

CHRIST CHURCH, SOWERBY BRIDGE

# WEEKLY NEWS



## *Sent: With you always*

### **MATTHEW 28.16-20**

Jesus has summoned his disciples to a mountain in Galilee. He tells them that all authority is his and that they should make disciples all over the world, baptizing them and teaching them to obey his commandments. He promises to be with them always.

This week we explore what it means to be sent by Jesus and how we can know him with us as we embark on his mission to all.

## *Without the Trinity, there is no Christianity*

The Trinity is easier to say than to explain. Christians believe in one God, made up of three equal Persons. It is fundamental to the Nicene Creed, which sets out the definitive doctrine of the Trinity for more than two billion Christians worldwide, including all Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Anglicans, Lutherans, Presbyterians and Reformed Christians.

The theologian Ian Paul, writing on the Book of Revelation, points out that chapter five has a wonderful depiction of the Trinity in action. He writes: "...another figure appears in the drama, the lion who looks like a lamb. ... Here is the one who fulfils the hopes of God's people Israel, as the promised anointed Davidic king who was to come. Here is one who is fierce and powerful enough to conquer their enemies, and tear them apart.

"And yet when John sees Him, He is like a weak and vulnerable lamb who has been slaughtered, just as the Passover lamb eaten by the people, the suffering servant who was 'wounded for our transgressions' and the lamb offered as an atoning sacrifice. He is the one who was slain, but now stands, and shares the throne with God, and with Him sends the Spirit to enact His will on earth. Here we have the most explicit (and perhaps the most complex) Trinitarian statement in the whole New Testament."

Sunday 31st May  
2026  
Trinity Sunday

### **FIRST READING**

ISAIAH 40:12-17, 27-31

### **PSALM**

PSALM 8

### **SECOND READING**

2 CORINTHIANS 13.11-13

### **THIRD READING**

MATTHEW 28.16-20

### **WORSHIP LEADER**

ALYSSA CALLIGHAN

### **FIRST READING**

RICHARD SMITH

### **PSALM**

HELEN PEDLEY

### **SECOND READING**

DAVE GILL

### **INTERCESSIONS**

SARAH TOWLER

### **SIDES PERSON**

ANGELA WILKINS &  
REBECCA LUMB

## Collect Trinity Sunday

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## THIS WEEKS HYMNS

### Processional

Holy, holy, holy

### Gradual

Majesty

### Offertory

How great thou art

### Recessional

All my hope in God is founded

## *Abraham: the man who made the biggest leap of faith in history*

If we need to get somewhere by public transport, we look at the route and trust the driver knows the way. By faith, we accept that he or she will get us safely to where we want to go.

It was very different for Abraham. God told him to leave his homeland and begin a journey, physically (and spiritually) to an unknown destination. He didn't even understand why God wanted him to move, but he trusted God anyway.

Abraham was born in a country far from Israel, now modern Iraq. His story covers hundreds of miles along with various events and incidents.

Although he encountered numerous difficulties and challenges, Abraham lived in close fellowship with God.

We might like stability in our lives, but Abraham was unable to settle permanently anywhere. He lived a temporary existence. Slowly, gradually, God revealed to Abraham what he had to do. He was not perfect. In fact, he made several mistakes but God's plans for Abraham were not thwarted. God showed patience. Despite this man's failings, at times, God revealed His purposes.

*God often calls people without giving them all the details! If we knew everything, we would not need faith. God does not always explain to us His ways – neither completely nor in one go. Abraham discovered aspects about God as time went on. It was a journey of faith; a life lived one step at a time.*

*We may look at Abraham's life and think we cannot have faith like him. If we were put to severe testing, we know we would fail. Our journey with God is different from his, but by his example we can rely on God's promises.*

*Abraham's life challenges us to believe in a great God and to obey Him. Like Abraham, at the end of our journey of faith, we have an eternal destination waiting for us.*

### **LOVE FOR ME**

Love for me is when you smile  
It fills my heart and makes me wild  
I feel like floating with the stars  
In some way my heart, it pounds  
Just watching stars go round and round  
Feeling lucky, like I do  
Floating here and watching you  
Be my love for ever dear  
For my heart is always here  
Loving you the best I can  
Making me a better man.

