

# CHRIST CHURCH, SOWERBY BRIDGE

# WEEKLY NEWS



## Congratulations Millie from your Church Family

*Awesome!*

### HEBREWS 12.18-29

Today's reading is a tale of two mountains, contrasting the terrifying experience of God's presence at Mount Sinai (where Moses received the Law) with a joyful approach to the living God through Jesus at Mount Zion.

As we approach God, do we come in awe, or even fear? Today we look at ways in which we can keep a sense of awe and wonder, yet approach God with confidence.

*Major investment in local churches and parish clergy as £1.6bn three-year national spending plans unveiled*

The Church Commissioners' funding towards work of the church is set to leap by 36 per cent in the three-year period 2026-28, amounting to the biggest distribution in Church's history.

The C of E plans to invest more than £1.6 billion towards sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and serving local communities over the next three years. In total, it plans to invest £4.6 billion over the next nine years, from 2026 to 2034.

Also, the typical stipend is set to rise 10.7 per cent next year, under new proposals as clergy well-being put at centre of spending plans. On top of that, the funding for churches in the lowest income communities will jump from £91 million spent in the last three years, to £133.5 million.

There will also be a major focus on safeguarding, for which £30 million has been allocated.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, said: "Parishes and clergy are at the heart of everything we do in the Church."

SUNDAY 24TH  
AUGUST 2025  
TRINITY 10

### FIRST READING

ISAIAH 58.9B-14

### PSALM

PSALM 103.1-8

### SECOND READING

HEBREWS 12.18-29

### GOSPEL

LUKE 13.10-17

### SERVERS

PETER HENRY

DAVE GILL

### FIRST READING

CATHERINE PRIESTLEY

### PSALM

ALYSSA HARGREAVES

### SECOND READING

GRAHAM LAMB

### INTERCESSIONS

PAUL HEALEY

### SIDES PERSON

JACKIE GILL & KEVIN HENRY

## Collect Trinity 10

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THIS WEEKS HYMNS

### Processional

From heaven you came

### Gradual

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

### Offertory

We have a gospel to proclaim

### Communion

When we walk with the Lord

Make me a channel of your peace

Longing for light

### Recessional

Love divine all loves excelling

## *‘He gave us eyes to see them’: John Henry Newman*

*In the 1830s a group of academics came together to promote a new identity for the Church of England. To them the church was not just a department of state for the government to control, but part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church.*

*Among that group in what became known as the Oxford Movement was John Henry Newman. In 1816, when he was 15, he had a profound religious conversion. Six years later he was elected a Fellow of Oriel College and after ordination became the Vicar of St Mary’s, Oxford. When he was touring Italy and southern Europe in 1833, he wrote a poem, which became a popular hymn, ‘Lead, kindly Light.’ Newman was anxious to return home to do God’s work for his church, and in this poem he prayed that he would be ready to follow that light of God, come what may.*

*But Newman realised that the more he defended the Church of England, the more he found himself drawn to become a Roman Catholic. He wrote about that struggle of conscience and mind in his ‘Apologia.’ In 1845 he was received into the Roman Catholic Church, and in 1879 was honoured as a cardinal. He died on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of this month in 1890.*

*In 1875 a visitor meeting Newman described him as ‘very kindly, with a sort of grave simplicity which coming from so old a man, has in it something inexpressibly touching... He looks very aged, with an air of melancholy, as of one who has passed through terrible struggles, yet of serenity, as of one who has found peace.’ T*

*here is a portrait of Newman in Manchester Art Gallery by W T Roden which captures something of the sadness and resignation that struggle had caused him, forcing him to leave friends and colleagues in the Church of England.*

*In the National Portrait Gallery in London there is a wonderful collection of paintings and photographs of Newman. The portraits of Newman range throughout his life culminating in a painting by his cousin, Emmeline Deane, of March 1889. It is a sensitive portrayal that invites the viewer to look beyond the scarlet robes and ring of the cardinal to the face of a pilgrim whose search for the light to guide and illuminate had taken him on what was a long and difficult path. There is a dignity and a gentleness there, but also strength and resolution.*

*When Newman died in the following year, his pall was embroidered with his motto, ‘Cor ad cor loquitur’: ‘Heart speaks to heart’. The heart of God speaking to the human heart to bring guidance and light. Newman followed that voice and light throughout his life. It was a journey that led him from the shadows and images of this world into the radiance of God’s eternal light. That thought was inscribed on his memorial tablet – a reminder that we are all called to journey like John Henry Newman, seeking the light to guide and following that light in faith and perseverance.*

**Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess surveys works of sacred art that can be found in various museums...you can see images by googling the title of the painting and the artist.**

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

Anne and her family; Anthony; Jean Angell; Lesley; Denise Edge; Piper Fletcher; 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 memory of Margaret Marsh.

