Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 15th November 2026 – The Second Sunday Before Advent

This Sunday

9.00 am **Service with Holy Communion**
10.30 am **Service of the Word**
Readings 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
Matthew 25:14-30
6.30 pm **Evening Service**

Collect

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Flowers

in memory of family members, from Sylvia Rusling

Diary for the week

Monday 16th November
9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC toddler & baby group.

Tuesday 17th November
9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC toddler & baby group.
1.00 pm MU Choir Rehearsal
4.30 pm Squirrel Scouts
6.00 pm Beavers

Wednesday 18th November
10.00 am Midweek Communion
11.30 am Funeral Service
6.00 pm Vicars Hour
6.00 pm Cubs
7.30 pm Scouts

Thursday 19th November
11.30 am - 1.30 pm Connect Lunch
Free light lunch served, open to all the community.
12.00 pm CTIP Ministers Lunch
7.00 pm – 8.30 pm Alpha – week 9

Saturday 21st November
9.00 am – 11 am Study Facilitator Breakfast
2.00 pm CLYWO/CLYTO Orchestra Rehearsal
7.00 pm City of Leeds Youth Wind Orchestra & City of Leeds Youth Training Orchestra Concert

Next Week Sunday 22nd November

9.00 am **Service with Holy Communion**
10.30 am **Service with Holy Communion**
Readings Ephesians 1:15-23 & Matthew 25:31-46
6.30 pm **Evening Service**

Notices

Wreath Making Workshop:
Enjoy a relaxed session creating your own festive wreath. £25 per person, including all materials, hot drinks, and seasonal treats. Choose your preferred date and scan the QR code to book.

Thu 26th Nov: 12.30 – 2pm

Fri 27th Nov: 6.30 – 8pm

Christmas Fair Raffle Hamper
We're putting together a Christmas hamper for the raffle at the Christmas Fair and would love your help; any seasonal goodies you can contribute would be greatly appreciated! Thank you.

Teddy Tombola
Do you have any spare teddies looking for a new home? We'd love them for our Teddy Tombola. Please leave donations in the labelled box.

Fill A Jar!
We're collecting jars filled with small treats and gifts, such as chocolates, hair bobbles, little cars, crayons, stickers, bubbles, keyrings, small toy animals, erasers, and hair clips. Donations would be gratefully received. Thank you!

Flowers
Donations towards flowers for the Advent and Christmas season would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to Jenny Crossland.

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 - "I am the Resurrection and the Life" (John 11: 25)

[25] Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; (John 11: 25)

This statement is made to his friend Martha, as she grieves the loss of her brother Lazarus. Martha and her sister Mary knew that Jesus could heal sick people and had sent word to ask him to come when Lazarus got sick. Perhaps they were hoping that Jesus would restore Lazarus to full health. But then Lazarus died before Jesus had got there, so Mary and Martha had Lazarus laid to rest in a tomb and got on with grieving. Perhaps they were angry that God had taken Lazarus from them too soon?

They knew the scriptures that foretold of a messiah who would raise up all good believers at the end of the age. Martha was confident that she would see Lazarus again on the other side of death. Long term hope may lead to peace, but it is also true that the realities of life without our loved ones can feel like a crushing weight of loss, pain, and bitterness.

Jesus had not arrived in time to heal Lazarus, and his claim to be the resurrection and the life could have seemed very hollow, had he not followed through on that promise and restored Lazarus to life, even though Lazarus had been dead for 4 days! Jesus also proved his power over death by raising Jairus' daughter (Luke 8:52), and the only son of a widow (Luke 7:14). Ultimately, Jesus himself rose from the dead, after he had been crucified for all our sins.

In Matthew's account of Jesus' death, we read that when He died, the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life (Matthew 27:52). John ends his gospel with these words: ***"Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*** (John 20: 30-31).

We can be grateful for all the saints over the years who have gone before us, some very much in the public eye, but most very humbly and quietly, serving the church and our community. For some it was a huge sacrifice, and they have been taken from us too soon.

So, we might grieve and wonder how we will cope whilst still on this earth? Jesus offers us hope for today (salvation), hope for tomorrow (life in the spirit), and hope for the future (at the resurrection of all the saints in glory). Praise God – Jesus is the resurrection and the life!

For the Lord himself will come down … and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up … with the Lord forever. Therefore let us encourage each other with these words. (1 Thessalonians 4: 16-18).