

**United Benefice of Skipton, Christ Church
with Carleton, St Mary**



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2025

Weekly Services

Christ Church

Sunday at 9.30am – Eucharist

Wednesday at 9.30am – Eucharist

St Mary's

Each Sunday at 11.15am

3rd and 5th Sunday – Bread Wine and Worship

2nd and 4th Sunday – Parish Eucharist

1st Sunday of each month: 8am BCP Communion; 11.15am Family Praise

Contact Details

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SEPTEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS

Monday 1 September <i>Giles, hermit, c710</i>	1 Thessalonians 4.13–end; Psalm 6; Luke 4.16–30
Tuesday 2 September <i>Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1910, 1942</i>	1 Thessalonians 5.1–6, 9–11; Psalm 27.1–8; Luke 4.31–37
Wednesday 3 September Gregory the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 604	Colossians 1.1–8; Psalm 34.11–18; Luke 4.38–end
Thursday 4 September <i>Birinus bishop, 650</i>	Colossians 1.9–14; Psalm 98.1–5; Luke 5.1–11
Friday 5 September	Colossians 1.15–20; Psalm 89.19b–28; Luke 5.33–end
Saturday 6 September <i>Allen Gardiner, missionary, founder of the South American Mission Society, 1851</i>	Colossians 1.21–23; Psalm 117; Luke 6.1–5
Sunday 7 September 12th Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 18.1–11; Psalm 139.1–5, 12–18; Philemon 1–21; Luke 14.25–33
Monday 8 September Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary Accession of King Charles III, 2022	Colossians 1.24–2.3; Psalm 62.1–7; Luke 6.6–11
Tuesday 9 September <i>Charles Fuge Lowder, priest, 1880</i>	Colossians 2.6–15; Psalm 8; Luke 6.12–19
Wednesday 10 September	Colossians 3.1–11; Psalm 15; Luke 6.20–26
Thursday 11 September	Colossians 3.12–17; Psalm 149.1–5; Luke 6.27–38
Friday 12 September	1 Timothy 1.1–2, 12–14; Psalm 16; Luke 6.39–42
Saturday 13 September John Chrysostom, bishop, teacher of the faith, 407	1 Timothy 1.15–17; Psalm 13; Luke 6.43–end
Sunday 14 September Holy Cross Day	Numbers 21.4–9; Psalm 22.23–28; Philippians 2.6–11; John 3.13–17
Monday 15 September Cyprian, bishop, martyr, 258	1 Timothy 2.1–8; Psalm 28; Luke 7.1–10
Tuesday 16 September Ninian, bishop, apostle of the Picts, c432; <i>Edward Bouverie Pusey, priest 1882</i>	1 Timothy 3.1–13; Psalm 101; Luke 7.11–17
Wednesday 17 September Hildegard, abbes, visionary, 1179	1 Timothy 3.14–end; Psalm 111.1–5; Luke 7.31–35
Thursday 18 September	1 Timothy 4.12–end; Psalm 111.6–end; Luke 7.36–end
Friday 19 September <i>Theodore, archbishop, 690</i>	1 Timothy 6.2b–12; Psalm 49.1–9; Luke 8.1–3
Saturday 20 September John Coleridge Patteson, bishop, and companions, martyrs, 1871	1 Timothy 6.13–16; Psalm 100; Luke 8.4–15
Sunday 21 September Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	Proverbs 3.13–18; Psalm 119.65–72; 2 Corinthians 4.1–6; Matthew 9.9–13

Monday 22 September	Ezra 1.1–6; Psalm 126; Luke 8.16–18
Tuesday 23 September	Ezra 6.7–8, 12, 14–20; Psalm 124; Luke 8.19–21
Wednesday 24 September Ember Day	Ezra 9.5–9; Canticle: Song of Tobit or Psalm 103.1–6; Luke 9.1–6
Thursday 25 September Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, spiritual writer, 1626 <i>Sergei of Radonezh, monastic reformer, teacher of the faith, 1392</i>	Haggai 1.1–8; Psalm 149.1–5; Luke 9.7–9
Friday 26 September <i>Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army, 1942</i> Ember Day	Haggai 1.15b–2.9; Psalm 43; Luke 9.18–22
Saturday 27 September Vincent de Paul, founder of the Lazarists, 1660 Ember Day	Zechariah 2.1–5, 10–11; Psalm 125 or Canticle: Jeremiah 31.10–13; Luke 9.43b–45
Sunday 28 September 15th Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 32.1-3a,6-15; Psalm 91.1-6,14-16; 1 Timothy 6.6-19; Luke 16.19-31
Monday 29 September Michael and All Angels	Genesis 28.10-17 or Revelation 12.7-12; Psalm 103.19-22; Revelation 12.7-12 or Hebrews 1.5-14; John 1.47-51
Tuesday 30 September <i>Jerome, translator, teacher of the faith, 420</i>	Zechariah 8.20–end; Psalm 87; Luke 9.51–56



