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Dear Friends,

I am sure like me you have days which are etched in the memory. One such day for me is Saturday 1st July 1995 when I was ordained a deacon in Salisbury Cathedral. My family had travelled down from Yorkshire for the service in a mini bus with a poster in the window which read "We are with Glenn and so is God!". It was a most marvellous occasion and there were well over 1,000 people in the cathedral along with 12 of us being ordained. Before the service we had gathered in the Bishop's chapel and sat around in a circle for us swear two particular oaths. The registrar was present to make sure everything was done according to Canon law and to make sure each of us actually swore the two allegiances — one to the Bishop and one to Queen Elizabeth II and her heirs and successors.

The Oath of Allegiance was introduced in the 1580s at a period of national crisis, when there was a succession of political plots to overthrow Queen Elizabeth I. Some clergy in the Church of England were involved in these schemes therefore this Oath was introduced to prevent clergy from undermining the crown and also the Church – can you believe it!

Looking back to that afternoon in July 1995, I never had any qualms about swearing allegiance to our Queen. She has shown over the past 70 years of public life her clear sense of vocation to serve 'with her whole heart' and in doing so has served God and all the people with humility and good character. For Christians this is fully seen in the kingship of Jesus who came not to be served but to serve.

As a nation will shall be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over four days from Thursday 2nd June until Sunday 5th June when there are various national events taking place as well as several across the village of Stanley. At St Peter's we shall be holding a special service of thanksgiving at **10am on Sunday 5th June** to which you are most warmly invited. In the meantime as we approach the Queen's Platinum celebration I leave you with this prayer for your own personal devotions.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us.

Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

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.

The Stanley Community Singers Summer Concert will be at St Peter's church on Sunday 26th June at 3pm
Come along for a varied programme of songs, some Jubilee themed audience participation songs, refreshments and a raffle!

The Refugee

All that I was, I no longer am All that I have, I hold in my hand My home, my love, my world are all gone One among thousands, I shuffle along.

Only last week I knew who I was All that has gone, and only because Someone in a land a long way away Turned life into hell one terrible day.

He started a war, his heart icy cold He rained down his hell on the young and the old

I ran for my life for I had no choice And nobody heard the fear in my voice.

Everything's gone, and all that is 'me' Summed up in a word – the word 'refugee'. I have no control, no say in my fate Just one in a crowd, I stand and I wait.

Waiting for what? The future's unclear, For armed men have taken all that I held dear Along with my hopes, and all I had planned All swept away by the tanks in my land.

One thing alone puts a smile on my face A far nicer stranger has come to this place; A bed for the night? A cup of hot tea? And - best of all - someone who sees me as me.

By Nigel Beeton

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 MAY

Tues 3rd May Tuesday lunch club: with activities and a hot 10.30-1.30pm meal every Tuesday. See p9 for details. Knit & Natter every Wednesday with crafts, Weds 4th May 1.30pm-3.30pm chat and refreshments. New members always welcome. See page 8 for details. 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. Mon 9th May Stanley Community Singers: every Monday. No experience or audition required! New 1pm members always welcome. See page 4. Coffee morning with bacon butties, tombola, Sat 14th May 10.30-12.30pm raffle, refreshments, jigsaws and more, see p9 for more information. Sat 14th May Rodillian Singers Summer Concert 7pm Dewsbury Minster with the Wakefield Youth Session Orchestra in aid of CAP Wakefield. Tickets £10, under 16s free. For tickets email: secretaryrodillians@hotmail.co.uk Weds 18th May PCC meeting at St Peter's church. 7.30pm Sun 5th June Jubilee Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's 10am church with popular hymns, Holy Communion and special prayers as we give thanks for the Queen's life and reign. See p10-11 for more. Sat 25th June St Peter's church Summer Gala with lots of 1pm-4pm stalls and refreshments. More info next month. Sun 26th June Stanley Singers Summer Concert at St Peter's church with refreshments and raffle. 3pm

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.
- 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

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

Don't forget that St Peter's church is a Co-op 'Local Cause' 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). We were delight-

ed to receive £535 recently as an interim award, and we will receive the final amount in the autumn.

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!

