



Weekly News

21st December 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk

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

Celebrity Escape to Breakfast Club!

We were recently visited by presenter, Richie Anderson, celebrity house-hunter, Neil Jones – one of the professional dancers from *Strictly Come Dancing* – and the *Celebrity Escape to the Country* film crew. They came to film at Breakfast Club because, early in his career, Neil Jones had to rely on the kind of food service we provide here at St Peter's. The programme they were making is due to air on BBC One on Sunday 4th January at 7:00 pm. St Peter's is likely to make an appearance, but nothing is guaranteed! In the same way that we must decide on the focus of our Christmas, so programme-makers must decide what to put at the centre and what to leave out!



Janie (Glover) is a Breakfast Club Member, who took part in the *Celebrity Escape to the Country* filming

Neil Jones' story is a good reminder of the value of Breakfast Club – it offers a safe and warm place for people who find themselves up against it. As well as providing a practical service, it is a place where barriers are broken down and connections are made – part of our vision to 'feed hungry people around God's open, generous table'. We currently have vacancies for Breakfast Club team members on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings. After the safer recruitment process, you would need to be available to volunteer between 7:30 – 9:15 am on your chosen day. Please ask one of the Clergy or Churchwardens if you'd like to know more.

In the meantime, a very Happy Christmas!

Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's Church

The Revd Chris Clayton to be the next Vicar of Horsforth



I was delighted to be able to announce last Sunday that our Associate Vicar, Chris Clayton, is to become the next Vicar of St Margaret's Horsforth in the Diocese of Leeds. Chris has served St Peter's Parish with humility and distinction over the last seven and a half years. For the first four years he was a Curate in training and, since June 2022, he has been Associate Vicar.

Now he is moving on to take up an Incumbent responsibility. Strictly speaking, Chris will be licensed as Priest in Charge of Abbeylands Benefice in the Diocese of Leeds with the expectation that this will soon translate into Vicar of Horsforth. Chris' final Sunday at St Peter's will be 18th January. Please use the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Desk if you'd like to share in his farewell lunch - so we can estimate numbers before seeking contributions. Chris' licensing will take place at St Margaret's Horsforth on Wednesday 25th February at 7.00pm. Further details soon!

Join us to bring in the New Year!

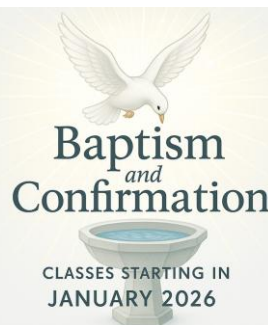
On 31st December, New Year's Eve, we are holding a special service: **Pray for 2026** - come and light a candle and pray for our nation and for the world, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Our **Watchnight Service** has been cancelled this year.

Thank you to all at St Peter's who helped in any way to make our Refreshment Day for Amnesty such a success. We raised £1,035 towards their work of campaigning for justice and freedom in the face of tyranny and oppression.



Many thanks to everyone who donated to the Christmas flowers:
Tim Wilkinson, Will Lawson, Jill Rawlings and Geoff Wilkinson.

They are in memory of
Derek Clarkson whose birthday would have fallen on 10th December.



