

intouch

Who is
South Parade's
new intern?

How much does
it cost to run
South Parade?

When is Fairtrade
Fortnight?

How can you help
train French
pastors around
the world?

Where did
the little cross
at Headingley
come from?

Who won the
Christmasudoku
competition?

What could I
give up for Lent?

So to answer the 8 questions posed on the cover... You can meet South Parade's new intern on page 11 and read about her work at the ABC Coffee Shop. Find out about Fairtrade Fortnight on the Church Noticeboard on page 39. Read Steve Green's fascinating account of the origins of the cross above the Headingley pulpit on page 26. The church treasurer sets out the church budget on page 34 with a challenge to all of us to increase our giving. There's news of an appeal to help fund a seminary in France from Mike and Liz James on page 18. The winner of the hotly contested Christmas competition from the last issue of *Intouch* is announced on page 38. Suggestions for Lent are in page 42.

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Matthew Newman Editor

Informed, Involved, Inspired... Intouch!

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From the Ministry Team

Out of the Boat

Whilst sitting in a dinghy in the Sanctuary at Headingley in the middle of the night during October 2017's prayer week (after having climbed in to pray, without any plan of how I was going to get out again with a semblance of my dignity intact) I felt God show me a picture in my mind of the whole room full of people all praying at once, alive with the spirit.



Fast forward to January's South Parade Together service and there we were, starting on something adventurous, all praying together, separately in little groups of twos or threes, but as one body. Interestingly, I had had a completely different plan of how Prayer Time would look when I'd thought about the service. In fact

a long time back when the Elders and Ministry Team first met to pray and discuss the vision for South Parade and adventure was mentioned, I'd thought that's lovely and something I will enjoy hearing about.

I'm someone who drives her family mad by having to be coaxed into watching new television programmes, as they're new and there's no guarantee that I will like them. And going on holiday is less of a joy and more of a list inducing



*Be encouraged these cold,
dark times in early 2018:
the Spirit of the Lord is upon
us and has business to do*

stress (and don't even get me started on how I feel if someone in the office uses my mug for their tea). It is fair, I think, to say that I like routine and the safety of the familiar. But then in all of that God happens. And with it comes spontaneity, creativity and joy. Be encouraged these cold, dark times in early 2018, for the Spirit of the Lord is upon us and has business to do. Whether you are like me, someone who embraces the mundane or someone who is ready and bold, it doesn't matter as long as we are open and listening for the prompting of our Lord.

The verse "a time for everything", Ecclesiastes 3, has been following me about since I started my role in the church office. It has been in conversations filled with wise friends, in daily readings, unexpectedly in programmes on the telly and even on the calendar Lucy made at Tots this month. We are looking at the book in Home Group currently. We must run the race

which is laid out for us as expressed in Hebrews. It is hard work to run the race and yet not want to run ahead, to wait on God.

As a fan of the familiar I am keen to know the plan, but right now I feel our Lord is saying dig in and fix your eyes upon me, be still and know, sit in the presence for a bit, because there is work to be done and God has business for us. But we need to pray together, encourage each other and grow as one body and then the fearless adventurous spirit will find us and it's going to be transformative.



Don't misunderstand me I'm not encouraging us to be passive and think that we do not need to do anything: no-one ever ran the race of the Christian life by sitting idle. But just that we need to continue to work on our foundations and be mindful of God's beautiful and perfect timing.

So get in your dinghy, fear not about the exit strategy as dignity is not necessarily a prerequisite of following Christ (thank goodness) and be ready for God to say his time is now.

Kate Churchill

Around the Church

Sent

During Advent, we spent three weeks exploring the work of the Trinity in the Nativity account. Sandwiched in the middle of this mini-series was Carols by Candlelight, which was organised by Paul. I hope you'll all agree that Paul did an excellent job and it was encouraging to see so many visitors!

This year, we decided against hosting our own Christmas event and pushed the open air carol singing with Churches Together in Headingley. It was great to join with the other churches in our patch to spread Christmas cheer by singing loud for all to hear.

Back in October, a few of our musicians went to an excellent training day called Whole Life Worship. Since then we have begun incorporating a few of the suggestions from the day into our services. If you were at Sent on Sunday 14 January, you will have

participated in a simple, effective and joyful call and response around *Blessed Be Your Name!*



It has been our custom for a while to intentionally and regularly pray for the streets that surround the

church. We have now produced a postcard to deliver to our Street of the Week to let them know that we are praying and inviting them to share their prayer requests. A big thank you to Val for suggesting the idea! Please talk to Nathan if you would like to help deliver the postcards.

*We are inviting people
living on the Street
of the Week to share
their prayer requests*

Please pray for Sent that we would continue to nurture belonging, become more confident in what we

believe and braver in becoming all that God wants us to be!

Nathan Shipley

Associate Pastor

Headingley

A reminder of the Headingley MC 5 year goal (approximately 16 months gone!) – In 5 years, Headingley Morning Mission Community will be a vibrant, growing church, engaged in faithful worship and mission locally and abroad, made up of all ages and nationalities, being supportive and committed to each other

There has recently been increased activity relating to the “international” aspect of our goal, with a fairly healthy representation from across South Parade at Transformations Leeds’ multi-seminar event on 6 January, helping the church to reach out to visiting internationals. The following

Saturday saw South Parade hosting an afternoon of entertainment and information, with 15 partners in mission being available to encourage the church in a number of mission areas (see page 7).

Is it coincidental that the Spring 2018 issue of *Baptists Together* magazine has the theme, “Many cultures, one church”? One article says: “Multi-ethnic churches are those where different ethnicities co-exist, with one culture – often, white British – being the modus operandi. The journey from multi-ethnic to multicultural can be richly rewarding as God’s people together journey into his plans and purposes.” Might the same be true of different age-related cultures across the mission community, with the modus operandi being fairly middle aged?

Whilst there is a social aspect to church life, we are not a social club and there is deeper significance in how we engage with each other and the community around us. Nathan Shipley and Dave Horsfall spoke very powerfully on 21 January about vulnerability and its appropriate place in our relationships. It doesn’t take much searching to see that vulnerability is common to the four areas of Prayer, Adventure, Growth and Encouragement that South Parade has had as focus points over



the past year, and they have continued to shape the discussions in Leadership Team meetings.