Councillor Jacqui Williams is retiring

At the local elections this May, Councillor Jacqui Williams is retiring as a local councillor after a considerable number of years of service to our community. Many column inches could be written about her unwavering dedication and her generosity to so many local charities, organisations, businesses and individuals. She has been a



champion of St Peter's church on countless occasions, and supported us in applying for all manner of grants and awards as well as offering us her wisdom and insight. Jacqui has selflessly served the community of Outwood and Stanley, and we are very grateful for her many years of public service. We wholeheartedly wish her a long, and peaceful retirement.

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 £270. The next coffee morning will be on <u>Saturday 14th May</u> from 10.30am—12.30pm with bacon butties, refreshments, raffle, tombola, jigsaws, books, cakes and more!





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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.

Stanley Jubilations—Sunday 5th June

Well, this month is a very exciting one as we prepare for the Queens platinum jubilee! It's going to be a great time for the village! Stanley Residents Group are facilitating village 'Jubilations' to celebrate this historic



event. The 'Jubilations' will take place on Sunday the 5th June: there will be a special thanksgiving service at the church at 10am, and then the main event will take place at St Peter's School playing field, from 12pm noon until 5pm.

We have lots of planned activities, and as we get closer to the event you will notice the village around the school being decorated with bunting. This has very kindly been made by different groups and volunteers, a massive thank you to our army of bunting makers!



To start the celebrations, we will have a walking parade from St Peter's Church, at 12pm noon, to the school, where there will be a very special guest appearance!! We will have live music from talented local musicians, including some country rock, Elvis and a ukulele band along with the opportunity to have a good old sing along led by our community choir. There will be a variety of stalls and arena activities led by community groups, which will promote their wonderful contributions to our village.

We will have lots of free activities for children, including arts and crafts, sports day races, a 'Selfie Throne' quiz, and a nostalgic 'Green Shield Stamp' game. There will be a free bouncy castle and ice lollies. There will be opportunity to reminisce too, with a visit to The Memory Tent. We are collecting pictures, written memories, and memorabilia from local people to celebrate local history. If you have any pictures or items, you would like to display or would like to share your memories in the memory tent please get in touch. We will also be launching the 'Heritage Trail' a project that will remember the village's rich culture and history.

Please bring along a tasty picnic, a bottle or can of something that tickles your fancy and join us as we celebrate this historic occasion, with our community! Many hands make light work, so if you have some time to give, and would like to help out on the day, please let us know.

National Celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 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

See opposite for details of the afternoon celebration on Sunday 5th June that is being organised by the Stanley Residents Group. Please come and along and join in with an event that we can all remember for years to come.

Knit a corgi for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Thousands of people across the country are buying up light brown and white wool to knit up a corgi in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It is a fun way in which anyone with knitting needles can get involved in the coming celebrations. Just google 'knitting patterns for corgis', and you'll find a wide variety of free patterns on offer. Knitted corgis could help decorate house windows, local shops and churches as the big day approaches. Or follow the example of Stanley's Knit & Natter group who are busy knitting red, white and blue bunting.

'Thine be the glory' - the story behind the hymn

Here is a hymn that is so well known and loved that it has simply burst the bounds of Easter, and gets sung regularly at other times of the year. It has two stories behind it.

First, the music. The rousing music did not start out as a hymn, but instead was written by Handel for his opera 'Judas Maccabeus', first performed in 1746. Originally the words ran 'See the conquering hero comes', for Handel's opera tells the story (found in the Apocrypha) of the leader of the Jews, Judas Maccabeus, who led an army against the Syrians and restored worship at the Temple. With its triumphant refrain after each verse, the music is easy to learn and sing, and can be played to great effect either by trumpets, on a pipe organ in a large resonant church, or even on guitars.

Secondly, the words. They were not written until 1884, which was 138 years after the music. We owe them to the Rev Raymond Budry, a Swiss pastor from Lausanne. Ordained in the Free Evangelical Church in Vaud, he spent 35 years as the pastor of Vevey on Lake Geneva. Budry wrote the hymn in French ('A Toi La Gloire!') to console himself after the death of his first wife, and a year later (1885) it was published in Chants Evangeliques. Soon it found its way into English – translated by a Baptist minister from Kingston-upon-Thames, Richard Hoyle.

