



St Mary's

www.facebook.com/stmarystod or <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18018/>

St Peter's

www.facebook.com/walsdenstpeter or <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18019/>

Readings & News: 21st December 2025: Advent 4

St Mary's Todmorden, St Michael's Cornholme and St Peter's Walsden

Isaiah 7: 10-16 ¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Romans 1: 1-7 ¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints, Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1: 18-end ¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' ²²All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Collect: Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer: Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

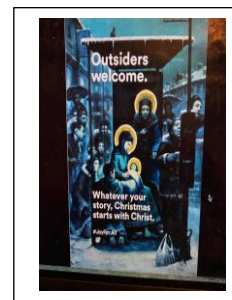
Hymns: 21st December: St Mary's Hymns O&N

Introit: The angel Gabriel from heaven came - **634**

Gradual: O little town of Bethlehem - **508**

Offertory: Mary had a baby - **443**

Communion: Nada te turbe - **937**





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Communion: Mary blessed teenage mother - 442

Recessional: Tell out my soul - 631

- **TODAY: CHRISTMAS 2025: 9 Lessons and Carols: Sunday 21st December, 6pm**, with Mulled Wine; **Choir rehearsal 2pm today**
- **Blue Christmas: Monday 22nd December at 6pm:** candles for those we miss
- **Crib, Christingle and Tractor Fun: Christmas Eve – 24th December at 4pm**
- **Town Carols: Christmas Eve – 24th December at 6pm** With Mulled Wine
- **Midnight Mass: Christmas Eve – 24th December, starts 11.30pm**, with carols
- **Christmas Morning: 8am**, quiet, said service and **11am Service** with Carols
- **NEXT SUNDAY 28th December at 11am, service for HOLY INNOCENTS**

HELP NEEDED with giving out hymn books, hymn sheets and serving refreshments **for Christmas Services AND creating Christingles on Christmas Eve at 10am**, in church

Regular giving: We are still encouraging people to give online via standing order or parish giving **BUT** if you need to use envelopes please sign the list at the back of church so that we can arrange them for the new year.

For notices, weddings, funerals, baptisms and volunteering please contact:

- Rev Catherine: 07711 611201 / Catherine.Shelley@leeds.anglican.org

A new Bishop for Leeds Diocese: Please continue to pray for the discernment process

VOLUNTEERS: We have now found a **Children's Society Rep**, for which much thanks.

However, we have a number of other roles that need to be filled, including:

- People to **Count the Collection on Sundays**
- **Help with planning and admin for fairs**
- People to help **administer the chalice at Communion** (Eucharistic Ministers)
- **Flower arrangers** and people to **distribute flyers and publicity**

If you have gifts that you would like to offer to support the church let us know....

We continue to pray for: Gwen Mills, Muriel Cridge, Jacob Howarth, Roy Yearsley, Viv Hawksworth, Mandy Fielden, Norman Cruikshank, Margaret McArdle; Sarah Battershell, Robert Scholey, Glynys Radnizic, Joyce Campion, Trevor Smith, Meg Kennedy, Margaret Blackburn, Jeffrey Hunter, Caroline Van den Brut, Jerzy Browne, Maureen Fielden, Roger & Clifford, Jonathan, Nigel Bentley, John (Ginger) Taylor, Rita, Lisa & Michael Kenyon, Les Marshall, Helena Cook, Edith Thomas, Natasha McArdle, Ann Mason, Zoe Beesley, Lorna & Peter Shackleton, Roxanna Fleetwood, Catherine, the Middle East, Ukraine, Somalia, Sudan & the Yemen.

Recently Departed: Elaine Shackleton, Katie McQueen (aka Wilmore), Elaine Horsted, Susan Gregory, Janine Goldie, Lesley Hartley, Gordon Marsden, Rita Smith, Muriel Cridge

In Memory: Ambrose Charnock, Ralph Jackson, Oliver Dawson, Annie Wood, Samuel Thynn Adamson, Harry Rogers, Eric Sutcliffe, Helen Willday, Frank R. McManus, Millicent S. Lancaster, Jack Fiddling, Brian Whittaker, Elsie Edwards, John E Mamwell, Richard C. Green, Maureen Pearce, Robert Vernon, Doris M. Fieldsend, Brenda M. Gordon, Tony Thomas, James Knight, Albert Edward Alletson, Michael Varley, Debra Fielden, Leigh Brandwood, Davina Cockcroft



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