

WEEKLY NEWS



Journey to the cross

MATTHEW 21.1-11

Jesus arrives in Jerusalem on a donkey, marking the beginning of his journey to the cross. He is welcomed by a large crowd; but others are perplexed, asking ‘Who is this?’ The ‘Son of David’, and ‘the one who comes in the name of the Lord’ are the responses.

In Holy Week, we journey with Jesus from the celebrations of Palm Sunday to the pain of Good Friday. From shouts of ‘Hosanna!’ to cries of ‘Crucify’. These cries still resonate today. As we follow Jesus through this week, we will think of others who walk their own journeys of praise and pain.

Palm Sunday, Jesus at the gates of Jerusalem

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when the Church remembers how Jesus arrived at the gates of Jerusalem just a few days before the Passover was due to be held. He was the Messiah come to His own people in their capital city, and yet He came in humility, riding on a young donkey, not in triumph, riding on a war-horse.

As Jesus entered the city, the crowds gave Him a rapturous welcome, throwing palm fronds into His path. They knew His reputation as a healer, and welcomed Him. But sadly, the welcome was short-lived and shallow, for Jerusalem would soon reject her Messiah, and put Him to death. On this day churches worldwide will distribute little crosses made from palm fronds in memory of Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem.

Sunday 29th
March 2026

**Palm Sunday
LITURGY OF THE PALMS**
MATTHEW 21.1-11
PSALM 118.1-2, 19-END
(FL)

**LITURGY OF THE
PASSION
FIRST READING**
ISIAH 50.4-9A (ST)

PSALM
PSALM 31.9-16 (DT)
SECOND READING
PHILIPPIANS 2.5-11 (GL)

GOSPEL
MATT 26.14 – END OF 27
SERVERS

GRAHAM LAMB
PETER HENRY

FIRST READING
SARAH TOWLER

PSALM
FIONA LAMB
DAVE TOWLER

SECOND READING
GRAHAM LAMB

INTERCESSIONS
PAUL HEALEY

SIDES PERSON
ANGELA WILKINS &
REBECCA LUMB

Collect Trinity Sunday

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory.

THIS WEEKS HYMNS

Processional

All glory, laud and honour

Gradual

I will sing the wondrous story

Offertory

Christ triumphant

Communion

King of Kings, majesty
Broken for me

Recessional

Make way, make way

Palm Sunday & Holy Week

The events of Easter took place over a week, traditionally called Passion Week.

It began on Palm Sunday. After all His teaching and healing, Jesus had built a following.

On the Sunday before He was to die, Jesus and His followers arrived at Jerusalem. The city was crowded. Jewish people were arriving from to celebrate Passover. This commemorates how they had escaped from slavery in Egypt nearly 1,500 year earlier.

Jesus rode into the city on a young donkey. He was greeted like a conquering hero. Cheering crowds waved palm branches in tribute. He was hailed as the Messiah who had come to re-establish a Jewish kingdom.

The next day they returned to Jerusalem. Jesus went to the temple, the epicentre of the Jewish faith, and confronted the money-changers and merchants who were ripping off the people. He overturned their tables and accused them of being thieves. The religious authorities were alarmed and feared how He was stirring up the crowds.

On the Tuesday, they challenged Jesus, questioning His authority. He answered by challenging and condemning their hypocrisy. Later that day Jesus spoke to His disciples about future times. He warned them about fake religious leaders; the coming destruction of Jerusalem; wars, earthquakes and famines; and how His followers would face persecution.

By midweek the Jewish religious leaders and elders were so angry with Jesus that they began plotting to arrest and kill Him. One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, went to the chief priests and agreed to betray Him to them.

Jesus and the 12 disciples gathered on the Thursday evening to celebrate the Passover meal. This is known as the Last Supper. During the evening, Jesus initiated a ritual still marked by Christians – Holy Communion – which commemorates His death. Jesus broke bread and shared it and a cup of wine with His disciples.

Judas then left to meet the other plotters. Jesus continued to teach the others and then went outside into an olive grove to pray. He even prayed for all future believers. He agonised over what was to come but chose the way of obedience. The Bible book, Luke, records Him praying, 'Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done'. Minutes later Judas arrived with soldiers and the chief priests and Jesus was arrested.



Easter Lilies

If you would like to have an Easter lily placed in church on Easter Sunday in memory of a loved one, you can sign up in church or make your donation through our secure online giving page. Please select "Easter Lily" under the campaign options. There is a small charge of £3.50 per lily or 3 for £10.00.

For more information, please speak to Angela Wilkins.

REVISION OF CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Notice is hereby given

that the Church Electoral Roll of the above parish will be revised by the Parochial Church Council*, beginning on **Sunday** the **29th** day of **March** 2026, and ending on **Saturday** the **11th** day of **April** 2026.