Ian Russell

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in John chapter 5 verses 1-18

Jesus was in Jerusalem for a festival, and he visited the pool of Bethesda. People said that an angel sometimes made the water ripple.

Sick people waited for the water to ripple, because they thought that the first person in would be healed.



Jesus went up to a man who had been sick for 38 years.



Do you want to be healed?

I've got no-one to put me in the pool, so I can never get in first.



Pick up your mat and walk!



He was healed! The man picked up his mat and walked around. But it was the Sabbath.

God had given the Law that the Sabbath day was a rest day (Ex 20: 8-11)... but to make sure it was kept, the Jewish leaders had made up rules, and then more rules so that anything that even might be work was banned.

The Jewish leaders saw the healed man.



It's the Sabbath! You can't carry a mat, that's 'work'!

The man who healed me told me to carry it.



Which man?

I don't know.

Later, Jesus found the man in the temple.



You are healed now, but don't sin any more, or something worse might happen to you.

Now the man knew who Jesus was...



he went straight back to the Jewish leaders to tell them.

and they went to Jesus



You were working on the Sabbath!

My father, God, doesn't stop working on the Sabbath so I keep on working as well

Not only does he disobey our Sabbath rules, but he says he is equal to God!



We definitely have to kill him.

# In your prayers this week....

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



This weeks flowers are to celebrate what would have been Peter & Angela Wilkin's wedding anniversary.

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

The divine nature is really and entirely identical with each of the three persons, all of whom can therefore be called one. 'I and the Father are One'. - St Thomas Aquinas

Thousands of the ablest minds of the centuries have pondered this problem and no man has been able to explain it; who then invented it? What man can invent, man can explain: what man cannot explain, man cannot have. It must be a revelation. - GH Lang

## From the Parish Prayer list:

God of mission,  
who alone brings growth  
to you Church,  
send your Holy Spirit to give  
vision to our planning,  
wisdom to our actions,  
and power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

**ECO CHURCH**  
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



Save loads on your loads  
Putting a full load in the washing machine and using the eco setting, if you've got one, will make a big difference.

Blessed are those who care for Creation as God does, for they are doing God's work in the world.



©Andy Robb

## Next week

SUNDAY 31ST MAY 2026

TRINITY SUNDAY

### FIRST READING

GENESIS 12:1-9

### PSALM

PSALM 33:1-12

### SECOND READING

ROMANS 4.13-25

### GOSPEL

MATTHEW 9.9-13,18-26

### WORSHIP LEADER

ANTHEA GEE

### FIRST READING

HELEN PEDLEY

### PSALM

PAUL HEALEY

### SECOND READING

DAVE GILL

### INTERCESSIONS

DAVE CALLIGHAN

### SIDES PERSON

JANET TURNER & JANE MUNDY

## DIARY

### Monday

### Tuesday

10.00am Coffee Morning

### Wednesday

### Thursday

6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer

### Friday

### Saturday

10:00am Coffee Morning

10am Gardening Group

### Sunday

10.30am Service of the Word



### **Ken's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Vanessa & Fiona invite all to join in celebrating Kenneth's 90th birthday on Sunday 7th June 2026. Please join us for sandwiches and cake following the family service.

### **Rushbearing - Saturday 5th September**

It's that time of year again as we begin preparations for Rushbearing 2026! As always, we'll be running our raffle, tombola, and bottle stalls, and we're now kindly asking for donations to help stock them. If you have any items you'd like to contribute, please speak to Angela W or Janet T.

Also, don't forget about our popular holiday hampers! If you're heading off on holiday or visiting somewhere special, why not bring back a small gift or treat to include in one of our hampers? If donating food or sweets, please ensure the expiry date is well beyond September.