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:**

Give thanks for what God has provided  
Town Hall Street; Tuel Lane; Union Street; Upper Bolton Brow; Upper Fountian Street; Victoria Avenue; Victoria Road; Victoria Street.



## **Condensers & Humidifiers:**

Collect and filter wastewater from the condenser to reuse for other purposes like cleaning or watering plants.

To conserve water with a humidifier, prioritize using distilled water to prevent mineral buildup and ensure efficient operation, empty and clean the humidifier daily to prevent bacterial growth, and ensure proper placement to avoid damp spots and maximize mist dispersion.

## *Quotes*

Whatever our trust is most in, that is our God. - Richard Sibbes

If God forgives us, we must forgive others. Otherwise, it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than Him. - C. S. Lewis

What we can know about God is so great and glorious that we can confidently trust what we do not know about Him. Our God is a good God. - Frank Retief

## *Next week*

SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST 2025  
TRINITY 11

## **FIRST READING**

PROVERBS 25.6-7

## **PSALM**

PSALM 112

## **SECOND READING**

HEBREWS 13.1-8,15-16

## **GOSPEL**

LUKE 14.1,7-14

## **SERVERS**

PETER HENRY

ANTHEA GEE

## **FIRST READING**

ALYSSA HARGREAVES

## **PSALM**

FIONA LAMB

## **SECOND READING**

PETER HENRY

## **INTERCESSIONS**

DAVE CALLIGHAN

## **SIDES PERSON**

SUE SANDERSON & JANET TURNER

## *DIARY*

### **Monday**

### **Tuesday**

10am Coffee Morning

### **Wednesday**

### **Thursday**

### **Friday**

### **Saturday**

10am Coffee Morning

### **Sunday**

10.30am Holy Communion



## *Give Him a call!*

*The phone was a great invention. How easy, to press a few numbers on our small devices and speak to someone the other side of the world. Once a phone was a luxury item; now we take it for granted that this gadget in our pocket enables us to contact anyone, at any time, in any place.*

*However, how many times have you rung someone, only to be given a recorded message giving a variety of options? Then you must wait in a queue for ages before your call is answered. A voice informs you that 'your call is important to us' ... but meanwhile you are left waiting, listening to endless music.*

*Yes, a phone may be useful in all kinds of circumstances, but they can also be very frustrating! So, it's good to know that God can be contacted immediately we need Him.*

*There is no celestial call centre where our messages are delayed or referred. With prayer we can call on God directly. This service is free, with no charges. He hears our every call, and we can be confident that our Creator will answer us in ways which are only for our good.*

*'When you pray, I will answer you. When you call to me, I will respond.'* (Isaiah 58:9)

## *Those long car journeys of summer...*

*Are you taking a LONG car journey as part of your holiday this summer? Beware: hours on the road can leave you tired, a bit travel sick and with aching muscles.*

*Tiredness is the most serious – at least if you are the driver! It is reckoned that 10 – 20 percent of all car crashes are due to sleepy drivers.*

*So, try and get enough sleep the night before, as research in Queensland, Australia has shown that drivers with less than five hours sleep are just as likely to crash as if they were over the legal limit for alcohol. Take breaks, and keep air flowing well through the car.*

*Motion sickness can be another hassle – and it affects around one in three of us. Though curiously enough, drivers hardly ever suffer from carsickness – just the passengers.*

*Gut discomfort is another problem – on long car trips we tend to drink less, go to the toilet less, snack at odd times on junk food, and not move for hours. No wonder we feel sluggish and bloated.*


*So – when you stop for regular breaks, take the trouble to walk about. Drink plenty of water, and eat healthy snacks like bananas, apples and nuts. Finally, avoid tight clothes on a long trip. They only put extra pressure on your abdomen. Instead, opt for loose-fitting trousers or skirts which have some 'give' around your tummy.*

## *In praise of olive oil*

*Olive oil is surprisingly good for you. It has been found to be able to ward off chronic disease and to boost your brain health. So, when those ancient Greeks praised it as an aid to staying young and healthy, it seems they were right. While the Mediterranean diet can include up to four tablespoons of olive oil per day, a recent study at Harvard has found that even just half a tablespoon of olive oil per day helps protect your heart and brain from disease. It may even slash your risk of Parkinson's or Alzheimer's by 29 per cent, and cancer by 17 per cent.*

*Olive oil is packed with monounsaturated fats, and even has anti-inflammatory properties, which have been compared to Ibuprofen. The best way to eat it? Add it as a dressing to your salads. Frying with it can degrade some of its properties.*

# The parable of the Fish and the Nets



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM  
OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE  
CATCHING FISH!

