

# Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – The Fourth Sunday of Easter

## This Sunday

**9.00 am** Service with Holy Communion

**10.30 am** Service with Holy Communion

**Readings** Acts 2: 42-47 & John 10: 1-10

**6.30 pm** Evening Prayer Service

**Readings** Psalm 29 & Luke 19: 37-48

## Collect

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered  
into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Flowers** remembering Keith, from Anne.

## Diary for the week – Holy Week

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC toddler & baby group.

### Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC toddler & baby group.

6.00 pm Beavers

### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April

10.00 am Midweek Communion

6.00 pm Cubs

6.00 pm – 7.00 pm Vicars Hour

7.30 pm Scouts

7.30 pm – 9.00 pm C and Y Meeting

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April

11.30 am-1.30 pm Connect Lunch

*Free light lunch served, open to all the community.*

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May

12.00 pm – 3.00 pm Quiz Set-Up

### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

4.00 pm – 6.00 pm Quiz Set-Up

6.00 pm – 8.30 pm 80's Quiz

## Next Week Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**9.00 am** Service with Holy Communion

**10.30 am** Service of the Word

**Readings** Acts 7: 55-60 & John 14: 1-14

**6.30 pm** HC with anointing Service

**Readings** Psalm 147:1-12 & Luke 2: 25-38

## Notices

### 80's Quiz – Sat 2 May, 6 – 8.30pm

Get your leg warmers & shoulder pads on! Have you got your ticket for the next quiz night?

Available via ChurchSuite or the parish office all tickets are free, we just ask that if you are able, please bring along something for the buffet (see the sign-up sheet in church). We hope to see you there! [Link to ticket site here](#)

### Quiz Help

If you can spare an hour or two, we'd love your help setting up for the quiz. There's always lots to do and any help would be appreciated, please see Mandi Rugg or email the office.

### Meeting the Vicar

Meetings with Gareth are continuing up to Pentecost on the 24<sup>th</sup> May. To book an appointment please see Gareth. These meetings are a great opportunity to discuss where you are on your journey of faith and how we can support you.

### Lost Property

A key was handed in after the 9am service a month or so ago. Contact the office if you think it's yours.

## Date for your diary

**Mothers Union Meeting** Tue 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2 – 4pm

## Contacts

### Clergy

Rev Gareth Howles - 07795 268997

[vicar@pudseyparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@pudseyparish.org.uk)

### Parish Administrator

Sally Corbin-Smith – 0113 2577843

[office@pudseyparish.org.uk](mailto:office@pudseyparish.org.uk)

### Church Wardens

Marian Ashby – 07971 323749

Trevor Newbold – 07999 710320

### Pastoral Care Team

[pastoral@pudseyparish.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@pudseyparish.org.uk)

## Shirley's Reflection

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### The Bible and us

*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not (be in) want. (Psalm 23: 1)*

*Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed are those who take refuge in Him (Psalm 34: 8)*

*God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3: 16)*

*Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking with a thankful heart. And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4: 6 & 7)*

As well as reading the Bible, those of us who are older were encouraged to learn verses or passages by heart and I expect we all learnt Psalm 23. It's such a reassuring Psalm telling us that God is with us in all the ups and downs of life. Many of us will also remember, in All-Age Services, being encouraged to learn a 'memory verse' which summed up what the sermon was about. On one such occasion I had my dear, agnostic French friend with me, and the memory verse was the above from Psalm 34. I'll never know if she took it on board, but did send her some other gospel verses before she died; she did once say that she envied me for my faith.

If Christians learn any verse from the Bible, it will almost certainly be the one from John above - a simple summary of the gospel. It's always helpful to know verses like this to remind ourselves, when things are difficult, that whatever happens, our eternal destiny is secure. In my student days, Christian Union members were encouraged to learn other gospel verses, to have them in mind when trying to explain the gospel to others. Two of them came from Romans: *All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus (a modern version translates 'justified' as 'put right with God'.)* (Romans 3: 23-24) and *The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 6: 23). They couldn't have been clearer that going to church and 'never doing anyone any harm,' which was the view of many people in the 1950s did not mean you were a Christian, salvation is not earned but a gift of God's grace.

Perhaps others of you, like me, have a verse or passage which keeps turning up at significant times in your life.

The one from Philippians is mine. I can't remember when I first noticed it, but it was framed above the bed in a house I spent a night in to attend a wedding. That was in the holidays before I came to teach at Fulneck, when I didn't know about Moravians and hoped they weren't some strange sect. Then it being the first time I'd worked in a private school, would the pupils be all rich and snobbish, and how would I get on with Pudsey people? This passage put me at peace about it. Then the day I retired from Fulneck, where we always had a Christian assembly, the colleague taking the service read this passage. I'd had very mixed thoughts about retiring and no definite plans about it, but was reassured by these words, and the Lord has indeed kept giving me useful things to do in my retirement.

The last time this passage came when needed, was at a prayer meeting for CPAS the day before I went to the first session of training to be a Reader. The leader of the meeting read it from the Message version, part of which said: *Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns.* As it turned out I needed that reassurance as the teacher at that training session had a very different view of the Bible from ours, so I really had to rely on the Lord to keep me focussed on Bible truths.

There is often something helpful in our daily reading from the Bible; ours today was of Joseph (prime minister of Egypt) taking Jacob, his elderly father to Pharaoh to ask for a favour, and it's a reminder of how important it is to pray for political leaders here and throughout the world, crucial today! The Bible is such a practical, as well as spiritual, help; may more and more of our church family find it to be so for you.