Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 13th September 2026 – The Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity

This Sunday

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion
10.30 am Service with Holy Communion *& the baptism of Jakub Pryzwan & Willow Greaves*
Readings Exodus 14:19-31 & Matthew 18:1-35
6.30 pm Evening Service

Collect

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false teaching
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Flowers Fond memories of Ray & Ruby Ward

Diary for the week

Monday 14th September

9.30 am – 11.15 am	ABC toddler & baby group.
12.45 pm	Funeral Service
7.00 pm	PCC Meeting

Tuesday 15th September

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

Wednesday 16th September

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

Thursday 17th September

11.30 am - 1.30 pm	Connect Lunch

Free light lunch served, open to all the community.

Next Week Sunday 13th September

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion
10.30 am Service of the Word *with baptisms.*
Readings Exodus 16:2-15 & Matthew 20:1-16
6.30 pm Evening Service

Notices

Today we welcome Jakub and Willow, together with their family and friends as they celebrate the special occasion of their baptisms. Please keep them in your prayers as they take this first step in faith.

Thank you.
Big thanks to the team of volunteers who helped with the café at the Gardeners Show. It's great that we have a presence at this community event whilst also raising funds for church.

Back to Church Sunday – 20th Sept
This is a great chance to invite someone along to church who maybe hasn't been for a while or has never been before. Let's show them God's love and all he has for them at Pudsey.

Alpha – Thursday – 24th Sept 7pm
Curious about faith? Want room to think, chat, and ask anything? Join us, it'll be relaxed, welcoming and genuinely worth coming to, plus you get a free meal! Sign-up in church.

Cowboys and Country & Western Quiz
Don't forget tickets for our next quiz are limited. Don't miss out, get yours via ChurchSuite or contact the office. If you can, please sign up to bring something for the buffet. Yeehaw!

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.

Meet the Vicar
Meetings with Gareth continue. Sign up in Church, for an informal chat about faith & how we as a church can encourage & support you.

Dates for your diaries - September

Sun 20th	Back to Church Sunday
Thu 24th 7.00pm	Alpha Launch
Sat 26th 6.00pm	Cowboys and Country & Western Quiz *Tickets via CS or email the office*
Sun 27th	Harvest Festival services

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.

Shirley's Reflection

Less-known Bible characters: Rahab.

Joshua sent two spies: "Go, look over the land" he said, " especially Jericho." They went and entered the house of a prostitute / innkeeper named Rahab and stayed there. (Joshua 2: 1)
She said to them: "Everyone's courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below." (Joshua 2: 11)
Rahab had been a prostitute, but she had faith and welcomed the spies. (Hebrews 11: 31)

We don't know why the spies chose Rahab's house, but, whatever her profession, it would probably be fairly large, and had they seen that it had a window in the walls of Jericho? She would also have heard, from her 'visitors' the mood of the people - their great fear at the power of the God of Israel in His guidance and provision for His people throughout their journey and the victories that brought them to camp just across the Jordan from Jericho, with Joshua, Moses' former assistant as their leader.

Rahab had apparently come to trust in the God of Israel and knew that He would give the city of Jericho, and the whole land, to His people. When the king of Jericho learned of the presence of Israelite spies at her house, he told her to bring them out, but she had already put them 'out' on her flat roof and hidden them under stalks of flax. She was somewhat 'economical with the truth', giving the impression that she didn't know where they were from and that they had left the city. With their pursuers gone, she let the spies out though her window in the city wall, telling them to hide in the hills for three days and then they could safely go back to their camp.

They made a solemn agreement to spare her and her family, when Jericho was conquered and its inhabitants killed, if she put a red cord in that window, when the rest of the walls fell. We can imagine the terror of the people of Jericho, thinking it was some form of magic curse when the Israelites circled the city in silence for 6 days, and 7 times on the 7th day followed by trumpet blasts and shouts! Then, as 'the walls came tumbling down;' only Rahab and everyone in her house were spared!

It's interesting that when the writer to the Hebrews wrote about the heroes of the faith in the history of Israel, he included Rahab (11: 31) before saying "I have not time to tell about..." many much better known of those (often reluctant) heroes! It's also interesting that in his list of people in the genealogy of Jesus, Matthew only includes 4 women, all of them abused or foreign or both, and one of them is Rahab! (Matthew 1: 5). She must have faithfully lived out her faith in the God of Israel, to be so honoured! May that encourage us to know that no-one is ever refused a place among God's people, whatever their background or lifestyle, if they trust in Him and show their faith by their actions as Rahab did (James 2: 25).