

Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 18th October 2026 – The Twentieth Sunday After Trinity

This Sunday

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion
10.30 am Service of the Word with Baptism

Readings 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

6.30 pm Evening Service

Collect

God, our light and our salvation:
illuminate our lives, that we may see your
goodness in the land of the living, and
looking on your beauty may be changed
into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Diary for the week

Monday 19th October

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC toddler & baby group.

Tuesday 20th October

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC toddler & baby group.
6.00 pm Beavers

Wednesday 21st October

10.00 am Midweek Communion
2.00 pm Southroyd Harvest
6.00 pm Vicars Hour
6.00 pm Cubs
7.30 pm Scouts

Thursday 22nd October

11.30 am - 1.30 pm Connect Lunch
Free light lunch served, open to all the community.
7.00 pm – 8.30 pm Alpha – week 5

Next Week Sunday 25th October

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion
10.30 am Service with Holy Communion
& Baptism

Readings 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

6.30 pm Evening Service

Notices

Today we welcome Otilie and her family and all who have come to support them, as they share in the wonderful celebration of her baptism. Please keep them in your prayers.

Friday Night Youth Group

Not enough team members are available to start the group this Friday. Hopefully, we will start it on the first Friday after Half Term.

1st Pudsey Squirrel Scouts

Starts on Tues 3rd November – Please see our [Scouts website page](#) – or Contact Chris/Ruth.

Christmas Quiz

Save the date! Sat 28th Nov, 6pm. [Tickets](#) are available on Churchsuite or email the office.

Christmas Fair with Santa Experience

Come and see Santa at our Christmas Fair on Sat 5th Dec, 10am-4pm. [Tickets](#) are £5 per child and available via Churchsuite or you can scan the QR code on the poster in church.

Parish Weekend 2027 – 10th-12th September

Booking forms are available at the back of church – Secure your place (£25 individual /£50 for a couple or family).

Dates for your diaries

Tue 3rd Nov 2.00 pm 7.30 pm	Mothers Union Meeting C and Y Meeting
Sun 8th Nov 10.00 am	Remembrance Sunday Service <i>Afterwards gathering at the cenotaph for commemorations, followed by refreshments in church.</i>
Sat 14th Nov 10.00 am	Baptism preparation morning

Contacts

Clergy: Rev Gareth Howles - 07795 268997
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Want to keep up to date with church news and events? Join us on ChurchSuite by scanning the QR code and get our weekly newsletter delivered every week.



Reflection – The “I am” of Christ – I am the Bread of Life (John 6: 35)

Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never go hungry and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty. ... I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world". (John 6: 35 & 51)

The human body can go for weeks without food. It can go for days without water. At some point, however, the body will cry out for what it needs to survive. Our bellies will growl or our throats will feel dry. What is true of our physical bodies is also true of our spiritual bodies. We need bread and drink for the soul. If we go without these things, we can feel spiritually malnourished. Our faith becomes dry. Our prayer life feels empty. Our joy begins to wane. Without nourishment we will wither and die.

Jesus entered the world at a time when many Jews were aware that God loved them, but ignorant of what life in all its fulness could and should be like, and weighed down by their rules and traditions. Jesus came to all who were feeling lost, downtrodden, and marginalised, those who were starving for purpose and meaning for their lives. Jesus welcomed them to come to the table, set down their struggles, and partake of the feast. This invitation is for us today too.

If you can, please take time to read John chapters 6 and 7. The gospel writer is inviting us to see the signs of His divine nature that Jesus is giving as he feeds the five thousand and walks on the water. These miracles were greater than those of Moses, the hero of the Passover, as God provided Manna in the wilderness and parted the Red Sea so that the Israelites could escape slavery in Egypt.

Jesus makes two bold statements: that he is the ***bread of life (6: 35)*** and the ***living water (7: 38)***. Jesus identifies Himself as the true spiritual sustenance. The crowds wanted more of this bread, and Jesus invited them to His banquet. Whoever believes in Him will never be hungry or thirsty again as he is the provider and sustainer of life everlasting. This is not just a hope for today, but a promise for the future beyond physical death.

There are many around us who are unaware of the life in all its fulness that Jesus offers. As we display the fruit of the spirit (Gal. 5:22-23) in our lives, others can be drawn to Him, welcomed to His feast, and share in the blessings that God wants to pour into all of our lives.

“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty.’”

This verse is central to understanding Jesus’ promise of eternal life and His role as the sustainer of all who believe. Only Christ can satisfy our deepest needs. When we take Communion in church together, we reaffirm our dependence and gratitude for the ‘new life’ that we have in Him.