

St. Philip's News



October 2025

Harvest – More than a Season, a Way of Seeing.

Harvest is one of those times in the year when church and countryside seem to move in step. The fields turn golden, allotments offer up their courgettes (more than we ever asked for), and supermarkets decorate themselves with pumpkins and autumn colours. It's a season when creation itself seems to preach: there is abundance, there is enough, and there is beauty.

Traditionally, harvest festivals were a way of thanking God for the safe gathering-in of crops. In farming communities, this was quite literally a matter of life and death - if the harvest failed, so did the food supply. Today, there are still a few of us who rely directly on fields outside our window, but all of us are still utterly dependent on the land, the seas, and those who work them. To pause, give thanks, and celebrate is still vital.

But harvest is about more than food. It is about learning to see the world differently: as a gift, not a possession. Every loaf of bread, every bunch of grapes, every tin we place at the front of church during harvest festival speaks of the God who gives generously, and who asks us to share generously in return.

This makes harvest a time not just of thanksgiving but of responsibility. We cannot speak of abundance without remembering that many go hungry. We cannot celebrate plenty without asking questions about food waste, climate change, and the inequalities that mean some farmers struggle while others flourish. Harvest challenges us to be stewards, not simply consumers.

That's why our harvest offerings go not only towards decorating the church with apples and marrows but also towards foodbanks, charities, and projects that ensure others can share in the blessings we enjoy. When we bring tins and packets, we're not just being practical - we're acting out a vision of God's kingdom, where no one is left without.

So as you pick blackberries in the hedgerows, or carve out that pumpkin, or buy "just one more tin of beans" for the collection, remember: this is harvest. It's not just an event on the church calendar, but a way of life rooted in gratitude, generosity, and trust in the God who still, in every season, provides.

Revd Jonathan

Services in October



Friday 3 October

2.00pm **Communion**
- Trinity 15 (G)
Priest: **Gordon Cooper**

Sunday 5 October

9.30am **Morning Prayer**
1st Reading: **2 Timothy 1:1-14**
Gill Sinclair

Gospel: **Luke 17:5-10**
Ann Riley

Intercessions: *Ann Riley*

Friday 10 October

2.00pm **Prayer Meeting**

Sunday 12 October

9.30am **Communion**
- Trinity 17 (G)
1st Reading: **2 Timothy 2:8-15**
Ros Loach

Gospel: **Luke 17:11-19**
Simon Carlton

Intercessions: *Beckie Briggs*

Friday 17 October

2.00pm **Communion**
- Trinity 17 (G)
Priest: **Robin Paterson**

Sunday 19 October

9.30am **All Together Worship**
1st Reading: **2 Timothy 3:14-4:5**
Gospel: **Luke 18:1-8**

Friday 24 October

2.00pm **Prayer Meeting**

Sunday 26 October

9.30am **Communion**
- Trinity Last (G)
1st Reading: **2 Timothy 4:6-8,**
16-18
Stella Ambler

Gospel: **Luke 18:9-14**
Chris Prior

Intercessions: *John Prior*

4:00pm **Service of Light**
@ Barwick

6.30pm **Taizé @ Thorner**

CARING FOR EACH OTHER...

If you haven't seen someone for a while, please either try and find out how they are or let us know and we will try and make contact. Please also ask the person if they would like to go on the prayer list (using their full name or just first name). A note to us giving a contact number or address of the person concerned often helps.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Is there something you'd like us to pray about? You can send your prayer requests by using this QR Code and completing the form. All prayer requests are confidential.





The Café will be open every Friday in October, from 9:00am to 12:00pm and on **Saturday 25th October** from 10:00am to 12:00pm for teas, great coffees, irresistible cakes, toasted teacakes, bacon butties & crumpets!



Scholes Home Group

 **FIRST-TUESDAY OF THE MONTH**
7:30 – 9:00 pm

 At John & Sally Edwards' home
73 Nook Road, LS15 4AX

What to Expect:

-  Friendship & fellowship
-  Laughter
-  Prayers
-  A traditional hymn or two

Everyone is welcome!

Especially if you are not a regular at a home group — no need to book, just turn up.



ST. PETER'S, THORNER
SUNDAY
25TH OCTOBER @ 6:30pm

If you've never been to Taizé worship service before, why not consider coming along.

It involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation, periods of silence and liturgical readings.



