Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 8th November 2026 – The Third Sunday Before Advent

Remembrance Sunday

10.00 am **Remembrance Service**

Following the service, there will be a gathering at the Cenotaph for the commemorations. Afterwards all are warmly welcome to join us for refreshments in church.

Readings 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18
Matthew 25: 1-13

4.30 pm **Bonfire without Bangs**

Join us for a fun-filled evening! Gather around our small fire pits, enjoy sparklers, food and drink, and fireworks without the bangs. A warm and welcoming event for the whole community.

No evening service

Collect

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Flowers for all those who have served, sacrificed, and suffered in times of conflict. We remember them with gratitude and pray for peace.

Diary for the week

Monday 9th November

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC toddler & baby group
7.00 pm PCC Meeting

Tuesday 10th 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 11th November

10.00 am Midweek Communion
6.00 pm Vicars Hour
6.00 pm Cubs
7.30 pm Scouts

Thursday 12th November

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 8

Friday 13th November

7.00 pm Music Rehearsal

Saturday 14th November

10.00 am Baptism Preparation Morning

Next Week Sunday 15th November

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**

Notices

Thank You, 1st Pudsey Cubs and Scouts

Thank you to 1st Pudsey Cubs and Scouts for giving their time and energy to help plant the crosses for our Field of Remembrance. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps create a meaningful tribute for our community during Remembrance.

Connect Lunch - Soup Makers & Bakers Needed

If you can help, please add your name to the list in church or speak to Bev Stephenson. Thank you!

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.

Dates for your diaries

Sat 14th Nov 10.00 am	Baptism preparation morning
Sat 21st Nov 7.00 pm	City of Leeds Youth Wind Orchestra and City of Leeds Youth Training Orchestra Concert
Thu 26th & Fri 27th Nov	Wreath Making Workshop *Details to follow*
Sat 28th Nov 6.00 pm	Christmas Quiz *Free tickets are available on ChurchSuite or email the office.*
Sat 5th Dec 10 am-4 pm	Christmas Fair with Santa Experience *See Santa, tickets are £5 per child and available via ChurchSuite or you can scan the QR code on the poster in church.*

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 ams" of Christ – The Good Shepherd (John 10: 11)

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep…. 14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. (John 10: 11-12, 14-15)

Last week we saw that Jesus was the ***Gate***. This week we find that Jesus describes himself as the ***Good Shepherd***, and in the first Chapter of the Gospel, John the Baptist declares that Jesus is ***"the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*** (1:29). So, which is it?

Yes, to all three! Jesus is the only entrance into God's salvation and protection (the Gate). Jesus also wants us to know that He lovingly leads, protects, and lays down his life for us (the flock). Jesus contrasts himself with the 'hired hands,' who abandon the flock in the presence of danger or difficulty. Jesus knows us intimately, with all our weakness and failures, and still loves us enough to go to the cross and die on our behalf, to take away our sins. Jesus is the sacrificial lamb, whose death atones for our sins and gives us new life in Him.

Those hearing it at the time would have known the Old Testament shepherd imagery such as Psalm 23 and Ezekiel 34. In Psalm 23, David professes joyful trust in the Lord as the good Shepherd-King. It uses the soothing imagery of a pastoral scene, with the Lord as the shepherd (vv. 1–4) and the host (vv. 5–6). The heart of the psalm is the central affirmation ***"you are with me"*** (v. 4). Even in the darkest valley, Yahweh leads David so that he fears no evil.

About 500 years after David had died the nation of Israel was again in dark times. The Kings, Prophets and Priests were not leading the people towards God. Ezekiel prophesied about Jesus – the Good Shepherd who would "fix" what was wrong with the world. In chapter 34 Ezekiel turns from judgement to hope, looking ahead to a new "David," a promise of the coming Messiah—a descendant of David. ***'I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd'*** (Ezekiel 34: 23).

As our focus turns to Remembrance, we honour the sacrifices of those who gave their lives for the freedom we have. In dark times of war and adversity, Jesus says, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (Jn 10:11). We are all known, seen, and loved by God who has provided the way for us to be led into the new life he has to offer.