



Weekly News

22nd February 2026

The First Sunday of Lent

www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk

St Peter's Church, Cambridge Road, Harrogate, HG1 1PB

Encouraging Lay Ministries (ELM)

I'm Gayle, the ELM Co-ordinator for the Harrogate Deanery. I've been working part-time in this role for the past seven months building relationships with both clergy and lay people (that's you and me!).

I've also been facilitating 'Learning Communities' that support and strengthen lay ministry. These sessions have been varied, encouraging, and inspiring. We began with an interactive workshop on running small groups, led by Bill Carter. Archdeacon James Theodocius led an affirming session for Churchwardens, highlighting their spiritual calling and their role in representing the gifts of the whole church community. Esli Lee, a Curate at St Mark's, encouraged us to imagine new ways of shaping whole-church pastoral care.

More recently, I had the joy of meeting with a group passionate about ministry with children and young people. Together, we reflected on Matthew 5 v 13 – 16, considering Jesus' call to be salt and light in the world. In *The Message* translation, the imagery is especially vivid, emphasising our calling to live out who we already are — using our God-given gifts to bless others and to bring out the 'God-flavours' and 'God-colours' in the world.

This term, our Learning Communities will focus on all-age worship (7th March), preaching (14th March), and outreach ministries (25th April).

Anyone already involved in these areas of lay ministry, or simply curious to explore them, is warmly invited to come along. Our sessions take place at St Andrew's Church, Starbeck, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. If you feel called to any area of lay ministry, or if you have questions or ideas, please do get in touch (gaylebryonelm@gmail.com). Together, we can continue bringing God's flavours and colours into our churches, communities, and daily lives.



Gayle Byron, *ELM Co-ordinator for Harrogate Deanery*

The logo for Harrogate School of Theology & Mission is a green speech bubble shape. Inside the bubble, the text "harrogate school of theology & mission" is written in a white, sans-serif font. "harrogate" and "school of" are on the top line, "theology &" is on the second line, and "mission" is on the third line.

harrogate
school of
theology &
mission

Harrogate School of Theology & Mission

Unlocking the wisdom of John's Gospel: an introduction to David Ford's Theological Commentary on John's Gospel – a seminar led by the Revd Ian Johnston, a leader of Bible Studies based on this remarkable work

This is on Saturday 28th February at Woodlands Methodist Church on Wetherby Road, starting with breakfast at 9:30 am, followed by the seminar and time for discussion.

Participants will be sent, in advance, a pdf copy of the chapter on John 3, which Ian will use to introduce the main theses of the Commentary and to stimulate group discussion. It will be helpful if participants read this material beforehand. *You are therefore encouraged on this occasion to register via Eventbrite – there is the option to pay on the day, visit hstm.org.uk/events for further details.* Tickets cost £8, under 18s are free.

*St Peter's Lent Course, which started last week, has David Ford's **Meeting God in John** as their resource.*

St Peter's Afternoon Fellowship

St Peter's Afternoon Fellowship meets on Tuesday 3rd March from 2:00 – 4:00 pm at Church. Matthew Nice, the Manager at the *Horizon Life Training* residential centre, which supports former addicts, will be speaking about 'Restored Lives' and as always there will be a delicious afternoon tea. Please call Leigh Thompson 01423 884 899 or 07824 747 912 if you would like to come.



The annual BIG DEEP-CLEAN of St Peter's Church kitchen

Our Church kitchen is well used! While the Breakfast Club Team and Church Maintenance Team keep on top of daily cleaning, we carry out a deep clean of the Church kitchen every year. We normally get together a team of volunteers on a Saturday when there are no other events and blitz the kitchen together. This year the next free Saturday is Saturday 11th April (the Saturday after Easter). If you can help, please contact Siân Lockwood (either in Church or by telephoning her mobile 07889 616 755). The more of us the merrier!

Siân Lockwood, *Churchwarden*

Come and join *Sanctuary*: St Peter's Youth Group



Sanctuary is the name of our youth group that welcomes all secondary school children from the local area. We offer a 'sanctuary' away from the pressures of school, exams and social media - it's a place to chill out, have fun and build friendships. We meet on Sundays during term time at Church from 5:30 – 7:00 pm – next Sunday (1st March) we are having a **PANCAKE NIGHT!** Come along or contact Carrie Brown (carrieb1966@yahoo.co.uk) to find out more.

Tuesday 24th February marks the 4th anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Please pray for the leaders and people of Ukraine, that they can achieve a just and lasting peace that safeguards their security, sovereignty and prosperity.

Chris Clayton is being licensed at St Margaret's, Horsforth, this week!



As you know, our Associate Vicar, Chris Clayton has been appointed as Priest in Charge of the Abbeylands Benefice in the Leeds area. The Bishop of Kirkstall, Arun Arora, will welcome and institute Chris on Wednesday 25th February at 7:00 pm at St Margaret's Church, Church Lane, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 5LA.