French Soirée



- including an illustrated talk by Bill Carmichael about his Pilgrimage from Canterbury to Lausanne.

Friday 19 September, 7.30 pm, Christ Church Hall

Refreshments will be served.

Suggested donation: £10.00 pp with any profit going to Christ Church funds (at Bill's request).

To give us some idea of take up, please sign up on the sheet at the back of church if you intend to come. Many thanks

Benefice Quiet Day at the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield

Tuesday 23rd September starting at 10am.

The day includes a welcoming opening talk by one of the brethren at 10am, the use throughout the day of the retreat house common room and 2 refreshment breaks. Please bring your own lunch and arrange your own transport. The cost per person is £10. If you wish to go, please add your name to the list available at the back of church. The deadline for this and for payment to Revd Kathia is Sunday 14th Sept.

News & Stories from the Church of England

Churches invited to pray together for peace in the Middle East

Church of England congregations are being invited to join together with other churches to pray for the people of Gaza, Israel and the wider Middle East next month.

A group of Christian charities and aid agencies, working with church leaders, is organising a day of prayer for peace in the Middle East on Sunday, September 21. It is timed to coincide with the UN's International Day of Peace.

The Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, Dr Hosam Naoum, has written a prayer, available for use in churches. It prays for an immediate end to the war, the release of all captives, help for those suffering hunger and starvation in Gaza and beyond, and the resumption of negotiations for a just and lasting peace (full text below).

Prayer material and other information will be made available on special pages on the websites of the ecumenical groups Churches Together in England and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

Further events and opportunities for church engagement are planned for the coming months the details of which will be released in due course: [Middle East peace – Churches Together in England](#).

A Prayer for the Holy Land

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: In your mercy, provide for all those in Gaza and beyond who suffer from hunger and starvation, that they may be given both physical bread to nourish their bodies and heavenly bread to sustain their souls. By the power of your Spirit, bring a speedy end to this cruel war, the release of all captives, care for the sick and wounded, comfort for those who have lost loved-ones, and the opening of a pathway for a just and lasting peace here in the very homeland where your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ministered during his earthly life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*The Most Reverend Dr Hosam E. Naoum Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem
August, 2025*

New pilgrim routes opening up as 21st century Britons rediscover their ancient spiritual paths

Two new pilgrimage routes are being launched this summer, offering opportunities for individuals and families to explore the sacred landscapes and spiritual heritage of Britain.



These initiatives reflect a growing interest in walking and cycling pilgrimages as a way to slow down, reflect, and reconnect with God's creation.

The Diocese of Exeter has unveiled the Lee Abbey to Lundy Way, a 20-mile pilgrimage between St Mary's Church in Lynton and St Helen's Church on Lundy Island.

Pilgrims travel between Lundy Island and Ilfracombe on the mainland by ferry in summer - or helicopter in winter. As they pass along the Devon coast, the route takes them to Lee Abbey, the Christian retreat centre, for a blessing before continuing.

The route, devised by the Rev Jane Skinner, is the fifth in the Devon Pilgrim project and includes stops at several churches where pilgrims can collect stamps in their pilgrim passports.

"Pilgrimage is having a moment," said Rev Skinner. "I'm keen that everyone feels they can have a go without needing to travel abroad."



Meanwhile, in September, the Diocese of Bristol will mark the launch of the final 40-mile section of the Athelstan Pilgrim Way, a 100-mile walking and cycling route through North Wiltshire.

This family-friendly pilgrimage includes 11 churches in the Braydon Brook and Upper Thames benefices, with shorter walks available for younger or time-limited pilgrims. The launch event at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade, will feature a talk by the writer and environmentalist Martin Palmer. Guidebooks, pilgrim passports, and a companion volume on the churches are available, along with a children's trail featuring Stan the dog.

