

CHRIST CHURCH, SOWERBY BRIDGE

WEEKLY NEWS



Recognised

MATTHEW 10.40-42

Jesus concludes his teaching on mission by stressing the close identification between Father God, Jesus himself, those who go in his name, and those who receive his followers in the right spirit. He sends his disciples out to preach in his name, and they are to assume that God will provide for them.

How can we see the image of Christ in those around us and do we recognise ourselves as made in God's image? This week we think about how we honour Jesus through the way that we love and serve others.

Country roads can be beautiful - but deadly. Beware.

Be careful on rural roads. In the ten years to the end of 2024, nearly 10,000 people died on Britain's rural roads. And so NFU Mutual launched an on-going campaign in 2020, to warn people of the dangers. The website offers some excellent, practical tips to staying safe. Visit:

Ruralroadsafety@nfumuutal.co.uk

Above, don't speed, because anything might be waiting for you in the road just around the next bend: bales of hay, cows, sheep or even a tractor!

Sunday 28th June

2026

Trinity 4

FIRST READING

GENESIS 22:1-14

PSALM

PSALM 13

SECOND READING

ROMANS 6.12-23

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 10.40-42

SERVERS

PETER HENRY

FIRST READING

REBECCA LUMB

PSALM

DAVE CALLIGHAN

SECOND READING

PETER HENRY

INTERCESSIONS

PAUL HEALEY

SIDES PERSON

LINDA FIRTH &

PAULINE CHESLETT

Collect Trinity 4

Gracious Father, by
the obedience of
Jesus you brought
salvation to our
wayward world:
draw us into
harmony with your
will, that we may
find all things
restored in him, our
Saviour Jesus
Christ.

THIS WEEKS HYMNS

Processional

Stand up, stand up
for Jesus

Gradual

When we walk with
the Lord

Offertory

Father, I place into
your hands

Communion

God forgave my sin in
Jesus' name

Be still for he
presence

Recessional

From heaven you
came

The story behind the HYMN: Lord, for the years

Lord, for the years your love has kept
and guided,

urged and inspired us, cheered us on
our way,

sought us and saved us, pardoned and
provided:

Lord for the years, we bring our thanks
today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life
which fires us,

speaks to our hearts and sets our souls
ablaze,

teaches and trains, rebukes us and
inspires us:

Lord of the Word, receive your people's
praise.

Lord, for our hopes, the dreams of all
our living,

Christ and his kingdom one united aim;

Rulers and peoples bound in high
thanksgiving,

Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your
Name. ...

By Timothy Dudley Smith

This well-loved hymn was written in
1967 by the Revd Timothy Dudley
Smith, who later became Bishop of
Thetford. He later confessed: "I wrote
it on a train when I was very pressed
for time. I'm thankful if something I
write gets picked up, but I suspect
anyone who does something in a rush
later regrets that they didn't find time
to apply the sandpaper a bit more!"

Dudley Smith had been asked to write
a hymn for the centenary service of the
Children's Special Service Mission,

now Scripture Union, in St Paul's
Cathedral. His commission was to write
words that could be fitted to Jean
Sibelius's *Finlandia*, as it was to be
accompanied by an orchestra with this
tune in their repertoire. And so – 'Lord
for the years' was written.

Dudley Smith need not have worried
about lack of time – his lyrics were a 'hit'
in the cathedral on the day, and went on
to become so well-loved that George
Carey chose the hymn to be sung at his
consecration as Bishop of Bath and
Wells, and then again later, in 1991, on
his consecration as Archbishop in
Canterbury Cathedral.

The hymn continued to be widely sung
and loved, until in 2002 Timothy Dudley
Smith was asked to write an extra verse
for it so that it could even be sung
around the time of the Queen's Golden
Jubilee.

Many of the words in the hymn were true
for Queen Elizabeth herself. She would
have celebrated her 100th birthday this
April, and her 'official' birthday on the
second Saturday in June. She did indeed
thank God 'for the years Your love has
kept and guided, urged and inspired us,
cheered us on our way'...

And so indeed the 'extra' verse added for
the Queen also held true:

*Lord for our hopes, the dreams of all our
living,*

Christ and his kingdom one united aim,

*Rulers and peoples bound in high
thanksgiving,*

*Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your
Name*

The tale of the Salt and Light



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONE EXPLAINED TO HIS
FRIENDS THAT THEY WERE A
BIT LIKE **SALT**!

IN JESUS' DAY, SALT WAS
VERY PRECIOUS. IT HELPED
PRESERVE FOOD....

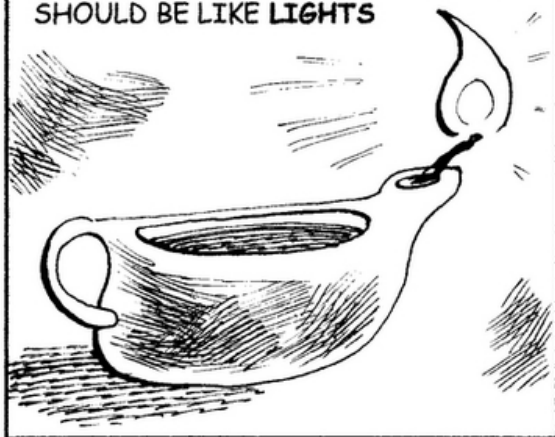


....AND SALT GAVE FLAVOUR.
IT WAS VERY USEFUL INDEED



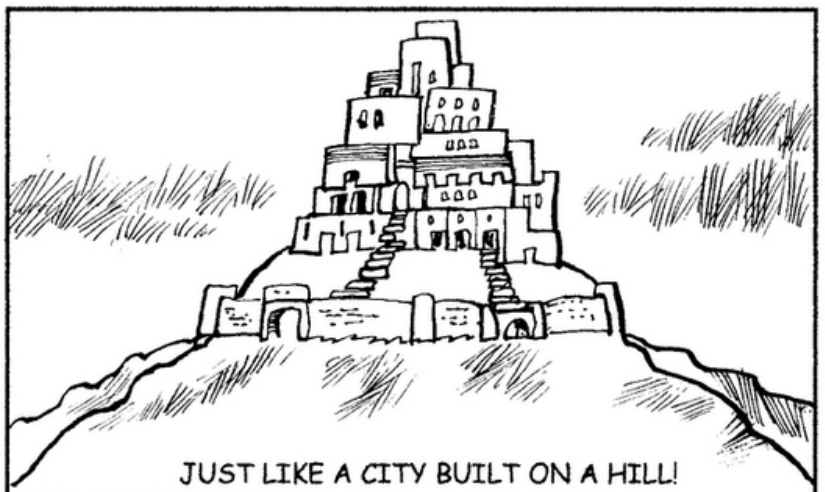
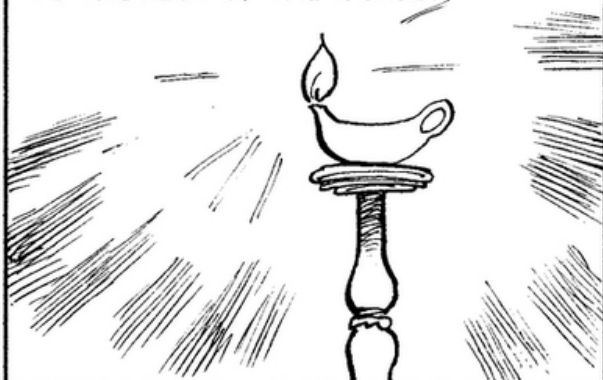
SALT HELPED MAKE LIFE
BETTER - WE TOO SHOULD HELP
MAKE LIFE BETTER IF WE
CHOOSE TO FOLLOW JESUS!

JESUS ALSO SAID HIS FOLLOWERS
SHOULD BE LIKE **LIGHTS**



'NOBODY LIGHTS A LAMP - THEN PUTS
IT UNDER A BOWL', SAID JESUS

THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES AS
CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE AN EXAMPLE
TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.



JUST LIKE A CITY BUILT ON A HILL!

In your prayers this week....

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



This weeks flowers are to celebrate Garry & Janets Wedding Anniversary. Also in memory of Phyllis Howell.

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

History is the long story of man trying to be God. - V Havner

God cares not for phrases but for affections. - J Hall

You never have to drag mercy out of Christ, as money from a miser. - C H Spurgeon

The noblest revenge is to forgive. - T Fuller

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



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.

Tap into wasted water

Fixing that dripping tap could save over 5,500 litres of water a year - that's a lot!

Blessed are those who feed the hedgehogs, who make fat balls for the birds, who build bug hotels and who plant flowers to attract bees.



©ANDY ROBB

Next week

SUNDAY 5TH JULY 2026

TRINITY 5

FIRST READING

GENESIS 24:34-38,42-49,58-67

PSALM

PSALM 45:10-17

SECOND READING

ROMANS 7.15-25A

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 11.16-19,25-30

SERVERS

PETER HENRY

GRAHAM LAMB

FIRST READING

DAVE CALLIGHAN

PSALM

CATHERINE PRIESTLEY

SECOND READING

PETER HENRY

INTERCESSIONS

ALYSSA CALLIGHAN

SIDES PERSON

ANGELA WILKINS & REBECCA LUMB

DIARY

Monday

10.30 Morning Prayer

Tuesday

10.00am Coffee Morning

11.30 Mid week Communion

Wednesday

5.45pm Bible Study

Thursday

6.30pm BCP Evening prayer

Friday

Saturday

10:00am Coffee Morning

10.00am Gardening

Sunday

10.30am All age worship and communion



Christ Church Junior and Tuel Lane Infants Schools

he two schools will amalgamate from September 2026. Due to the late timing in receiving confirmation of this the schools have messaged parents to let them know they will be closing one week earlier than planned eg. Friday 10 July.

PCC have offered to open church on the Monday and Wednesday of week commencing 13 July, 10.00-12.30 for adults to bring their children along and we will provide games, colouring etc. whilst adults, if necessary, continue with their work in church. An adult will have to accompany the children and be responsible for them during this time.

Ruth Saville

Ruth's funeral is at St. Paul's Methodist Church, Sowerby Bridge on Monday 13th July at 12 noon prior to Cremation at Park Wood Elland. Family flowers only and any donations to Overgate Hospice Elland.

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



**MONTHLY GARDENING GET
TOGETHER, CAREING FOR OUR
CHURCHYARD**

SATURDAY
4TH JULY
FROM 10AM



Jacob: the man who encountered the holiness of God

Have you ever had a dramatic turning point in your life? Was there an incident, a meeting or something you saw or read which profoundly changed you? The Old Testament character Jacob had a dream, which changed his life.

One night, in the region of Luz, a Canaanite city, Jacob had a dream. He saw a ladder, on which were angels, linking earth with heaven. The dream revealed to him that God is continually connected with this world. When Jacob woke up, he knew he was in a special place. He became a changed man and changed the place name from Luz to Bethel, which means House of God. Many years later Jacob changed his name from Jacob to Israel. Bethel became a holy place.

How might we define a holy place? We could say it's a place where God has touched earth with something of heaven e.g. with a miracle or a vision. Venues such as Lourdes (France), Lindisfarne (England), St Peter's in Rome or Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre are considered Holy Places. The Garden of Gethsemane was a special place for Jesus.

Jacob certainly wasn't faultless or impeccable. His encounter with God didn't completely change the way he behaved, but it gave him a fresh perspective on life and where he fitted into God's plans. Like Jacob we too may encounter God at a particular time and grow slowly with God and His plans for us. God doesn't wait until we are perfect before He can use us. Sometimes we too may need a Holy Place to make or to return to, to help us remember we are in God's hands.

Dear God, in my busy life, find for me a place where I can be still; a place to meet with You. I am weak and need your strength for each situation. Give me a holy place where I know your arms are embracing me, always safe and secure. Amen.



Find us at

www.christchurchsb.org.uk

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Christ Church

Serving Sowerby Bridge since 1831

Rev. Tommy Daglish

The Vicarage, 62 Park Road,
Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2BJ.

07378 517 835

vicar@christchurchsb.org.uk

Churchwardens

Mr Dave Gill 07400 373 902

dave@christchurchsb.org.uk

Mrs. Alyssa Callighan 07400 373 902

alyssa@christchurchsb.org.uk

Safeguarding

Mrs Glenis McCarthy 07773998104

glenismc@msn.com

Mrs Fiona Lamb 07870168198

fiona.lamb1@sky.com

Eat, Drink, and Be Merry - a Gospel Call to Bold Enjoyment

*By Raymond C Ortlund, Crossway,
£12.99*

So much is going wrong in these dark days. And the daily personal demands never let up. Who has the time—much less the freedom of heart—to play, to laugh, to delight? But God's strategy for wise living includes bold enjoyment. In fact, any 'Christianity' that feels embarrassed about enjoying God's good gifts dishonours Him, and leaves Christians with less to give their suffering world. Meditating on Ecclesiastes 11:9-10, Ortlund argues that following Christ here in this world is a nuanced mix of both suffering and happiness.



Smile Lines

Some of the great questions of life

Why are buildings called buildings when they are finished? Shouldn't they be called built?

Why is abbreviated such a long word?

Why is it that when you tell a man there are 400 billion stars he will believe you, but when you tell him there's wet paint, he has to touch it?

If your supermarket has been lowering prices every day, how come nothing is free yet?

If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

If a firefighter fights fire and a crime fighter fights crime, what does a freedom fighter fight?

Do you find it unnerving that what doctors do is called 'practice'?

Ordinary people Sharing God's love in our world.

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

Living Loving Learning.