



ST PETER'S



WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 19th April

11.15am Holy Communion
3pm Messy Church
6.30pm BREATHE @ Christchurch

Sunday 26th April

9.30am All-In service
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Thanksgiving Service @
St Paul's for Brian & Emma

CONTACT US

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THEMES

The Road to Emmaus



THIS WEEK'S REFLECTION

Whenever I read this story, I am always struck by the surprising fact that this pair of committed disciples did not at first recognise Jesus. It reminds me how we don't always see what is in front of us - sometimes we just see what we want to see or expect to see. We can be blinded by so many different things, preconceptions, previous experiences, prejudice, tradition... things that can deceive us from understanding what is actually in front of us. Grief and trauma must have been the over-riding experience of these two faithful disciples who, having stayed in Jerusalem and risked their lives, now were returning home broken-hearted and deeply disappointed. Their dreams of the messiah seemingly destroyed as they had witnessed their friend and teacher being crucified.

What else could they do but return back to the place. Why they didn't recognise Jesus could be for a number of reasons? Was it already getting dim in light as the evening came, could their brains just not consider this possibility of a living Jesus being with them. Yet their hearts burned within them. They heard the words, but they did not understand what was being said. It was not until the act of breaking the bread that they saw him and understood. Yet Jesus in His generosity came to these two broken people - not one of the 12 but to these two ordinary characters who felt life had to return back to normal. He came and explained the prophecies. He came with a heart full of love and demonstrated the breaking of bread and the sharing of wine and then they understood.

Sometimes, when life can feel very confusing and a bit upside down, we need to be careful to really listen out for God. Sometimes he is there with us, but we are too blinded by our misconceptions and preconceived ideas that we don't hear Him. But the beauty of this story is that God doesn't stop there, waiting for the penny to drop but rather he also points to the time when we are to remember through the breaking of bread and sharing of wine, of what it is that God has done for us. It is through His amazing grace that we are forgiven and raised up. It is through His action rather than through our efforts that we are given the anticipated hope of everlasting peace and joy.

Rev Natasha Thomas

IMPORTANT - Electoral Roll

In readiness for our APCM on **Sunday 17th May**, we are encouraging all those who have recently started to worship at St Peter's to join the church Electoral Roll. This entitles you to vote at the APCM when elections take place for churchwardens, PCC members etc... You should either reside in the parish OR have worshipped at St Peter's for six months or more. We ask church members to check that they are on the electoral roll prior to the APCM (a list of names is now displayed in church). If you don't see your name on the list and wish to be on it, please complete either an [online](#) or paper application form (available from the Welcome Desk) and leave it in the labelled folder or return to Zahida, so that your name can be added prior to the APCM. The deadline for completing forms will be **Sunday 26th April**. You don't need to reapply if you are already on the roll.

Zahida Mallard - Electoral Roll Officer

BREATHE

@ CHRISTCHURCH

A time to worship and pray
together for Shipley

Sunday 19th April
6.30pm
Christchurch, Windhill

Keith Hodgson

The funeral of Keith Hodgson, former member of St Peter's will take place on **Monday 20th April at 12 noon in Basingstoke**. To watch the service, please use this livestream link:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysOldBasingAndLychpit>

Calling all Gardeners and Non Gardeners!

Saturday 25th April from 2pm

Help keep our church gardens blooming! Jobs for all abilities.

BYO gardening gloves.

Coming Up...

Messy Church - Sunday 19th April, 3pm

BREATHE - Sunday 19th April, 6.30pm, Christchurch.

Wrestling Church - Friday 24th April, 6.30pm

Gardening Afternoon - Saturday 25th April, 2pm

Congregation Listening Event - Thursday 30th April, 6-8.30pm

Shipley Open Gardens - 13th & 14th June, 1-5pm. Programmes available from Children's Society or from the Welcome Desk in church.

SAFEGUARDING

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

PASTORAL SUPPORT

For prayer or support, please email: pastoralsupport@stpetes.org.uk

Live@AvondaleClub

Sunday 26th April 7.30 - 9.30pm

An evening of Gospel and Motown music with Rachel Modest (The Voice UK semi-finalist). Pay as You Feel (£5 suggested). A safe space to bring non-Christian friends and neighbours.

The Avondale Club, 19 Bradford Road, Shipley, BD18 3PJ.

Its Back!!!!

Ladies' Bring and Share Quiz Night

Friday 8th May, 7pm, St Paul's Church

Please join us for the last quiz night hosted by Quizmaster Emma before she departs for her new role! BYO drinks.

Contact: Anne Luxton - 07547 187624 / luxton4040@gmail.com

Louise Forbes - 07794 809256 / louisemforbes.lf@gmail.com

Bradford Pentecost Festival

A celebration for the whole city. Join churches from across Bradford for a joyful, family-friendly festival celebrating unity, diversity and the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit. Live worship, choirs, testimonies, creative arts, children's activities and face-painting. **Sunday 24th May 2026, 2-4pm, City Park, Bradford.**

Farewell to Joseph!

It is with our best wishes that we see Joseph our youth worker leaving so that he can launch a new play cafe in Saltaire with his wife Naomi. Joseph says "After much prayer and thought, I have decided to step into the next chapter God has for our family. My last Sunday at St Peter's will be 17th May. I want to say a huge thank you to everyone at St Peter's. It has been a real privilege to serve here over the past year, especially leading in preaching and helping with the youth and families ministries.

Thank you to Natasha for your support and encouragement, and to Karen and Jessica for support in the Rooted and Rewired teams, the craft corner volunteers, Alpha, Forest Church and Messy Church helpers. Thank you to everyone for showing a warm welcome and support, your friendliness, hard work and kindness have meant a lot. I'm particularly grateful for the opportunity to invest in the young people and families here. We will miss you all and will continue to pray for St Peter's as you keep following Jesus and being his hands and feet in the community.

Thanks, and God Bless - Joseph Buthee

Prayers for Others

Please pray for all those who grieve the loss of their loved ones. It is with great sadness that we inform you that Ann Mainman died this week. Her funeral will be on Friday 15th May at 1pm at St Peter's church. Please also pray for those we know who are currently unwell or who are recovering from operations.

Help Shape Our Church!

Help shape our future through Experience-Based Co-Design. This is an opportunity to move beyond feedback to co-create our offerings and activities, ensuring our shared ministry is rooted in your real experiences. To take part, please contact Sophie at sophantonova@gmail.com

Congregation Listening Event:

Thursday 30th April - 6 - 8:30pm

Congregation & Leadership Gathering:

Sunday 31st May - 12:30 - 4pm

Closing Celebration:

Sunday 28th June - 12:30 - 2pm

Joint Service of Thanksgiving for Brian & Emma's Ministry

Sunday 26th April, 6.30pm

St Paul's Church