

Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 24th May 2026 - Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

This Sunday

- 9.00 am** Service of the Word
10.30 am Service of the Word with baptism.
Readings Acts 2: 1-21 & John 20: 19-23
6.30 pm Prayer & Praise Service
Readings Psalm 66 & 133 & Luke 24: 44-53

Collect

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Flowers from donations – thank you.

Diary for the week

Monday 25th May

Bank Holiday

Tuesday 26th May

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

Wednesday 27th May

! No Midweek Communion

! No Vicars Hour

6.00 pm Cubs
7.30 pm Scouts

Thursday 28th May

11.30 am-1.30 pm Connect Lunch
Free light lunch served, open to all the community.

Friday 29th May

5.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday 30th May

1.00 pm
The Marriage of Louise Jeffers & Levi Christie

Next Week Sunday 31st May

- 9.00 am** Service with Holy Communion
10.30 am Service of the Word with baptism.
Readings 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20
6.30 pm Evening Prayer Service
Readings Psalm 93 & 150 & John 16:5-15

Notices

Today we welcome the family and friends of Robyn Baker who is being baptised during our 10.30am service. Please keep the family in your prayers as they take this step of faith. In Gareth's absence we also welcome & thank Rev. Carole Lloyd for taking this special service.

Connect Lunch - Basket Floral Workshop

Why not join us in church on Thursday 4th June for a basket floral workshop. Running from 12.30 – 1.30pm alongside our Connect Lunch, Kathryn will help you create a beautiful floral basket. It's £7.50 which includes all the materials. To book speak to Kathryn or email Thistle_Twine@outlook.com

Sunday Service Rotas

Rota are now complete up to the end of July and can be viewed on ChurchSuite or in the blue folder at the back of church. If you are unavailable for a date, if possible, please arrange a swap. As always, we thank you for serving on a Sunday. If you would like to get involved, please email Sally in the office.

Quiz Nights Coming Up - Save the dates!

Sat 4th July - The War Years

Sat 26th September – Cowboys and Country & Western

Contacts

Clergy

Rev Gareth Howles - 07795 268997
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Parish Administrator

Sally Corbin-Smith – 0113 2577843
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Church Wardens

Marian Ashby – 07971 323749
Trevor Newbold – 07999 710320

Pastoral Care Team

pastoral@pudseyparish.org.uk

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

www.pudseyparish.org.uk

Shirley's Reflection

Our role as Jesus' followers.

You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him Who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. (1 Peter 2: 9).

The idea behind these words was first given by God to Moses, the leader of His people Israel, who already were His chosen people through the faithful obedience of their founder, Abraham. Many generations later, they had become a nation of people, made slaves in Egypt but miraculously freed to begin their journey to the land promised to Abraham, where they would be God's representatives to the rest of the world. God said:

If you obey Me fully... then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. (Exodus 19: 5 & 6)

Sadly, the ancient Israelites did not obey God in representing Him to other nations; that was what He intended, but they did not keep their relationship with Him and godly lifestyle. But He sent Jesus to earth to be His obedient servant and through His death on the cross, in our place, and His resurrection, we who believe in Him are now His chosen people - a great privilege and also a great responsibility. He has brought us out of the darkness of 'slavery to sin' and into the light of His love, grace, and guidance, as we go through life's journey to the 'promised land' of eternal life with Him in the glory of the Father's kingdom.

All Christians make up God's 'chosen people', whatever their race or background, so we are citizens of our own country, and also of God's kingdom, to be a 'holy nation'. 'Holy' means 'set apart' for the will of God, and it has been explained as that we are 'in the world but not of it'. This is always a challenge, as it's important that we get on well with the people around us without taking on some of their values and attitudes. There are many good people who are not Christians, but the general focus of our culture is to 'look after number one' preferably with plenty of money, a good job and sex-life, and exciting leisure activities and holidays, none of which are wrong in themselves. But they are not the main or most satisfying reason for living. For us, seeking to know and do what God has planned for us is what should inspire our ambitions and values.

The main function of priests is to represent God to people and people to God. In Old Testament times, the priests had to offer daily animal sacrifices, to ask for God's forgiveness for the sins of all God's people. They were also involved in leading worship and prayer, and teaching them God's commandments for worshipping Him and living together in peace and harmony. Now, the Christian church is to represent God to people through teaching and example and to represent people to God in prayer. Jesus took the place of all the animal sacrifices by dying once for all time and for all the sins of all people. The church is now 'a royal priesthood' serving our Saviour-King and following His example in prayer and care for all people, especially those in need, and we all have a share in that priestly ministry.

Today many people are looking for a sense of identity, meaning in life, and belonging, and we have all that in God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Since we belong to Him our response is to praise Him together for His love and grace and share that grace and love with others. This Sunday is Pentecost when we praise God for the gift of His Holy Spirit, who came in the power of the wind and the purifying of fire to enable those first disciples to praise Him and tell others of their need and assurance of His forgiving love. That same Holy Spirit will help us, as His people today, to carry on that ministry as His royal priesthood!