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**Dear Friends,** I am sure like me it was a joy to hear the news that Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and Anoosheh Ashoori had been released from Iran after several years of captivity. It was wonderful to see photos of Nazanin holding her daughter and being reunited with her husband Richard who had fought tirelessly since her capture for her release. Sadly this was a brief moment of light on the world stage on what has been a very difficult and painful month as we have witnessed the invasion of Ukraine. Who would have thought that on mainland Europe in the 21st century such horrors would be on our doorstep?

Many years ago I went to hear Terry Waite speak about his 1,763 days held in captivity by Hezbollah. There were some lighter moments in his talk such as when he asked for English books to read, he was finally handed one by a kind guard with the title 'A Mother's Guide to Breastfeeding' – not exactly what he had in mind but it was a start. He talked about what had supported him in those dark days and one was the thought that people were remembering him in their daily prayers. He also would save a morsel of bread and some water and have a holy communion service in his cell – he could remember the entire service and that gave him comfort as it brought home the presence of Jesus in his midst and the wider church family. One very surprising comment was that when he was finally given a copy of the Bible, he expected its words to offer him great comfort but it also reminded him of 'man's inhumanity to man'. The Bible is a very real and honest book that brings home the pain and sadness of how we have turned our backs on God and gone our own way.

Thankfully it also tells the story of God's redeeming love in action throughout history calling us home to be part of his family. The extent of God's love is seen primarily in the life and ministry of Jesus and the events of Holy Week. On Good Friday we stand at the foot of the cross and pause in deep sadness as Jesus is crucified and all hope is lost for those early disciples. The wonderful news of course is that Jesus dying on the cross is not the end of the story, rather three days later Jesus is resurrected and offers new life to those who put their trust in him. There's no limit the God's love for us — we just need to accept that he loves us and to share in our lives — the miracle of Easter.

As we journey into the events of Holy Week, let us continue to pray for those affected by the war in Ukraine and look at ways we can help those caught up in this terrible tragedy. May they know we are there for them in solidarity and that hope, love and joy of the resurrected Christ will in time replace the darkness and pain of their Good Friday experience.

Rev Glenn Coggins, Vicar of the United Benefice of Stanley, Outwood and Wrenthorpe and Alverthorpe.

# St Peter's Spring Fair – a review

The annual spring fair was held at the church on Saturday 26th March and was a very successful event, raising £962 for church funds which was a fantastic result especially as we couldn't have as many stalls as planned due to many people being affected by covid!

Many thanks to everyone who put in so much work beforehand to prepare items for sale, and thanks also to everyone who donated items and raffle prizes. As always, there were some excellent stalls, including: cake stall, bottle tombola, books, raffle, bric-a-brac, toys, children's tombola, toys, and knitted craft items. Visitors were also able to enjoy refreshments including tea, coffee, cakes and very popular bacon butties.



Lastly, thank you to everyone who helped on the day, and to all the visitors who came along and supported the event; it was wonderful to see such a large number of people there and your support is very much appreciated.

is very much appreciated.

\*\*The Stanley Community Singers\*\*

The Stanley Community Singers meet every Monday (term-time only) at St Peter's Church, 1pm—2pm, with time afterwards for refreshments and chat. Cost per session = £2.50

\*\*Come and join our friendly group of singers!\*

No previous experience required, just a love of singing! We sing a variety of different music including pop, musicals, spirituals and modern classics.

\*\*Come and make some new friends and enjoy a good sing!\*\*

\*\*Many of the singers meet in the church café beforehand for a delicious lunch e.g. hot meal, sandwiches, soup etc.\*\*

\*\*Note: the Stanley Community singers won't be meeting on 11th and 18th April as we will be taking a break over the Easter holidays.\*\*

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#### **St Peter's Church Services**

St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road, Stanley, WF3 4HW

#### 10am on Sundays: Family Communion

Congregational services take place every Sunday morning at St Peter's church, with Holy Communion on most Sundays, opportunities for one-to-one prayer, and we serve refreshments after every service.

We don't stream our Sunday morning services but do stream online evening prayer services to our Facebook page on four days of the week.

