

Service Guide and Resources



This guide contains resources and information you can include in your service. Please use your favourite ideas to create a service your congregation will enjoy.

Suggested Bible readings

1 Peter 3:8

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and be humble.

1 Corinthians 13:13

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.



Suggested prayer

Dear Lord,

At this wonderful time of year, where we come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus and all that you have done for us, let us also consider those less fortunate. We pray for the 62,000 families in England who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation.

Please bless the work of Shelter, as they endeavour to defend everyone's right to a safe home. As we reflect on the struggles of people dealing with homelessness and bad housing, we pray that with Shelter's support, they can get back to a good place.

Amen

Consider reflecting upon the parable of the Good Samaritan

(Luke 10:25-37)

This parable demonstrates to us how we can be a good neighbour to homeless people in our communities. It's difficult to know what to do when you notice more people sleeping rough than ever before.

In the story of the Good Samaritan, a man took it upon himself not to walk away. He bandaged the traveller's wounds, took him to an inn and looked after him.

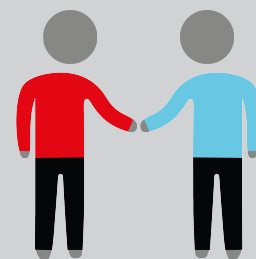
The traveller in The Good Samaritan did not intend to get himself injured. Similarly, no one thinks that one day, they'll be homeless.

But for **over 62,000 families in England**, this is their reality. This is because the system has failed them.

Shelter are here to get them back to a good place.

You can make a difference.

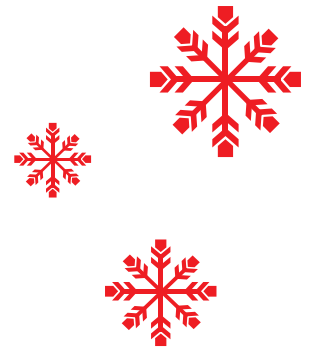
Your support can help fund incredible work, and ensure that no one has to fight homelessness alone. With your help, we can fight for people's rights to a safe home.



Further information

Our website contains lots of information which will help you discuss the impact of Shelter's work with your congregation: shelter.org.uk/faith

Thank you for helping Shelter this Christmas



Your fundraising will make a real difference to those facing bad housing and homelessness.

Every **4** minutes a household becomes homeless in England

How your donation could help

£100 could help pay for ten helpline calls to be answered, helping ten households to find, keep or improve a home



£157 could help pay for legal advice, enabling a family to understand and act on their housing rights



£250 could help pay for ten face-to-face sessions at our Information Resource Centres, giving families the means to resolve their housing issues



If you need any extra inspiration on fundraising for Shelter...

Would you consider participating in a **Sleep Walk** for Shelter? Additional information is attached within the pack.

There's lots of other exciting ways to raise funds for us too.

Whether it be a bake sale, a carol service, or using our prayer cards to decorate your church, know that we appreciate your incredible support and would love to hear all about it via faith@shelter.org.uk



Please will you **fundraise** for Shelter this Christmas?

Shelter