S



SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday 11th January

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

Sunday 18th January

11.15am Communion
3.30pm Messy Church
6.30pm BREATHE @ Christchurch

CONTACT US

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THIS WEEK'S THEME

Baptism of Christ
Matthew 3:13-end

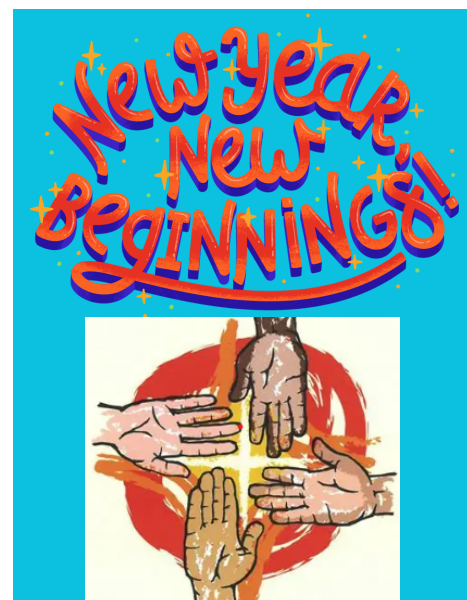
THIS WEEK'S REFLECTION

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

I wonder what this year holds for us all? I wonder what we hope for, both for our world and for our everyday, as with every year, things will change and things will come and go. We will experience things that are different that will challenge and / or encourage us. This Saturday it feels very fitting, that I shall be leading the service at St Walburga's Church as part of the pulpit swap that takes place as part of the international prayers for Christian Unity across denominations and the world. (Online daily prayers are available on this webpage <https://ctbi.org.uk/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2026/>). I have been asked a number of questions about how I want the service run - questions that I had never thought about for our service - so very interesting and honestly a little daunting!

But that is it - when we face things that are different or are out of our comfort zone, we may feel fear, anxiety - refuse to face them, but actually what I keep on learning is that when we 'face the fear and do it anyway' we grow and learn things about ourselves that are unexpected and good.

This year will be a time when we will be getting to know our brothers and sisters from St Paul's and Christchurch better, looking at the different ways in which we can support one another and provide opportunities for more people to come to know the love of God, especially as we plan our time away together in July. I do so hope as many of you can come away, as this is a very important time for us to think about how we will change shape as a parish.



So this year, I urge that we all consider how we MIX IT UP! Perhaps we might like to try a service we have never attended before. Go to St Paul's or Christchurch or a Wednesday communion and then talk about what it felt like. What you liked or disliked. Thank God for differences, thank God for what we have.

When things get mixed up, it can get messy, some things need to be broken, so as we look forward we need to be kind to one another. Be compassionate and understanding and gentle with each other. We are part of a family and won't always get things right, but let's pray that as God leads us, we will all grow richer in our faith and our delight in God. After all as it says in John 15:16 "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17 This is my command: Love each other."

So when someone new comes into the service and does something strange or even annoying, welcome them with grace, thank God for their joining us, ask them their names and invite them to stay for coffee or say you hope to see them at next week's service. Discipleship is a life long process so we can encourage gently and slowly if those habits really are too unacceptable, or perhaps we may find we become more tolerant! Blessings everyone.

Rev Natasha Thomas

Pastoral Care

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

01274 585242



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

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

For further information or to volunteer, please contact:

catherinefroud@hotmail.com

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.**

See Natasha or Frances for more info.

Coming Up at St Peter's...

The Jam Club - Tuesday 13th January, 3.30pm, Youth Hub

Messy Church - Sunday 18th January, 3.30pm, Church

Alpha Taster Session - Thursday 29th January, 6.30pm, Hope Chapel

Join in with Worship Meeting - Saturday 31st January, 10.30am, Church

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

Faith and Politics: Worship, Prayer and Conversation with Anna Dixon MP

Fri 23rd January, 7.30pm, St Paul's Church

An evening of sung worship, conversation and prayer as Anna shares her faith, key scripture, and songs which have been important to her in.

Alpha

Do you have questions about God? Do you have a friend who might be interested but isn't sure? Come and invite your friend to our Alpha Taster Session on

Thursday 29th January, 6.30pm in Hope Chapel.

Please contact Joseph or the office if you can help with providing meals.

Job opportunity - Mobiliser / HR

Reach Beyond is an international Christian organisation working in media, healthcare and community development. They are looking for a part-time Mobiliser/HR person at their office in Bradford/online. This is a salaried position. Deadline for applications: 26th January, 5pm.

For details /application form, contact Iris at: irhodes@reachbeyond.org



Do you play an instrument? Do you like to sing?



If you play an instrument or sing and have wondered about being involved in musical worship on a Sunday, then please do join us on **Saturday 31st January at 10.30am**, to see how you can be involved and how we can shape our worship going forward into 2026.

Eco Tips

Try a meat free day, particularly red meat; producing 1kg of beef produces the equivalent CO₂ to you driving a 300 mile round trip while leaving all your lights on at home.



Join in with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

18th - 25th January

<https://ctbi.org.uk/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2026/>

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

Prayers for People

Please continue to pray for Mandy Thorlby's parents, Helen & Mark, after Helen had a stroke and is still in hospital. Please also continue to remember and pray for members of our church who due to old age and disability are no longer able to attend church services, particularly, Ursula, John, Pam, Mary, Hazel and Christine.

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 10th January, 10am.** For more information or to pass on a prayer request, please contact gemma.richards@stpetes.org.uk.

<https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/77061467427?pwd=K1ibVijUFqN3T8cxOrdsYSONb7h2kj.1>

Meeting ID: 770 6146 7427

Passcode: hello