For up-to-date news and other information please see:

- Benefice website: www.northwakefieldbenefice.org.uk
- Church website: www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk
- Facebook: St Peter's Church, Stanley, Wakefield
- YouTube: St Peter's Church, Stanley

Our online evening prayer services use the Celtic Daily Prayer from the Northumbria Community and are led by Rev Glenn Coggins, Angela Coggins and Vicky Wilson. Please visit our Facebook page to watch them at the times shown below. Once broadcast, the services can be watched as many times as you wish.

Tuesday9pm Compline evening serviceWednesday9pm Compline evening serviceThursday9pm Compline evening serviceFriday9pm Compline evening service

#### STANLEY LIBRARY

**Stanley Library** offers a wide selection of books, talking books, selected language tapes, newspapers (including the weekly Wakefield Express), selected magazines (including the monthly Which magazine), and an A4 colour photocopier; please enquire for the cost of using the machine. There are also public access computers, offering free internet access, and basic computer programmes (i.e. word processing). The computers are free to use; users just need to have a current library card.

#### **OPENING HOURS**

Monday	9.30am—5pm
Tuesday	9.30am—5pm
Wednesday	Closed all day
Thursday	9.30am—7pm
Friday	9.30am—5pm
Saturday	10am—1pm
Sunday	Closed all day

**Activities for Children:** Tiny Tots Storytime for under 5's is from 11am-11.30am every Monday throughout the year. Other children's activities are organised in most school holidays; please ask for details.

**Crafts and Chat morning:** Every Tuesday from 10am-11.30am: bring your knitting, drawing, crocheting or any other activity and enjoy chat and refreshments.

**Coffee Morning:** There is a coffee morning every Thursday morning, 10am-12 noon. Come and relax with friends over a cuppa.

**Stanley Library contact details:** Lake Lock Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4HU, Telephone number: 01924 303130.

#### Bingo at Stanley Library, every Monday 1pm-3pm

Refreshments included! All welcome! Come along and have a brilliant bingo time!



Stanley Readers Group, 1st Monday of the month 10am-11am



Please come and join us in our discussions! Ask in the library for more information or contact Mary on 07900 534571

## DATES FOR APRIL

Sun 3rd April Annual Parochial Church meeting: hear our review of last year and our plans for the future. 12pm Stanley Community Singers: every Monday. Mon 4th April No experience or audition required! New 1pm members always welcome. See page 4. Mon 4th April Lent study group at St Peter's church, meeting 7.45pm 4th and 11th April in the lead-up to Easter. **Tues 5th April** Tuesday lunch club: with activities and a hot 10.30-1.30pm meal every Tuesday. See p9 for details. Weds 6th April Knit & Natter every Wednesday with crafts, 1.30pm-3.30pm chat and refreshments. New members always welcome. See page 8 for details. Coffee morning with bacon butties, tombola, Sat 9th April 10.30-12.30pm raffle, refreshments, jigsaws and more, see p8 for more information. Sun 10th April Palm Sunday: starting at Mount Road chapel-10.30am note later start time. See page 10 for details. Thurs 14th April Maundy Thursday service at St Peter's to remember the Last Supper; see page 10. 7.30pm Fri 15th April Hour at the Cross: contemplation and prayer 2pm on Good Friday. See page 10. Sun 17th April Easter Sunday family celebration service to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ! 10am Weds 20th April PCC meeting at St Peter's church. 7.30pm Weds 4th May Jumble Sale at Mount Road Methodist church See page 8 for more info about events and 1.30pm services at the Methodist chapel.

#### Mount Road Methodist Chapel—events this month:

- <u>Family services take place every Sunday at 10.30am</u> at Mount Road Methodist chapel with a different speaker every week, and followed by tea and coffee.
- Huge thanks to everyone who supported the recent Jumble Sale and Spring Fayre. Both were well attended and it was heartening to welcome so many visitors, old and new.
- Call in for <u>Free Tea & Coffee</u> every Thursday 1.30pm-3.30pm with refreshments, cake stall and opportunity to chat.
- There will be a <u>Jumble Sale on Wednesday 4th May from 1.30pm</u>

^^^^^

• The Monday Stay and Play group from 9.30am-11.30am every week is very popular. New attendees welcome.

