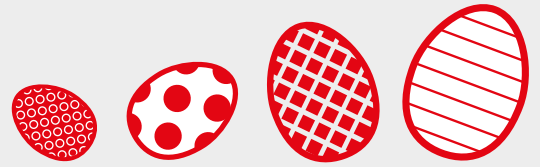


Service Guide and Resources



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

Micah 6.8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to
walk humbly with your God.

Isaiah 58.12

Your people will rebuild the ancient
ruins and will raise up the age-old
foundations; you will be called
Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer
of Streets with Dwellings.



Suggested prayer

Dear Lord,

As we celebrate our risen Saviour this Easter, help us to make a difference to others for your glory and purposes. Show us how we can support homeless people including families with young children.

Thank you for the work of charities like Shelter Scotland. Please bless their work to end the housing crisis and to help people struggling with bad housing and homelessness. We pray for children and families in temporary accommodation and emergency B&Bs to have safe, secure and affordable homes.

Amen

Hidden homelessness: a national emergency

- Nearly two thirds of all people living in temporary accommodation are women.
- 8% of households found to be homeless or at risk of homelessness lost their last settled home due to domestic abuse. This means that there are thousands of women and their families trying to recover from severe trauma in unsafe, inadequate accommodation.
- The majority of households living in temporary accommodation are single mothers and this number has increased by 56% in the last five years in England.



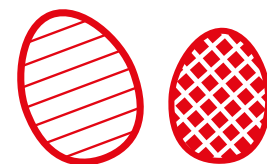
With your support, our advisers are there for homeless families across the country.

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](https://www.shelter.org.uk/faith)

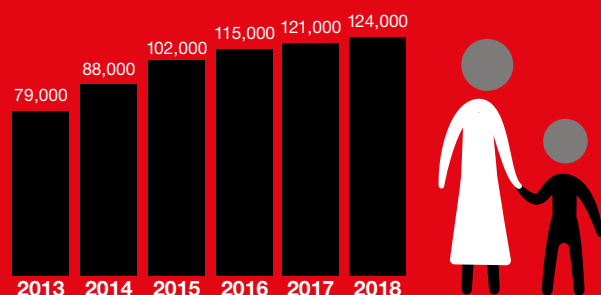
Shelter

Bad housing and homelessness in Britain







Some information to show the importance of Shelter's work

In 2018, 124,000 children were living in temporary accommodation. This has increased by 56% in the last 5 years.



Every 13 minutes, another family becomes homeless in England.

We need your help to keep supporting them:

- We run a free national helpline, open all year round, to help anyone struggling with issues related to housing or homelessness. 
- We provide practical housing advice online through our web chat services. 
- We run face-to-face advice centres and specialist support services up and down the country. 
- Our team of solicitors offer expert legal advice and attend court to represent people who have lost or are at risk of losing their home. 

More women than ever need your help

Many people associate homelessness with men and it's true that more men than women are recorded as living on the streets. However, England is facing a hidden crisis of women being homeless in temporary accommodation.

This temporary accommodation is often insecure and in poor condition. Mould, infestations and pests are also common. This can have an impact on women's and children's physical and mental health, as well as children's education.

Mel's story clearly shows the devastating effects of the growing housing emergency on women. Her young daughter suffered severe asthma because of the damp and mould in their temporary accommodation.

Mel didn't feel safe. There was no one to help if her abusive ex-husband returned or if her daughter had a life-threatening asthma attack.

This is just one example from thousands of how dangerous homelessness can be for women and their families.



Women like Mel can't find safe homes without your support. Please help.

Please will you put on a service for Shelter to help those struggling with bad housing and homelessness?

Shelter