

CHRIST CHURCH, SOWERBY BRIDGE

WEEKLY NEWS



Gateway to life

JOHN 10.1-10

Jesus talks about the safety and dangers of caring for sheep. The shepherd calls his sheep by name, and the sheep know the shepherd's voice, but will run away from strangers. The Pharisees do not understand that Jesus is referring to himself. Jesus also says that he is the gate of the sheepfold, and whoever enters by him will be saved.

This passage invites us to reflect on listening to Jesus' voice, as the sheep follow him alone. The image of Jesus being the gate is very powerful and leads the sheep, and us, to an abundance of life. We consider how we might follow Jesus' voice to the life we are in need of.

26th April - Mark

- disciple, apostle, writer of the second gospel

Mark, whose home in Jerusalem became a place of rest for Jesus and His 12 apostles, is considered the traditional author of the second gospel. He is also usually identified

as the young man, described in Mark 14:51, who followed Christ after his arrest and then escaped capture by leaving his clothes behind.

Papias, in 130, said that in later years Mark became Peter's interpreter. If so, then this close friendship would have been how Mark gathered so much information about Jesus' life. Peter referred to him affectionately as his 'son'.

Mark was also a companion to Paul on his journeys. When Paul was held captive at Rome, Mark was with him, helping him. Mark's Gospel, most likely written in Italy, perhaps in Rome, is the earliest account we have of the life of Jesus. Mark died about 74 AD.

Early in the 9th century Mark's body was brought to Venice, whose patron he became, and there it has remained to this day. The symbol of Mark as an evangelist is the lion, and is much in evidence in Venice.

Sunday 26th April
2026
Easter 4

FIRST READING

ACTS 2.42-47

PSALM

PSALM 23

SECOND READING

1 PETER 2.19-25

GOSPEL

JOHN 10.1-10

SERVERS

GRAHAM LAMB

PETER HENRY

FIRST READING

RITA JAGGER

PSALM

FIONA LAMB

SECOND READING

GRAHAM LAMB

INTERCESSIONS

SARAH TOWLER

SIDES PERSON

REBECCA LUMB &

ANGELA WILKINS

Collect *Easter 4*

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.

THIS WEEKS *HYMNS*

Processional

The head that once was crowned

Gradual

I will sing the wondrous story

Offertory

heard the voice of Jesus say

Communion

The Lord's my shepherd
Will you come and follow

Recessional

Thine be the glory

Christians run the London Marathon

The London Marathon (April 26th this year) is the largest fundraising event on the planet, and each Spring attracts up to 800,000 spectators along the 26.2-mile course.

Several Christians with a public Christian faith, or who are running for Christian charities, have run in recent London Marathons. Here are some notable examples from 2024 and 2025:

Chris Evans (Radio/TV Host): The Virgin Radio host, who has spoken about his faith and returning to running after feeling a "sign from God," has completed multiple London Marathons.

Glyn Wise (Former Big Brother Star/Aspiring Priest): A former Big Brother contestant who has since trained for the ministry, he ran the marathon to raise funds for The Salvation Army.

Chris Brown (Christians in Sport): A regular marathon runner who has participated to raise money for Christians in Sport, often aiming to set Guinness World Records, such as the fastest marathon in a field hockey goalkeeper kit.

Gary (Barnabas Aid runner): Ran to raise funds for 'Food.gives', a project supporting persecuted Christians.

The Revd Rod Reid ("The Running Reverend"): A regular participant in the London Marathon, running for mental health charity MIND.

The London Marathon also frequently features runners from the Christians in Sports organisation, which works to support athletes and promote faith through sporting activity.

National Gardening Week *- 28th April to 4th May*

Led by the Royal Horticultural Society, this annual premier UK celebration encourages everyone to experience the joy of gardening.

Aimed especially at beginners, events and activities are run up and down the country, offering tips, events, and resources to promote the health, wellbeing, and environmental benefits of cultivating plants. The RHS provides expert tips, how-to guides, and fun, easy gardening challenges to build confidence in new gardeners

More at:

<https://www.nationalgardeningweek.org.uk>

500^{YR}
ANNIVERSARY
1526 – 2026

A JOURNEY THROUGH
500 YEARS
OF FAITH

From the Old Brig Chapel in 1526
to Christ Church Today
A talk by Peter Henry

SOWERBY BRIDGE CHURCH.



DOORS OPEN
6:00PM

TALK STARTS
7:00PM

Saturday 9th May

TICKETS: £5.00

Purchase in Church or Online




Christ Church



In your prayers this week....

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



This weeks flowers are in memory of Lily Turner

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

Suffering from truth decay?
Brush up on your Bible. - Anon

Exercise daily - walk with the Lord. - Anon

Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil - it has no point. - Anon

Prayer is more than meditation. In meditation the source of strength is one's self. When one prays he goes to a source of strength greater than his own. - Anon

From the Parish Prayer list:

For the Environment ; Watson Mill Lane; West Parade; Wharf Street; Willow Crescent; Willow Dean Avenue; Willow Gardens; Willow Hall Drive.

ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



Switch to eco cleaning products which biodegrade in the sewerage system and don't damage aquatic life in our rivers and seas. They also contain less harmful chemicals for us too.

Blessed are those who know that they can't change the world but that they can change their own impact on that little bit of it where they live and work.



