

21 September 2025

ST JOHN'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER
"SHARING CHRIST IN THE COMMUNITY"

For our prayers

We continue to pray for peace throughout the world, remembering all whose lives are torn apart through war in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and in other conflict zones. This Generosity Week we pray for generous hearts and for an 'attitude of gratitude'.

Website: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365>

Facebook: @wakefieldstjohns

Email: stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com

Sunday 21st September 2025 – Generosity Week 1

Readings: 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 Luke 16: 1-13

Special Prayer (Collect) for Generosity Week

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St John's Prayer for Growth

God of mission, you give fresh life to St John's. send your Holy Spirit to give: vision to our planning, wisdom to our activities and power to our witness, that we may grow in love and commitment to you, in number of disciples and in loving service to our neighbours through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opportunities for worship on Sunday 21st September 2025

St John's will be open today, Sunday 21st September 10.00am, for a Communion Service

'JJs' - St John's Juniors – there will be **no** JJs meeting today, but there will be some activities for children at the back of Church.

Live Stream of 10.00am Services

We will live stream the 10am services if we can. All services that we have been able to livestream are available on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDyIQ-Vbrv-5bikSlpgV2QQ> just click on the link and select the service from the range of videos in the live tab on the channel. The link is also available on Facebook and via the Services and Events page on A Church Near You.

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365> . The order of service (in pdf format) is attached to the email containing this newsletter and by 'viewing the attachment' on ACNY, on the service detail.

This Week

Monday 22nd September 2025 – 9.30am – Morning Prayer on Zoom

The service lasts about twenty minutes and consists of a Psalm, a Bible reading and some prayers. All welcome. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81143465385?pwd=NGsybHdEZEZ5UFUzdXNYMjJmZDhwUT09>

Wednesday 24th September 2025 – 11.00am – 1.00pm – St John's Weekly Drop-in

St John's will be open from 11.00am – 1.00pm for a 'Drop-in'. Friendship, free refreshments (coffee and tea) and local information will be available. Do come along and stay for as long or short a time as you wish.

Wednesday 24th September 2025 – 1.30pm – 2.45pm - Samaritan Room - Bible Study - *Luke for Everyone – Session 1*

This autumn we will continue to explore the Gospel of Luke.

The rest of the dates are as follows:

Wednesday 1st October – Session 2
Wednesday 15th October – Session 3
Wednesday 29th October – Session 4
Wednesday 5th November – Session 5
Wednesday 12th November – Session 6

If you are interested in knowing more, contact Stephanie on (01924 371029 or stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com) There is a sign-up sheet in church.

Friday 26th September 2025 – 9.00am – 11.30am – Toddler and Baby Playgroup

St John's Toddler and Baby Playgroup meets on Fridays, during term time, from 9.00am – 11.30am. If you would like more information about the Toddler and Baby Playgroup, please contact Katy on 07484 775414 or Julie on 07784 733584.

Sunday 28th September 2025 – 10.00am – Holy Communion Service for Generosity Week.

Eco Church Silver Award for St John's Church



We did it! We have achieved an Eco Church Silver Award. Well done to everyone at St John's Church, it's an incredible effort...

It was hard work, but the time invested has been worth it to focus on the natural world we've restored and the climate we've protected. Thank you everyone. Together we will see our environment thrive and flourish.

We have our certificate for church, our eco badge for the website and eventually we can purchase an Eco Church plaque. Handmade from recycled wood, available from Grassmarket Community Project, £90. (Proceeds go to Grassmarket, a social enterprise creating community, sanctuary and support for people with multiple complex needs in Edinburgh).

As part of A Rocha's commitment to every church in England and Wales becoming an Eco Church, they provide Eco Church free of charge to churches. But for those churches that can they ask for a small donation of up to £125 from all awarded eco churches to contribute to running costs and the growth of the eco church movement.

A message from the Chair of Trustees at 25th Wakefield (St John's) Scout Group

Our **Beaver Colony** (ages 6-8) meets every **Tuesday from 6:15 PM to 7:15 PM**, and we urgently need more leaders to keep the fun going!

As a leader, you'll help plan and run weekly meetings, plus join in on weekend activities and camps. You'll need to be available a bit before and after Tuesday meetings for setup and pack down, and dedicate some time during the week for planning.

No experience? No problem! **Full training and support are provided.**

If you would like to talk to someone about becoming a Beaver leader please scan the QR code or click below to fill in a form

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6c1Z2iyhyIE9CGv1aH-6ElvK9IyPEdIAPhKI3DIrZXjN7AQ/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=105272546151232362322>



St John's Rainbow Unit

Have you an hour a week spare to help at your local Girlguiding rainbow unit? Rainbows welcomes all girls from 4-7 years old to laugh, learn and have fun in a creative safe space. We meet on a Thursday evening 6-7 pm in the church hall during term time. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Ann on 07932 394020.

Prayer Chain

The Church email prayer chain provides prayer support for individuals. If you, or someone you know, needs urgent prayer, please contact Glenys on drandgmwhite-cooper@talktalk.net If you ask for prayer for someone else, please get their permission before you add them to the prayer chain.

Daily Hope Phone Line - The Church of England Daily Hope Phone Line is still available as a source of comfort. Calls are free to **0800 804 8044**.

Magazine

Copy date for the November magazine is **Sunday 12th October 2025**

Contributions to the Editor, Deidre Morris (email: bandmorris@btinternet.com), by Sunday 12th October, please.

Advance Notices

Saturday 27th September 2025 – 9.00am – 11.00pm - Lego Breakfast in Church

Come and try our

LEGO BREAKFAST



Want to spend quality time with your children?
Do you like building with Lego, demolishing Jenga
or playing traditional board games?
Like to share a bacon sandwich
(vegetarian option available) and a drink,
while playing games in good company?
All children please bring an adult.

