

What is the Church used for?

Special Services

These are times when Christians gather together to praise God and say thank you for all God's good gifts and to learn from the Bible how to live as God's people. Christians also break bread and share wine as Jesus asked Christians to do to remember all that he said and did.

Baptism

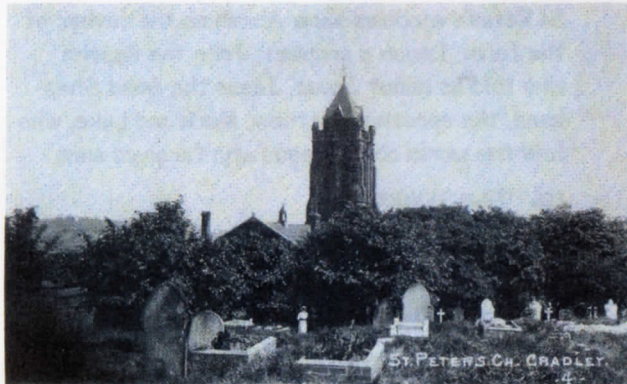
A happy time when children and adults have water poured on them in the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, to welcome them into the family of the church.

Marriage

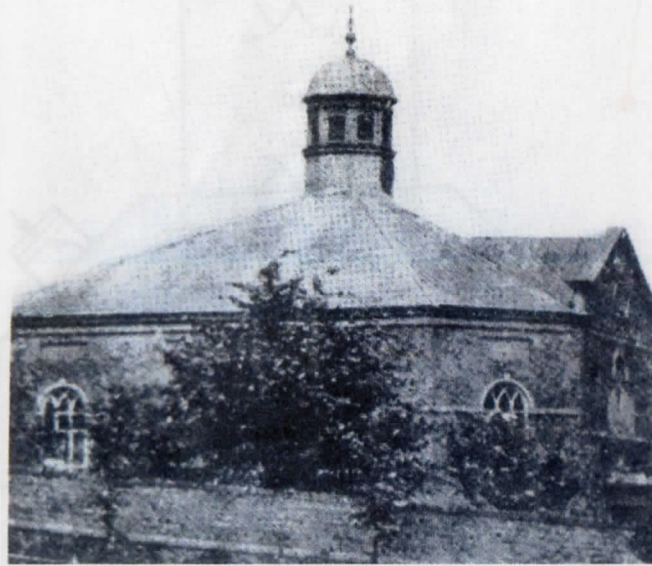
A happy time when two people promise to love and care for each other all their lives and we promise to support them all their lives.

Funeral

A sad time when we come to remember, to say thank you to God and to entrust a person who has died to God's loving and kind hands. We also remember that we will die one day and we need to trust God through our lives.



St Peter's Cradley's first bell tower, the one which fell



Cradley Chapel before it became conformed to the Church of England in 1799



St Peter's, Cradley.

Seeking to be a vibrant church at the heart of the community
PART OF THE HALAS TEAM MINISTRY

Church of England



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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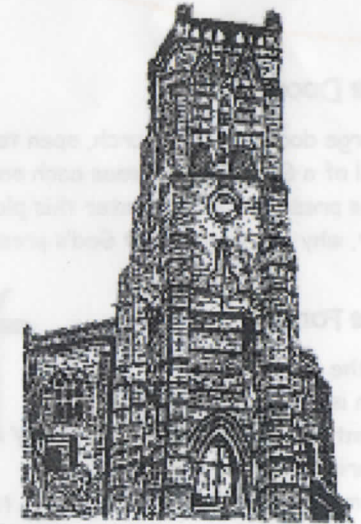
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Discover
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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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What's in the church?

1. The Doors

The large doors of the church, open today, are a symbol of a God who welcomes each one of us into his presence. As you enter this place of prayer, why not think about God's presence with you.

2. The Font

Near the entrance to the church is the Font. Washing in the Font symbolizes entry into the Christian faith. In a special service called Baptism or Christening people are washed and welcomed into the family of God.



The first three letters of Jesus' name in Greek

3. The Chancel

The space in the church which belonged to the priests. It was there that the services happened. The first minister of St Peter's church, Thomas Best is buried there.

