



Lent
2018

THE NET

The Parish Newsletter for St Peter's Church, Harrogate

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putting faces to
names

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Welcome to THE NET - the parish newsletter of St Peter's - the church overlooking the War Memorial, at the very heart of Harrogate. In this edition you can meet the team and find out what they do. In January our Alpha course started, led by one of our Readers - what role do they play in the Church? Ash Wednesday, this year on 14th February, marks the beginning of Lent, so there are details of all our Lent activities and Easter services inside too. And there's a new member of the team to meet ...



On the run for 23 years!



I spent twenty-three years trying to avoid becoming 'the Vicar'. Let me explain. I was ordained in 1993 and spent sixteen years in parish ministry up until 2016 - but I was never 'the Vicar'. Previously, I was either an assistant to the Vicar, or involved in training people preparing for ordained ministry, or doing academic research about the Bible. Then, in April 2016, I finally took the plunge - and since then I've been wondering why I waited

so long! St Peter's is a fantastic church to belong to. Being the Vicar has already been the most rewarding experience of my working life. The location of our building, right in the heart of the town, and its openness to everybody every day means that there is always something interesting going on. We are blessed with the most amazing team of volunteers, more than two hundred of them, who enable us to offer not only an extraordinarily diverse pattern of worship - formal and informal, traditional and contemporary - but also to be a place of sanctuary, friendship and sustenance for hundreds of people who are vulnerable, homeless or isolated every day of the year.

Alan Garrow, *Vicar of St Peter's Church*

More Clergy and our Lay Readers



Tim Hurren, our Associate Vicar, was ordained in 2002 after leaving school at the age of fifteen and following four decades of work in a variety of secular settings including: financial services, leading a management training centre, branch banking and acting as environmental sociologist in local government. More a series of work experiences than a career, he says! Also active over many years in the governance of local charities, Tim served on Harrogate Borough Council (chiefly as Chair of Finance) and was a parliamentary candidate in 1992. He is married to Caroline who is a member of Kairos Network Church and they have two sons and five grand-children. Southern born but Yorkshire adopted for over fifty years. Currently Tim is leading our focus on strengthening our links with the businesses and organisations in our parish - find out more about his *Faith in the*

Workplace interviews taking place in Lent on the next page. Tim will be retiring in September and will be greatly missed by all at St Peter's.

Sue Pearce, our Assistant Priest, spent her early life in Cairo, coming to Harrogate to finish her schooling. She worked as a secretary until her two children were born and then went on to teach at Harrogate College. While a Lay Reader at Christ Church she was asked to consider ordination. During her training she did a placement at Harrogate College and became a part-time Anglican Chaplain there. Sue was a curate at St Robert's in Pannal, before becoming one of the clergy team at St Peter's. She has five lively grandchildren - one in Knaresborough and four in Munich. Sue is a member of the Harrogate Hospital Chaplaincy team and also a supporter of Jennyruth Workshop, where adults with learning disabilities gain independence, life skills and work experience. She is also organising a traditional Seder meal during Holy Week - details on the next page.



At St Peter's we are lucky to have two retired clergy, **Graham Cornish** and **Michael Hunter**, who preach and officiate at services.

Licensed Lay Ministers (also known as Readers) are part of the nationally recognised and accredited public ministry of the Church of England. At the heart of their role is a ministry of the word, that is teaching, preaching and leading worship, but according to their gifts they are also engaged in a wide variety of other ministries. At St Peter's we are so blessed to have three Readers - **Hannah Beck**, **Sarah Martin** and **Dennis Richards**. Hannah runs our Breakfast Club and, with the help of a band of volunteers, serves a free, hot breakfast every day, except Sundays, to all those who are in hungry or in need. On Sundays a hot lunch is served at the Wesley Centre each week, except for the third Sunday of the month when it is here at St Peter's. She also co-ordinates our food parcel scheme, when bags of food are given out before Evening Prayer to anyone who comes. Sarah, as well as running our Healing Prayer Group, is currently leading the Alpha Course on Wednesday evenings with a team of willing helpers (pictured below), creating a warm welcome for all the guests. Dennis retired as Head Teacher of St Aidan's High School and now writes a regular column for the Harrogate Advertiser.



Meet Carole - our Parish Administrator



Carole Raw has worked in the Parish Office since 2002 and was appointed Parish Administrator in 2008. She returned to Harrogate when she married after working in South East Asia for the charity Oxfam and studying Indonesian and Malay at London University.

Since the conservation and extension project, the scope of her work has increased as St Peter's now has several spaces available for hire and Carole deals with all the bookings and manages all the arrangements. Support groups, community groups, adult learning courses, choirs, orchestras and charities all use the various halls and meeting rooms. The enlarged and professionally equipped kitchen has enabled charities to hold fundraising days on Saturdays, serving lunches and teas to the public. There is a weekly Community Café run by the charity Stonham. If you or your group are looking for a space to hire, please contact Carole at the Parish Office, contact details are overleaf.