### Knit and Natter, Sew and Chatter!

At St Peter's Church, every **Wednesday**, **1.30pm-3.30pm** (Note earlier start and finish times for the time being)

Enjoy a cuppa, company and a 'crafty' afternoon!

Please come and join this established group as they knit, sew, compare ideas and patterns, learn new crafty skills, and share conversation, refreshments and friendship.

Just turn up: you will be very warmly welcomed

#### Church coffee morning—a thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported last month's coffee morning at St Peter's church; it was a lovely morning and raised an incredible £290. The next coffee morning will be on <u>Saturday 9th April</u> from 10.30am—12.30pm with bacon butties, refreshments, raffle, tombola, jigsaws, books, cakes and more!



Councillor Jacqui Williams holds an advice surgery at every St Peter's coffee morning. Please come along and visit Councillor Jacqui, and enjoy some refreshments and visit our stalls as well!

#### The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

More commonly known as an Annual General Meeting (AGM), St Peter's church will hold its APCM on <u>Sunday 3rd April at 12pm</u> after the morning service. This meeting will review what has happened over the past year, as well as setting out the church's plans for the year ahead. Members will be elected to the Parochial church council (PCC) and officers elected. If you want to learn more about the church's ministry, where the money comes from and how it's spent, and what the various church officers do, then come along and find out!



\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# St Peter's Church Tuesday Lunch Club



At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road **Every Tuesday**, **10.30am—1.30pm** 

- Arrive from 10.30am and enjoy tea or coffee and a chat, followed by the activity of the day e.g. crafts, talks, films, games, quizzes.
- Lunch served from about 12:15pm: a freshly cooked hot meal followed by dessert, for just £5 per person.
- Ideal for anyone wanting a bit of companionship and something to do! Please come and join our friendly group.

Phone the church office on 01924 835746 for more info.

#### Don't forget to support St Peter's church via the Co-op!

Just a reminder that St Peter's church is one of the Co-op's 'Local Causes' this year. This means that throughout 2022, the church will receive a penny for every £ spent by Co-op members in our local stores (Stanley, Outwood & Woodlesford).

If you shop regularly at the Stanley or Outwood Co-op stores, you can become a member by going to www.coop.co.uk/membership.



Once you're set up as a member, you can go to 'Choose a local cause': select St Peter's Church, Stanley as your local cause, and the church will immediately start to receive a penny for every £ you spend in the Co-op. Thank you!

#### Easter Services at St Peter's church

#### Palm Sunday, 10th April, 10am

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' triumphant arrival into Jerusalem; he rode a donkey as the crowds waved palm branches and shouted 'Hosanna!' We also look ahead to the events of Holy Week.

#### Maundy Thursday service, 14th April, 7pm

Maundy Thursday celebrates the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his apostles. Our Maundy Thursday service will be a service with a difference, with readings of the scriptures and samples of food.



Good Friday Hour at the Cross service, 15th April, 2pm On Good Friday there will be an Hour at the Cross service of contemplation and prayer finishing at 3pm, the time at which Jesus died on the cross.

#### Easter Sunday, 17th April, 10am

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins; Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in his joy! Hallelujah! Celebrate the joy with us on Easter Sunday morning at 10am.

If my dog doesn't love you, I won't either: Nearly half of all dog owners would not continue to date someone if their dog didn't like that person. Two thirds of dog owners say that their dog is their best friend, and three in five would prefer to spend the evening at home with their pet than go on a date!



#### **3rd April:** the Boat Race

This month begins with one of the world's oldest and most famous amateur sporting events: The Boat Race. First raced in 1829 by crews from Oxford

and Cambridge Universities, it is considered the epitome of amateur sport, and each year attracts more than 250,000 spectators to the banks of the Thames, as well as many millions more on television.

The Boat Race is raced along what is called the Championship Course, which is over 4.25 miles of tidal Thames in West London, between Putney and Mortlake. This year will see the 167th Men's Boat Race and the 76th Women's Boat Race. In the men's race, Cambridge have won 85 times and Oxford 80 times, with one dead heat, in 1877.