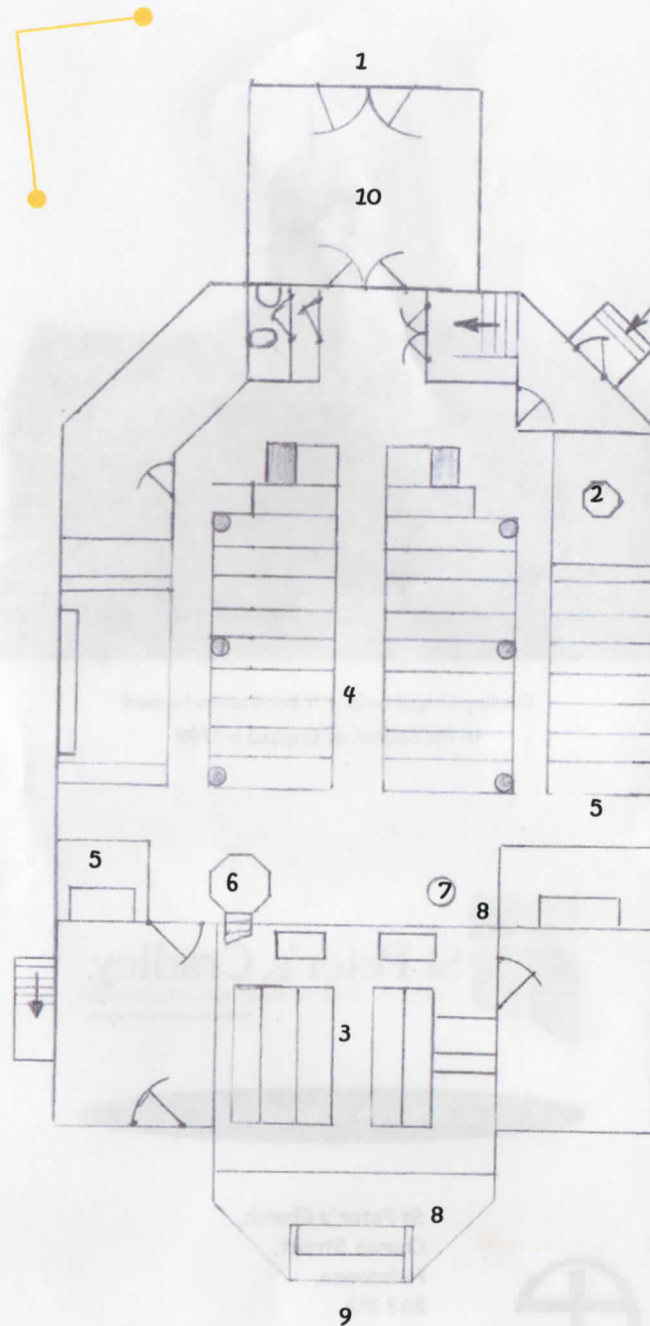
4. The Nave

The space in the church that belongs to the people. Traditionally clubs, markets, meetings, as well as worship happened in the Nave. The word makes us think of 'navy', it's like boat which saves people from the chaos of the seas.

St Peter's Cradley faces West, which is unusual for a church, They usually face East.

5. The Chapels

Special places for prayer and smaller services.



11

St Peter's has a Bloomer Chapel because the communion table/altar was donated by Mr Bloomer and a Children's Altar, where story books and prayer crosses are for children to use in church.

6. The Pulpit

The place from which talks about how to be disciple of Jesus are given. It used to be on the other side until the 1930s.

7. The Lectern

This is the great, big, brass Eagle which holds the Bible we read every week. The Eagle flew high up near God and could see small things on the ground reminding us that God's word searches our hearts and minds and that God knows our secrets and loves us.

8. The Candles

Lots of candles are used in church. They help us to think of the light of God and Jesus the light of the world. We have our special Easter Candle and candles we light when we pray, to help us pray without words.

9. Stained Glass

These tell stories and remind us of special people in the Bible and in the history of the Church. St Peter's windows show Abraham the father of the faith, Isaiah a prophet, John the Baptist who told us about Jesus, Jesus the Good Shepherd, the apostles Matthew, Mark and Luke, who told the world about Jesus who forgives sins.

10. The Tower

St Peter's has had two towers. The first one fell down and then a new one was built. The tower has a 8 bells. It is 22m high.

11. The Churchyard

The architects grave stone outside the front of the church by the wall.

Manv Cradlev neople are buried here.