The Leadership Team would like to take this opportunity to encourage the Headingley MC, from right across the spectrum of the congregation, to engage with the Mission Community meetings. The next one is planned for Thursday 15 February. The agenda items include:

- Alternative expressions is an initiative to engage with people for whom traditional church attendance is not something that they would countenance. What activities can Headingley MC organise, who would be interested in being involved and what timescales can we put in place?
- Youth group is something that is notably absent from the Headingley MC (South Parade at large) programme of activities. Why is this and what can be done to rectify the situation?
- Easter services are an opportunity to evangelise in the

*Please come along to the
Mission Community
Meeting to share your
views, make suggestions
and ask questions*

local community at such a significant marker in the Christian calendar. What should we be doing and when?

- Finances as part of South Parade at large require particular focus and prayerful consideration.
- Shared lunches (international students) – Hospitality, sharing food and spending time together were recurring themes in the seminars at the Transformations Leeds event on 6 January. Bring and share lunches have been going on at Headingley for quite a while, with varying degrees of attendance. How could the whole mission community benefit from a change of focus for these events?

Please do come along to share your views, make suggestions and ask questions. If you can't make it on the evening, please speak to any of the Leadership Team – Scott Halligan, Rachel Geinda, Robyn Savage, Sue Ricketts, Paul Rockley or Richard Sykes

Richard Sykes

Headingley MC Leadership Team

Partners in Mission

On Saturday 13 January, we hosted our inaugural Partners in Mission event! The afternoon for all ages featured entertainment and

information from 15 of our Partners in Mission.

We were joined by CAP, Caring For Life, Home For Good, International Student Club, Missional Generation, OMF, OTAN, Sethani Community Centre, SIM UK, St George's Crypt, TeachBeyond, TLG, Traidcraft, Transformations and Wellspring Therapy & Training.

Each organisation - except one - hosted a family-friendly game, which then provided a natural segue in to sharing about their projects. The exception was OTAN's Chris Gnanakan, who we were able to talk with via Skype.

“Maybe God planted seeds of mission in someone's heart today”

Here are a few comments from visitors to the event:

- *“Great event, very well organised and lots of interesting information. Thanks to everyone involved!”*
- *“It was great to have more information available about different charities we support and be able to put a face to them. The games made it a more fun and relaxed event.”*
- *“Promotion of mission in all its contexts is vital because that's*

what our business as Christians should be about. So be encouraged, maybe God planted seeds of mission in someone's heart today and you will be pleasantly surprised when you see the results!”

Nathan Shipley

Macpac Farewell Buffet

On Saturday 25 November we prepared the Green House for a final farewell buffet for David and Ann MacFarlane, our church partners in Reggio Calabria, Southern Italy.

As usual we decorated the room in the Italian colours of green, white and red. We even managed to find red and white Tulips in November to use for the table decorations! Andra, Dolsie, Ruth H, Margaret G and myself managed to pull everything together in preparation for the guests arriving at 6pm. My grateful thanks to them and to those of you who generously donated cakes.

David and Ann as usual renewed contacts with those at SPBC during the meal. Some present have supported this work over many years, sadly quite a few had other commitments, either due to health issues or family.



Farewell Buffet for David and Ann

Ann led a very moving and powerful presentation of the work in Reggio, where she focused on the team who work amongst the migrants at the port. She impressed upon us the need to remember that for whatever reason they have made this perilous journey each of these migrants are human beings just like you or I.

David shared about the Italian Union looking to send a replacement Pastor sometime this year and asked us to pray for the right person. In the meantime the

elders will have oversight of the church. Could we pray specifically for Noah, an elder who is going through a difficult time - you may remember praying for Harvey his son who died a few years ago after a brain tumour.

As I write this David and Ann are into the last of their home assignments and officially retire from BMS at the end of January. They have moved into their new home in Glasgow and David may be looking

for a part-time pastorate

They are planning to return to Reggio over the summer as their son David and his wife still live there. Ann is planning on joining the team at the port again.

*Please continue to
remember this dear
couple in your prayers
as they adjust to life
back in Glasgow*

I believe the deacons have sent a retirement gift to BMS on our behalf.

On the night of the buffet I passed on an M&S gift voucher to them to buy something for the house.

Please continue to remember this dear couple in your prayers as they adjust to life back in Glasgow.

Should anyone wish to support the work in Reggio amongst the migrants/food bank please contact me at Headingley and I will forward any monies to them.

Thank you once again for all your prayers and financial support for this dear couple over the past 18 years that I have been their link contact. May the Lord truly bless you.

Pat Dalglish

SPBC BMS link for the Macpac

Youth Work Gathering

At the end of January we had the ninth gathering of youth work volunteers from across South Parade. The get togethers provide an opportunity for our volunteers to stop, collaborate and listen to God and one another.

This time round, we met in the Youth Room at Headingley to watch *The Way Way Back* and reflect on mentoring. During the film, we enjoyed delightful drinks, posh popcorn and special sweets. After the movie, we shared reflections on what makes a good mentor.

This year our target is to see every young person at high school in South Parade engaged in mentoring. Please speak to me if you would like to find out more and get involved.

Nathan Shipley

...informed...

Share news from your corner of the church. We'd love to hear about your latest events and plans so the whole church can pray for you. Email magazine@spbc.org.uk



"Be generous with encouragement. It is verbal sunshine. It costs nothing, it warms hearts and enriches lives."

Nicky Gumbel @nickygumbel



Meet The Intern

Megan Hobbs

Megan Hobbs has recently started as intern at South Parade. *Intouch* asked her about what she'll be doing and how we can pray for her.

Who are you and what are you doing at SPBC?

Hello! My name is Megan. I am 26 and live in Headingley with my husband Tim. We are part of the Sent and Connect communities here at South Parade. I currently work part-time as a Junior Doctor at Airedale Hospital and recently started interning one day a week here at South Parade.

My main role as intern involves working closely with the ABC Coffee Shop at Holt Park, where I have volunteered for a number of years. You will find me there most Monday afternoons, serving drinks, making food and chatting with the cus-

tomers. I am also responsible for some of the day-to-day management of the Coffee Shop along with an amazing team of dedicated and faithful volunteers.



Megan Hobbs

The Coffee Shop is an exciting part of South Parade's ministry in Leeds and I hope I can encourage other members of the church to see the potential in it. God has worked through the volunteers there for many years to meet the needs and change the lives of people from the surrounding community. **Perhaps I can encourage some of you to think**

about how you can be a part of it all, whether that's through prayer or practical support.

How do you know Jesus?