#### Stanley Jubilations Sunday 5th June



On the afternoon of Sunday 5th June, Stanley Residents Group and local community groups are planning a celebration for the Queen's jubilee to be held at St Peter's school. There will be a

parade from St Peter's church to the school, arriving at 12.30pm. The afternoon event will include live music, a community sing along, and a 'memory tent', celebrating 70 years of Stanley history.

We are searching for Stanley residents to help open the event. Were you, or anyone you know, born on:

- 21st April 1926 (the Queen's birthday)?
- 6th February 1952 (Accession day)?
- 2nd June 1953 (Coronation day)?
- OR is your birthday on 5th June?
- OR do you own a corgi?

If so, please get in touch with Stanley Residents Group: email stanleyresidentsgroup@gmail.com or text 07811441761.

#### **Remembering Johannes Brahms**

Some 125 years ago, on 3rd April 1897, Johannes Brahms, the German composer, piano virtuoso and conductor, died from liver cancer, just a few days after his last public appearance at a performance of his own Symphony No. 4; there had been a standing ovation after



each of the four movements. He was something of a child prodigy: his father was poor and worked as a jobbing musician, mainly on double bass and French horn, and the young Johannes joined him, playing in dance halls to supplement the family income.

He was a brilliant composer and pianist, his writing has been praised as being both classically traditionalist and Romantic. Robert Schumann was so impressed with his talent that he wrote an essay entitled "New Paths", which gave Brahms a lot of publicity. They became close friends. Brahms composed for symphony orchestra, chamber ensembles, piano, organ, voice, and chorus. He played piano at the premieres of many of his own works.

#### Getting ready for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 2nd – 5th June

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a 4-day Bank Holiday from 2nd—5th June 2022. Here is the programme of national events that is being planned:

#### Thursday 2nd June

- The Queen's Birthday Parade and Trooping of the Colour—London
- Lighting of beacons around the UK and Commonwealth

#### Friday 3rd June

• Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral

#### Saturday 4th June

- The Derby at Epsom Downs, attended by members of the Royal Family
- Platinum Party at the Palace: a live concert broadcast from Buckingham Palace

# Pentecost Sunday 5th June

- Church services around the country, linked to both the Platinum Jubilee and Pentecost Sunday.
- Platinum Jubilee street parties, picnics and shared lunches all around the UK.
- The Platinum Jubilee Pageant on The Mall London

Stanley Residents Group in conjunction with St Peter's church, local businesses, and community and youth organisations is working on a programme of activities for Stanley that will culminate in a village event on **Sunday 5th June**.

This will begin with a church service at 10am to give thanks for the 70 years that the Queen has served her country, the Commonwealth and its people. The service will be followed by refreshments and at 12.15pm everyone is invited to join a procession from the church along Lake Lock Road to St Peter's school field, where there will be children's activities, entertainment, music and refreshments. People are encouraged to bring a picnic, with chairs or picnic blanket if you wish, and join in with an event for Stanley that we can all remember for years to come.



#### A statement from Archbishops of Canterbury and York

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell have condemned the Russian attack on Ukraine as "an act of great evil". They are urging Christians to keep praying for Ukraine, for Russia, and for peace.



In a letter to clergy and congregations across the UK, they urge all churches to continue to pray for peace: "This attack is an act of evil, imperilling as it does the relative peace and security that Europe has enjoyed for so long. The attack by one nation on a free, democratic country has rightly provoked outrage, sanctions, and condemnation.

"We lament with the people of Ukraine, and we pray for the innocent, the frightened and those who have lost loved ones, homes, and family. We continue to call for a ceasefire and the withdrawal of Russian forces as well as wide-ranging efforts to ensure peace, stability and security."

Condemnation of the Russian attack has also been issued by Bishop Robert Innes, the Bishop in Europe, who has visited Ukraine many times. He writes that "Our little churches in Kyiv are right at the centre of this crisis. Some members have fled the city by car, others are still there. These are our people, our brothers and sisters, and of course we are very concerned for their wellbeing and safety."

