

## **Readings & News: 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026: Christian Unity**

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

**Isaiah 49: 1-7:** Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God." <sup>5</sup>And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord and my God has become my strength, <sup>6</sup>he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." <sup>7</sup>Thus says the Lord the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

**1 Corinthians 1: 1-9:** <sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup>To the church of God in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind, <sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**John 1: 29-42:** <sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>John testified, "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove and remain on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." <sup>35</sup>The next day John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this and followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying and they remained with him that day. It was about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which translates Anointed). <sup>42</sup>He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him & said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (translated as Peter).



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**Collect:** God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Post Communion:** Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Hymns: 18<sup>th</sup> January: St Mary's Hymns O&N**

**Introit:** Dear Lord and Father of mankind - **144**

**Gradual:** Just as I am without one plea - **374**

**Offertory:** There's a wideness- **662**

**Communion:** The Lord is my light - **944**

**Communion:** Like a candle flame – **399**

**Recessional:** Longing for light - Sheet

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

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

**24<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 2.30pm – Huddersfield Episcopal Area Annual Celebration service** at Huddersfield Parish Church – ALL WELCOME

**25<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 1pm– Forest Church** - Great Garden Birdwatch at St Peters

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

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7pm – Todmorden Folk Festival Youth Awards @ St Mary's Church:** the competition to select the opening bands for the Folk Festival.

**VOLUNTEER Roles to be filled: Collection Counters** on Sundays; help with **planning for fairs**; People to help **administer the chalice at Communion** (Eucharistic Ministers) **Flower arrangers and Distributors of flyers and publicity; if you can help let us know**

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, Muriel Cridge, Jacob Howarth, Roy Yearsley, Viv Hawksworth, Mandy Fielden, Norman Cruikshank, Margaret McArdle; Sarah Battershell, Robert Scholey, Glynys Radnzcic, Joyce Campion, Trevor Smith, Meg Kennedy, Margaret Blackburn, Jeffrey Hunter, Caroline Van den Brut, Jerzy Browne, Roger & Clifford, Jonathan, Nigel Bentley, Rita, Lisa & Michael Kenyon, Les Marshall, Helena Cook, Edith Thomas, Natasha McArdle, Ann Mason, Zoe Beesley, Lorna and Peter Shackleton, Helen Colclough, the Middle East, Ukraine, Somalia, Sudan and the Yemen.

**Recently Departed:** Janine Goldie, Lesley Hartley, Rita Smith, Muriel Cridge, Martin Conneely, Harry Pearce, Ginger Taylor

**In Memory:** Edward Dickinson Owen, Michael A. Carson, Albert Bright, Eva Nuttall, Neville Owens, Norman Bentley, Barbara Jackson, Cooper Watson, Winnie Moss, Harry Mitchell, Daniel T. Holmes, Alison Hemingway, Harry Kershaw, Malcolm Heywood



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Margaret Connell, Kay Underwood, Elsie Fitton, Patricia Violet Bradshaw, Anne E Bartley, Eva Back, Frederick Arthur Clarkson, John (Jack) Ashworth, Donald Humphrey, Susanna Whitham, Clarence Wilde, W. Dawson Young, Mary Marshall, Kenneth Cridge, Elsie Marion Crabtree