It is not clear who first had the happy idea of teaming those particular words with that tune, but when they did, the hymn really took off. By 1904 it was being translated into other languages.

The theme of 'battle' is never far from this hymn, whether it was the battle of Judas Maccabeus, or the battle over sin which was won by Christ on the cross and in rising from the tomb. Easter, of course, marked Handel the biggest victory over the biggest enemies of all time: sin and death.

What would Handel make of it, if he could know that his battle music had become one of the world's most popular and well-known Easter hymns? He was a devout man, working for the poor, praying twice each day, and attending St Paul's Cathedral. So, it seems pretty certain that he would be delighted.

Coventry Cathedral – 60 years on

Sixty years ago, on 25th May 1962, the new Coventry Cathedral was consecrated. The previous one had been destroyed by German bombing during World War Two. The Queen had laid the foundation stone in 1956, and she was present for the consecration.

On the night of 14th November 1940, the old Cathedral, together with much of the centre of Coventry, was devastated by incendiary bombs, but the decision to rebuild it was taken the next morning. The Provost, Richard Howard, wanted to do so as a sign of faith, trust and hope, rather than as an act of defiance.

This rejection of bitterness and hatred led to the Cathedral's Ministry of Peace and Reconciliation, which continues to give spiritual and practical support in areas of conflict. It is symbolised now by the Cross of Nails, made from three nails found in the roof truss of the old cathedral and set in the centre of the altar cross.

The place now called Coventry Cathedral, on the site of a Benedictine monastery, is in fact two buildings—a joining of the old and the new. The older building, still hallowed ground, was originally a parish church, and then given cathedral status in 1918. Its 295ft (90m) spire, containing 181 stone steps, is the third highest in England, behind Salisbury and Norwich.

The 'new' Cathedral was an inspiration to many celebrated artists, most of them yet to become famous. Among those commissioned by the architect, Sir Basil Spence, were Graham Sutherland (iconic Christ in Glory tapestry), John Piper (baptistry window), Ralph Beyer, John Hutton, Elisabeth Frink and Jacob Epstein, who created the striking sculpture of St Michael defeating Lucifer.



The famous Charred Cross was created when the cathedral stonemason, Jock Forbes, saw two wooden beams lying in the shape of a cross after the bombing and tied them together.

The Meaning of Colours in the church

Many Anglican churches change the colour of their altar cloths and priests vestments throughout the year. Each colour has a different meaning, and will reflect the significance of that day or the season. St Peter's church also follows the changing seasons and colours of the church year, usually through the stole, or scarf, worn by the priest.

In March purple was used as a symbol of penitence, as we were in Lent and trying to prepare ourselves for Christ's final act of love for each of us. During Holy Week, the colour red is used; red is the colour of blood and represents Christs final journey. Red is also used for the feasts of martyrs, as well as those for the Holy Spirit, when it is more likely to be represented by red tongues of fire.

On Maundy Thursday, white is often used for any Communion service, as this celebrates the remembrance of the first Communion with His apostles which He commanded us to continue. On Good Friday, we revert to red. Easter Sunday is the day when Christians celebrate the miracle of the resurrection, and churches will often use gold or white cloths, as well as flower displays and brand new candles.

'Plain' white will be used for the whole Easter Season signifying purity and Christ's triumph over death until Ascension Day on 26th May. As this is a special and significant day in the life, death and resurrection of Christ, we see gold being used again, and then immediately back to white for the next ten days. On the day of Pentecost itself, Whit Sunday, 5th June, the colour will be? Yes, you got it, red for flames of fire.

There are other colours used for the rest of the church calendar and special holy days, and of course as we get into advent. More information on this topic later in the year....!

Our addiction to plastic: Take a good look next time you go to the supermarket. What do you see most of? Plastic. It is everywhere. Keeping sausages in a neat line, tight around the cucumbers, holding apples together, protecting the chickens, keeping the sausages in a neat line. And on it goes—milk, juice, water, pasta, rice, frozen fish—almost everything we buy comes with a layer of plastic around it. In the UK we use around 500,000 tonnes of plastic packages a year just for our food, and we generate 7.7 million single-use water bottles. Half of all plastic becomes waste within a year of being made, and the vast majority isn't recycled. Eleven million metric tonnes of plastic ends up in our oceans ever year; this could triple by 2040, if nothing is done.