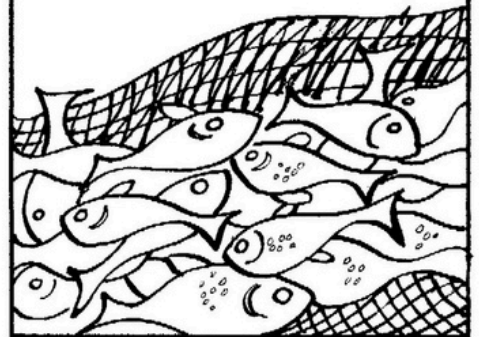


WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING  
THEY THROW THEIR NETS  
INTO THE LAKE...

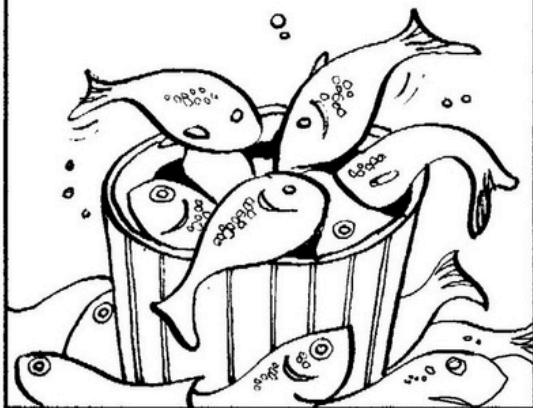


...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL,  
THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH  
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

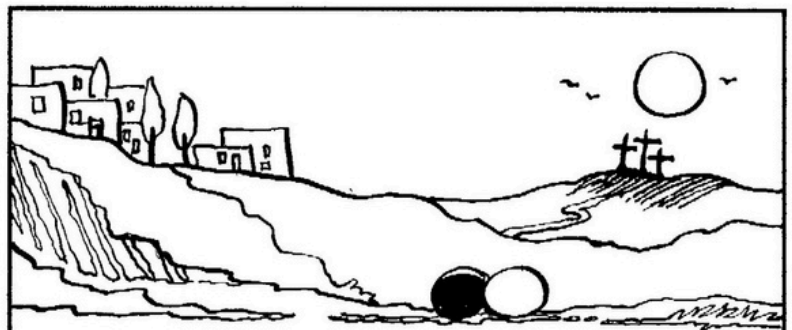


THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL  
BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN  
CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS  
WITH OUR LIVES.



BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN  
ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



### **Revd. Tommy**

Tommy is hoping to be back with us next Sunday, please do continue to pray for Tommy, Donna and the girls. For anything church related please continue to reach out to the churchwardens

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

Its time for us to start getting ready for rushbearing. so far we are looking for donations of:

Cakes for the cake stall, see Sue Sanderson

Raffle, tombola and bottle prizes, see Angela Wilkins or Janet Turner

A full list of items you might want to donate to the church cafe can be found at the back of Church.

All good events need volunteers and Rushbearing is no different. sign up to help in the kitchen or a stall,are at teh back of church.

### **Revd. Paul Ainsworth**

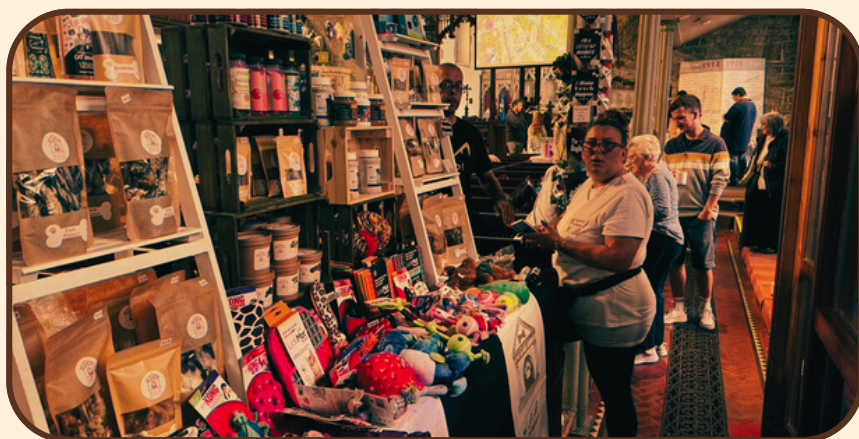
Paul's funeral is on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at Rawdon Cemetery, Leeds Road, Rawdon LS19 6JP for the farewell to Paul at 10.45am, where everyone who wishes to be there is welcome. This will be followed by a service of Celebration of his life at St. Cross Church Middleton Park Avenue LS10 4HT at 12.30, everyone is welcome. This will be followed by the wake at Middleton Parochial Hall, North Lingwell Road LS10 3SR. Everyone is welcome to join for any part of the proceedings. Please let Peter know if you will be attending so he can let the family know. The dress code recommended is bright colours.