I came to know Jesus for myself when I was a teenager here at

South Parade. I recognised myself as a sinner and accepted Jesus as my saviour leading to my baptism when I was 16. I have had significant struggles with anxiety and depression, which has often affected my ability to study and work. But God has guided me and strengthened me throughout. Despite my fears and failings he often reminds me of his presence and his grace through my relationships with Tim, my parents and my South Parade family, amongst the many other wonderful people and things he has blessed me with.

Where have you seen God working?

God has helped me to find great joy in some difficult times. Initially having to cut down to part-time work at the hospital was a shock and a disappointment to me. God has turned it in to a wonderful opportunity for me to serve in the ministry of South Parade and especially the Coffee Shop.

I have been greatly blessed by the work of the ABC Coffee Shop over the years which is one of the reasons why I was excited to get more involved. God has provided a friendly, warm place where I have found

The Coffee Shop is an exciting part of South Parade's ministry. I hope I can encourage members of the church to see its potential.

support and encouragement in difficult times. I have also seen other volunteers grow in their relationship with God and commitment to serving Christ and the community. **God is reaching out to the customers of the Coffee Shop and showing His love for them through the efforts of our faithful volunteers.** This is evidenced in the numerous customers who return week on week. It is a privilege to be there for them!



The ABC Coffee Shop in Holt Park

What can the members of South Parade be praying for?

As part of my internship I have joined the first year of Leeds School of Theology. Tim has also decided to take part. Please be praying that we can grow deeper in our relationship with God, find great joy in knowing Him and use what we learn to share His Gospel more effectively. **Please continue praying for the ministry of the ABC Coffee Shop, that we would keep God at the centre of all we do there, so that His love may be known and many people may come to faith.**

Specific prayers would be greatly appreciated for the provision of more volunteers, especially on Tuesdays and Fridays as well as someone with a large vehicle who can help with shopping for supplies at Makro on roughly a monthly basis. We will also soon be in need of someone to act as treasurer as Harold retires from many years of faithful service. If you think you could fill any of these roles then perhaps **you could be the answer to our prayers!**

Megan Hobbs

SPBC Intern

...involved...

*If you can help at the Coffee Shop please speak to Megan directly or email coffeeshop@spbc.org.uk to join the **prayer support group** and keep updated on the exciting ministry at the ABC Coffee Shop.*



For service times, locations, Mission Communities, children's and student work, the weekly notice sheet, sermon downloads, this magazine and much more, go to the church website!

www.spbc.org.uk

Alastair Corson

1916 - 2018

It is with great sadness that we record the death at the wonderful age of 101 of Alastair Corson, a former Church Secretary of South Parade.

Alastair combined a quiet authority with a depth of spiritual experience. He was a most gracious and wise father figure to many in the church (when I was a young upstart in the church leadership!) He was Church Secretary from 1971-1986, a crucial period in the church evolving its strongly evangelical stance. This was a time when the Church Secretary always gave the notices at both services and Alastair made endearing gaffes, most memorably when he announced a fundraising event for the “blind dogs for the guides”! After standing down from the leadership he remained a key figure in the church and was still always available for advice when this was sought.

Alastair’s mother was brought up at South Parade, but joined the Brethren on her marriage. He himself was converted through the Crusaders, and was baptized whilst serving

in the army in Shilong in Assam in 1944 in a stream which had been specially dammed during the monsoon season to make this possible!

On returning home he eventually joined Hunslet Baptist Tabernacle where he later served as a deacon. He married Evelyn, and their two eldest sons attended the Sunday School at South Parade. When a third son was born they decided to join South Parade in 1961. Alastair, as Church Secretary with Raymond Newton as Treasurer, helped to guide the church during a period of change. He always took great delight in his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

At the age of 100 he was expressing concern at how few opportunities he got to witness to his fellow residents

After a long marriage Evelyn sadly died, but Alastair remarried. Pauline also passed away and Alastair then

married Elizabeth who lives in Keswick. After a fall Alastair began to need a greater degree of care and moved into a care home. However, he retained his mental faculties fully and was always interested to hear news of our family and the church at South Parade. When Margaret and I last visited him in July 2017 we were able to enjoy a deep time of

sharing and praying together even though a slight stroke had slowed his speech. He was even expressing concern at how few opportunities he got to witness to his fellow residents! We will always remember him with deep gratitude to God.

Geoff Greer



***Alastair Corson: ITV Morning Service 1995 (top right),
100th Birthday Party 2016 (bottom left),
Church Secretary 1979 (Bottom right)***

Promising to Pray

At the recent church meeting, the church secretary urged the church to keep praying for Peter and Anne Morden at this time.

I believe there is a reason why the Lord has led Peter and Anne here, and I believe that this church must have the resources in order to support them through this. At his induction service in September Peter and Anne made promises and so did the church. It's a bit like a marriage, for better or for worse, and I remind you of some of them.

Peter, you have been called to be the senior pastor / team leader of this church and congregation.

Do you accept the charge from Christ to care for his people with all diligence and compassion?

Will you care for the weak, bring Christ's healing to the broken hearted, lift up the downcast, and pray regularly for those committed to your care?

I will, God's Spirit empowering me.

Will you "equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of

Christ"?

Will you lead and enable God's people in their mission to the world, seeking God's kingdom, proclaiming the gospel in word and deed and seeking to make Christ known in every way?

I will, the risen Christ inspiring me.

Will you "make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace"?

By your example, will you lead this church in all godly living and devotion to Christ through prayer and the reading of scripture?

Will you be faithful in the leading of worship, in presiding at the table of the Lord and in preaching the word of God?

In the name of God who is the Father of all, the living Word and the Spirit of unity, I will.

To the staff team:

Do you believe you have been called by God to work together humbly and willingly in serving this church and community?

We do.

Do you promise to honour and respect one another, "doing nothing from vain

conceit, but in humility regarding others as better than yourselves,” and do you promise to work with the members of this church in its calling to seek the kingdom of God?

We will.

*To the members of the church:
My sisters and brothers, a new chapter in the life of this church is opened today.*

I invite you now to renew your commitment to Christ and this church, to affirm again the vows of your baptism.

Do you believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and do you confess Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord?

We do.

Do you accept and welcome Peter as your senior minister / team leader, and do you promise to honour and support him with your love and prayers, working together with him in your shared calling to witness to Christ in this place?

We do.

Paul, the apostle, says “You were bought with a price.” Will you serve Jesus Christ as Lord, bearing witness to him and daily taking up your cross to follow him?

We will.

*To the whole congregation:
As representatives of the wider church and community, will you offer your*

support at this new beginning in the life of church and minister, and will you join in praying for them all?

