

CHRIST CHURCH, SOWERBY BRIDGE

# WEEKLY NEWS

## Archdeacons Visitation 2025



### *What really matters?*

#### **COLOSSIANS 2.6-15,(16-19)**

The congregation in Colossae is being pulled towards concerns about special foods and days, but Paul encourages them to keep focused on Jesus. He uses a number of images to highlight the completeness of our life in Christ.

Paul is keen to stress to the Colossians that, in a world where philosophies and fads come and go, what really matters is Christ – the one in whom the fullness of God dwells and in whom we find fullness of life. This week, we seek to place Jesus at the centre of our lives and concentrate again on the things that really matter in a world full of distractions.

### *Lo, I am with you always*

Wide fields of corn along the valleys spread;

The rain and dew mature the swelling vine;

I see the Lord in multiplying bread;

I see Him turning water into wine;

I see Him working all the works divine

He wrought when Salem-ward His steps were led;

The self-same miracles around Him shine;

He feeds the famished; He revives the dead;

He pours the flood of light on darkened eyes;

He chases tears, diseases, fiends away;

His throne is raised upon these orient skies;

His footstool is the pave whereon we pray....

From a poem by John Charles Earle (1749 – 1818)

SUNDAY 27TH  
JULY 2025  
TRINITY 6

#### **FIRST READING**

GENESIS 18.20-32

#### **PSALM**

PSALM 138

#### **SECOND READING**

COLOSSIANS 2.6-15,(16-19)

#### **GOSPEL**

LUKE 11.1-13

#### **SERVERS**

#### **FIRST READING**

GLENIS MCCARTHY

#### **PSALM**

SARAH TOWLER

#### **SECOND READING**

DAVE GILL

#### **INTERCESSIONS**

PAUL HEALEY

#### **SIDES PERSON**

SUE SANDERSON & JANET  
TURNER

## Collect Trinity 6

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THIS WEEKS HYMNS

### Processional

Lead us heavenly  
Father, lead us

### Gradual

Amazing grace  
In Christ alone

### Offertory

When I survey the  
wondrous cross

### Communion

### Recessional

At the name of  
Jesus

## *He gave us eyes to see them: John Martin's 'Manfred on the Jungfrau'*

*n July we start looking with eager longing to holidays, a chance to get away from it all – to rest and recharge the batteries of life.*

*Holidays are also a time to explore and visit new places. It might be the wild splendour of the Northumberland coast or the serenity of the Italian lakes, the vastness of the Grand Canyon or the magnificence of the Lake District.*

*This month's artist had a gift for creating paintings that expressed this epic quality of landscapes. John Martin was born in 1789, and as an artist was drawn to religious and historical scenes on the grand scale. He illustrated the Bible and Milton, and his final works were on the theme of the Last Judgement. These are in the Tate Gallery in London, but for this July we visit the Art Gallery in Birmingham with its amazing collection of over half a million items, including many Pre-Raphaelite treasures. The entrance to this Victorian building is beneath the clock tower known as Old Brum.*

*The Art Gallery is home to John Martin's watercolour of 1837, 'Manfred on the Jungfrau.' It is a large work, almost 5 feet by 3 feet, capturing the rugged, imposing glory of the Jungfrau. Now a railway takes tourists to the summit in the Bernese Alps in Switzerland. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century climbers had to navigate glaciers, high passes and steep precipices. John Martin captures the grandeur of all this in his painting of snow and sky, crags and torrents, mountains and pine trees. Against that immensity we see two characters: Manfred, tortured by guilt and about to throw himself off the edge, and the mysterious hunter who leads him to safety.*

Byron's poem 'Manfred' inspired the music of Tchaikovsky and Schumann, as it inspired John Martin. They were each attracted by the romanticism of man and nature in the poem. Like Manfred and the hunter in the watercolour, we look at this grace and nobility and feel humble and insignificant. Byron wrote:

*'How beautiful is all this visible world!  
How glorious in its action and itself!'  
Manfred seeks redemption, but, sadly, finds only the solace of death. As we look at this painting, we see reflections of the landscapes we shall visit on our holidays. Such beauty, such glory, evoke for us those feelings of wonder and awe that inspired John Martin.*

*Manfred sees life in its true perspective as he gazes on the majestic scenery of the Bernese Alps. Holidays help us to put life into perspective. Away from the pressure of responsibility and duty, we often realise what is essential in our lives and with those around. We behold the majesty and glory of creation; we see this world as the handiwork of God; and we ask ourselves how we might make our way through it and be always alert to its mystery and its beauty.*

**Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his survey of sacred works of art which can be found in various museums...you can see the image by googling the title of the painting and the artist**



John Martin, Public domain,  
via Wikimedia Commons

# *In your prayers this week....*

Anne and her family; Anthony; Jean Angell; Lesley; Denise Edge; Piper Fletcher; Geoffrey Green; Alyson Healey; Peter Jeffery; Terry Marsden; Michael Parker; Maralyn Pawson; Ruben; Carol Sharp; Karen Spencer; Vanessa Starsmore; Christopher, Stella and Will Streidling; Victor Smyth; Kelly Swift; Christine Russell; Lisa White; Peter Wilkins.



