

Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 15th March 2026 – The Fourth Sunday in Lent/Mothering Sunday

This Sunday

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion

10.30 am All Age Service

Readings 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 & John 19:25b-27

6.00 pm Evening Prayer Service

Readings Psalm 31:1-16 & John 3:14-21

Collect

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Flowers in memory of all mothers.

Diary for the week

Monday 16th March

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC baby & toddler group.

Tuesday 17th March

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC baby & toddler group.

10.00 am – 4.00 pm Quinquennial Inspection

6.00 pm Beavers

Wednesday 18th March

! No Midweek Communion

9.30 am – 10.45 am Schools Easter Workshop

12 pm - 2.00 pm Esther Connect Group

1.30 pm – 2.45 pm Schools Easter Workshop

6.00 pm Vicars Hour *by appointment*

6.00 pm Cubs

7.30 pm Scouts

Thursday 19th March

11.30 am-1.30 pm Connect Lunch

Free light lunch served, open to all the community.

8.00 pm – 9.00 pm Parenting for Faith

Held elsewhere, please ask if you are interested.

Friday 20th March

9.30 am – 10.45 am School Easter Workshop

1.30 pm – 2.45 pm School Easter Workshop

7.00 pm Music Rehearsal

Saturday 21st March

9.00 am - 11.00 am Choir Rehearsal

7.30 pm Leeds Male Voice Choir Concert

Next Sunday 22nd March 2026

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion

10.30 am Holy Communion Service

12.30 pm APCM

Readings Romans 8:6-11 & John 11:1-45

6.30 pm Prayer & Praise Service

Readings Psalm 30 & Matthew 20:17-34

Notices

Parishioners & Annual Parochial Church Meeting

You are welcome to attend the 2026 Parishioners meeting and APCM on Sunday 22nd March shortly after the 10:30 am Service. More information is available on our website.

Care for the family.

Is a Christian initiative to strengthen family life, offering support to everyone. On Wed 18th Mar at 7.30pm they are having a parenting event in Leeds; *Tweens and Teens: What every parent needs to know*. For tickets and further information check out www.careforthefamily.org.uk

80's Quiz – Sat 2nd May 6 – 8.30pm

The next quiz is in the planning, think big hair, bold questions, it's going to be totally 80's! Further information to follow soon.

Pudsey Gardeners Spring Show

About now, we would normally be gearing up to host the Spring Flower Show, unfortunately this year it has been cancelled. The summer show should be taking place as usual in September.

Dates for your diaries

Palm Sunday 29th March

9am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion with real donkeys!

6.30pm Evening Prayer Service

Holy Week Mon 30th, Tue 31st Mar & Wed 1st April

6.30pm Night Prayer

Maundy Thursday 2nd April

6.30pm Holy Communion

Good Friday Service 3rd April

10.30am All Age Service

12pm Walk of Witness

2.00pm An Hour at the Cross

Easter Sunday 5th April

6.00am Dawn Service

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion

Notices for this sheet to be sent by Wednesday 11am to office@pudseyparish.org.uk 0113 2577843

www.pudseyparish.org.uk

Shirley's Reflection

Jesus prays for himself and His followers.

Father, the time has come for You to bring glory to Your Son, in order that He may bring glory to You. I have brought glory to You here on earth by doing everything You gave Me to do. Now, Father, give me back the glory I had with You before the world was created.

You have given Me some followers from this world, and I have shown them what You are like. I am on My way to You. But I say these things while I am still in the world, so that My followers will have the same complete joy that I have. Father, I don't ask You to take My followers out of the world but keep them safe from the evil one.

I am also praying for everyone else who will have faith because of what My followers will say about Me. I want all of them to be one with each other. (John 17: 1, 4-5, 6, 13, 15, 20-21)

Jesus' disciples knew that He often went to a quiet place to pray to His Father, but this was the first time they had actually heard His prayer. Unsurprisingly, it had a huge effect on John, for him to remember it at least 20 years later. If you read the whole chapter, you will see that it is a bit repetitive, as if Jesus' mind was very much aware of what was going to happen to Him very soon. But He was determined to support His followers in every way He could, both through telling them of the promised Holy Spirit (chapters 14 & 16) and, here, asking his Father to protect and sustain them through the immediate-- and longer term-future.

Some people seem to think it's selfish to pray for yourself! If Jesus felt the need to do so, then surely His weak and sinful followers have an even greater need. Here Jesus was asking His Father to receive glory from His obedience to death on the cross, and also that His Father would give Him glory too, because of that obedience, and in His eventual return to the glory shared by the Godhead before the creation of the world. Jesus had repeatedly told His followers that everything He did and said was what the Father wanted and had tried to make them understand that what He was soon to suffer was what the Father wanted and planned with Him and all for the glory of both Father and Son.

When turning to pray for those with Him at that time, it's amazing to think that Jesus spoke of joy! Jesus knew the joy of oneness with His Father through His obedience and knew the joy His followers would experience because of the oneness they would have with the Godhead as a result of His sacrifice. He knew they would be hated by 'the world,' as He had been - 'the world' being people who lived without belief or interest in God - but He also knew that God would keep them safe as they belonged to Him.

Finally, Jesus prayed for all who would come to believe in Him through the message those first followers would pass on, through their spoken testimony, and their writings about Him, and that includes us! Again, He prayed that we would one with each other, like the oneness between Father and Son in the Godhead. We might have different styles of worship, different ways of celebrating Holy Communion, different views on baptism and, these days, different views on sex and gender issues. But we are one with people of other churches who share our belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord. It is good that, in Pudsey, we show that oneness in our March of Witness behind the cross and joint service with members of all the other churches, on good Friday. May we stand together, in this increasingly divided world, for greater understanding and harmony between neighbours, factions and nations as we seek to live for the glory of God.