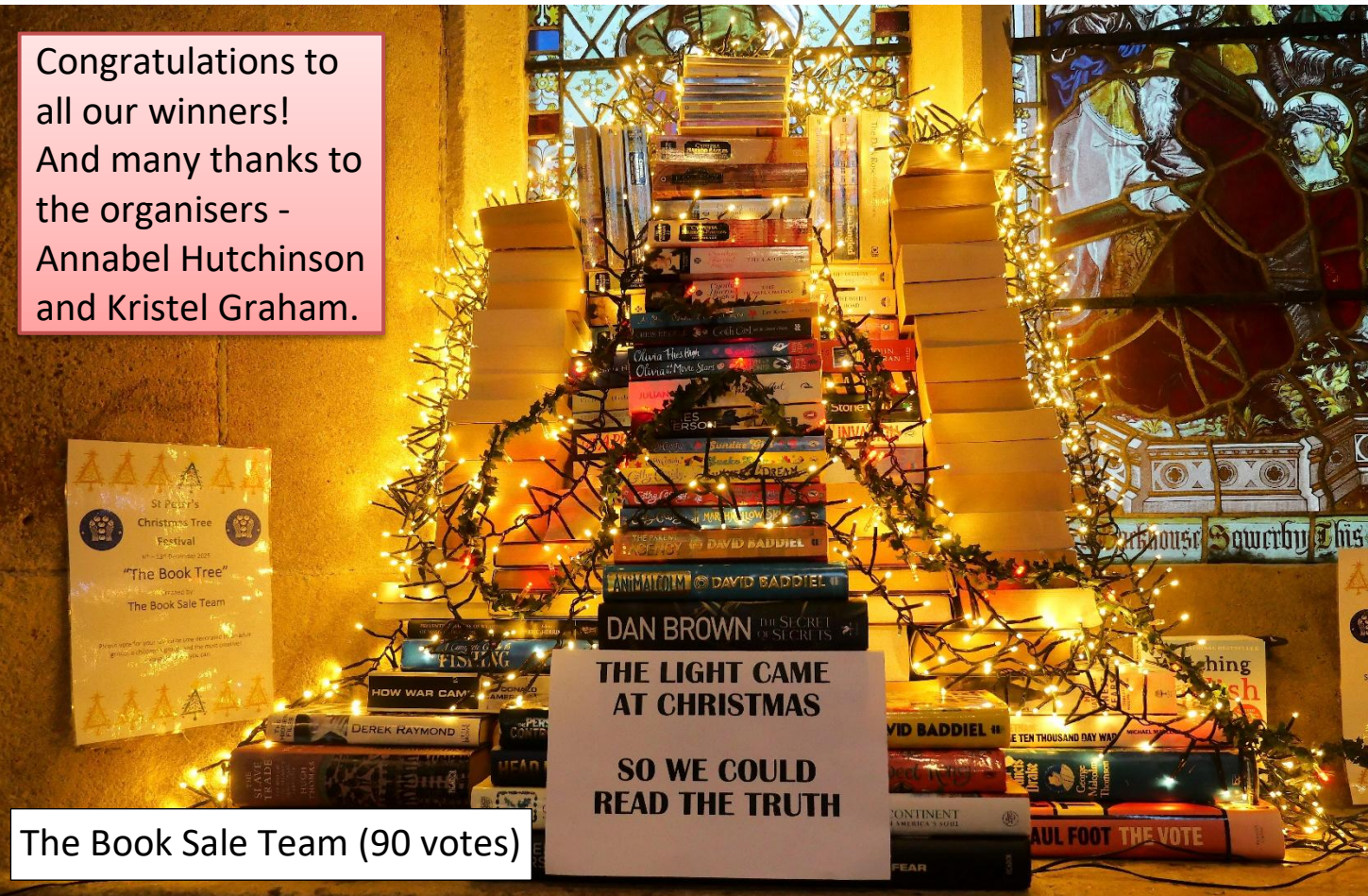
**New Year!
New You?
Welcome to
the table!**

Starting on 15th January 2026 our Curate, Karin Shaw, will be hosting classes on Thursdays at 9:30 – 10:45 am and at 6:00 – 7:15 pm, for those who wish to explore their faith with others who are also thinking about baptism or confirmation.

See the slips at the end of the pew.

St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival 2025

Congratulations to
all our winners!
And many thanks to
the organisers -
Annabel Hutchinson
and Kristel Graham.



SO WE COULD READ THE TRUTH

The Book Sale Team (90 votes)



Western Primary School (78 votes)



Sit and Knit (103 votes)

Today's Services: 21st December 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 Holy Communion

9:30 Family Communion

*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 **602** While shepherds watched; **36** Away in a manger: **529** The first Nowell; **491** See him lying on a bed of straw

Readings Deuteronomy 4 v 6 - 9
John 1 v 10 - 18

Preacher: Catharine Davies

Our Duty Wardens today are:

Mike Davies and
Ian Birt

11:00 Choral Matins

Setting Sumsion in B flat (Benedicite)

Hymns 75, 35, 601

Psalm 144

Readings Deuteronomy 4 v 6 - 9
John 1 v 10 - 18

Anthem I sing of a maid (Jack Longstaff)

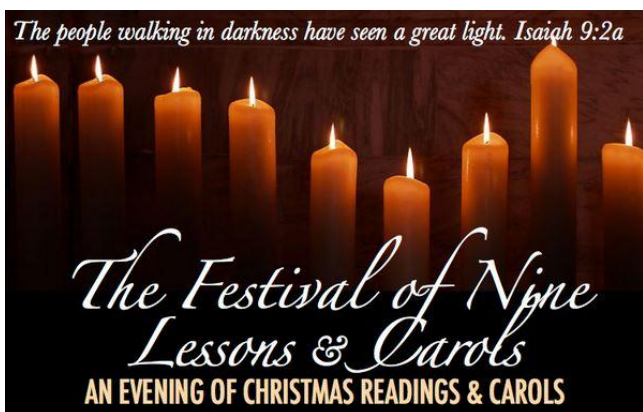
Preacher: Catharine Davies

4:15 pm Stepping Stones Service *Crafternoon Church*
(arrivals and refreshments 3:45 pm)

Preacher: Ruth Thompson-Vear

6:30 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Please see separate order of service



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, Ian Birt, Ann Campbell, Graham Cornish, Jane Crabtree, Tony Edwards, Margaret Farrar, Jenny Gardiner, Nigel Gardiner, Tim Harrison, June Hemmings, Jean Hopper, Trevor Hughes, Joan Kelly, Kim Okell, Sheila Pantin, Celia Preston, Richard Sadler, Michelle Simon and Sally Sneddon.

Also in our prayers this week:

Mon	St Peter's CE Primary School All those affected by the terrorist attack in Sydney, Australia
Tues	Our retired Clergy: Ruth Harris, Michael Hunter, John Knott, Sue Pearce, Tony Shepherd and David Wheeler St Peter's Afternoon Fellowship
Wed	The Parish Giving Scheme Those giving to support the work of our Church
Thurs	Those spending Christmas Day alone All the key workers working this Christmas Day
Fri	St Peter's Eco Church Group St Peter's Flower Team
Sat	Those who are close to death St Michael's Hospice

Daily Readings

Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer is at 5:00 pm daily and both are live streamed on Facebook – join in by following the links on our website. These are the Bible readings we will be using each morning this week:

Mon	Psalm 124 Malachi 1 v 1, v 6 to end Matthew 19 v 1 - 12
Tues	Psalm 130 Malachi 2 v 1 - 16 Matthew 19 v 13 - 15
Wed	<i>Christmas Eve</i> Psalm 45 Malachi 2 v 17 – 3 v 12 Matthew 19 v 16 to end
Thurs	CHRISTMAS DAY Psalm 110 Isaiah 62 v 1 - 5 Matthew 1 v 18 to end
Fri	<i>Stephen, First Martyr</i> Psalm 13 Jeremiah 26 v 12 - 15 Acts 6
Sat	<i>John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> Psalm 21 Exodus 33 v 12 to end 1 John 2 v 1 - 11

The Collect for The Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Common Worship)

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Collect for The Fourth Sunday in Advent (Book of Common Prayer)

O Lord, raise up (we pray thee) thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honour and glory, world without end.

What's on This Week

Mon 22nd

Tues 23rd

12:00 – 12:30 pm Healing Service

4:20 – 4:40 pm St Peter's mini-supermarket

Wed 24th

Christmas Eve

10:30 am - 12:30 pm Christingle making with carol singing

See full details of services below

Thurs 25th

Christmas Day

See full details of services on the next page

Fri 26th

St Stephen's Day (Boxing Day)

Church closed

9:30 am AA meeting in the Music Room

Sat 27th

Sun 28th

The First Sunday of Christmas

8:30 am Holy Communion

9:30 am Family Communion

11:00 am Choral Matins

1:00 pm Christmas Meal

7:30 – 8:30 pm AA meeting in the Brostoff Hall

Christmas Eve Services: 24th December 2024

3:00 and 4:30 Christingle Services

Preacher: Karin Shaw

6:30 Carols for Christmas Eve by candlelight

Anthems: Midwinter (*Bob Chilcott*)

The twelve days of Christmas (arr. *John Rutter*)

Do you hear what I hear (arr. *Jonathan Rathbone*)

Preacher: Chris Clayton

11:30 Midnight Mass

Setting Whitlock

Hymns *Please see service sheet*

Readings Isaiah 52 v 7 - 10

John 1 v 1 -14

Anthems The Word made Flesh (*Philip Wilby*)

Noel, Jesus is Born (*Kerry Beaumont*)

Preacher: Steve Gibbin



Christmas Day Services: 25th December 2025



8:30 Holy Communion

9:30 Family Communion

Hymns 36 Away in a manger; 420 O little town of Bethlehem; 408 O come all ye faithful; 155 Hark! the herald angels sing

Readings Isaiah 9 v 2 - 7
Luke 2 v 1 - 14

Preacher: Chris Clayton

11:00 Christmas Day Worship

Hymns *Please see service sheet*

Readings Isaiah 62 v 6 to end
Luke 2 v 8 - 20

Anthems Ding dong merrily on high (arr. Mack Wilberg)
I saw three ships (arr. John Longstaff)

Preacher: Alan Garrow



The Collect for Christmas Day

(Common Worship)

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

The Collect for Christmas Day

(Book of Common Prayer)

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin:
Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit;
through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

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 Food Ministry:

This week **The Breakfast Club** will provide a free, hot breakfast on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday (8:15 – 8:45 am). However, **no breakfast will be served on Christmas Day or Boxing Day.**

There will be a **Christmas Meal** at 1:00 pm on Sunday 28th December.

This week our mini-supermarket is on **Tuesday 23rd December** from 4:20 – 4:40 pm – an opportunity to stock up on food and toiletries.

The Next Deadline

The deadline for the next **full** edition of the Weekly News (4th January) will be noon on Wednesday 31st December. 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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