This weeks flowers are in celebration of any one celebrating a special event

If you would like flowers in church either in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special day please speak to Angela W

## **From the Parish Prayer list:**

For people known to us; Willow Hall Fold; Willow Hall Lane; Willow Houses; Willow Street; Willow Terrace; Willow View; Willowfield Avenue.

**ECO CHURCH**  
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



## **Have shorter showers**

By keeping showers to four minutes, a typical household in Great Britain could save £60 a year on their heating bill.

## **Only run the dishwasher when it's full**

The average dishwasher uses 10 litres of water each time so only run it when it's full.

## *Quotes*

People who cannot bear to be alone are the worst company. - A Guinon

You are only what you are when no one is looking. - R C Edwards

You must not always expect the wind to be at your back all the way to heaven. - William Tiptaft



Please continue to pray for Revd. Peter Jeffery, Ruth and Elizabeth following the death of Margaret.

Revd. Peter was the vicar of this parish from 1985 to 1998 whilst Margaret served as lay reader.



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## *Next week*

SUNDAY 27TH JULY 2025

TRINITY 6

## **FIRST READING**

ECCLESIASTES 1.2,12-14;  
2.18-23

## **PSALM**

PSALM 49.1-12

## **SECOND READING**

COLOSSIANS 3.1-11

## **GOSPEL**

LUKE 12.13-21

## **SERVERS**

## **FIRST READING**

## **PSALM**

## **SECOND READING**

## **INTERCESSIONS**

## **SIDES PERSON**

PAULINE CHESLETT & LINDA FIRTH

## *DIARY*

### **Monday**

### **Tuesday**

10am Digital Cafe & Coffee Morning

11.30am Mid week Communion

### **Wednesday**

### **Thursday**

### **Friday**

### **Saturday**

10am Coffee Morning

### **Sunday**

10.30am All Age worship



## *The Nicene Creed part 2: Who is Jesus?*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.*

*This month we are looking at what the Nicene Creed affirms about the person of Jesus Christ.*

*‘We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God’: Jesus is presented as the unique Son of God. This reflects the big debate at the time, which was to counter the teachings of Arius, who taught that Jesus was the first and greatest of God’s creatures, but not the same as God the Father.*

*Today we can be more concerned about Jesus’ authority as a moral teacher, neglecting that Jesus the man is also truly God. ‘We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father’ (John 1:14).*

*‘eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father’: These words affirm the divinity of Jesus. The phrase ‘begotten not made’ is crucial in understanding Jesus as the unique Son of the Father, who existed eternally of the same divine nature as the Father.*

*‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning’ (John 1:1,2). It is a powerful reminder that our belief revolves around trusting a person, not simply in a set of beliefs and moral teaching.*

*‘through Him all things were made’: The Creed affirms that Jesus the Son cannot be made, because through Him all things were made and only God can create from nothing.*

*‘Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.’ (John 1:3). This implies that our world was made good, with a purpose in which we can share.*

*Also, Jesus has the last word in promising to bring everything in heaven and on earth together at the end of time under His Lordship (Ephesians 1:10). This makes a real difference to how we see and treat God’s Creation and those created in God’s image.*

*In response to this, can we say that Jesus is Lord of every area of our life?*

***Our series on the Nicene Creed continues this month. Canon Paul Hardingham considers a bedrock of our Christian belief: that Jesus is the Son of God.***

## *Public consultation about the next Bishop of Leeds launches*

*The Diocese of Leeds has launched its public consultation looking for the views of all people across our region about the next Bishop of Leeds. We are asking for people to answer three questions about our new bishop and the future of our diocese,*

*These questions can be answered by scanning the QR code.*



If you ever struggle with doubt, take heart: so did one of the apostles, whose Feast Day is this month. St Thomas just could NOT believe that the Jesus he had seen crucified and dead on the cross could ever come back to life. But Thomas was an honest sceptic, because he really wanted to know the truth. Jesus could help such a man. And so He appeared to him and the other disciples. Instead of scolding him, Jesus simply showed him the wounds. Thomas's response was immediate: "My Lord and my God" (John 20.26ff). Ancient legends tell how Thomas went on to India as a missionary. There are rumours that Thomas even built a palace for a king's daughter in India, and thus he is the patron saint of architects. It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England are dedicated to him.