If anyone would like a stall please speak to Rebecca Lumb

Pam Miller will be looking after this years cake stall, please speak to her if you would like to bake a cake or two

### **IKnow - Rota Holidays**

With the warmer weather approaching, 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 with Iknow speak to Peter

### **Revd. Tommy's Holidays**

Revd Tommy will be on leave from 25th May till 7th June, please reach out to the Churchwardens.

a	n	g	e	l	d	f	q	m	y	w	k
h	w	h	u	d	l	f	a	a	l	a	w
c	a	r	r	y	i	e	d	t	r	i	h
j	t	i	x	h	r	s	a	v	h	t	j
e	e	p	z	y	e	t	o	d	a	e	t
w	r	p	s	h	l	i	y	b	e	d	r
i	t	l	t	f	e	v	b	t	e	r	s
s	j	e	r	u	s	a	l	e	m	y	s
h	b	s	m	u	s	l	i	x	g	p	i
o	q	e	s	p	r	u	l	e	s	o	c
l	m	e	w	a	l	k	k	a	d	o	k
p	j	b	a	n	n	e	d	a	k	l	y

day

ripple

waited

father

rules

healed

walk

law

Jesus

mat

disobey

temple

carry

Bethesda

leaders

banned

sick

Jerusalem

Jewish

water

festival

Sabbath

pool

angel

# *Staying Connected - Introducing the iKnow Church App*

We're pleased to be introducing our new **iKnow Church app**, a simple new way for us to stay connected as a church family throughout the week, not just on Sundays.

The app will help bring church life together in one place and make it easier to keep up to date with what's happening. Through the app you'll be able to:

- Keep up with church news and events
- Receive important updates and reminders
- Listen to sermons and other content during the week
- Keep your contact details up to date
- View rotas and add unavailability (for those involved in teams and serving roles)

The biggest thing we'd encourage everyone to do is:

**Please make sure you enable PUSH NOTIFICATIONS when setting up the app.**

This will become one of the main ways we keep in touch as a church community. Rather than searching through emails, social media, or wondering if you've missed something, important updates can come directly to your phone when needed.

The app is designed to help us stay informed, stay connected and stay involved in church life.

If you have any questions, need help setting up the app, or run into any issues, please speak to Peter Henry, our iKnow administrator, who will be happy to help.

"Because church isn't just for Sunday morning — we're a community throughout the whole week."

Download the app on Apple app store or Google play today and log in our app by using the church code **15450705**. You will need your email address and we can reset your password if required





Find us at

[www.christchurchsb.org.uk](http://www.christchurchsb.org.uk)

## Donate To Church



## Auto Captions

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

## *The Pieces Join - Navigating Faith, Trauma and Recovery* By Beth Keith, Canterbury Press, £15.99

When trauma tears us apart, can the pieces ever truly come back together? In *The Pieces Join*, Beth Keith offers a compassionate and courageous exploration of recovery for those wounded by abuse within the Church.

While many works highlight the realities of trauma and misconduct, this book turns its gaze toward the slow, sacred process of recovery – of re-joining what has been broken. Drawing on moving personal accounts, survivor stories, and deep wells of

Christian theology, Beth Keith exposes the ways in which Church systems can both harm and heal.

She weaves narrative and theological reflection into a tapestry of hope- where atonement and forgiveness are not given as easy answers but as a complex journey through pain. *The Pieces Join* fills a vital gap in pastoral care literature, offering wisdom and clarity to those navigating the aftermath of spiritual and sexual abuse within Christian contexts. It speaks with insight and tenderness to all who seek to understand trauma within the Church – pastors, chaplains, and survivors alike. This is not a book about patching over the past, but about how faith, when practiced with humility and truth, can help make something new and whole from what was shattered.

## *Smile Lines*

### Morning prayer

“Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, “Good morning, Lord,” And there are those who wake up in the morning and say, “Good Lord, it’s morning.”



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

### **Rev. Tommy DGLISH**

The Vicarage, 62 Park Road,  
Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2BJ.  
07378 517 835  
[vicar@christchurchsb.org.uk](mailto:vicar@christchurchsb.org.uk)

### **Churchwardens**

Mr Dave Gill 07400 373 902  
[dave@christchurchsb.org.uk](mailto:dave@christchurchsb.org.uk)  
Mrs. Alyssa Callighan 07400 373 902  
[alyssa@christchurchsb.org.uk](mailto:alyssa@christchurchsb.org.uk)

### **Safeguarding**

Mrs Glenis McCarthy 07773998104  
[glenismc@msn.com](mailto:glenismc@msn.com)  
Mrs Fiona Lamb 07870168198  
[fiona.lamb1@sky.com](mailto:fiona.lamb1@sky.com)