Come along and join in:

St John's Church, Wentworth Street, WF1 2QU

Saturday 27 September 2025

9.00am - 11.00am

Free admission (no unaccompanied children, please)

Sunday 28th September 2025 – 3.30pm – Wakefield Cathedral - Welcome Service for the new Bishop of Wakefield, Bishop Malcolm

All welcome – no need to book.

Thursday 2nd October – 7.30pm – 9.00pm - Study Group – Pilgrim 4 – The Beatitudes – Session 1

This autumn there is the opportunity to do the fourth Pilgrim course, *The Beatitudes*. Please note that you don't need to have completed any of the previous courses to join in with this one.

The Beatitudes are a short but profoundly beautiful and influential collections of sayings by Jesus. They sum up his teaching about what it means to live as a child of God's kingdom.

The six sessions will be held on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm – 9.00pm at the Vicarage. Further dates are as follows:

Session 2 – Thursday 9th October 2025
Session 3 – Thursday 23rd October 2025
Session 4 – Thursday 6th November 2025
Session 5 – Thursday 20th November 2025
Session 6 – Thursday 27th November 2025

If you are interested in knowing more, contact Stephanie on (01924 371029 or stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com) There is a sign-up sheet in church.

Wednesday 8th October 2025 – 3.30pm – 5.30pm – Messy Church

You are warmly invited to Messy Church on Wednesday 8th October 2025 from 3.30pm to 5.30pm in church. There will be art & craft activities and food for parents or carers or grandparents and children to enjoy together. All children need to be accompanied by an adult. For further information please contact: Cath Fox cath.s.fox@outlook.com If anyone would like to help with Messy Church, please also contact Cath.

Friday 10th October 2025 – 6.00pm – Harvest Supper

🍁 Harvest Supper 🍁
Friday 10 October at 6pm
🥗 🥧 Pie & Peas 🥗 🥗
(please bring your own drinks 🍹)

!!Cost same as last year!!
£10 per person £5 children under 8

There will be a collection for Wateraid
An international non-profit with one goal, to change the world through access to clean water 💧
Thank you

There is a sign-up sheet in church for the Pie and Peas Supper

Sunday 12th October 2025 – 10.00am – Harvest Festival

Sunday 19th October 2025 – 4.00pm -Tea-Time Service

Tea-Time Services are very relaxed and include songs, activities, readings and prayers. We try lots of different ways to praise God, learn, pray, and share fellowship with each other. These services are for everyone: families of all shapes and sizes, children, adults, young and old. Why not come along? Drinks and biscuits will be available before the service, and there may even be cake from time to time.

Sunday 9th November 2025 – 10.00am – Remembrance Sunday

Saturday 29th November 2025 – 10.00am – 1.00pm - Christmas Fayre 2025

SAVE THE DATE for our main fund-raising event of the year

If you fancy helping out on a stall or have any ideas for new stalls, please get in touch.
We will shortly be collecting donations of bottles, unwanted gifts, homemade craft items, books, jigsaws and toys in good condition, tombola prizes and sweets suitable for children's prizes. However, we won't be having any bric a brac this year.
Many thanks, Sally & Liz

Newsletter

If you know anyone else who would like to receive the email, please email stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com
The newsletter will also be available on St John's Church Facebook page (@wakefieldstjohns) and A Church Near You website: (<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365>). Please send items for the newsletter to Stephanie stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com no later than the preceding Wednesday evening.

Giving to St John's

If you feel able to give, you can support St John's financially in the following ways:

Church Services - We do not take up a collection during services, but there is a box at the back of church for cash donations. Gift Aid envelopes are available so that we can recover Gift Aid on 'one-off' donations. There is also a card reader at the back of church.

Online donations can be made at <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/wakefield-st-john-the-baptist-wakefield/> or via the QR code below.

Standing Orders – will continue as before.

Stewardship Envelopes – We have weekly or monthly envelopes for giving by cash or cheque. If you pay tax, we can recover Gift Aid on your giving. Please see Geoff Lockyer.

The Parish Giving Scheme – This is like a standing order, but the regular payments from your bank account go to PGS, who pass it on to the church. For taxpayers, they also recover the Gift Aid, so it reduces our admin and improves our cashflow.

A further advantage of the PGS is that you can opt to have your regular gift increased annually in line with inflation, which can help it keep up with increasing costs without having to keep changing your standing order, calculating an annual top-up or putting an extra coin in your envelope every week.

The Parish Giving Scheme can now be joined online at <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/wakefield-st-john-the-baptist-wakefield/> by calling 0333 002 1271 or by completing a form which our treasurer, Geoff Lockyer, can give you. You will need our PGS Parish Code, which is 460646605. Please have a word with Geoff if you have any questions or need any assistance. His email address is geoff@geofflockyer.co.uk.

Advance notice for Parish Giving Scheme users

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) will be moving to a new digital platform in October. This will entail some “downtime”, during which users will not be able to make any changes. They will be sending emails to all users from 16 September to tell them the details, but have asked us to let you know in advance.

Our QR code, here, can also be used to make donations to St John’s.



Easyfundraising

Use **easyfundraising** to help raise funds for St John’s Church whilst you do your shopping online. Click On this link, or type into your browser, to see a video and sign up <https://tinyurl.com/367nkcd2>

We have been notified by **easyfundraising** that the total raised for St John’s Church since we joined the scheme has passed £300. This might not be a huge sum over the years covered, but it has been a useful source of additional income for very little trouble. Thanks to all those who have helped to raise this at no cost through their online purchases. If this is something you could also do, please have a word with Geoff Lockyer. (We realise that some people may already be supporting another charity through the scheme.)