Thomas  
Doubt  
Apostle  
Cross  
Dead

Truth  
Sceptic  
Wounds  
Lord  
God

Appeared  
India  
Patron  
Martyred  
Spear

Mylapore  
Missionary  
Showed  
Saint  
madras



### **Monthly Gardening group**

Join us next Saturday morning from 10am for our monthly gardening. Lets make our churchyard stand out this summer

### **Margaret Jeffery's funeral**

Margaret's funeral is at St. James', Hebden Bridge on 31st July at 11.30am, followed by a light lunch and refreshments in the church before going to Park Wood.

### **Revd. Tommy's holiday**

Revd. Tommy is taking a well earned break for the next couple of weeks. We have been unable to find holiday cover. For the next 3 weeks we will be following a service of the word, which will be lead by Peter, Dave G, and Anthea. Revd. Tommy will be back at his desk on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August, in the meantime, should you require the vicar, or anything church related, please speak to one of the church wardens

### **Rushbearing – Saturday 6th September**

It's that time of year again as we begin preparations for Rushbearing 2025! As always, we'll be running our raffle, tombola, and bottle stalls, and we're now kindly asking for donations to help stock them. If you have any items you'd like to contribute, please speak to Angela W or Janet T.

Also, don't forget about our popular holiday hampers! If you're heading off on holiday or visiting somewhere special, why not bring back a small gift or treat to include in one of our hampers? If donating food or sweets, please ensure the expiry date is well beyond September.

Details about how to book your own stall at the event will be shared next month.

### **Morning and Evening Prayers**

Once Revd. Tommy is back at his desk he would like to try Morning Prayer on a Monday and evening prayer on a Thursday. Both would be via Zoom / MS Teams. To gauge interest in this there is a sheet at the back of church

**HeBrews Coffee Morning**



**Join us for fellowship and fun**

# **COFFEE MORNING**

Enjoy community, coffee, and conversation every  
Tuesday and Saturday 10am till 1130am

**Come join**

Weekly on Tuesdays and Saturdays  
[www.christchurchsb.org.uk](http://www.christchurchsb.org.uk)



Find us on  
[www.christchurchsb.org.uk](http://www.christchurchsb.org.uk)



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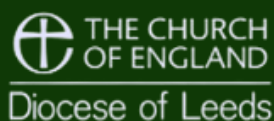


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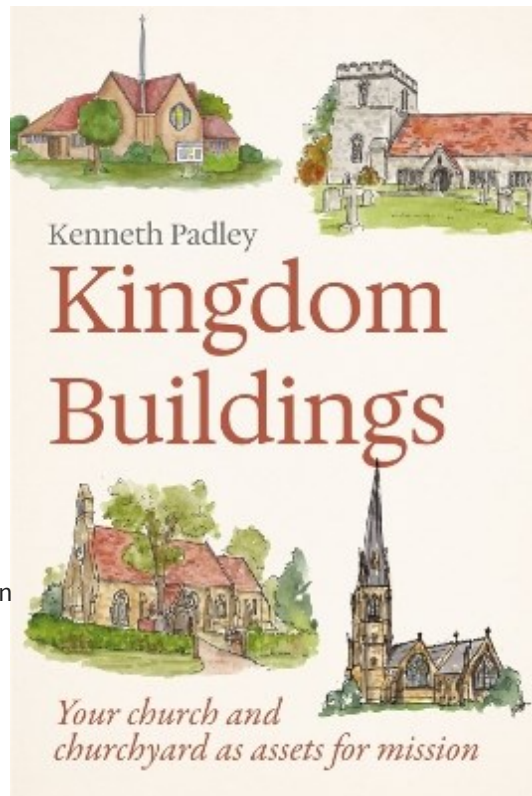
## *Kingdom Buildings - your church and churchyard as assets for mission*

*By Kenneth Padley, Canterbury  
Press, £20*

Kingdom Buildings sees the potential of church buildings and grounds as tools for mission and growth. Too often seen as burdens, this practical guide helps church communities rediscover them as gifts – as spaces that can enrich both congregational life and the wider community.

Blending theology, ecclesiology and hands-on advice, Kingdom Buildings offers practical steps with how to tackle even the most daunting challenges. Small, affordable changes can spark momentum and create lasting impact, while making wise, long-term decisions can be for the good of future generations.

It's all there in this book: planning permissions, welcome signs, unstaffed opening, accessibility, carbon reduction, ecological stewardship, heating, lighting, solar panels, EV charging, community spaces, toilets, kitchenettes, cafes, children's corners, church halls, and how to transform your churchyard from a jungle to a sacred space.



## *Smile Lines*

### **Open Wide**

A lady was very nervous about her appointment at the dentist. She sought courage from her Bible. The verse her finger landed on was Psalm 81:10: 'Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it.'



**Church News 2025 Year C**

**Registered Charity 1131180**

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**Ordinary people Sharing God's love in our world.  
Growing in faith. Living by prayer. Loving God's word.  
Living Loving Learning.**