

This week's service

Sunday 7th April 2024

This week's readings

Today's service is led by Sean O'Toole



Acts 27

A thought from Sean

Have you ever asked the question, 'Why is this happening to me?' Are you going through a time when the pressure seems to get more challenging each day? Are you struggling because what God has promised you seems impossible? Do troubles follow you around?

Jesus shared these words with His disciples just before his arrest, so they are of immense importance. 'In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world!'

Remember - no matter what we are going through, God holds us in His hands.

Prayer for the week

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked,
no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good
of others
and walk the joyful road of
sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the
Father.
Amen



Coffee & Conversation

Thursday 11th April

Goseley Community Centre



An opportunity

- to chat
- to meet friends
- to ask questions
- to pray
- or simply to sit and rest

We meet on

2nd and 4th Thursday
each month

ALL WELCOME
including
children

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING



21st APRIL

Everyone is invited to our Annual Church Meeting which will take place after the service on Sunday 21st April.

If you want to take an active part and vote on any matters you need to have your name on the church electoral roll. Forms are on the table at the back of church.

We need nominations for PCC members, Deanery Synod members and Churchwardens.

NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Please speak to Nigel Worth or Deb Patrick for more information

If you lead a group or activity please send your report to Christine for inclusion in the APCM booklet.

Church diary for the next month

Thursday 11th April

10:30 Coffee and Conversation
at Goseley Community Centre

Sunday 14th April

10:45 Morning Worship
with Rev Patrick Douglas

Sunday 21st April

10:45 Holy Communion
led by Rev Mike Firbank
Followed by APCM

Sunday 28th April

10:45 Morning Worship
with Nigel Worth

Sunday 5th May

10:45 Morning Worship
with Nigel Worth

Sunday 12th May

10:45 Morning Worship
with Rev Patrick Douglas

Cleaning Rota

Please clean the church before the date marked.

Please swap with someone else on the rota if you cannot clean during your week.

The toilets will be cleaned weekly by Sean & Sandra

14 th Apr	Brian Redfern
21 st Apr	Val & Andrew
28 th Apr	Christine
5 th May	Deb P
12 th May	Jane
19 th May	Bill
26 th May	Brian Redfern

Refreshments Rota

It's a real blessing to be able to spend time chatting with one another after the service. We have a rota for serving tea & coffee.

Please swap with someone if you cannot do a particular date.

Please bring the milk. Thank you

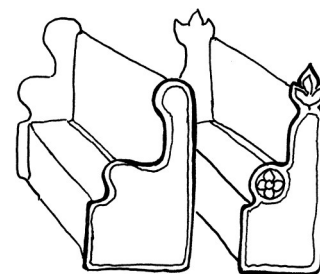
7 th Apr	James
14 th Apr	Maxine & Jane
21 st Apr	Christine
28 th Apr	Deb W & Alicia
5 th May	Carol
12 th May	James
19 th May	Maxine & Jane
26 th May	Christine

Seating at St Peter's Church

Have you ever thought about how the seating in our church has changed over the years?

The earliest churches in England had no fixed congregational seating. In a limited number of churches, there were stone benches running around the north, south and west walls, or even around the pillars. The weakest people would therefore have "gone to the wall", and the remainder either stood or sat on mats or stools.

Seating was increasingly introduced from the late thirteenth century, a process accelerated by the Reformation, until churches became fully 'pewed'. Allocation of seating in churches was originally according to criteria such as gender and social status. The numbering of pews – and even their locking - was a necessity for the purpose of appropriation or systematic allotment. The provision of galleries in churches was an effect of the appropriation of pews. The Plan of Hartshorne Church 1616 gives a clear picture of where different members of the parish were allocated seats. Men and women were seated separately, as were servants. In terms of design, pews were originally simple in form, being benches with backs and ends. Examples of pews from this era can be found in the balcony of St Peter's.



We know that at St Peter's there were panelled box pews which were removed before the enlarging of the church in 1835 and the panelling was used in houses in Manchester Lane. You can see what the seating was like after this restoration by looking at the photo on the history display.

Considerable efforts were made by bodies such as the Incorporated Church Building Society to ensure a certain amount of free seating in churches. The 1901 plans for the restoration of Hartshorne Church show blocks of pews, however there were insufficient funds to order the oak seating designed by the architect. The church had to make do with wooden chairs until more money could be raised. These remained until they were replaced in the 1990s. We now have seating which meets the need for increased flexibility and comfort. We can easily change them from rows to informal café style seating.

Information from: Council for the Care of Churches; copies of plans found in church and Hartshorne Parish Magazines