Leaders from other Christian churches have also condemned the invasion. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church said: "Our hearts cry out for justice and peace. We are especially concerned for the wellbeing of those who are directly affected by the war, particularly the members of our own congregation in Kyiv." Christina—one of their churchwardens—sent a message saying 'Please pray for us as we are standing here for our land and for our roots. The battle for Kyiv has begun; it is fierce and intensive. Pray for us.'

In the face of military action, we can feel powerless and fearful. But we can pray; we can pray in solidarity with those most affected; we can pray that God will overrule the hearts and minds of those with power and authority; we can pray that the victims will be few and that the innocent will be protected; we can pray that peace will come through justice and not through the infliction of the will of a stronger party on a weaker.

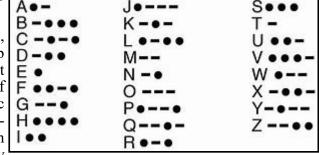
#### Remembering Samuel Morse of Morse Code

Samuel Morse died 150 years ago, on 2nd April 1872. The American artist and inventor is best known for developing a commercial single-wire telegraph system, and the Morse Code, with his friend Alfred Vail.

He was born in 1791 in Charlestown, Massachusetts, the son of Calvinist preacher and geographer Jedidiah Morse. He was greatly interested in the lectures on electricity, which in those days was poorly understood. His parents were somewhat disconcerted that he also

enjoyed painting miniature portraits.

It was in 1832, while returning by ship from Europe, that Morse had the idea of a commercial electric telegraph – after hearing a conversation about the newly



discovered electromagnet. The idea of an electric telegraph had been put forward in 1753, but Morse believed it could be put into action.

His eagerness stemmed partly from an early tragedy. His first wife Lucretia was taken seriously ill in 1825 while he was working on a portrait of the Marquis de Lafayette in Washington, but the message took ages to reach him by horse messenger. By the time he got home to Connecticut, his wife was not only dead, but buried.

By 1838 he and Vail had developed the system of dots and dashes that became known throughout the world as the Morse Code, and by 1844 the first telegraph line in the United States, from Baltimore to Washington, was completed, and he sent the first message: "What hath God wrought?" This had been suggested to him by Annie Ellworth, the teenage daughter of the commissioner of patents.

In 1871 there was a huge celebration of the telegraph in Central Park, New York, and Morse sent the final nationwide message on the day, part of which read: "Glory to God in the Highest; on Earth peace, goodwill to men."

#### That Day

That day was a day like never before As the Saviour died and the darkness grew, Earth shuddered and rocks were split apart As the veil of the temple was torn in two.

The centurion who witnessed all these things The earthquake, the One who was nailed to the wood,

Seeing Him die could only say, 'Surely this man was the Son of God'.

He rose as conqueror of the grave, Death was defeated, the stone rolled away -And man was released from all his bonds, Christ rose as victor that glorious day.

The Light had pushed the darkness back, He now stands resplendent for all to see, Forgiveness, redemption all wrought on the cross, The eternal fruits of Calvary. By Megan Carter

An Easter prayer

O Lord God, our Father, You are the light that can never be put out; and now You give us a light that shall drive away all darkness. You are love without coldness, and you have given us such warmth in our hearts that we can love all when we meet. You are the love that defies death, and you have opened for us the way that leads to eternal life.

None of us is a great Christian; we are all humble and ordinary. But your grace is enough for us. Arouse in us that small degree of joy and thankfulness of which we are capable, to the timid faith which we can muster...to the wholeness of life which you have prepared for all of us through the death and resurrection of your Son. Do not allow any of us to remain apathetic or indifferent to the wondrous glory of Easter, but let the light of our risen Lord reach every corner of our dull hearts.

Karl Barth (1886-1968), a Swiss theologian who devoted much of his life to resisting and denouncing the Nazis.

Please contact the editor, Eleanor Plant, with items for the next magazine on 01924 835746, or by email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk

## Prayers for April



#### The Call

My blood so red For thee was shed, Come home again, come home again: My own sweet heart, come home again! You've gone astray Out of your way, Come home again, come home again! Anonymous, 17th century

#### 12th April: International Day for Street Children

The International Day for Street Children, first launched on 12th April 2011, is a response to the desperate need of hundreds of millions of children around the world who are forced to live or work on the streets. The UN admits that although there are millions of such children, official figures are virtually non-existent. Tragically, these children are virtually invisible, living without rights and protection on some of the most dangerous streets in the world.

