



St Mary's

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St Peter's

[www.facebook.com/walsdenstpeter](https://www.facebook.com/walsdenstpeter) or <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18019/>

## **Readings & News: 28th December 2025: Holy Innocents**

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

**Jeremiah 31: 15-17** Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more. <sup>16</sup> Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord: they shall come back from the land of the enemy; <sup>17</sup> there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country.

**1 Corinthians 1: 26-29** <sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

**Matthew 2: 13-18** <sup>13</sup> Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night and went to Egypt <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' <sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: <sup>18</sup> 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children, she refused to be consoled, because they are no more

**Collect:** Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **Post Communion:**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **Hymns: 28<sup>th</sup> December: St Mary's Hymns O&N**

**Introit:** Joy to the World - 370

**Gradual:** Unto us a boy is born - 700

**Offertory:** The virgin Mary had a baby boy - 670

**Communion:** Father God, I wonder - 159

**Communion:** Child in the manger - 75

**Recessional:** Jubilate everybody - 371

### **Funerals:**

**Muriel Cridge – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 St Mary's at 12.45pm, 2.30pm at Burnley Crem**

**Martin Conneely – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 2pm at St Mary's, 3.15pm at Burnley**

**Dorothy Jordan – Memorial Service at St Mary's on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 11am**





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**Regular giving:** We hope to have envelopes ready for those who are signed up for them by next weekend, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

**Next Rainbow Faith Service:** Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January, 4pm at St Mary's. Epiphany Kings, Queens, Wise People and Gifts.

**Next Exploring Faith group** – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 11am, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm Exploring Wisdom in the Bible and beyond...

**NEXT PCC Meeting:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm and additional joint PCC meeting with St Peter's and the Diocese, re closure process, Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm

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

- Rev Catherine: 07711 611201 / [Catherine.Shelley@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:Catherine.Shelley@leeds.anglican.org)

**A new Bishop for Leeds Diocese:** Copy Statement of Needs now available at back of Church Please continue to pray for the discernment process, which will continue into 2026

**We continue to pray for:** Gwen Mills, Jacob Howarth, Roy Yearsley, Viv Hawksworth, Mandy Fielden, Norman Cruikshank, Margaret McArdle; Sarah Battershell, Robert Scholey, Glynys Radnzcic, Joyce Champion, Trevor Smith, Meg Kennedy, Margaret Blackburn, Jeffrey Hunter, Caroline Van den Brut, Jerzy Browne, 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 and Peter Shackleton, the Middle East, Ukraine, Somalia, Sudan and the Yemen.

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

**In Memory:** William Alletson, Alice Pickles, J.Sydney Dearden, Peggy Gregory, Norman H. Endley, Sylvia Crossley, Emily Davison, Rudi Holzapfel, F.Brian Davy-Day, Margaret Wright, Andrew R. Goldthorpe, Phebe I Westall, Wayne Bell, Hannah Marshall, Jack Hawksworth, Tom Nuttall, Horace Scriven, Edwina W Stanton, Cyril Lord, Monica M Heyes, Jack Highley,

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**VOLUNTEERS:** Roles to be filled:

**Collection Counters on Sundays**

**Help with planning and admin for fairs**

**People to help administer the**

**chalice at Communion (Eucharistic Ministers)**

**Flower arrangers and**

**Distributors of flyers and publicity**

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

**Meeting about Friends of Cross Stone,**  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026 at 6pm, at St

**Leeds Diocese TOGETHER network meeting**  
**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 5-7pm,** Head  
of Steam Pub, Park Row, Leeds LS1 5HN