Parking is apparently very limited, so we are asked to car share where possible. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome!

Bipolar UK Support Group at St Peter's

Bipolar UK is the only national charity dedicated to empowering individuals and families affected by bipolar. There are over 80 online and in-person peer support groups registered in the UK. The Harrogate *Bipolar UK* peer support group meet on the **last** Wednesday of each month in the Music Room from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. The next meeting is this week on Wednesday 25th February.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

A service for everyone!

Friday 6 March

I will give you rest, come

**Mowbray Community
Church**
Westmoreland Street
Harrogate, HG1 5AT
at 2:00 pm

The offering is shared between many international charities helping women and children



Nigeria 2026



INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION
24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led
wwdp.org.uk
Registered Charity Number 233242

~~vocalis~~

Music Director James Savage-Hanford

Passion and Adoration

Lotti Beach Rachmaninov Casals
Nystedt Górecki Pärt Gjeilo Shaw Briggs

Cellist Doug Badger Pianist Matthew Kam

Pärt *Spiegel im Spiegel*
Messiaen *Louange à l'éternité de Jésus*



Wesley Centre, Harrogate
Saturday 14 March, 7pm

Book online at harrogatevocalis.co.uk



Today's Services: 22nd February 2026

*The First Sunday of Lent
The First Sunday in Lent (BCP)*

8:30 Holy Communion

9:30 Family Communion

*As it is half-term, there is **no** Sunday Club for school age children today, but all children and their parents are welcome to gather in the café area, where there are toys and activities to share during our Family Communion Service.*

Hymns **859** I will worship with all of my heart; **965** Only one thing; **762**
Here is bread; **935** My Jesus, my Saviour

Readings Genesis 2 v 15 – 17 and 3 v 1 - 7
John 6 v 1 - 13

Preacher: John Knott

Our Duty Wardens today are:

Siân Lockwood
and Ian Burt

11:00 Choral Matins

Setting Harris in A (Benedicite)

Hymns 95, 97, 538

Psalm 119 v 17 - 32

Readings Genesis 2 v 15 – 17 and 3 v 1 - 7
John 6 v 1 - 13

Anthem Wash me throughly (*S S Wesley*)

Preacher: John Knott

4:15 pm Stepping Stones Service *Service of the Word*
(arrivals and refreshments 3:45 pm)

Preacher: Alan Garrow

6:30 Choral Evensong

Setting Ayleward in E flat

Hymns 533, 583, 482

Psalm 50 v 1 - 15

Readings Deuteronomy 6 v 4 – 9 and v 16 to end
Luke 15. 1-10

Anthem The Lamentation (*Bairstow*)

Preacher: Alan Garrow

Prayer Ministry at the 9:30 am service

At the 9:30 Service we offer prayer with members of our Prayer Ministry Team. If you would appreciate prayer for any reason, please come to St Mary's Chapel after you have received Communion and wait in the pews there. The team members will introduce themselves, ask for your prayer request and pray with you.

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:

Pat Anderson, Robert Bickford, Ann Campbell, Graham Cornish, Richard Couzens, Jane Crabtree, Tony Edwards, Margaret Farrar, Jenny Gardiner, Tim Harrison, June Hemmings, Jean Hopper, Trevor Hughes, Joan Kelly, Kim Okell, Sheila Pantin, Sue Pearce, Celia Preston, Richard Sadler, Michelle Simon and Sally Sneddon.

Also in our prayers this week:

- Mon** St Peter's CE Primary School
The Children's Society, supporting vulnerable children
- Tues** Our retired Clergy: Ruth Harris, John Knott, Tony Shepherd, Phyl Sopp and David Wheeler
St Peter's Afternoon Fellowship
- Wed** Those struggling with debt
Christian debt counselling charities
- Thurs** Ambulance drivers and paramedics
Radiographers
- Fri** St Peter's Eco Church Group
St Peter's Flower Team
- Sat** Patients and staff in intensive care units
Our homes, families, friends and all whom we love

Daily Bible Readings

Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and is live streamed on Facebook – join in by following the links on our website. As part of our 'Year of John', the New Testament readings are from the Gospel of John. These are the readings we will be using this week:

- Mon** Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c 155
Psalm 11
Genesis 41 v 25 - 45
John 5 v 39 - 47
- Tues** Psalm 44
Genesis 41 v 46 – 42 v 5
John 6 v 1 - 15
- Wed** Psalm 6
Genesis 42 v 6 - 17
John 6 v 16 - 21
- Thurs** Psalm 42
Genesis 42 v 18 - 28
John 6 v 22 - 27
- Fri** George Herbert, Priest, Poet, 1633
Psalm 22
Genesis 42 v 29 to end
John 6 v 28 - 35
- Sat** Psalm 63
Genesis 43 v 1 - 15
John 6 v 35 - 40

The Collect for *The First Sunday of Lent* (Common Worship)

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Collect for *The First Sunday in Lent* (Book of Common Prayer)

O Lord, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights: Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness and true holiness, to thy honour and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

What's on This Week

St Peter's Church is open to visitors from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm every day except Sundays. Lifeline, a local charity providing safe accommodation for the homeless, are holding an exhibition of some of their residents' artwork in the Glass Foyer until 4th March.