We will.

We promised to love them and to support them and this is what we must do. Let us pray...

- for complete healing for Anne. We would love to have her back with us free from pain and free from disease
- for peace for both of them; that inner peace in the eye of the storm which only the Prince of Peace can give us
- for strength enough for each day
- for courage to face an uncertain future
- for good pain control and freedom from pain
- for that for ongoing trust in God’s goodness that faith may not fail under the assaults of the evil one, but may emerge strengthened from the fray.

And finally that in this, or through this, or even despite this that God may be glorified and Christ may be made known.

Church Secretary

Training French Pastors

French Evangelical Seminary

Mike and Liz James were sent by the church in 1974 as missionaries to France, and still keep an eye on what's going on in Leeds. They recently sent *Intouch* news of a new project that needs our prayer and support.

Greetings from the James' in Elancourt, France, a suburban town on the west side of Paris. Liz and I moved here in 1995 after spending over 20 years on the east side of Paris. It seems an age since we left South Parade – 1974 is a long time ago! We left with two young children and now have four adult children and six grandchildren.

We very much enjoy reading news of South Parade in the *Intouch* magazine. Thank you to those who have sent it faithfully all these years. When we came to France in 1974, we soon realised that we were, effectively, “Tentmaker missionaries.” We have been involved in the development of

several churches and church ministries. We are currently working with a French Evangelical Seminary, situated at Vaux-sur-Seine, North-West of Paris. Mike has just stepped down from the role of Finance Director and is focusing on raising money for a new library project for the seminary. Your prayers as well as any gifts would be very welcome.

Because of the increased need for training of future leaders of the church in France and the French-speaking world, the Seminary is seeking to increase the number of students it trains by 50%

The formal, French name of the seminary is the Faculté Libre de Théologie Evangélique (FLTE). It is a solidly-evangelical, university-level institution set up in 1965. The

Seminary offers an undergraduate degree (three years), Masters (two years) and Doctorate (three to five years). It has 147 students plus an additional 140 distance-learning students. It reaches students from all French speaking countries in Europe, as well as from French-speaking Africa, and from French West Indies.

The growth of Protestant evangelical churches in France is impressive, despite nearly half of the population professing “no religion” and a growing Muslim presence. In France, the number of French evangelicals has grown over ten-fold during the past 60 years, from 50,000 in 1950 to 650,000 in 2017. In addition, 1,299 churches have been created since 1970, a new church every 10 days, most of which have limited resources. The FLTE plays important roles in the growth of the French church by providing solid, Biblical theological education to steward the growth

and by strengthening evangelical unity.

Former students hold teaching positions in other teaching institutions in French-speaking Europe and also have an important role in the leadership of different French evangelical denominations. Others have become leaders of the African Churches, IFES general secretaries, or founders of the main evangelical theological seminaries of French-speaking Africa.

Because of the increased need for training of pastors and future leaders of the church in France and the French-speaking world, the French Seminary at Vaux-sur-Seine is seeking to increase by 50% the number of students it trains. A key element of providing robust and solid theological education is having access to a fully equipped library with a wide variety of publications and other media to encapsulate the fullness of theological thought and

history. In its present state, however, the existing FLTE library no longer meets the needs of this growing student body because it is at capacity, with only 10,000 volumes readily accessible and insufficient workstations for all who wish to study.



The Seminary at Vaux-sur-Seine

New Library Project

The seminary has, therefore, a new library project with plans for 25,000 titles to be readily accessible and to provide a larger number of workstations. It would also house study rooms, furnished with state-of-the-art computer equipment, a media room, a research centre, and archival space for French-speaking evangelical churches, thus enabling it to become a research centre for doctoral and post-doctoral students from the entire French-speaking world.

Partnerships already exist with the Langham Foundation, UK, and with African French-speaking seminaries.



In addition to providing a state-of-the-art library, the project will also resolve accessibility problems which have to be taken into account, for legal reasons. It is estimated that the new library will cost approximately 3 million euros to build, of which gifts or pledges of 500,000 euros have already been obtained.

Thank you for your partnering with FLTE ministry in France

With our best wishes to the church for a blessed New Year following the Lord,

Mike and Liz James

...informed...

To support the new library project from the UK, please send your gifts to France Mission Trust by visiting their website at <http://france-mission.com/fmtrust/web/page/28-Donate.html>

If you would like more information, please see the seminary's website: www.flte.fr or contact Mike James at michael.james.business@gmail.com or fundraising@flte.fr

*When they hear what you have to say, GOD,
all earth's kings will say "Thank you."*

They'll sing of what you've done:

"How great the glory of GOD!"

And here's why: GOD, high above, sees far below;

no matter the distance, he knows everything about us.

Psalm 138.4-6 (The Message)

Prayer Diary



February - March 2018

FEBRUARY

Sun	4	The Ministry Team
Mon	5	Anne Morden
Tue	6	Heather McLeen
Wed	7	Your Mission Community Leadership Team
Thu	8	The Arabic Christian Fellowship
Fri	9	Alastair Corson's family at his funeral service today (<i>page 14</i>)
Sat	10	Your homegroup, small group or cell group leader
Sun	11	Preachers and worship leaders in all Mission Communities
Mon	12	Participants at the Life Explored course on Monday evenings
Tue	13	Rooted
Wed	14	Your own commitment to Jesus this Lent season
Thu	15	Headingley Mission Community Meeting tonight
Fri	16	The church office
Sat	17	Our friend in North Africa
Sun	18	All of South Parade's Mission Communities

Pull out and use!

