

CHRIST CHURCH, SOWERBY BRIDGE

WEEKLY NEWS



Confidence to care

HEBREWS 13.1-8,15-16

The final chapter of Hebrews gives encouragement to keep on in faithful worship and loving concern for others, including strangers and those in prison. Christians are to live lives consistent with their calling, free of the love of money and rooted in the love of Christ.

How can we find the confidence to look outwards from our own concerns and care in the way Jesus asks? Could it be through the confidence we have in God's care for us?

Pope Leo is a distant cousin of Madonna

Pope Leo has some surprising relatives. For one, he is related to the pop singer Madonna, who has clashed with the Roman Catholic Church over her use of religious imagery.

But the Pope is also related to politician Hilary Clinton, actress Angelina Jolie, pop star Justin Bieber, former prime ministers Justin and Pierre Trudeau, and novelist Jack Kerouac.

It was a recent New York Times investigation into the Pope's family tree that found the connections. The celebrities all share one common ancestor with the pope – a Canadian called Louis Boucher de Grandpre. He was born about six generations ago and lived in the late 1500s.

Pope Leo also has some African American ancestors.

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

ANTHEA GEE

DAVE GILL

FIRST READING

ALYSSA HARGREAVES

PSALM

FIONA LAMB

SECOND READING

ANTHEA GEE

INTERCESSIONS

DAVE CALLIGHAN

SIDES PERSON

SUE SANDERSON & JANET
TURNER

Collect Trinity 11

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEKS HYMNS

Processional

The Kingdom of God is justice and joy

Gradual

Come down O love divine

Offertory

City of God

Communion

River, wash over me

Rock of ages

A new commandment

Recessional

Praise to the holiest in the height

Lord's Prayer tops Shakespeare, Dickens, Churchill and National Anthem in public recognition poll

People in the UK are more likely to identify correctly a short extract from the Lord's Prayer – also known as the Our Father – than one from the National Anthem and other sources chosen for their deep cultural resonance, a new poll has found.

The polling, carried out for the Church of England, also found the reference in the prayer to being forgiven and forgiving others was the element people found most meaningful to them.

Pollsters Savanta surveyed more than 2,000 people across the UK. They asked them to match seven famous lines – spanning areas ranging from literature and history to popular culture – with their source, from a list of correct answers.

Overall, the phrase from the Lord's Prayer was recognised correctly by the largest number of people (80.3 per cent), just ahead of Star Wars (79.9 per cent).

They were followed by Hamlet's "To be or not to be" (73 per cent) the extract from the National Anthem (63 per cent); the line from Churchill's 'The Few' speech (61 per cent); and You'll Never Walk Alone (58 per cent).

Overall, 89 per cent of those surveyed said that they had previously heard of the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. This was highest among those who described themselves as Christian (95 per cent), but also by 88 per cent of those who said they had no religion.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, is currently leading a 'Lord's Prayer Tour' of events at churches and cathedrals across the north of England attended by thousands of people, as part of his Faith In The North initiative.

He said: "In a world of shifting cultures and changing circumstances, the Lord's Prayer remains a steady guide – perhaps never more so than now.

"Lines like 'Give us this day our daily bread' speak powerfully to today's challenges, reminding us to seek sufficiency, not excess, and to consider what 'enough' is."

A Prayer for teachers at the start of a new School year

Lord, we pray you will encourage the hearts of our children's teachers. Remind them of your purpose and your calling. Fill them with your love and surround them with others who will uplift and support them. Equip them for every good work you have prepared for them as they carry your love into their classrooms

A Prayer for the new School year

Loving God, let me be strong today as I meet new people in new places. Make me brave when I am worried, show me how to learn from everyone around me, and help me to do my very best.

A Prayer for those starting a new School

Loving God, let me be strong today as I meet new people in new places. Make me brave when I am worried, show me how to learn from everyone around me, and help me to do my very best.

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:

The Vicar, Revd. Tommy; The Churchwardens, Dave and Peter; The PCC; All who play a part in the running of this church; Albert Buildings; Albert Road; Albert View; Alexandra Close; Allan Park ; Allan Terrace; Annie Street; Arnold Street.



Fit an aerator on to your tap

Fitting an aerator onto your existing tap will save water without lessening the flow. It could help you save up to 40 litres of water a day.

Swap a bath for a shower

Swapping out one weekly bath for a shower will save you 4,000 litres of water a year.