After the revision, a copy of the Roll will be published by the Parochial Church Council on the church notice board and on the church website for at least 14 days and a copy of the Roll will be available for inspection on a reasonable request being made to the Council.

Under the Church Representation Rules any lay persons are entitled to have their names entered on the roll if the person is—

(a) is baptised, (b) is aged 16 or over, and (c) has made one of the following three declarations and duly applied for enrolment.

The first declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and is resident in the parish.

The second declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, is not resident in the parish, but has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

The third declaration is that the person is a member in good standing of a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and is also a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

Application Forms for enrolment can be obtained from the Church Electoral Roll Officer. In order for a person to be entitled to attend the annual parochial church meeting and to take part in its proceedings, an Application Form for enrolment must be returned by the date shown above for the ending of the revision of the Church Electoral Roll by the Parochial Church Council.

Any error discovered in the Roll should at once be reported to the Church Electoral Roll Officer.

Dated this **12th** day of **March 2026**

Signed: Sarah Towler

Address: _Fairhaven, Tuel Lane, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2EL
Church Electoral Roll Officer

Email (*optional*): clarkybobs89@hotmail.co.uk

** The revision must be completed at least 15 days, but no more than 28 days, before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.*

At least 14 days notice must be given.



We Love Gardening

MONTHLY GARDENING GET TOGETHER, CAREING FOR OUR CHURCHYARD

SATURDAY
4TH APRIL
FROM 10AM



In your prayers this week....

Alyson Healey; Lukas Powell;
Maralyn Pawson; Helen Pedley;
Vanessa Starsmore; Victor
Smyth; Kelly Swift



During Lent it's traditional to not have flowers in church.

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

Quotes

Our mistakes won't irreparably damage our lives unless we let them. - James Sweaney

A grouch always looks as if he were weaned on a pickle. - Anon

Patience achieves more than force. - Edmund Burke

When you kneel to pray, don't give orders - report for duty! - Anon

Because of God's grace, failure is never final. - Anon

Blessed are those who can give without remembering, and take without forgetting. - Anon

From the Parish Prayer list:

Ourselves; Our Family, Parents and Grandparents and other family members who support each other; Our Friends; Willowfield Drive; Willowfield Road; Wood Nook Grange; Wood Nook Lane; Woodlands Drive; Woodroyd; Woodroyd Gardens

ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



When you need to buy large item research it carefully. Think about how long it could last how much it costs to run, what it is made of, where it is made, can it be recycled at the end of its life.

Better quality items often last longer and so cost you less over time.

Blessed are those who look upon the world with God's loving eyes and seek to protect it, nourish it, and enable it to flourish.



©Andy Robb

Next week

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 2025
EASTER SUNDAY

FIRST READING

ACTS 10: 34-43

PSALM

PSALM 118:14-24

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 28:1-10

SERVERS

PETER HENRY

ANTHEA GEE

FIRST READING

DAVE TOWLER

PSALM

RICHARD SMITH

SECOND READING

PETER HENRY

INTERCESSIONS

DAVE GILL

SIDES PERSON

JACKIE GILL & KEVIN HENRY

DIARY

Monday

10:30 Morning Prayer

7pm PCC

Tuesday

10.00 Coffee Morning

11.30am Mid week
communion

1.00pm Craft & Chatter

Wednesday

5.45pm Bible Study

Mauddy Thursday

6pm Meal & Reflection at St.
Pauls

7.30pm Holy Communion

Good Friday

10.30am Walk of Witness

Saturday, meet at St
Patricks from 10am

2.30pm Stations of the
Cross

Holy Saturday

10am Coffee Morning

10am Gardening Group

11.30pm Easter vigil

Easter Sunday

10.30am Holy Communion



Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Our annual church meeting will be held after the service on Sunday 26 April 2026.

At this meeting you will be able to ask questions/bring your thoughts and hear what has been happening over the year at your Church. At the meeting Church Wardens will be appointed along with Parochial Church Council (PCC) members and Deanery Synod representatives. If you feel this is something you are being called to please have a word with Revd. Tommy or one of the PCC/Deanery Synod members. There is a list of current members in the Community Room.

Organisation reports

Please could all organisations/groups send their annual report to Anthea at antheagee@yahoo.co.uk by Sunday 5 April. Thank you.

Nomination forms for Church Wardens, PCC and Deanery Synod representatives will be available next Sunday, 5 April.

Maundy Thursday – 2nd April

Christians Together in Sowerby Bridge will be gathering on Maundy Thursday, beginning at St Paul's Methodist Church at 6pm. The evening will include a simple shared meal and a time of quiet reflection. Food provided will cater for gluten-free and vegan requirements.