Mon	19	Geoff King
Tue	20	Colin & Jill Jones and their work with the church in Normandy
Wed	21	Ann and David MacFarlane (<i>page 9</i>)
Thu	22	Mike and Liz James in France (<i>page 18</i>)
Fri	23	The Deacons
Sat	24	Nathan Shipley
Sun	25	Junior Church leaders and helpers
Mon	26	Events to mark Fairtrade Fortnight (<i>page 39</i>)
Tue	27	Sam and Katie
Wed	28	Jane Waites
MARCH		
Thu	1	The Elders
Fri	2	Paul Rockley
Sat	3	Levi Booth in Japan
Sun	4	People who have been baptized recently
Mon	5	People thinking about being baptized
Tue	6	Kate Churchill
Wed	7	Tim Jackson and his role as UCCF Relay Worker
Thu	8	Young People meeting in Cell Groups
Fri	9	ABC Coffee Shop
Sat	10	Transformations Leeds
Sun	11	Connect Mission Community
Mon	12	Andrew Bedingham and the work of the CAP centre
Tue	13	Missionaries with BMS World Mission
Wed	14	TLG mentors working with children in schools

Thu	15	St George's Crypt
Fri	16	Lent lunches in Headingley today (page 40)
Sat	17	Sent film screening tonight (page 40)
Sun	18	Headingley Morning Mission Community
Mon	19	Those in hospital or waiting for treatment
Tue	20	Cragg Mission Community
Wed	21	Work with children and young people across the church
Thu	22	Sent Mission Community
Fri	23	Mission United Faith In Life event tonight (page 41)
Sat	24	Megan Hobbs (page 11)
Sun	25	Your Mission Community
Mon	26	Peter Morden
Tue	27	Katharine Widdowson, church treasurer
Wed	28	Chris Gnanakan
Thu	29	Charles Fletcher, church secretary
Fri	30	Witness events in Headingley and Horsforth this Good Friday
Sat	31	All those who've lost loved ones over the last year

“Almighty and everliving God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.”

Collect for Palm Sunday (25 March), Book of Common Prayer

Lent Prayer

*Lenten God, You knew the hardship of waiting in the desert.
Be with all those who are away from their homeland as they
seek to make a new life and wait for news from home.*

*Lenten God, You knew the temptation to turn stones into
bread.*

*Be with all those who know the gnawing pain of hunger as
they struggle to survive in a world that does not share.*

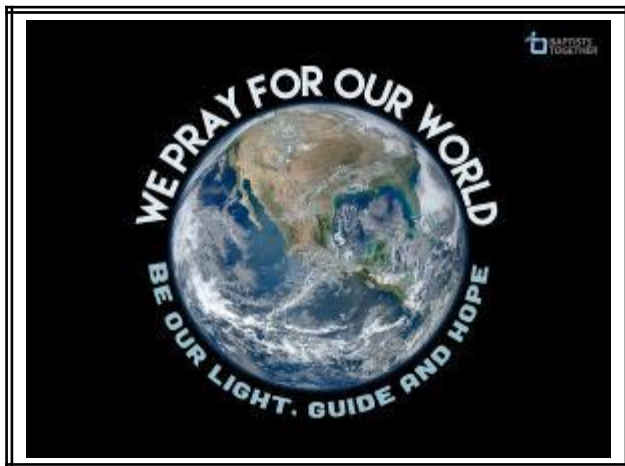
*Lenten God, You knew the temptation to throw yourself off
the pinnacle.*

*Be with all those who know illness and despair as they
struggle to go on living as life passes them by.*

*Lenten God, You knew the temptation to seize power for
yourself.*

*Be with all those who hold and exercise power. May they
seek to make decisions that will bring justice and peace.*

Clare McBeath and Tim Presswood



A Question of Money

At the January Church meeting, Katharine Widdowson asked the church some questions relating to the 2018 budget.

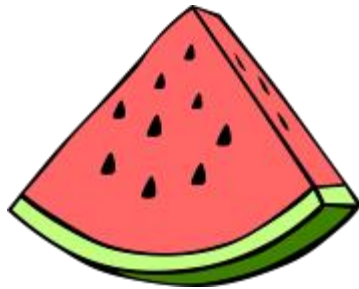
Have a think about the answers before turning to page 34.

- How much does it cost to run South Parade per day?
- How much does a minister cost?
- What do we pay towards the Baptist Pension Scheme deficit?
- How much do we give away?
- How much of our spending do the members pay for?
- What other income is there?
- How many members/regular attenders does SP have?
- How many identifiable givers?
- Are there activities which you think we should stop?



Prayer for Fruitfulness

*Lord, help me to be warm and loving,
Contagiously joyful
Actively peaceful
Compellingly patient
Respectfully kind
Always good
Unwaveringly faithful
Humbly gentle
Vigorously self controlled
And always aware of the Holy Spirit within me.
This is the person I want to be
Amen*



Steve Brown

Creating Worship Spaces

The Cross at Headingley

I wonder how many of you notice the little cross that sits above the pulpit at Headingley? Or know how it came to be there?

When David Rigden Green was called to be the minister of South Parade in 1961 he noticed that there was no cross anywhere in the sanctuary. So he placed the little cross where it still stands today – discreet but significant. When he died in 1978, just before retiring, Joyce, his wife, added an inscription.

Where had the cross come from? In 1941 David was newly ordained as a Baptist minister in Oxford. Many young men of his generation were being called up for the war. David had taken a pacifist stance, but was grappling with it. At that time he was engaged to a young nurse, Joyce Wenger, who had trained at the Radcliffe in Oxford. He obviously shared his struggle with her, as some of Joyce's correspondence from that time shows.

On 9 September 1941 Joyce wrote: "I am glad that although you feel that pacifism is the right thing, you do feel that we are all in this mess and must pull our weight, whether our principles are against it or not... Proud as I am of you already in your desire to stand by your convictions, I think I should be, if it were possible, even more proud of you if you felt you could put them to one side, because I know how terribly much it would cost you to do so, in other people's eyes as well as your own... A padre's job will be excellent experience..."

He carried that little wooden cross and where it was placed became a place of worship in the midst of hardship and pain.

On 14 September 1941 Joyce wrote: "...so don't just cross out 'chaplaincy' from your list of possibilities just because the prospect fills you with trepidation, but remember that you may find your own trembling and fearfulness turned into

strength because instead of being over yourself, it is for others – trembling, not of fear but of eagerness to help them, and fearfulness, not because you will fail but that you may not be able to help them in time... I do feel that remaining in church... you will be putting yourself into a backwater. People at home now... with husbands, sweethearts or sons abroad in the forces mostly in dangerous places need someone who has experienced the major gamut of human passions, particularly separation and bereavement, to steady and help them. That is where you and I fail. Our experience is only in our imaginations and so we're not yet fitted to give the spiritual help needed. We are too young in experience. Were it not wartime, this lack of experience wouldn't be so evident because it wouldn't be needed quite so universally. You would be much better caring for young men, for you know a young man's temptations, and you will find, I am sure, that in helping them you are helping yourself..."

David joined the RAF as a Padre, serving in Belgium and Denmark. He was one of the first "official visitors" into the Belsen concentration camp when it was liberated, leaving some



Rev Green's cross in the Sanctuary at Headingley today

unhappy, vivid memories and photographs which were discovered in his safe after his death.