Both routes reflect a growing interest in pilgrimage as a means to experience faith through movement, nature, and community.



The Bishop of Exeter, Mike Harrison, speaking on Lundy Island, said: "This is a place with a very long, deep Christian spirituality associated with it. You can feel that as you walk around."

Whether walking along the cliffs of Lundy or through the villages of Wiltshire, these pilgrimages provide a meaningful way to connect with the past and present in a spirit of exploration and contemplation.

As Rev Skinner put it: "Here is a chance to walk on the earth. This is time to slow down, reflect, rejoice and gain a sense of achievement."

How can we look on as child poverty soars?

By Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, 1/9/2025

With all children across the UK back in school as of this week, I am reminded that one of three are in poverty. That statistic is shocking enough – but behind every number is a child, and what this statistic means is children arriving at school hungry, living in insecure housing, and missing out on the activities that help them thrive.

I visited a school in the north-east of England a couple of years ago where many of the pupils turned up with empty lunchboxes. There was a breakfast club that fed them on arrival. They were eligible for free school meals, so got a hot lunch. After school, trestle tables were set up in the playground laden with food donated from the local food bank. As they went home, they filled up their lunchboxes so that they could have some tea.

I have rarely been so shocked. This is the reality of child poverty. This is the normal situation for far too many children and families. Childhood should be full of opportunity. For too many, it begins and ends in struggle.

Last week, I spent the morning at the Junction Multibank in Middlesbrough, a town where more than 40% of children grow up in poverty. The organisation brings together charities and companies to ensure surplus goods – clothes, furniture, sanitary products – reach those who need them. In less than a year, it has distributed 1.5m items to more than 224,000 people. The work is inspiring, but also deeply sobering. That so much crisis support is necessary in a wealthy country such as ours should be a source of national shame.

Of course, leaders face difficult choices with public finances. But let us be clear: policies such as the two-child limit and the benefit cap are not neutral. They deliberately hold back hundreds of thousands of children, restricting support worth £3,500 a year for each third and subsequent child in low-income families. This policy may appear to save money in the short term, but it stores up far greater costs for the future. Children who go to school hungry are more likely to fall behind, and those lost opportunities reverberate through their lives as adults – economically, socially and personally.

You only get one childhood. If it is blighted, you may never recover. If so many lives are blighted in this way, the whole of society suffers. There is therefore no route to ending child poverty that does not first end the two-child limit. Scrapping these welfare caps would lift up to half a million children out of poverty overnight.

As a church leader, I often reflect on the moral principles that underpin and guide our society. Surely, commitment to children should be something we can all agree on. But I worry about our commitment to the flourishing of every child when we design policies that deny support to so many because of the accident of their birth order. And even if you think that parents should not have more than two children, what is gained by making the child the one who suffers and store

up so many more problems for the future? We need creative thinking and ambitious action. But above all, we need the will to make the right choices for our children. The cost of such change is real and must be paid for. Gordon Brown makes an interesting suggestion that simply raising a handful of gambling taxes in line with other comparable countries would be a good way to start raising the revenue needed. But if we don't do anything, the cost of inaction – to the next generation and to our society – will be far greater.

Local initiatives such as the Junction Multibank and countless other community and church projects play a vital role in supporting families in crisis. But charity alone cannot solve a problem on this scale. Only government can make the systemic joined-up changes required to reduce poverty and restore dignity.

Jesus said, love your neighbour as yourself. How can we tolerate a society where only some children have such opportunity, and so many have none? In one of the richest countries in the world, the level of child poverty in the UK at the moment is quite simply unacceptable. We can do better than this.

I already see hope in the compassion and resilience of communities such as the ones I visited in Middlesbrough last week, the tenacity and creativity of local church and community leaders, and the generosity of those determined to help. But there is more to do and if we seize this moment, we can turn that hope into change. This must include ending the two-child limit and benefit cap. Other more holistic changes to the benefit system will be needed as well. We must try to take these issues out of party politics and see that it is in all our best interests for children – all children – to have a fair start in life. Because every child, without exception, deserves the chance to thrive.

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..... from the Diocese of Leeds

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If you long to pray more and experience the divine Love more deeply, this retreat is for you. We will find inspiration in the scriptures and Christian tradition to deepen our awareness of God who is not far away. We will practice different ways of prayer including silence, contemplation and the Ignatian way, and seek nurture and inspiration with assistance of music, nature and a variety of texts.