Following this, we will walk together to Christ Church for a service which will include a symbolic quieting of the church and preparation of the altar for Good Friday, helping us reflect on the events of that first Maundy Thursday.

Good Friday 3rd April

Christ Church will be joining with other Churches in a Walk of Witness starting at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Bolton Brow. We meet in the Church Hall at 10.00 and start the walk 10.30. As we proceed into Sowerby Bridge to finish at St. Paul's Church we will be stopping at 9 stations for a short reflection and singing a verse of a hymn. A service will be held at St. Paul's Methodist Church when we arrive so if you cannot walk please join us there.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

We will be holding a Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday at 2.30pm. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Holy Saturday 4th April

Easter Vigil / The Last Watch – 11:30pm

This year we will be holding our first Easter Vigil, also known as the Last Watch, beginning at 11:30pm on Easter Eve. This short, reflective service marks the final hours before the joy of Easter Day.

Traditionally, the Last Watch is a time of quiet prayer, waiting, and reflection as we recall the time between Christ's death and resurrection. It offers a peaceful space to pause, to sit in stillness, and to prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter morning.

All are welcome to join us for this special and meaningful start to Easter.

Road Closure around Sowerby Bridge

Next Sunday April 5th there will be several road closures around the town, due to the Halifax 10k run, which starts from Station Road. Please allow yourself extra time .



Your Parish Share is vital for sustaining ministry and mission throughout the Diocese of Leeds.

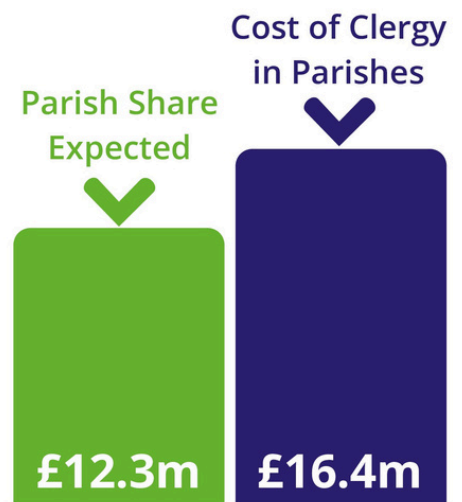
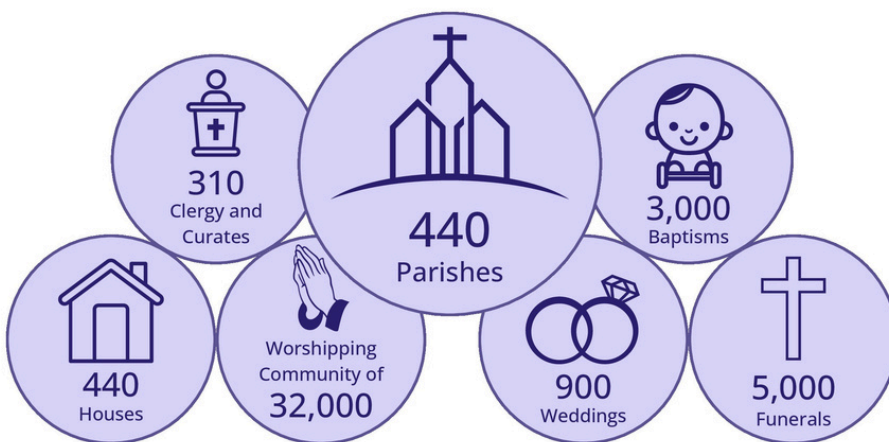
Giving generously is an expression of the love of God to the people around us, and is one way to live out our faith and support in our communities.

Thanks to the generosity of churches like yours, we hope to receive £12.3 million in Parish Share in 2025. This will go towards the £16.4 million needed to provide housing, stipends and other ministry support for our 310 clergy.

When we give through Parish Share we enable mission and ministry in all our parishes, encouraging confidence in the future of our diocese.

'Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand'
 1 Chronicles 29:14

In our Diocese Parish Share supports:



For more detailed share information and support, please scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/2025parishshareguide

E: finance@leeds.anglican.org | T: 0113 200 0540

YOUR PARISH SHARE IS VITAL FOR SUSTAINING MINISTRY AND MISSION THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS

What is Parish Share?

Parish Share is the financial contribution your parish is asked to make to support the mission and ministry of the Church. This primarily covers the costs of clergy stipends (wages) and their housing. Thanks to your support, with Share we are able to ensure:

- Every communion is celebrated
- Every sermon is preached
- Every bereaved family is comforted
- Every school assembly takes place
- Every baptism and wedding is ministered
- Every person is shown the love of Christ through our compassion and comfort.

