

The Beacon

Newsletter of St John's Church, Worksop

August 2025

Our front page usually has a message from one of our leaders but I thought they could have a free month. Instead Damisi has offered to write about his Nigerian background in the Church



Damisi's Journey of Faith—from Nigeria to Worksop!

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I was born into a Christian family deeply rooted in the traditions of the Cherubim and Seraphim Church – an African-initiated denomination founded in Nigeria in 1925 and now flourishing around the world, including here in the UK. My spiritual upbringing extended beyond the C&S Church, drawing from the rich liturgical heritage of the Anglican Communion and the Methodist Church.

Faith runs deep in my family: my paternal grandfather served as Parish Secretary of St. Jude's Anglican Church and was also a Lay Reader. Both sets of grandparents were faithful Anglicans with my paternal grandmother holding fast to the C&S Church—a path my father would follow with great devotion. Some of my most cherished childhood memories revolve around my grandfather, whose gentle guidance shaped my earliest understanding of Christianity. Each morning, before breakfast, he led us in Anglican readings and catechism.

These moments etched a lasting impression on my spiritual life. I feel especially drawn to hymns. Their lyrics speak deeply to my soul, ministering comfort and strength through timeless messages of faith and hope. They remain a source of spiritual nourishment and connection.

Over the years, I've had the privilege of serving God in multiple roles at my home church in Nigeria—as Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Youth Leader, and Church Warden. Each role has deepened my commitment and gratitude.

Here in the UK, St John's Church has become a sanctuary—a true spiritual home. From our very first visit, we were welcomed with open arms and sincere warmth. The generosity and love within this congregation continue to inspire me, and I remain profoundly grateful to be part of such a nurturing and faith-filled community.

Oluwadamisi Osilaja

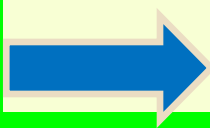




FOCUS

St John's

Guide Unit



St John's Guide Unit is a small active group of girls aged 10 - 14, who, supported by the three leaders, Natalie, Barbara and Sue, take part in a wide range of activities. As another hectic term draws to an end we thought we would share with "The Beacon" readers, what the Guides at St Johns Church have been doing since Easter.

We've completed Guiding Programme topics:

Prepare to be Amazed (magic tricks)
Uncovering The Past (creating an archaeological dig),
Cosmic Calculations,
Nutrition Mission (part 1 and 2 designing/cooking a three course meal),
Life Hacks (making lip balms and other products from scratch),
MP - Hear me! (a look at politics, using our voice),
Build a Board (design, build, play a new board game).

We've also: made crafts, done a canal walk, made "Fathers Day" cards/ gifts, played games, prepared for our weekend camp (menu design/ budgeting/bedding rolls/tent pitching/campfire songs etc).

We invited another Guide Unit to join us on the camp and completed activities to gain two more badges—Discover The Wild, and Mixology (making Mocktails), it was a great success.



We start meeting again in September and are always looking for more girls to join us. Contact Sue (07813293107) or Natalie (07870357194).

HAPPY RETIREMENT!



On behalf of our church members we send our best wishes to Janet Silk on her retirement. Janet has been a Teaching Assistant for many years and as such has had a positive influence on the lives of many children. Both staff and children at Langold Dyscarr School have been aware of her Christian faith as she has 'shone her light' day by day.

We wish her well as she discovers her way forward in God's continuing plan for her life.



Barrie and Maureen send us their greetings. Although not able to worship in person due to their current circumstances, they are still very much part of a Lifegroup and we value their prayerful support.



A Seaside Miracle

(The power of prayers prayed in faith)

Back in 2001 Barrie and I were on holiday in Berwick-on-Tweed with some of our family.



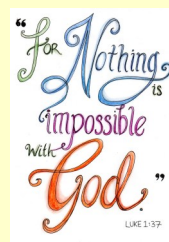
Relaxing on the beach at Coldingham Bay the sun was shining, the sea was crystal blue - so peaceful it was as if 'heaven had come down to earth'.

I sat and watched Barrie and the family having fun in the waves, which had become quite choppy. And then suddenly I noticed them all fumbling about looking for something.

Barrie then came to me explaining his glasses had been knocked off and lost in the sea. What on earth could we do? He can't see without his glasses and so it would be impossible to drive us back to our cottage.



Standing up facing the sea I began to pray in faith, telling the Lord "I'm not leaving till You bring the glasses back! I believe in Your word that with You all things are possible". As the tide was coming in, over an hour later, a little boy I had seen swimming earlier, came out of the sea running towards me with his mother holding up the glasses in his hand! Exclaiming they 'just popped up out of the water!'



The mother said she had been watching me and it was then that I shared with her about my prayers for a miracle. I sometimes wonder if she remembers that event. I can remember every detail although it was many years ago.

Maureen

Luke 1 verse 37

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD

TUESDAYS @ 10

Please note our café will be closed on 26th August.

We look forward to our hearing our speaker on September 30th. Dene Wood, Head Gardener at Clumber, will talk on 'Clumber Greenhouses and Kitchen Garden'



Brass Band Concert
with a “Last Night of the Proms Flavour”
Saturday September 27th, 6.00p.m. in church
with
Thurcroft Brass Band
and
Redlands School Choirs

WHAT'S CHRISTIANITY ALL ABOUT?

Are you interested in learning more about the Christian faith, or thinking about being Confirmed?

If so, you will be very welcome to join with others at 10.30am in the Church Lounge on Saturday mornings from September 27th. Talk to our Churchwarden, Phill Kicks, or contact the office for more information.

Contact Point

Church Office:

Overend Road, Worksop S81 1QG

[usually open Friday a.m. from 9.30—12 noon]

Tel: 01909 472595

Email: office.worksopstjohn@gmail.com

Church Website:

www.stjohnschurchworksop.co.uk

Heritage Website: <https://worksopspire.org>

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 am	Morning Worship + Kids, Church
6.00 pm	Sunday @ 6.00 Informal service in the Church Hall Lounge

See our Sunday notice sheet for
regular weekly events
or check out our Website

www.stjohnschurchworksop.co.uk
to find out more about us