As Padre, David help impromptu services wherever the men were: in a field, in the woods, by a river. He carried that little wooden cross and where it was placed became for him and the men he was serving, a place of worship in the midst of hardship and pain. So that cross travelled around Europe with David, creating a worship-space wherever it was placed, reminding people to turn to God, particularly in the midst of war and difficulty.

Stephen Rigden Green

PS If the leaders of the church ever decide to remove the cross the family would be pleased to have it returned to them as it holds important memories.

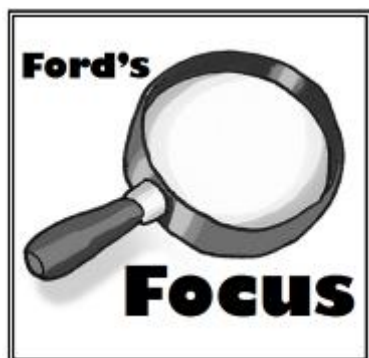
Ford's Focus

John's Gospel Part 17: A Commitment and a Betrayal

John 13

In this chapter we have an account of both commitment to and betrayal of Jesus, an account that demonstrates to us today the seriousness of what the cost of discipleship really means.

Our story starts around a meal table, a place where conversation takes place. Jesus is celebrating with his disciples a meal we have come to know as the Last Supper. It is in this place of closeness with his disciples, those he had chosen to be with him on his three years of extraordinary ministry, that we encounter the man Jesus, demonstrating what true Christianity is all about.



The narrative tells us in verse 3 that Jesus knew “that the Father had given him all authority” and “that his time had come to return to His Father.” With this knowledge of what was ahead Jesus rises from his place at the table, takes a towel and a bowl of water and proceeds to wash his disciples’ feet. This act is demonstrating that Christianity is about service not ritual. He is also showing that for any one of us to be able to partake of the “Kingdom of Heaven” we need the experience of washing by the hands and life of Jesus so we can be presented to the Father, spotless, by and in the person of Jesus Christ.

Peter protests at this demonstration of servanthood that Jesus is modelling and the narrative gives the impression that Peter was too proud and too full of self importance to allow this man, who he had come to know and revere as friend and Lord, to stoop so low as to wash his feet, a job that would have been the task of an employed servant in an established Jewish/Roman household of the time.

Jesus's response to Peter's attitude was "you don't understand now, but someday you will" and "if you don't allow me to perform this act of service on you then you have no part with me." At this point in the proceedings Peter has a light-bulb moment where he demonstrates and reveals his ignorance to the whole situation and says "well not just my feet then, wash all of me."

The truth is that we are all clean through the word already spoken (as we will discover in John 15.3 later) but we need to be in

a place of submission where we allow our feet, the area that is symbolically in contact with the world, to be washed in order for us to continue to live in this great freedom we call salvation.

It is true to say that everyone of us has the potential to betray, and as we know even Peter, who has just made a scene over the demonstration of servanthood, would betray Jesus in the not too distant future.

Judas was a man chosen by Jesus to be part of the twelve men that he called disciples. He was a man who

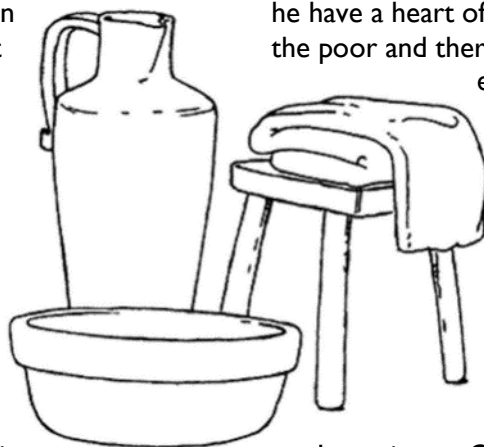
obviously showed promise, rising to the rank of treasurer, a role that gave him authority, respect and responsibility. This raises questions around how Judas had aspired to the role, was he naturally good with money? Was he a manipulator working to hold some kind of power? Was he a control freak? Did he have a heart of compassion for the poor and therefore was naively entrusted with the money?

Whatever the reason for Jesus choosing Judas will remain a mystery except for the fact that Judas was chosen to betray

Jesus, it was God's plan, which again raises questions around who God chooses and who betrays Him.

The truth is God does not choose people to betray Him. We all have the potential to do that ourselves and we are all vulnerable when we lose focus of, or stray from Christ himself.

We have here in John 13 the ultimate betrayal, that of a man's life for approximately half a year's wages equivalent. Betrayal is the act of being unfaithful and in our case, as Christians, that is being unfaithful to



Christ and his in-dwelling life within us.

*Here are words that
should drive us to our
knees in acknowledgement
that this man Jesus is
without any doubt God*

What John is recording here in this chapter is that Jesus had called Judas out, He had shown him up for who he was, a liar and a cheat. The reality is that Judas had already strayed in his heart and head, the act had already been committed, Jesus just says “Go and do and do quietly”. Jesus knew God’s plan and no longer needed to or wanted to procrastinate the unfolding plan of salvation.

We read in verses 31-35 words that should drive us to our knees in acknowledgement that this man Jesus is without any doubt God. What Jesus was saying was “now my Father’s work and my work is complete, from now on you will need to support yourselves”. Jesus says follow my example of love to you and extend this among yourselves so all those around you will

know you are my disciples.

Then we read the well known exclamation of exuberance by Peter, who is not unlike many of us, who rushes in where angels fear to tread. Peter utters words that no man or woman can fulfil without the indwelling, ongoing work of the “Helper”, the Holy Spirit, promised by Jesus in chapter 14.

I have said many times before in different writings that salvation is worked out daily. The truth is that none of us can utter Peter’s words in verse 37 “Lord why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for your sake” and ever hope to fulfil them without us living a life in and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

As Jesus demonstrated through His life on earth, “laying down our life” involves us willing giving up all rights to our life and accepting that a life lived in God is first and foremost spiritual, which works out salvation in and through our circumstances and therefore glorifies God and makes Him known.

Steve Ford

Headingley Morning Mission Community
blog.stevelford.me.uk

Money Matters

2018 Church Budget

Church Treasurer Katharine Widdowson answers questions about the 2018 budget for the church and challenges us all to respond.

What does it cost to run South Parade?

£1,244 a day last year - see below.

How much does a minister cost?

Minimum annual stipend £22,750

Manse £ 8,476

Employer's NI £ 2,012

Employer's Pension £ 2,601

TOTAL £35,839

What do we pay towards the Baptist Pension scheme deficit?