Record levels of inequality, violence, migration, war and natural disasters have caused the problem. The children run away to escape abusive, dysfunctional homes and end up on the streets after being displaced or trafficked.

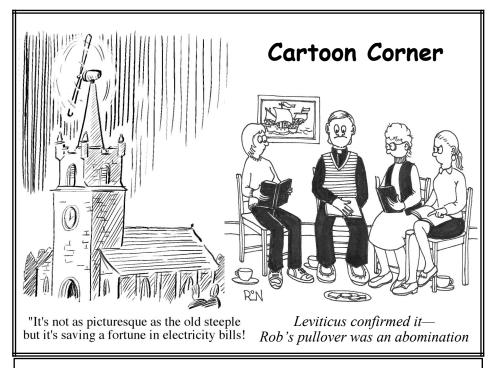
Toybox is a Christian charity which has worked with street children, first in Latin America and now in Asia and Africa, for more than 25 years. "We want to help children marginalised and abused by those who should be protecting them," the charity says.

Toybox began out of one Christian couple's compassion for the children they saw suffering on the streets of Latin America. "Today, we continue to act, motivated by that same Christian faith, to see a world in which no child is forced to live or work on the streets." To support Toybox, please go to: https://toybox.org.uk/support

Handel's Messiah: The idea for 'The Messiah' was not Handel's, but his collaborator's, Charles Jennens, a passionate Christian. Handel composed the music in only 24 days; as he finished writing the Hallelujah Chorus, he said "I did think I did see all heaven before me, and the great God himself." The first performance was in Dublin in 1742 and raised funds for charities.

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Tel: 01924 278007

@wakefield.gov.uk



Tel: 07392 191202 Email:

jackhemingway @wakefield.gov.uk Working hard for STANLEY and **OUTWOOD EAST** 

Stanley, Outwood East, Bottomboat, Lee Moor, Ferry Lane, Newmarket, Moorhouse. Lofthouse Gate and Newton Hill.

#### **ADVICE SURGERIES**

No appointment necessary — Home visits can be arranged

Stanley Library & Community Centre, Lake Lock Road, Stanley, 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month 6.00 - 7.00pm

Excluding bank holidays

St Peter's Church Centre, Stanley

2nd Saturday of each month 10am - 11am

**Bevin Close Community Centre**, Outwood

2nd Saturday each month 11.15am - 12.00noon

# Tai Chi Class



- Improve your health and well-being
- All abilities most welcome
- For beginners and improvers

Enquiries to Kathryn Mobile: 07711538258

Wednesdays, 7.30pm—8.30pm

at Stanley Methodist Church, Mount Road, Stanley

# **Help at Home**

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Friendly companionship, welfare checks, meal preparation, shopping, household tasks, cleaning and laundry, light gardening, pet feeding, outings and support at attending appointments.

- Regular or one-off visits can be arranged, at competitive hourly rates.
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• Fully insured / DBS checked and registered on Leeds Directory



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Vicar Rev Glenn Coggins 01924 218484 Curate Rev David Teece 01977 730375

Readers David Greenwood-Haigh

Vicky Wilson

Church Wardens Jason Plant

David Sunderland

Church Office Eleanor Plant - 835746

Church Administrator

churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org,uk

PCC Secretary Libby Gates
Treasurer Jason Plant

Electoral Roll Eleanor Plant 835746
Prayer Chain Glenda Oakes 820222
Parish Magazine Editor Eleanor Plant 835746

Safeguarding Co-ordinator Liz Pengelly

#### UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs/Scouts (boys & girls) Mark Pringle 07450 953744

firstyorkshire@gmail.com

Rainbows & Brownies Visit www.girlguiding.org.uk

#### Weddings and Baptisms

For information about weddings and baptisms please see the Vicar or Curate after any church service or telephone 01924 218484.

#### Contact us:

St Peter's Church
Lake Lock Road
Stanley

Email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk

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