

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

Luke 6:20-21

Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

1 John 3:17-18

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.



Suggested prayer

Dear Lord,

As we look towards our Christmas celebrations and think about our own families, help us to think about those who won't have a home to celebrate in this Christmas.

We pray that the 128,000 children who are homeless and in temporary accommodation this Christmas in Britain will find a safe home.

Thank you for the work of charities like Shelter. Please bless their housing advisers working on Shelter's helpline to support people struggling with bad housing and homelessness, even on Christmas Day.

Amen

Interview with one of our Shelter advisers

How long have you worked at Shelter?

My name's Stan and I've worked at Shelter for over two years. I am an adviser in our London Hub. I advise and support people who are facing all manner of housing problems.

Can you tell us about a memorable case that you've worked on?

Advisers challenge local authorities when they refuse to help homeless families, despite legal duties to do so. Recently we helped a family who had been sleeping in a car for three nights before we intervened and helped them secure a safe and suitable place to live.

What would happen if Shelter didn't exist?

Fewer people would have a safe place to call home. Homelessness is on the increase and more people are at risk of eviction, Shelter needs to fight harder than ever to help people through difficult moments in their lives. We can only do this with your support.

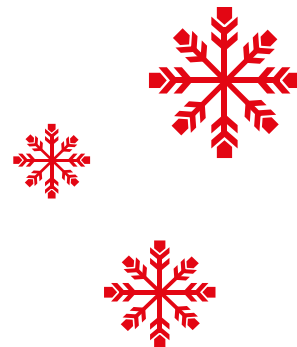


Further Information

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

Shelter

Bless you for helping Shelter this Christmas



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



a family in Britain finds themselves homeless

How your donation could help

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



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



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



Activities and ideas to help kickstart your fundraising

- A service for Shelter to raise awareness and collect donations
- A coffee morning
- A Christmas bake off
- Festive carols and mince pies evening with tickets/donations
- A Christmas quiz
- Homemade Christmas decorations sale



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

Shelter