- Mon 23rd** 11:00 am – 1:00 pm *Sit-n-Knit* in Church
1:30 – 3:00 pm The *Thinking about God* group is meeting in the Undercroft
2:00 pm The U3A Singing Folk group
- Tues 24th** **12:00 – 12:30 pm Healing Service**
- Wed 25th** **10:30 – 11:00 am Café RefleXions**
2:00 – 3:30 pm Art Class for Adults with Helena
7:00 – 9:00 pm Harrogate *Bipolar UK* peer support group
7:00 pm Chris Clayton will be licensed by the Bishop of Kirkstall, Arun Arora, at St Margaret's Church, Horsforth
7:30 pm Harrogate Harmony Men's Chorus
- Thurs 26th** 9:30 – 11:00 am The Toddler Group at St Peter's
9:30 – 10:45 am *Meeting God in John – a Lent Course for 2026* in the Gallery. Week 2
11:00 am Holy Communion
7:30 pm St Peter's Choir Practice
- Fri 27th** 9:30 am AA meeting in the Music Room
10:00 am – 12:00 pm St Peter's Cleaning Team
7:00 – 8:15 pm Bellringing Practice at St Peter's
- Sat 28th** 10:00 am – 3:30 pm *The 10th Harrogate St Peter's Rainbows* are holding a Refreshment Day
- Sun 1st** ***The Second Sunday of Lent***
St David's Day
5:30 – 7:00 pm **Sanctuary**, our Youth Group, are meeting in the Brostoff Hall to make pancakes (with loads of different toppings!)
7:15 – 8:45 pm *Meeting God in John: Lent Course **online***. Week 2
7:30 – 8:30 pm AA meeting in the Brostoff Hall

Next Sunday 1st March 2026

The Second Sunday of Lent

- 8:30 Holy Communion
9:30 Family Communion
11:00 Choral Communion
4:15 Stepping Stones Service
– *Celtic Worship*
6:30 Choral Evensong

St Peter's Food Ministry:

The Breakfast Club provides a free, hot breakfast every morning from Monday to Saturday (8:15 – 8:45 am) for all those who are hungry or in need.

Our mini-supermarket is on Thursdays from 4:20 – 4:40 pm – an opportunity to stock up on tinned, preserved and dried food and toiletries.

A Rocha UK's Eco Tips 2026 Calendar - February



Delight in and responsibility for nature

This Lent, take part in [Climate Steward's Carbon Fast](https://climatestewards.org). Lent is a time when Christians traditionally fast and focus on God. *The Carbon Fast* will help you consider ways to live more simply, give you new ideas to cut your carbon footprint and invite you to focus on God and consider the whole of his Creation. You will receive a weekly email containing key facts, suggestions for how you could reduce your carbon footprint and a prayer to lead you through this Lenten season. Each week features a different theme designed to help us take climate action in manageable ways that

bear witness to a God who has promised to restore all of his Creation – the focus for Week 1 is *Delight in and responsibility for nature*. Find out more and sign up at: climatestewards.org, one of the A Rocha UK's family organisations.

A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world and committed to equipping churches in the UK to care for the environment. The Eco Church programme is an online award scheme encompassing all areas of church life through the following five categories: *Worship and teaching; Buildings and energy; Land and nature; Community and global engagement; and Lifestyle*. This Church achieved a Silver Eco Church Award last September, thanks to the hard work of St Peter's Eco Church Group.

Café Reflexions

Coffee, cake and contemplation



Wednesdays
10.30 - 11.00 am



St Peter's Toddler Group

Thursday Mornings
9.30am-11.00am
Cambridge Rd, Harrogate HG1 1PB
01423 161 425

- Nursery rhymes and singing
- Crafts
- Tea/Coffee and biscuits
- Drinks and snacks for children
- Storytime
- Safe warm space to play
- It's **Free!**



Refreshments are served after each of our Sunday morning services from



the kitchen area at the front of Church. Please come and join us.

St Peter's Canine Code



- Well-behaved dogs are welcome.
- Please keep your dog in one place throughout the service.
- Please do not bring your dog to the communion rail.

The Next Deadline

The deadline for the next edition of the Weekly News (1st March) will be noon on Wednesday 25th February. Please send any items (including photos) to **The Weekly News Editor**, Marian Chambers, or to **the Vicar**, Alan Garrow.

Welcome to St Peter's Church

You can join us online or in person



New to St Peter's? Please fill in one of the welcome cards in the pews and hand it to one of the Clergy.

Key Contacts

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