



this
month
includes...

April
2025

Rector's
Journal

What's a
sabbatical?

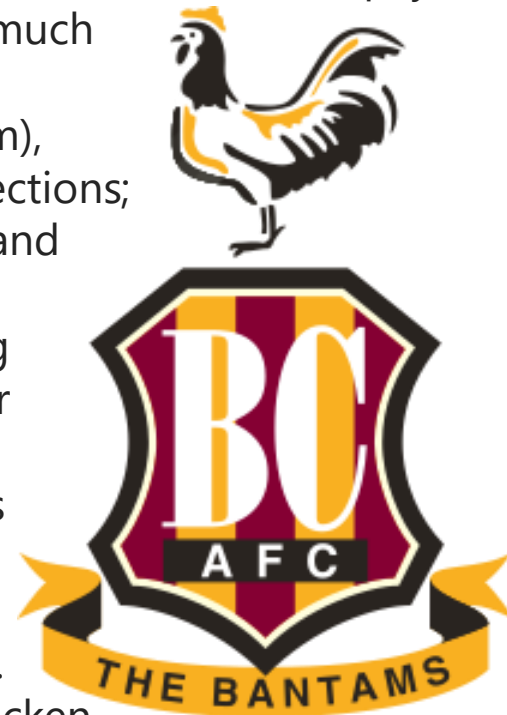
New online
libraries

plus

Easter Wreaths
Messy Good Friday
Book to read

Lenten toughness, Easter joy

Saturday: I am sat in a congregation of 23,000 at Valley Parade, and it is like going to church. You have to pay to get in, and this match is £5, so much cheaper than St Peter's. There is musical accompaniment (a drum), and the choir is split into two sections; 22,500 favouring the Bantams, and 750 Cockneys from somewhere south of Doncaster. The singing is constant and is only ever your favourite hits. It is very friendly, and, by the end, Good triumphs at a rate of 4-1. There are some obscure theological concepts to explain to a young grandson. No, it is not, definitely not, a chicken.



It is a bantam, and they, theologically speaking, are a type of ninja cockerel, not a fluffy hen. And, just as in church, it is hard to convert the unbelievers.

Sunday: 65 as opposed to 23,000, and, although, we have a couple of top ten hymns, I am not getting the same roar back from the congregation. The refreshments are similar; tea and biscuits, and, like the footie, you have to be quick away from your seat to get the best refreshments. I am once again far too slow, and the filled brandy snaps have long gone.

In [Lent](#), you can expect a hard message about... *see overleaf*



...cont. from p.1 ...difficulties and obstacles, but it leads to the **joy of Easter.**

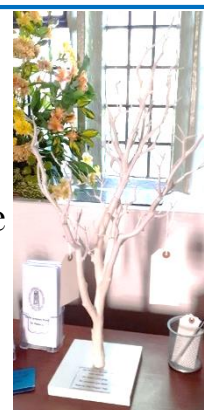
Anyone who has followed Bradford City has had years of Lenten toughness, so Saturday was truly joyful, and how we sang! If we could get that joy in church, we might get a bit bigger. And what about a half-time pie?

Mark

Happy Easter to you with love from all at St. Peter's

Details of all Holy Week and Easter services at St. Peter's are on the What's On leaflet or on our website - we look forward to welcoming you

Concerned for yourself or a loved one, or a situation? Want to give thanks? The **Prayer Tree** in the side aisle is there for you to leave your prayers, we will pray for all requests hung on the tree.



As well as ensuring we can join weekly services on **livestream** (with back up from Andrew and Ian), and view the **recordings** later, plus filming our monthly **podcasts**, Roger has now created two **online libraries** – recordings of a variety of **music from St Peter's** and recordings of **Mark's sermons**, so that we can watch and listen again at leisure. (Roger calls this one “Rector's Ramblings” after the beautiful **white rose** named “Rambling Rector” – there's a lovely bush of it in the church field near the entrance to the orchard.)



You can view all these online offerings via our church website **stpetersaddingham.org.uk** – just click on the **Online** menu and scroll down to the relevant **selection button**. Happy listening! Many **thanks to Roger** for all he does so faithfully week by week to keep us in touch.

Easter Wreath workshop

Thursday 10th April

7.30pm

Following the popularity of the Christmas Wreath event for Messy Church mums, here's a **free workshop for everyone** to enjoy – **all materials**

are provided, but bring your own secateurs!

Drinks will be available (and any donations of traybake or cake you are able to bring will be welcome).

Book your place now with Tamsin 07877 952522 or sign up on the list at back of church.



Moses spent 40 years thinking he was somebody; 40 years learning he was nobody; and 40 years discovering what God can do with a nobody.

Dwight L. Moody

Messy Good Friday

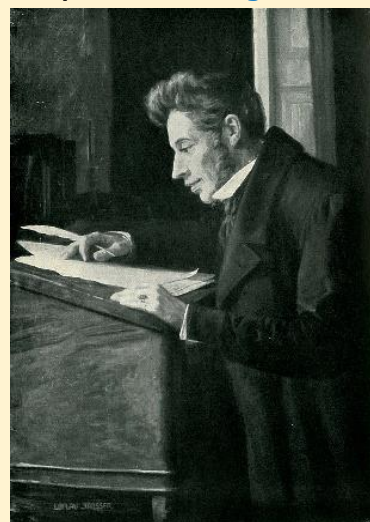
Fri 18th April, 10am

Come and find out how the sadness of Good Friday turns into the joy of Easter – a different way to meet with God, with activities, music and hot cross buns! especially for families. Come and join in!