©Andy Robb

Next week

SUNDAY 3RD MAY 2026

EASTER 5

FIRST READING

ACTS 7.55-60

PSALM

PSALM 31.1-5,15-16

SECOND READING

1 PETER 2.2-10

GOSPEL

JOHN 14.1-14

SERVERS

PETER HENRY

ANTHEA GEE

FIRST READING

FIONA LAMB

PSALM

ALYSSA CALLIGHAN

SECOND READING

PETER HENRY

INTERCESSIONS

DAVID CALLIGHAN

SIDES PERSON

JACKIE GILL & KEVIN HENRY

DIARY

Monday

10:30 Morning Prayer

Tuesday

10.00 Coffee Morning

11.30am Mid week

communion

1pm Craft & Chatter

Wednesday

Thursday

6.30pm BCP evening Prayer

Friday

Saturday

10am Coffee Morning

10am Gardening Group

7pm An Evening of Michael

Buble

Sunday

10.30am Holy Communion



Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Our annual church meeting will be held after this mornings service

APCM booklets and financial information

Have been emailed out, but copies are availabul in church

Nomination forms for Church Warden, Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Deanery Synod representatives are available at the back of Church. Church Wardens are appointed on an annual basis. Peter will be standing down this year following 11 years of service. From the PCC Sarah and Helen will be at the end of their term of office and can be elected for a further term. Graham is also at the end of his term of office but is not standing for re-election.

Messy Church

when you read this we will have had our April Messy Church and this month we were concentrating on St. George and David/Goliath. The children took part in an interactive game, listened to a story, made a dragon, sang an action song and finished off with a lovely tea. Thank you to all our helpers.

IKnow - Rota Holidays

With the warmer weather approching, can I ask that if you are on any rota's can you please add your holidays onto the system, it just makes planning roles easier to manager Any issues please do speak to Peter





Even as Jesus ate that last Passover meal with his disciples, he warned them he was about to be betrayed. He took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them; he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them to drink. The Old Covenant, based on Law, was ticking away its final hours; the New Covenant, based on Christ's body and his blood, was about to be ushered in. Jesus prayed in Gethesame that this fearful cup might be removed from him, but even more, that God's will might be done. And it was. From Easter onwards we can only approach God through his Son, Jesus Christ, not on our own merit.

Jesus

Disciples

Wine

Old

Cup

Ate

Warned

Thanks

New

Removed

Last

Betrayed

Drink

Body

Will

Passover

Bread

Covenant

Blood

Easter

Meal

Blessed

Law

Gethsemane

Approach

God

AN EVENING WITH
SETH MCNAMEE

AS

BUBLÉ

SATURDAY 2ND MAY
DOORS OPEN
18:30



CHRIST CHURCH, SOWERBY BRIDGE

BUY YOUR TICKET AT:

[WWW.CHRISTCHURCHSB.ORG.UK/ACTIVITIES/
COMMUNITY-ENGAGEMENT](http://WWW.CHRISTCHURCHSB.ORG.UK/ACTIVITIES/COMMUNITY-ENGAGEMENT)



Find us at

www.christchurchsb.org.uk

Donate To Church



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Join our network
Hebrews Coffee

password: PowerOfPrayer

Once connected scan
the QR code below



Auto generated captions
will appear once the
Service starts.



Christ Church
Serving Sowerby Bridge since 1821

To Hell's Mouth and Back: pilgrimage, suffering and hope By *Trystan Owain Hughes, BRF,* £9.99

After a gruelling 140-mile pilgrimage walking across the rugged terrain of North Wales, Trystan Owain Hughes finds himself facing another, very different pilgrimage as he recovers from a serious injury sustained on the walk.

In *To Hell's Mouth and Back* he explores his experience of suffering, considering how God can redeem and transform pain and disability, and examines how common experiences of pilgrimage are echoed in the challenges of our life journeys. Along the way, the reader is led to consider the journeys we all face, as we search for God's presence and hope in our joys and pains.

Smile Lines

Oh dear

The middle-aged curate shuffled along, bent over at the waist, as his wife helped him into the doctor's waiting room. He groaned at every step, and the receptionist eyed the scene with sympathy. "Arthritis in the back with complications?" she finally ventured.

The wife shook her head briskly. "Do-it-yourself in the garden," she replied, "with concrete blocks."

Miscellaneous observations on life...

My mouth doesn't seem to have a backspace key.

Behind every successful man is a surprised mother-in-law.

Tax collector: a person who has what it takes to take what you have.

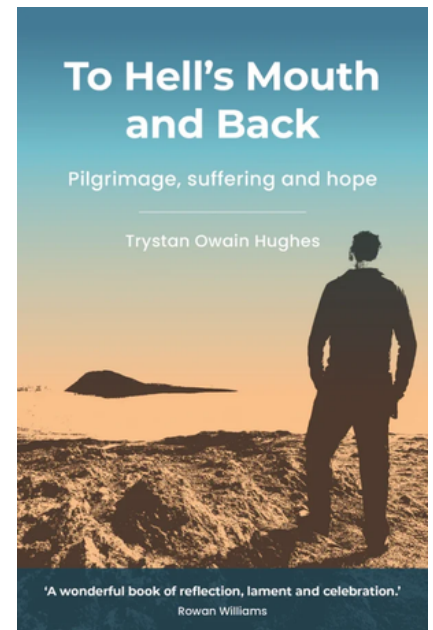
It's nice to see people with plenty of get-up-and-go, especially if some of them are visiting you.

"Most cars on our roads have only one occupant, usually the driver." (Carol Malia, BBC Anchorwoman)

When I was a kid and getting put to bed at 9pm, I couldn't wait until I was a grown-up and could stay up until whatever time I wanted. That time is, apparently, 9pm.

Every evening, I turn my troubles over to God. Why not? He's going to be up all night anyway.

Ordinary people Sharing God's love in our world.
Growing in faith. Living by prayer. Loving God's word.
Living Loving Learning.



Rev. Tommy Daghish

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