The final salary scheme for ministers is now closed to accrual. The

deficit on the BPS at 31 December 2017 is £139m. The recovery plan should end June 2035. We pay £9,062 into this hole every year in deficiency payments. Should we ever not be employing a minister, our own pension liability would be £475,200.

How much do we give away?

In 2017 we gave away £57,587 (15% of our income). The 2018 budget is for donations of £50,140 (13% of income).

How much of our spending do the members pay for?

Everything! We have some reserves so for a short period we can continue to pay the running costs while income is less than expenses.

What it costs to run South Parade

Year ended 31 December	2015	2016	2017	2018 Budget
Per year	£404,105	£391,890	£454,084	£425,253
Per month	£33,675	£32,658	£37,840	£35,438
Per week	£7,771	£7,536	£8,732	£8,178
Per day	£1,107	£1,076	£1,244	£1,165

What other income is there?

- Gift Aid. If you pay tax, complete a Gift Aid Declaration and give us identifiable income (standing orders, cheques or envelopes) and we can claim 25% of your donations from HMRC. About £64,000 in 2017
- Rental income £25,000 in 2017
- Listed Places of Worship VAT scheme – we can recover the VAT on repairs to Headingley or Cragg. £17,500 in 2017

How many members/regular attenders does SP have?

We wish we knew! There are clearly more “members” on the list than are active. There are also many regular attenders who are not members and may not be on the list.

How many identifiable givers?

152 in 2017, some of whom give on behalf of couples, so these represent 214 members/regular attenders. There were 164 givers in 2016. But some of these died in 2017, moved away, retired, met financial difficulties or left SP. There were 5 new givers in 2017.

Should we stop any activities?

What’s your answer to this question?

Increasing income

Clearly a deficit budget every year is not sustainable. As noted earlier, not everyone gives, and some people have not changed their giving for many years. The Elders and Deacons are planning a campaign to encourage all members and regular attenders to re-view their giving and pledge what they will give per year for the next 3 years.

Our suggestion is that everyone increases giving by £10 per month. If 240 members give an extra £10 per month, plus gift aid, income will increase by £36,000.

Those who currently put a few pence in the offertory bag will be encouraged to use envelopes or set up a standing order. We will launch this appeal in February. If after 6 months income is not increasing, we will cut the expenditure to stay within income.

Katharine Widdowson

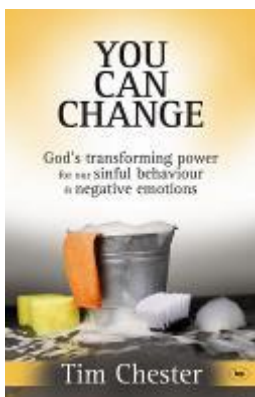
Church Treasurer

...informed...

If you have any queries about the church income and expenditure, or about how to give to the church please contact Katharine at treasurer@spbc.co.uk or get in touch with the church office.

Recommended Reads

A recommendation of a book and a film by South Parade members Tim Jackson and Richard Sykes.



You Can Change by Tim Chester

I do not like the pictures on the front of *You Can Change*. Be-

fore reading it, I was not particularly convinced by its title either. But

my experience has proved that there is wisdom in the old adage “Never judge a book by its cover”.

You Can Change is a book that offers hope for change. It aims for this, not solely on its own merits, but by pointing to Jesus and explaining how faith in Him leads to change.

The book has reminded me of the wonderful truths of knowing and following Jesus

It has been a challenging, but helpful and encouraging read, as it achieves this task. I have gained greater awareness and understanding of sinful behaviour and negative emotions in my life. However, it has reminded me of the wonderful truths of knowing and following Jesus, and how they really are greater than the sinful desires which tempt me.

The title of each chapter is a question, digging deeper into motiva-



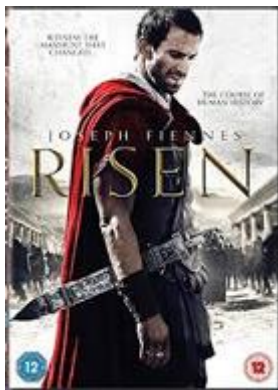
tions and methods for change. The key chapters in the middle of the book, reflect on “What truths do you need to turn to?” and “What desires do you need to turn from?” These questions highlight a great feature of the book, in that it is very practical and applicable, with reflection exercises and questions for discussion throughout.

Having discussed these questions with a fellow Relay Worker and our supervisor, I would strongly recommend that the book is read alongside a good friend, with whom the questions can be honestly discussed with a view to mutually growing in goodly character.

It has been a formative book, which I am really glad to have read, especially given my initial reservations!

Tim Jackson

UCCF Relay Worker



Risen

Director:
Kevin
Reynolds.
Starring:
Joseph
Fiennes, Tom
Felton, Peter
Firth
Certificate:
12A.

I bought this on DVD just after Easter last year, not having heard anything about it previously.

The premise of the film starts at the crucifixion, with Roman Tribune Clavius (Joseph Fiennes) sent by Pontius Pilate (Peter Firth) to make sure that Jesus (correctly pronounced Yeshua, played by Cliff Curtis) is actually killed. When the reports come through that he is risen / his body has been stolen Clavius has the task of quashing the rumours and has to find the missing corpse.

The depiction of first century Middle Eastern cultures and characters was a refreshing and challenging experience

Daniel (then aged 13) and I watched the film together and agreed that the atmosphere felt realistic, certainly for me remembering the biblical epics of the 60s and 70s! Joseph Fiennes is a fine actor and shows a great deal of conviction in the role. In interviews about the film, he talks about his faith and how it and the role impacted on each other.

Inevitably, there are character details within the cast that raise question marks, notably that Mary Mag-

dalene is portrayed as a “woman of the night”, when I believe it is fairly universally accepted that this idea hangs a lot of conclusion on very little evidence and is therefore unlikely.

Other reviews of this film on the internet are not at all complimentary. *The Guardian* in particular only liked a small section of the action. Perhaps to be a professional critic you watch things from a technical or detached perspective. At the risk of coming across as naive, I like to be drawn in to a film and found that the depiction of first century Middle Eastern cultures and characters of whom I have read so much was quite a refreshing and challenging experience.

There is no reason that *Risen* should not stand up in comparison to mainstream cinematic offerings. Sony Pictures produced it and amongst Kevin Reynold’s other credits you’ll find *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, *The Count of Monte Cristo* and *Waterworld*.