That Day

They travelled together sad and forlorn With all of their dreams shattered and torn, It started so well, their hopes were high Never to guess that He would die.

The Man joined the two as they walked along, He asked why their faces were sad and long, 'Have you not heard?' disbelieving they cried 'How the One we followed was crucified?'

Opening the scriptures He began to unfold How the Christ should suffer as written of old, It was not a disaster, but all of God's plan That one should come as Redeemer of man.

They listened enraptured as slowly they saw The purpose of God revealed in the Law The Prophets and Psalms, it's all about Him The One who should come and rescue from sin.

O that eyes should be opened and scripture made plain, To see Christ in its pages again and again, That just like the travellers I too should see The Master, the Saviour dying for me.

By Megan Carter

Prayer for May

Dear Father in Heaven, as we thank you for May, this most beautiful of months, we know that not everything in your world is beautiful; not every attitude or action is beautiful, or kind, or just. There is so much pain and suffering that we can feel overwhelmed. Help us, Lord to remember that Jesus came to bring reconciliation and wholeness. Thank you that by His life, death and resurrection He overcame death for ever. Thank you that He ascended into heaven so that the Holy Spirit could come to live in us, to give strength and power and resilience, so that Your work goes on. Thank you that nothing in all creation - no evil attacks, no illness, no human powers, no circumstances at all - can ever separate us from Your love. We will not be overwhelmed as we keep our eyes on You. We may not always understand, but we acknowledge You to be the Lord, who reigns over all - and we are thankful. In Jesus name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Prayers for May

Daily Strength

I lift my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip....
The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over

The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life.

Psalm 121



Understanding the Bible

The Bible is a popular book, with five billion copies sold world-wide every year. The Queen was presented with a Bible on her coronation and it is still given as a gift to many children and adults on their baptism or confirmation. The Bible isn't just one book, but a library of 66 books, composed by some 44 writers over a period of 1500 years in a range of styles including history, poetry, prophecy, letters and apocalyptic (looking at the end times). Despite having a number of different writers, the Bible claims one author – God Himself!

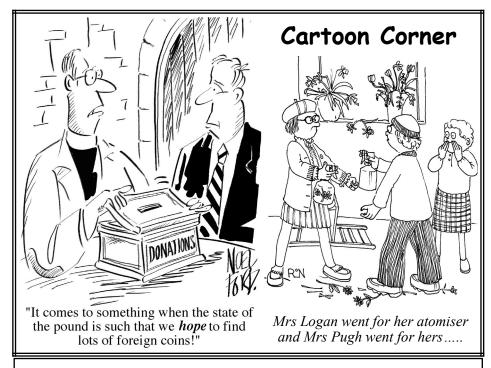
The Bible is the Word of God—the primary way by which God speaks to us. It is also a manual for life, equipping us to live for God in every aspect of our lives. The Bible is also a love letter from God, as it deepens our relationship with Him. Christians follow a person not a book, and the Scriptures are intended to help us to know Jesus better. Like a signpost, the Bible points us to the person of Jesus.

"There, but for the grace of God, go I"

This saying is attributed to John Bradford (1510-1555), who was one of the Protestant Reformers. When he saw criminals on their way to execution, Bradford would utter, "But for the grace of God, there goes John Bradford." It was his way of acknowledging that he depended every day on the mercy of God, despite his sins, which he considered were on a par with those of rogues. Sadly, Bradford's freedom was to last only a short time, for he was convicted as a heretic, incarcerated, and finally burned at the stake, during the reign of Queen Mary. Renowned for his prayer life and preaching, Bradford had continued to proclaim the Gospel in prison. One of his biographers wrote, "He lived a long life in a short space of time."

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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

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at Stanley Methodist Church, Mount Road, Stanley

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Readers David Greenwood-Haigh

Vicky Wilson

Church Wardens Jason Plant

David Sunderland

Eleanor Plant -Church Office 835746

Church Administrator

churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org,uk

PCC Secretary Libby Gates Treasurer Jason Plant

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

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

Contact us:

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