The Bible and Parish Share

Using the Parish Share system means that we're able to offer mission and ministry across the whole of our diocese. More importantly perhaps, resourcing the work of the church this way follows some principles we find in Scripture. God is our Heavenly Father whose nature as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is to invite us to be in a relationship with Him and with one another. Parish Share is one way we act, as Christians, to fulfil our calling and even reflect God's own relational nature.

Parish Share presents an opportunity for each church community, according to their ability, to participate in the financial costs of ministry throughout our diocese. In this way, ministry may be sustained in poorer communities where otherwise this would not be possible.

Romans 12:4-5, NIV

We're not all the same, and not all of our church communities are the same, but, like different parts of the body we each play our own part in ensuring the flourishing of the whole body. In our diocese we use the words "Living, Loving, Learning" to describe our mission. Living together this way, as members of the one body, we pray and worship God together, we share His love with others by serving our neighbours, and we invite others to know the joy and fulfilment of a life with God at our centre, and the peace of eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Indeed, the mission to share the Good News is an urgent one.



Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday	10:30am	Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	7:30pm	Holy Communion Preparing Church
Good Friday	10.00am	Walk of Witness
	2:30pm	Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday	11:30pm	Last Watch Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	10:30am	Holy Communion with Baptism



N A T C Y E F N D R M Y E N
 T I I E R D L I M I Y F P T
 P O T S E O I A N O T H E R
 N S B A V F U C U A I E N S
 T L T E L N C E O C L O O J
 R H D T D A T R B M I I E D
 E T U Y Y I V W E T M S A R
 P S S R Y N E E A N U A P T
 P U E A S T O N I S H I N G
 U M R O L D I M C D H R U D
 S H V P H M A O E E E E D S
 D T I D O D G Y V R H M D O
 S T C D I S C I P L E S A S
 Y T E A C H E R A U O C I R

On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to his disciples before his death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed his disciples' feet. This was astonishing for a 'teacher' to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

Maundy	Disciples	Feet	Loved	Service
Thursday	Death	Astonishing	you	Domination
Final	Last	Purpose	Must	Latin
Command	Supper	Teacher	One	Ceremony
Jesus	Washed	As	Another	Medieval
				Humility
				Obedience



Find us at

www.christchurchsb.org.uk

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Once connected scan
the QR code below



Auto generated captions
will appear once the
Service starts.



Christ Church

Sowerby Bridge since 1821

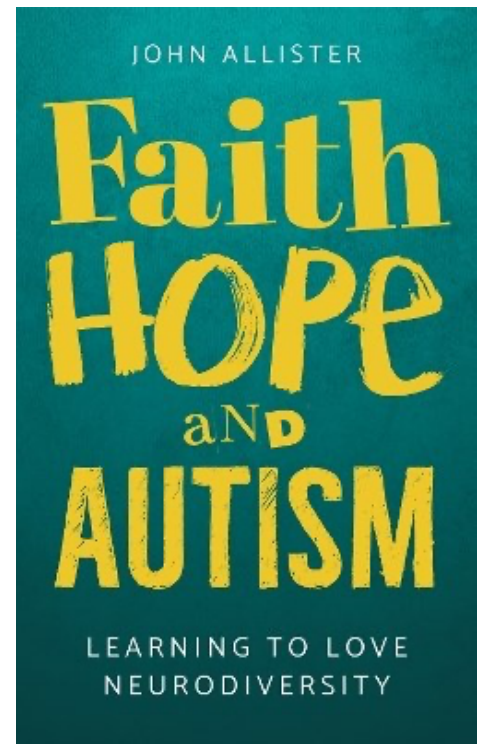
Faith, Hope and Autism - learning to love neurodiversity

By John Allister, Canterbury Press, £16.99

What does church feel like if you're autistic? And how can churches become places where autistic people truly belong?

John Allister – a Church of England vicar who is also autistic – shares honest stories, practical insights, and heartfelt letters to his younger self. He opens up a window into the joys and challenges of growing up autistic, discovering faith, and finding a place in the church.

Blending personal experience with down-to-earth guidance, John helps readers understand how autistic people experience the world, why inclusion matters, and what real welcome can look like. This book is for anyone who wants their church to be more open, kind, and full of belonging – whether you're a church leader, have an autistic friend or family member, or are autistic yourself. Warm, witty, and deeply human, Faith, Hope and Autism is a powerful invitation to see the church – and each other – differently.



Smile Lines

How many church members does it take to change a light bulb?

What do you mean CHANGE??? That light bulb was given in memory of my grandmother! My father installed it with his bare hands! He donated his time AND the use of his ladder to do it, too! My family's been members of this church for four generations! And if you think you're going to come in here and make a bunch of changes all of a sudden, vicar, you've got another think coming!

Ordinary people Sharing God's love in our world.

Growing in faith. Living by prayer. Loving God's word.

Living Loving Learning.

Rev. Tommy Dalglish

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