The Food Bank is short of the following items and any donations are much appreciated:

- ⇒ **Tinned Meats**
- ⇒ **Tinned Fruit**
- ⇒ **Tinned Potatoes**
- ⇒ **Packet Mash**
- ⇒ **Pot Noodles/Super Noodles**
- ⇒ **Toilet Rolls**
- ⇒ **Shower Gel / Toiletries**

If you can pop an extra item into your shopping basket, it really does help - Thank you!

Foodbank
FOOD FOR PEOPLE IN NEED

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change. Our members are active in 83 countries and work tirelessly to serve their communities to build a future where everyone thrives.

Ending violence, ending poverty, ending injustice. We are a truly worldwide Christian movement. And a local one!

We usually meet on the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm at St Philip's church.

If you want to know more, please contact:

- Sue Saxton ~ 07757 509 072
- Sally Wray ~ 07484 152 886

Our meeting this month is on 6th October at 7.30pm; Helen Cox is giving her talk entitled "An early female aviator".

All are welcome to join us.

Need prayer?



Got something on your heart and need a listening ear? Our Prayer Team are here every Sunday after the morning service, just come over to the Prayer Area on the right side of the church. It's private, confidential, and you'll be with people who care.

GIVING

SUPPORT THE WORK OF ST PHILIP'S

St Philip's is a charity which receives no funding from the government and is entirely dependent on donations to keep its doors open, continue its work in the community and maintain its buildings and surroundings.

If you would like to support us, you can donate in the plate or use the contactless device at the entrance to church. If you would like to give regularly, you can set up a Standing Order or use a Giving Envelope.

More info from Tim South, the Treasurer or Revd Jonathan.



Standing Order

Giving Envelope



Collection Plate

Contactless



giftaid it

If you pay UK Income Tax, we encourage you to Gift Aid all your giving to church. Gift Aid in the UK is a scheme enabling registered charities to reclaim the tax from the Government on a donation made by a UK taxpayer, increasing the donation by 25p for every £1 you give, without costing you any extra.



BRASS BAND CONCERT

with

Gawthorpe Brass & Elderberries music group

SAT 15TH NOVEMBER

7PM

ST PHILIP'S CHURCH

Main Street, Scholes. LS15 4DJ

Refreshments (proceeds to St Richards foodbank)



Tickets £5

(under 16's free)

Pay on door or reserve with S Edward 07751 881535



Keeping Warm

- ⇒ Make sure you close your curtains when it gets dark to stop heat escaping.
- ⇒ Get draft proof to stop losing heat. Professional draughtproofing of windows, doors and blocking cracks in floors and skirting boards can cost around £200, but can save around £25 a year on energy bills. DIY draught proofing can be much cheaper. Installing a chimney draught excluder could save around £15 a year as well. www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energysaving-quick-wins
- ⇒ Make sure your hot water tank is insulated with a thick jacket. It will save you lots of money, not to mention reducing your carbon emissions.
- ⇒ Has your loft got loads of insulation? It's one of the cheapest and easiest ways to save energy and will pay for itself in hardly any time.



Prayer Group

What is prayer?

And why do we do it?

Prayer is our way of communicating with God and, incidentally, with each other.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoon of every month to discuss and then pray for people and events within our local community and in the wider world.

If you want to know more, please speak to Ros Loach or email admin@elmetetrinity.org.

You would be very welcome to come along at any time, as and when you can, for a cup of tea and chat to find out what it is all about.

Prayer for Growth

*God of Mission,
who alone brings
growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit
to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions,
and power to our witness.*

*Help St Philip's to grow
in numbers, in spiritual
commitment to you,
and in service to our
local community,
through Jesus
Christ our Lord.*



Pause for Thought

The World is a Lovely Place By Beryl Walker

The world is a lovely place
It's the people on it who make mistakes.
Mother nature is always there
To show us that she does care
She carried on with her seasons each year
To let us know she is still here.

Life is like her in a way
We have to keep on, come what may
Life is not perfect as I once was told
And you have to find out as you grow old
We have to keep on smiling as we go along
And think of happy times
that we have to come