# SOWERBY BRIDGE RUSHBEARING 2025



## ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR



DATE & TIME

**6 SEPT 2025**

FROM 10 AM - 4 PM

LOCATION

CHRIST CHURCH,  
SOWERBY BRIDGE  
WHARF STREET, HX6 2LW

CAFE

STALLS

GAMES

RAFFELS

[WWW.CHRISTCHURCHSB.ORG.UK](http://WWW.CHRISTCHURCHSB.ORG.UK)

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



Using your smart device,  
scan the QR code to join  
'Hebrews Coffee' Wi-Fi

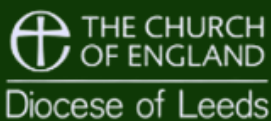


Once connected  
scan the QR code  
below



Captions\* will appear once  
the Service / Event starts.

\*Captions are auto  
generated and will include  
errors



## *Real Life Rev - a clergy survival guide*

*By Martin Poole, Canterbury Press, £13.59*

Clergy life is full of surprises – and many of them don't come up in lectures at theological college. From tricky PCC meetings to unexpected pastoral situations to the quirks of church buildings, this honest and humorous guide dives into the messy, holy, and often unpredictable realities of parish ministry.

With warmth and wit, the book offers practical wisdom for navigating the everyday challenges of church leadership. Whether it's managing conflicting opinions, opening the church to a wider community, or simply deciding what to do when a lorry arrives with two tons of yogurt drink for your food bank, Martin Poole offers encouragement for those discovering that ministry is rarely tidy – but always full of grace.

## *Smile Lines*

### **Hymns for People Over 50**

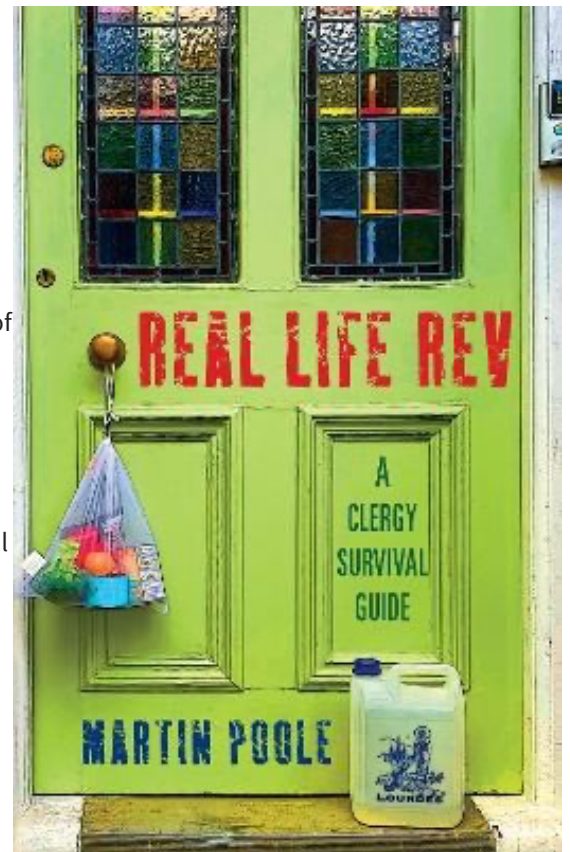
Give Me the Old Timers' Religion

Precious Lord, Take My Hand, And Help Me Up

Just a Slower Walk with Thee

Go Tell It on the Mountain, But Speak Up

Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing



**Church News 2025 Year C**

**Registered Charity 1131180**

**CCLI License Number 295704**

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Mr Dave Gill 07400 373 902 [dave@christchurchsb.org.uk](mailto:dave@christchurchsb.org.uk)

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