Faith in the Workplace

What has the Christian faith got to do with the world of work? Here's an opportunity to find out how five very different people seek to express their beliefs and values while at work. Come to Lunchtime RefleXions from 12:30 - 1:00 pm on Thursdays during the season of Lent (light lunches will be available).

Thursday 22 nd February	The Industrialist
Thursday 1 st March	The Optician
Thursday 8 th March	The Shopkeeper
Thursday 15 th March	The Accountant
Thursday 22 nd March	The Taxi Driver

What is a Seder Meal?

Passover is the oldest and most important festival in Judaism, commemorating God's deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt. The focal point of Passover is a communal meal, called the Seder when the story is retold and symbolic foods are eaten. On Monday 26th March, during Holy Week, at 6:00 pm a Seder meal will be served at St Peter's. Come to share the food, but also to learn more about this traditional meal and the links to the events of Holy Week.

Lent and Easter at St Peter's

February

Wednesday 14th *Ash Wednesday* 11:30 am Holy Communion marking the beginning of Lent, which will include the tradition of Ashing (the marking of foreheads with ash).

Faith and the Workplace - as part of our usual Lunchtime RefleXions, an opportunity to hear how five very different people seek to express their Christian faith in their working lives, 12:30 - 1:00 pm on Thursdays in Lent, starting on 22nd February with *The Industrialist*.

March

Sunday 11th *Mothering Sunday* with all our usual Sunday Services - a small posy of flowers, made by St Peter's Brownies and Guides, will be given with love to every mother attending our services.
 Sunday 18th *Fifth Sunday in Lent* with our usual Sunday Services

Holy Week

Sunday 25th *Palm Sunday* - during our services today everyone receives a palm cross to commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem and the Passion Narrative is read at Matins and Evensong.
 Monday 26th 6:00 pm **Seder Meal** - come and explore the connection between Passover and the events of Holy Week
 Tuesday 27th 12:30 pm Healing Service - with prayers and the laying on of hands
 7:00 pm **Compline** - a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day.
 Wednesday 28th 7:15 pm Performance of **Handel's Messiah** with St Peter's Choir, guest singers and an orchestra
 Thursday 29th *Maundy Thursday* 11:00 am Holy Communion - a traditional said service
 7:30 pm **Choral Communion commemorating the Last Supper**
 Friday 30th *Good Friday* 10:00 am **Good Friday Family Service** with craft activities
 2:00 pm **An Hour before the Cross** - meditations and music on the crucifixion of Christ
 Saturday 31st *Easter Eve* 7:30 pm **Lighting of the New Fire**

April

Sunday 1st *Easter Day* with all our usual Sunday Services - celebrating with joy Christ's resurrection - don't forget to bring a flower to add to the Flowering Cross.

Meet our new curate

We are looking forward to welcoming Christopher Clayton, who will be joining us as a Curate at St Peter's after his ordination as Deacon on 30th June 2018.



My name is Christopher Clayton, but please call me Chris. I'm 36 years old and was born and bred in Bradford. I'm married to my wonderful wife Samantha, who was my childhood sweetheart. We have been together 21 years and married for 15. We have two amazing boys - Alexander who will be 13 in November and Daniel who turned 10 in August. My hobbies include supporting the mighty Bradford City FC (someone has to) and I also enjoy playing football, golf and paintball. One of my favourite verses in the Bible is Mark 10:45: *For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.* This verse has inspired my passion of being a servant to others, be that customer services, hotel work or as a priest. Having a servant heart, helping people

and showing God's love is one of our primary callings as a people of God.

Before I realised my calling to ordination, I worked in the hotel trade for six years and at Bradford College as the customer services manager in IT for eleven years. I am currently studying a BA in Theology at Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford.

I am looking forward to being able to serve you and work with you serving the local community and all in need.

Yours in Christ,
Chris Clayton

Daily Services at St Peter's

Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer at 5:00 pm Monday to Saturday

Sundays

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| 8:30 am | Holy Communion - a traditional said service held in the Choir stalls |
| 9:30 am | Family Communion - a structured but informal service accompanied by our Music Group. There is a Sunday Club for children. |
| 11:00 am | Choral Matins - a traditional service led by our Choir. On the first Sunday of the month this is Choral Communion. |
| 4:15 pm | Afternoon Church - starting with refreshments, a service for all the family. |
| 6:30 pm | Choral Evensong - a Cathedral style service led by our Choir. On the third Sunday of the month we have Choral Communion |

Tuesdays

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| 12:30 pm | Healing Service - this includes prayers with laying on of hands |
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Wednesdays

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| 10:30 am | Café RefleXion - coffee, cake and Bible reflections |
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Thursdays

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| 9:30 am | Parents and Toddlers - stories, songs and prayers, followed by time for coffee and play |
| 11:00 am | Holy Communion - a traditional said service |
| 11:30 onwards | Lunchtime RefleXion - food for your body and soul: a delicious lunch with readings |

Contact us:

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The next edition of THE NET will be coming out in the Summer, on Sunday 1st July 2018.