Sabbatical : the 3 (or more!) R's...

You may have heard that Mark will be away from St. Peter's during May, June and July on a sabbatical. (Andrew Tawn also had a sabbatical break during his time with us). What does that mean, and why does the Church of England say that all clergy should take a **sabbatical break** every seven years?

The principle of sabbatical reflects the Old Testament idea that land should lie **fallow** to recover its goodness every seventh year, and that what is good for land is also good for people; this is the principle behind the Sabbath, too – one day a week with different priorities. A sabbatical is a chance to **step back** from details and pressures of the everyday work of ministry, providing space for **renewal, retreat, and rest**. It's a change, **not a holiday**. Much of the time is spent concentrating on a specific **subject** or project, often some kind of theological research (Mark will be studying the works of the Danish theologian and thinker Soren **Kierkegaard**, and pondering their relevance to our ministry in Addingham). In addition, there's some **reflective** time, away from responsibilities of both church and family, to concentrate on one's relationship with God. Finally, a sabbatical involves an element of relaxation and **refreshment**, because it is often when we are temporarily relieved of the routines and pace of daily life that inspiration and insight are most fruitful.



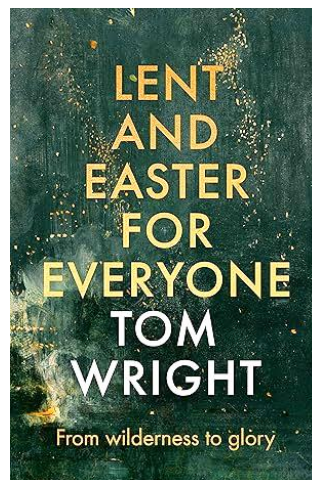
Soren Kierkegaard

While Mark is away, other **clergy** will be standing in for him in pastoral and worship duties, and our **churchwarden** Margaret will be ensuring that everything runs smoothly. All enquiries can be routed through the church **office** (contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk 830 306).

So we will wish Mark well and keep him in our prayers as he recharges his spiritual batteries, and we look forward to hearing about his experiences and benefitting from the results of his studies when he returns to us in **August**.

The Kingdom by R. S. Thomas

It's a long way off but inside it there are quite different things going on: festivals at which the poor man is king and the consumptive is healed; mirrors in which the blind look at themselves and love looks at them back; and industry is for mending the bent bones and the minds fractured by life. It's a long way off, but to get there takes no time and admission is free, if you purge yourself of desire, and present yourself with your need only and the simple offering of your faith, green as a leaf.



Brief book review:

It doesn't look it, but this has turned out to be one of the most helpful, inspiring and insightful reads I've ever had. Described in the blurb as "brilliant devotional theology for the everyday Christian", it's designed to be read in daily chunks through Lent, Holy Week and Easter, but I found it un-put-downable so read it over 5 days (with thinking time 'cos I found it eye-opening). It takes you on a journey through Jesus's ministry – that makes it sound dry, it's anything but! Worth reading any time, not just in this season. LKC

Wulfherans

Our first speaker of 2025 was **Kay Bainbridge** from the W. Yorkshire Police **Fraud Protection** Department. She gave an illustrated and very informative presentation about numerous types of **frauds and phishing**, with advice to change **passwords** to maintain strong security, and to **shred** personal details before putting in the bin. She also suggested **checking** with the bank over any suspicious emails or phone calls, and being wary of using **crypto currency**. Being Shrove Tuesday, a delicious **pancake supper** was served to end the evening.

Our next meeting will
be in Holy Week
Tues 15th April
7.30pm
TENEBRAE
join us for this moving service

Peace point

Reconciliation requires all those involved to face up to harsh realities, itself a costly exercise, and is not helped by turning a blind eye to wrong. It requires an honest facing up to the awfulness and the humiliation.

Desmond Tutu

*There are two ways to be fooled.
One is to believe what isn't true;
the other is to refuse to believe
what is true.*

Soren Kierkegaard



The true Christian reaction to suffering and sorrow is not the attitude of self-pity, fatalism or resentment; it is the spirit which takes life's difficulties as a God given opportunity, and regards its troubles as a sacred trust, and wears the thorns as a crown.

James Stewart

Contacts

Rector: Revd Mark Cannon 07866 298 892

Children and Family worker: Tamsin Carr
childrenandfamilywork@stpetersaddingham.org.uk

Churchwarden:

Margaret Widdowson

margaretwidd3@btinternet.com

Parish Office: 01943 830 306

contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk


Find out more


www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk

St Peters Church Addingham

01943 830 306

contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk

For up-to-date details of all services and activities, please look at our website, follow us on  Facebook or pick up a "What's On" leaflet.

Everyone is welcome and you can also join with St. Peter's online; we livestream many of our services to our  Facebook page, so take a look.

You can also follow  **C.a.f.e** – **c**hildren **a**nd **f**amily **e**vents at St. Peter's Addingham

Watch all **St. Peter's Podcasts** via the church website – click **Online**, scroll down to **Podcasts**, then click **Watch on Vimeo**

From the Registers

Burial of Ashes

27th February Margaret Hajimitsis

Funeral at Waltonwrays

14th March Nancy Croft

30th March Christine Utley