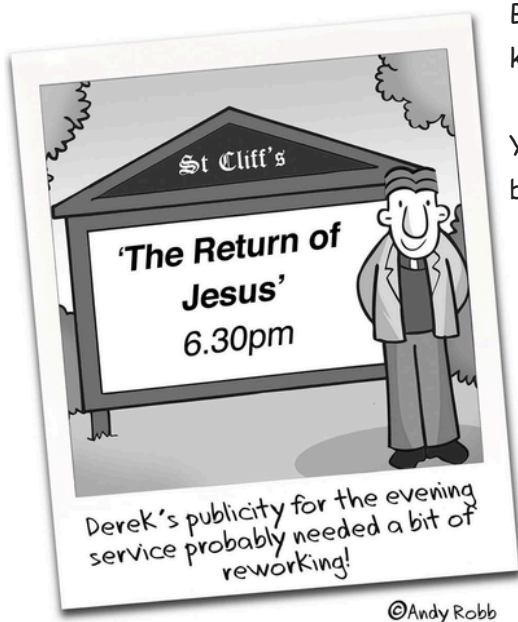
Quotes

It is better to learn late than never. - Publilius Syrus

The egotist is an 'I' specialist. - Anon
Once you've seen one shopping centre, you've seen a mall. - Anon

Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis. - Anon

You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it. - Anon



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Next week

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
2025
TRINITY 12

FIRST READING

DEUTERONOMY 30.15-20

PSALM

PSALM 1

SECOND READING

PHILEMON 1-21

GOSPEL

LUKE 14.25-33

SERVERS

DAVE GILL

GRAHAM LAMB

FIRST READING

FIONA LAMB

PSALM

DAVE TOWLER

SECOND READING

DAVE GILL

INTERCESSIONS

ALISTAIR ROSS

SIDES PERSON

PAUL HEALEY & PETER HENRY

DIARY

Monday

Tuesday

10am Coffee Morning

11.30am Midweek

service of Holy

Communion

1pm Knit & Natter

Wednesday

5.45pm Bible Study

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

10am Rushbearing

Sunday

10.30am Holy

Communion

Online Services

'Online' or 'Live streaming' services essentially started during the Covid lockdowns in 2020, as many churches filmed their services and broadcast them through YouTube or other channels. It was difficult to know how many of their members actually watched these services, although YouTube did count the number watching at any particular moment.

The Church of England (C of E) attempted to collect details from its 15,500 churches of those providing such service filming and broadcasting – what they called 'Church at Home'. These numbers, being based on a large percentage of churches who replied, have given some idea of the impact caused by Covid on church attendance.

In 2020 it was estimated (across all denominations) that attendance was about 44% of what it might have been with no Covid.

When in 2021 some relaxations were allowed, total English attendance was 78% of the pre-Covid attendance trend. In 2022, when virtually all restrictions had been withdrawn it was 87%, and in 2023 it was 94%.

Cathedrals tend to have attenders spread over a wider geographical area, and most do film and record their main service (97% did so in 2020 and 94% in 2021, falling to 82% in 2022 but increasing to 93% in 2023, the latest figure. In 2020 64% of services were downloaded, 34% in 2021, but 49% in 2022 and 43% in 2023.

It shows that the number of churches and cathedrals live-streaming their services has dropped in the last three years (as might be expected as greater numbers returned in person). While this suggests a continuing decline in live-streaming, it is still a very useful aid for older members of the congregation unable easily to get out or those in Care Homes.

Who?

(Matthew 16:13-16)

They say
He was a good man,
A great teacher,
A fascinating figure
Who inspired social action,
Works of art and architecture.
A man of compassion,
And high moral values.
That's the sort of thing
They say.
But Jesus –
Sent by His Father,
Spanning history,
Standing on the evidence
Of His life and death,
Resurrection and ascension –
Jesus,
In the power of His Spirit,
Cuts through the they and then,
To the you and now,

"But you,
What about you,
Who do you say I am, today?"

By Daphne Kitching

The Pilgrim's Aiding

God be with thee in every pass,
Jesus be with thee on every hill,
Spirit be with thee on every stream,
Headland and ridge and lawn;

Each sea and land, each moor and meadow,
Each lying down, each rising up,
In the trough of the waves, on the crest of the
billows,
Each step of the journey thou goest.

**A Celtic prayer collected by Alexander
Carmichael**



Luke 14.1,7-14

Jesus is invited to dinner on the sabbath. He tells two parables to remind people to be humble, and to give to others without expecting anything in return.



Jesus reminds us not to think that we are better than anyone else, and encourages us to do things to help other people, without expecting any reward.

Activity 1

Draw a picture in the frame of how you see yourself, or write down your personal qualities.



Activity 2

Think of five things you could do for other people this week, e.g. a household job, help someone at school. Write your ideas in the table and draw a smiley face when you have done each one.

| | | |
|-------|--|---|
| MON | | ● |
| TUES | | ● |
| WEDS | | ● |
| THURS | | ● |
| FRI | | ● |

PRAYER

Father,
forgive us when we think
too highly of ourselves.
Help us to be humble,
and put other people first. Amen.