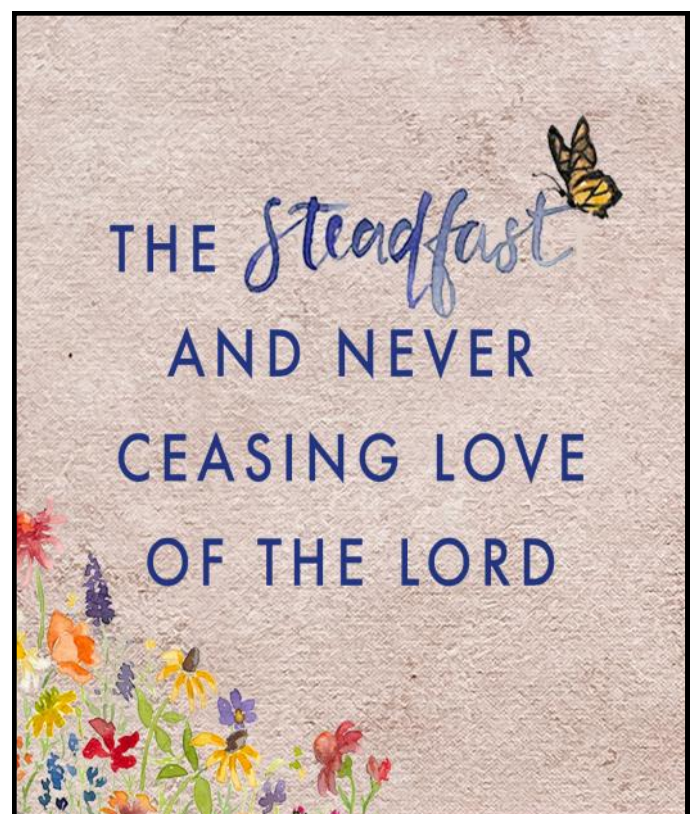
The joy of new day, the song of a bird
The gift of life we only have one
The Lord gave us that and Jesus His son
Don't be afraid to ask for His help
His door never closes as I have found out
So pray to Him now for His help
and His love.
Your prayer will be answered
from the Lord above.

*(Beryl was the
Home Care Supervisor
for Barwick and
also a member of
St Philip's Choir)*

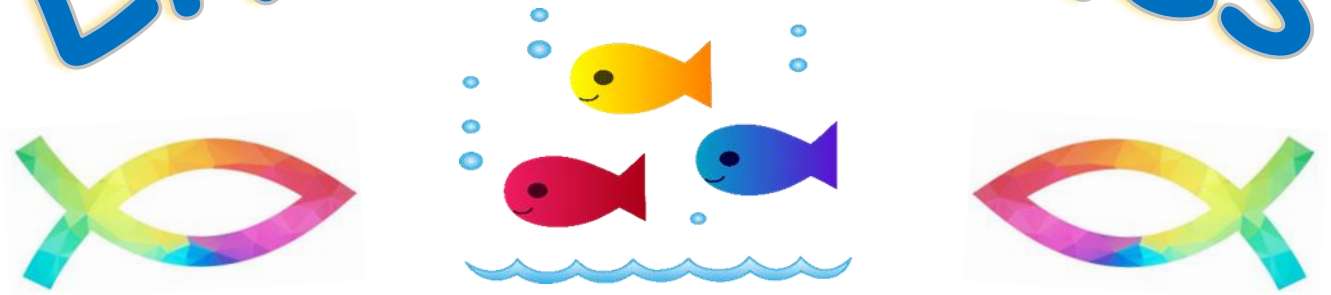


I am selling Christmas cards as
usual in aid of Martin House
Children's Hospice.
There are 10 cards in a pack and
each pack costs £3.75.
There are 10 different designs.
I will bring the cards to St Philip's
on 19th and 26th October.
I can take cash or cheques
payable to "Martin House".

Thanks, Sally Wray



Little Fishes



Parent & Toddler Group

For ages 0 – 4

Every Tuesday

10.30am – 12.00pm

St. Philip's Church, Scholes



Drop in for friendly chats,
craft activities and coffee & cakes



Find us on Facebook
www.stphilips-scholes.org



Harvest Festival

Sunday 19th October All Together Worship

Once again our Harvest Festival will be to provide supplies for the Foodbank in Seacroft.

We'd like to provide a bumper harvest!!

Tins and long-life items are very much appreciated.

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation to the Foodbank, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Foodbank" in the collection.

Service of Light

The Service of Light at All Saints', Barwick in Elmet is on Sunday 26th October 2025 at 4pm. This is a special memorial service where we will give thanks for the lives of those we have loved and lost. Through readings, music, prayer, and the lighting of candles, we will together honour their memory and remind one another of the light that shines in the darkness, a light that the darkness has not overcome. If you would like to add the name of a loved one to the list, please include complete the form online at <http://tiny.cc/serviceoflight>

Or scan this QR code



A Prayer of Giving

Enfold us, Lord,
in the depths of your love
and the freedom of your grace;
give us the same joy in your love
that you feel in giving yourself to us
every day, every hour, every moment.
Guide us to embrace that same joy
in the ways we give of ourselves;
our money, our motives, our means;
to share in your mission of love
to church, community and creation.
Amen.



by the Ven Bill Braviner, Archdeacon of Halifax

No Trick ~ Our Treat Friday 31st October

Our *No Trick, Our Treat* evening has become a lovely tradition, welcoming families with food, fun and a safe place to gather. This year, because the church building is subject to a fire safety notice, we can't use it as usual. But we'll still be there - outside, possibly under a gazebo - handing out goody bags and sharing a warm welcome with everyone passing by.