Cost: £195

To book a place, please contact the Hall on 01756 720213 or by email at admin@parcevallhall.org.uk

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A new pilgrimage route is to be launched in our diocese

Exciting plans are in place for **Yorkshire Churches Day on Saturday, September 13**, which is a chance for people of all ages, backgrounds, and interests to explore the region's places of worship and celebrate their rich architectural and cultural heritage.

One of the key highlights of this year's event, organised by the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust, will be the launch of the new Abbots' Way – Ancient Paths for Modern Pilgrims, in our Ripon Episcopal Area.

Revd Andrew Cromarty, Associate Priest in the Benefice of Fountains, said: "I am privileged to have helped draw together a highly capable project group, through whom this idea has taken shape and gained traction."

The Abbots' Way, part of the Fountains Way, aims to get people out walking in the glorious Nidderdale area, visiting four beautiful rural churches located in the Fountains Benefice.

These include William Burges' famous St Mary's, Studley Royal, by Fountains Abbey and starting and finishing at Sawley, near Ripon, this nine mile route takes in St Michael and All Angels, St Mary's Studley Royal, St Cuthbert and St Oswald, Winksley and St Lawrence, Aldfield.



Tom Ramsden, chairman of the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust (YHCT) said: "These pilgrimages offer a unique opportunity to enjoy both the peace and beauty of the Yorkshire countryside and the depth of heritage found in its churches. Taking part helps these churches as well as simply being good for the soul. Please help celebrate Yorkshire's churches and enjoy the day".

Find out more about other walks on Yorkshire Churches Day at:
<https://www.yhct.org.uk/yorkshire-churches-day/>

Please support....



Christian Aid is on a journey. We are building a world free from poverty, and based on dignity, equality, justice and love.

Our understanding of how to address and eradicate poverty is based on three pillars.

- Poverty – We reach those most in need, in some of the hardest to reach places around the world.
- Power – We challenge the systemic and structural causes of poverty by holding those in power to account.
- Prophetic voice – We speak truth to power and build local and collective agency

To be part of our global movement for change, please visit:

<https://give.christianaid.org.uk/donate/>

Skipton Food Bank

This is a list of standard items that we use to make up our food parcels. All items should be in good condition, unopened and not past their *use by* or *best before* date. This is a list of what currently is included in our food parcels

Food

- Tinned meat
- Custard
- Tinned fruit
- Instant Coffee
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Jam/Marmalade
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Tinned veg, e.g. Sweetcorn, Peas, Carrots
- Rice
- Tinned spaghetti
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned Fish
- Quick cook meals – noodles, rice & pasta
- UHT milk
- Pasta
- Soup
- Beans
- Cereal

Toiletries

- Toilet roll
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Shower Gel
- Sanitary Products

We also collect

- Dog food
- Cat food
- Nappies (large size 5 or 6 most helpful)
- Baby wipes
- Household cleaning items and washing powder

Our heartfelt thanks. Together, we are able to provide much needed support to many households in Craven.



Foundation Craven

(part of the [Inspire North](https://www.inspirenorth.org/) charity group)

Foundation Craven delivers the following services in Craven District Council - Skipton and surrounding areas:

- **Resettlement and Community Safety Scheme (RACS):** A high performing short term support service working with offenders who have the highest need and pose the greatest risk to themselves and the community.
- **North Yorkshire Young People's Pathway:** This service offers young people the necessary support, advice and mediation to enable them to stay in their present accommodation. Where it is not possible for someone to remain at home, we have a variety of accommodation options to suit their needs.
- **Mental Health Scheme:** This service takes referrals from many places, including the Community Mental Health Team, GP, hospitals, substance misuse agencies as well as self-referrals, for those with a severe and enduring mental health diagnoses. We offer a mixture of floating support and accommodation based supported housing.

Contact Email Craven@foundationuk.org Website: <https://www.foundationuk.org/>

Telephone: 01756 701195

Foundation Craven welcomes donations of:

- Food items
- Household goods
- Soft furnishings (beddings, towels, cutlery)
- monetary contributions can be made online at <https://www.foundationuk.org/donate/>

or in the office across the road from Christ Church, at:

The Carriage Works, 3-5 Cross Street, Skipton BD23 2AH

(hours: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday).