

Parish of Todmorden, Cornholme and Walsden
Readings & News, 23 August 2026



Hymns

First: 205 Glorious things of Thee are spoken

Gradual: 221 God is working his purpose out

Offertory: 199 Gather around

Communion: 68 Be still my soul

Communion: 923 Bless the Lord my soul

Final: 565 Praise my soul the King of Heaven

Collect Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always
more ready to hear than we to pray,
and to give more than either we desire or
deserve:

Pour down upon us the abundance of your
mercy, forgiving us those things of which
our conscience is afraid,
and giving us those good things which we are
not worthy to ask, but through the merits
and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

God of all mercy,
in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken
world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Isaiah 51: 1-6 Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever and my deliverance will never be ended.

Romans 12: 1-8 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so, we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16: 13-20 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but

others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.



What's On

Exploring Faith Bible Study: 11am, Tuesday 1 September and 7.30pm, Wednesday 2 September
Deuteronomy 10:12-22 – what God has already done, and how God calls us to respond.

Rainbow Faith Service: 4pm, Sunday 6 September - A reflective service focusing on God's Creation.

Todmorden Summer Orchestra Concert: 7pm, Saturday 5 September - Featuring works by Dvorak, Vivaldi, Schubert, Ireland and Purcell. Volunteers and baking needed.

Heritage fortnight:

Dedication Festival: 11am, Sunday 6 September at 11am - with unveiling of plaque to Terry Halstead, former Reader and Bell Ringer who was still ringing aged 100.

Civic Service: 11am, Sunday 13 September - celebrating 550 years of St Mary's Todmorden

St Mary's Exhibition 10am-4pm, and some evenings, 6-20 September – find out more about the extraordinary history of following Christ at St Mary's Todmorden. Volunteers needed.

Ann Lister Memorial Service: 7.30pm Friday 18 September at Halifax Minster - led by Rev Catherine; refreshments served from 6pm.

MacMillan Coffee morning: from 10am, Friday 25 September from 10am - in the Crypt at St Mary's, with Warburtons Funeral Service. All welcome! Baking also welcome.

Stolen from God: 7 for 7.30pm, Friday 9 October - a musical folk story about the Transatlantic Slave Trade, sponsored by Todmorden Folk Festival.

Oktoberfest: 3-6pm, Saturday 10 October - Beer, wine, food, music and fellowship.

Please pray for: Gwen Mills, Jacob Howarth, Roy Yearsley, Viv Hawksworth, Mandy Fielden, Norman Cruikshank, Margaret McArdle; Sarah Battershell, Robert Scholey, Joyce Campion, Trevor Smith, Meg Kennedy, Jeffrey Hunter, Lisa & Michael Kenyon, Natasha McArdle, Ann Mason, Zoe Beesley, Lorna & Peter Shackleton, Roger & Pat Dale, Maureen Marshall, Val & William Cottam, Rowena, David Crossley, Mary Clear, Dr Diana Harris, Richard Goodeve, Jules Mercer, Mark Johnston, Stephen Maw, Catherine, Patty Edmonds, Middle East, Ukraine, Somalia, Sudan & Yemen

Recently Departed: Pauline Brown, Michael Wollerton, Jane Bastow, Jane Lynch Watson, Fred Wigglesworth

In Memory: Kay Pemberton-Clarke, Alison Eaton, Phyllis Lamb, Iris Barker, Patrick Fieldsend, Harry (Willam Henry), Alice Charnock, Leslie Blackburn, Brian Howley, Marian Clifford, Ron Hunter, Sandra Taylor

For **notices, weddings, funerals, baptisms** and **volunteering** please contact Rev Catherine:
07711 611201 / Catherine.Shelley@leeds.anglican.org

St Mary's www.facebook.com/stmarystod or <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18018/>

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