We'd love some extra hands to help with set-up, handing out bags, and packing away. If you can spare a little time on the afternoon or early evening of 31st October, or would like to donate treats, please speak to Beckie Briggs or Revd Jonathan. Together we can keep this light-filled tradition shining.



Elmete

Elderberries



Every Monday 1pm - 3pm
(except Bank Holidays)

Each week we offer:

- *Gentle, chair-based, exercise**
- *Help with family history research**
- *Crafting & card-making**
- *Games, Bridge, Jigsaws & Dominoes**
- *Drawing & Painting**
- *Brass Band & Folk Singing**
- *Knitting, Crochet & Needlework**
- *Computer & Camera assistance**
- *Refreshments & a warm welcome**

*Drop in to learn new things,
make new friends and enjoy a cuppa*

For Everyone: body, mind and spirit

Could you help?

Elmete Elderberries

are looking for more volunteers who can come either regularly or on a more ad hoc basis.

Volunteers can either be on the welcome desk, a floater to chat to people, or help with the refreshments (or a combination). It is a really friendly group. We would also welcome people wanting to run other activities.

If you are interested, you are very welcome to come and take a look with no obligation.

For more information speak to Gill Sinclair (07803 925688, gillmsinclair@gmail.com), Lynn Pullen, or Dee Croft (07432 217114).



come
serve
with us

We need more volunteers in every area of church life, so if you would be interested to help with:

- Music Group
- Reading / Intercessions
- PA Desk
- Refreshments
- Welcome team

or would just like to find out more, please contact Revd Jonathan or Ann Riley.

All volunteers would be required to undertake necessary training / legal checks (DBS).





Let your light shine!

October 31st is All Hallows Eve (Halloween), it is the day before 'All Saints Day'. This day has become a celebration of all things dark and scary. As Christians we are called to be a light in the world and Halloween is the perfect opportunity to show what it is that makes us stand out!

Pumpkin Prayers

Traditionally pumpkins are carved and lit from the inside with candles – why not try one of these pumpkin prayer activities.



Go on a pumpkin prayer walk

Look for pumpkins outside the houses of people in your community and stop to pray for the people living there that they would know Jesus the Light of the World in their hearts.

Carve a prophetic pumpkin

Jesus said we should let our light shine – if you were a pumpkin what shape would your light shine? Talk about what sort of light you want to be in the world and then work together to carve your own pumpkin.

Some verses to explore

Matthew 5 v 16

In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do and will praise your Father in heaven.

Daniel 12 v 3

The wise people will shine like the brightness of the sky. Those who teach others to live right will shine like stars forever and ever.

Investigate the Saints



Saints are people we remember for their dedication and service to God. Why not take time to research some of the saints and read their stories.

Many saints were martyred for their faith, why not light a candle together and pray for the persecuted church around the world. Pray that those living in dark places would be a light in their communities.

*John 8 v 12
"I am the light of the world. The person who follows me will never live in darkness but will have the light that gives life."*