Live in faith

Do five acts of kindness this week,
without expecting any reward.

Check it out

Charlotte's Web, E.B. White, Puffin Classics.



Revd. Tommy New contact number

Revd Tommy has a new contact number - 07378 517 835, should you wish to contact Tommy please use this number

HELP!!!

We need to bring down the stalls from the old BB room after the service. Please help our churchwardens

Rushbearing - Saturday 6th September

Church will be open from 9am

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 the back of church.

Morning and Evening Prayers

we are going 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

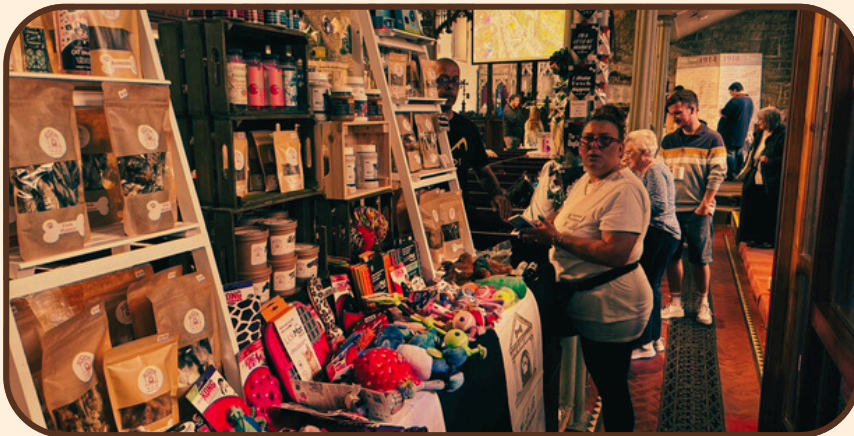
Revd. Paul Ainsworth

Paul's funeral is on Tuesday 2nd 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

Find us on
www.christchurchsb.org.uk



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

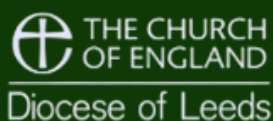


Once connected
scan the QR code
below



Captions* will appear once
the Service / Event starts.

*Captions are auto
generated and will include
errors



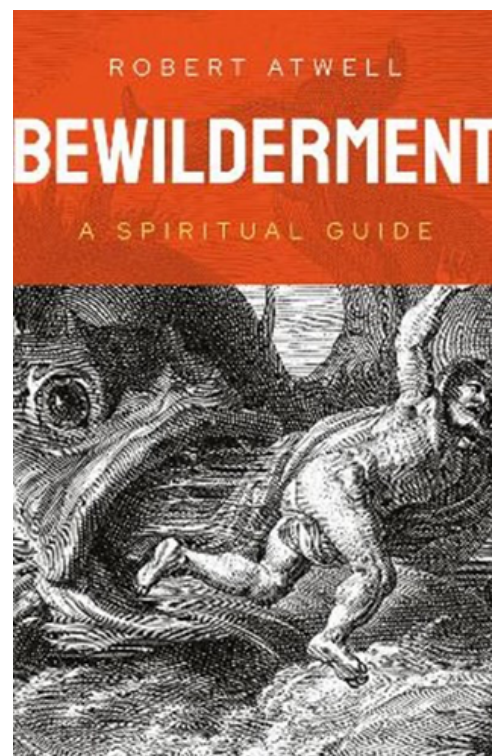
Bewilderment - a Spiritual Guide By Robert Atwell, Canterbury Press £14.99

In our bewildering age when the mental health of so many is fragile and people feel adrift and uncertain, the unlikely hero, Jonah, can offer surprising and much needed wisdom.

We think of prophets as strong and confident figures, but the prophet Jonah is neither of these. In fact, he's barely taken seriously at all and is crowded out of his own story by the whale that swallowed him up.

Yet Robert Atwell finds that the book of Jonah offers a strikingly relevant theology for our time. It grapples with isolation, protest, anger, fear, and depression, all under the shadow of the divine presence in the midst of personal turmoil. So, for those of us who can feel unmoored, Jonah's story becomes a surprising source of consolation.

Ultimately, the book of Jonah maps the contours of grace – a grace that feels especially absent in today's world. Alone among the prophets, Jonah is named by Jesus and described as a 'sign'. In this short, deeply comforting book, Atwell explores how Jonah still speaks to us, offering insight and hope to a restless generation.



Smile Lines

In or Out

After cleaning his young patient's teeth, the dentist accompanied the five-year-old boy to the reception area, only to see him struggle with the oak door. "It's heavy, isn't it?" asked the dentist. "Yes," he said. "Is that so children can't escape?"



Church News 2025 Year C

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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.**