I happened upon my copy in a charity shop and gave just a pound or two. A more intentional purchase online will cost around £5. Easter is coming early this year (Sunday 1 April). What about a double bill of *The Passion* on Good Friday and *Risen* on Monday? More wholesome food for thought than half a dozen chocolate eggs – It’s the reason for the season!

Richard Sykes

Headingley Morning MC

...inspired...

If you have a Recommended Read (or Listen or Watch), share with others in the church by sending a review to magazine@spbc.org.uk.

Competition Winner

*Thanks to everyone who sent in entries for the Sudoku competition from the last issue of the magazine. The answer to the missing square was “8”. We had many correct entries, but congratulations to **Geoff Greer** who was first out of the hat and wins the prize. More competitions soon!*



Church Noticeboard

Not all entrepreneurs wear suits



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

It's not the clothes they wear or the cars they drive. It's their resilience, their determination, their ability to innovate that's what makes an entrepreneur.

Developing countries are full of people with those qualities. And with a little support they can build businesses that feed families and educate children.

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from **26 February to 11 March**, and this year the emphasis is on helping entrepreneurs in some of the world's poorest communities invest in a better future for themselves and their families.

Best of all, every penny raised for the "Hidden Entrepreneur" campaign before 11 April will be doubled by the UK government.

Support our Fairtrade activities... for the next couple of months you can make double the difference!

Pam Roe

Headingley Mission Community Meeting

Thursday 15 February
See page 7 for details

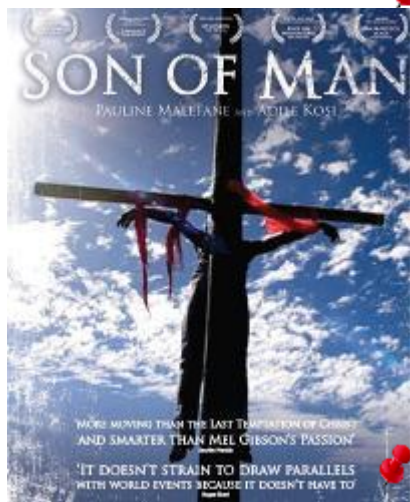
If you wish to receive email notice of full church meetings and other important meetings in future, you will need to request to do so by sending an email to secretary@spbc.org.uk with "Email opt in" as the subject.



Film Screening

At 7.30pm on Saturday 17 March at South Parade, Sent are hosting a film screening of *Son of Man* (12A). The film is described as the story of the Gospels re-told as a tale of corruption and redemption in contemporary Africa.

**Sent are hosting -
everyone is welcome!**



Churches Together In Headingley

Lent and Holy Week



The **Lent Lunches** this year will be from Friday 23 February, every Friday to 23 March. Under the title of "Community Matters", all the speakers will be local clergy. The Lunches will all be at Headingley Methodist Church hall (Chapel Street, opposite the Arndale Centre) at 12.15pm for a 12.30 start, till 1.30pm.

Advance notice for Holy Week: On Thursday 29 March a **Tenebrae Service** will be held at Headingley St Columba URC at 9pm. The usual Good Friday morning Walk of Witness is being arranged – further details of that later but likely to take the same route as recent years (starting at Headingley Methodist Church and finishing at the Arc, then coffee and hot cross buns back at the Methodists).

www.facebook.com/spbaptistchurch



Mission United Faith In Life



**Friday 23 to
Saturday 24 February
@ South Parade**

The overnighter is for young people (Year 7+) from across Bradford and Leeds and will include teaching, worship, mission activities and after hours entertainment.

Thank you!

We would like to say a big "Thank you" to all who supported our sale of produce for cancer charities. We raised over £800 which was shared equally between Macmillan Cancer Care and Pilgrims' Hospice Kent.

Our target next year is £1000+. With that and the amount of marmalade we've already made in mind, would you please save empty jam, marmalade, chutney etc jars. We can collect!



Many thanks.

Ann and John Pelham

Yorkshire Baptist Association administrator Debbie Gamble writes: *"Our giving to Home Mission is vital as this Baptist family purse supports mission and helps in bringing the love of God to our communities. Thank you to those churches and individuals who have generously supported our Home Mission Appeal in 2017. The total amount given through YBA churches was £187,919. Please continue to give generously during 2018 and watch out for stories in our email*



newsround from churches and projects which are supported by the Home Mission Fund."

LEAVING CHURCH

SOMETIMES IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO LEAVE AFTER A SERVICE BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN HAVING SUCH A GREAT TIME. THESE ARE SOME OF THE TACTICS THAT THE CHURCHWARDENS ADOPT:



JANGLING KEYS



TURNING OUT THE LIGHTS



APPROACHING PEOPLE WITH A ROTA



ORGANISING A WORK PARTY



THE COMMENCEMENT OF A GROUP HUG



SOME ODD OR UNPREDICTABLE BEHAVIOUR

© CartoonChurch.com

"The Kind of Fasting I Have Chosen"

CHRISTIANITY EXPLODED

#11

Things People Give Up for Lent

Things People Don't Give Up for Lent



christianityexploded.tumblr.com



*South Parade meets as four distinctive Mission Communities across Leeds: in **Headingley** and **Cragg** on a Sunday Morning, and as **Sent** at Headingley on Sunday evenings. **Connect** meets in the community in Bramley. We run a CAP Debt Centre and run the ABC Coffee Shop in Holt Park, and have a partnership with the Arabic Christian Fellowship. To find out more, visit the website or contact the church office.*

*Together, we have a shared vision to **build community in Christ**. We hope that all who meet us will be helped to **belong** to Christ and his people, will discover what it means to **believe** in him, and will **become** all that he invites them to be in character, lifestyle, witness and service.*

Senior Minister
Minister

Peter Morden
Paul Rockley

Associate Pastor for
Youth and Young Adults
Children's Worker
Associate Pastor
Church Administrator
Under 5s Co-ordinator

Nathan Shipley
Heather McLeen
Geoff King
Kate Churchill
Kate Burkett

Elders

Andrew Bedingham,
Freeman Dumenu,
Charles Fletcher (Church Secretary),
Ruth Hughes, John Pelham,
Sue Ricketts, Joe Walsh

South Parade Baptist Church
Kirkstall Lane, Headingley
LEEDS LS6 3LF

0113 275 4989
www.spbc.org.uk
info@spbc.org.uk

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“

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

”

Matthew 7.7-8 (NIV)

intouch

SOUTH PARADE
BAPTIST CHURCH
Building Community in Christ