HARVEST

Bible Matching Game

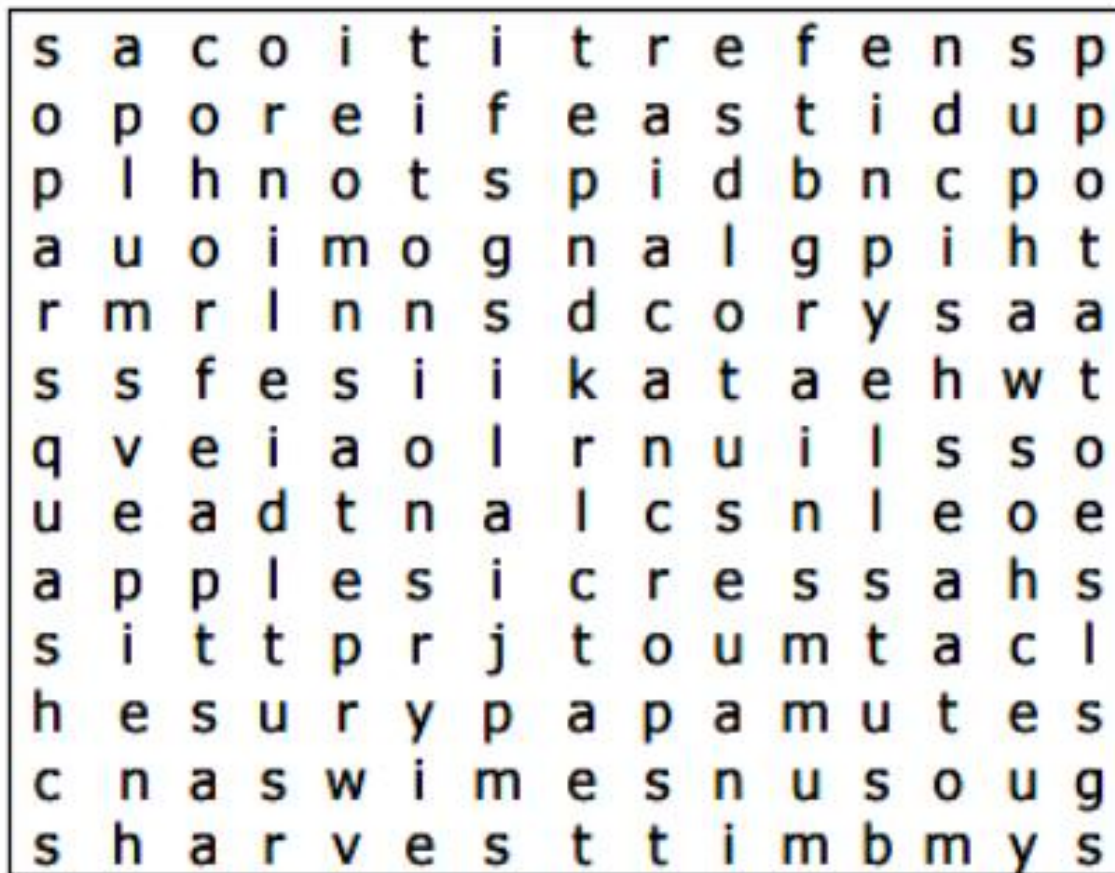


Look up the verse and match it to the word.

1. Hebrews 1:10 _____
2. Psalm 21:3 _____
3. Zechariah 1:11 _____
4. Numbers 10:10 _____
5. 1 Samuel 15:29 _____
6. Matthew 13:30 _____
7. Galatians 6:10 _____
8. Joshua 1:11 _____
9. John 12:24 _____
10. Proverbs 30:25 _____
11. Isaiah 40:8 _____
12. Luke 8:6 _____
13. Isaiah 17:5 _____
14. James 5:7 _____
15. Mark 4:4 _____
16. Acts 4:37 _____
17. Joel 2:23 _____
18. Ecclesiastes 3:1 _____
19. Psalm 147:18 _____
20. Jeremiah 17:8 _____
21. Mark 16:1 _____
22. 2 Peter 3:14 _____
23. Psalm 25:5 _____
24. Genesis 8:22 _____
25. Matthew 9:37 _____

- A. Ants
- B. Autumn
- C. Barn
- D. Birds
- E. Blessings
- F. Breeze
- G. Change
- H. Cold
- I. Earth
- J. Family
- K. Farmer
- L. Feast
- M. Field
- N. Flower
- O. Friends
- P. Grain
- Q. Harvest
- R. Hope
- S. Leaves
- T. Peace
- U. Plants
- V. Provisions
- W. Spices
- X. Season
- Y. Wheat

Harvest Word Search



harvest
crops
feast
grains
wheat
apples
plums
potatoes
onions
squash



How to Contact Us

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

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Licensed Lay Minister

Beckie Briggs

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Interim Rector's PA

Diane Brennan

✉ admin@elmetetrinity.org

Safeguarding Officer

Beckie Briggs

☎ 07794 155158

✉ safeguarding@the-briggs.co.uk

If you would like to speak to someone about any aspect of St Philip's Church safeguarding policy, or you have any concerns, please speak to Beckie in the first instance. You can also contact Revd Jonathan Brennan.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for entries into the October issue of this Newsletter is
Wednesday 22nd October.

Please send any items to
admin@elmetetrinity.org

If you need anything advertising between editions of the Newsletter, please contact Diane who will send out information via email and Facebook.



Taste and See
THAT THE LORD
is good

PSALM 34:8