

12 October 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. We pray for the Right Revd and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally DBE as she prepares to take up her appointment as the next Archbishop of Canterbury. We pray for the work of St Catherine's Community Pantry.

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

Facebook: @wakefieldstjohns

Email: stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com

Sunday 12th October 2025 – Harvest Festival

Readings: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

John 6: 25-35

Special Prayer (Collect) for Harvest

St John's Prayer for Growth

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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 12th October 2025

St John's will be open today, Sunday 12th October, at 10.00am for a Harvest Family Communion Service. Children from St John's School will be leading the prayers. Harvest gifts of tins, pasta, toiletries etc. will be given to St Catherine's Community Pantry. There will also be a retiring collection for St Catherine's Community Pantry during the month of October.

'JJ's' - St John's Juniors – there will be some *supervised* 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 13th October 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 15th October 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 15th October 2025 – 1.30pm – 2.45pm - Samaritan Room - Bible Study - *Luke for Everyone – Session 3*

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

The rest of the dates are as follows:

Wednesday 29th October – Session 4

Wednesday 5th November – Session 5

Wednesday 12th November – Session 6

Friday 17th October 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 19th October 2025 – 10.00am – Holy Communion Service with Baptism

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.

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.

Help needed at St John's

Would anyone be able to join the welcomers and coffee team? If you can help with this, please let Sally know on stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com If you prefer not to do welcoming, it is fine just to help with coffee. Thank you.

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&ouid=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 St John's Church 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 (TODAY!)**

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

Advance Notices

Thursday 23rd October 2025 – 7.30pm – 9.00pm - Study Group – Pilgrim 4 – The Beatitudes – Session 3 – Please note that this session will be held in Church.

The sessions will be held on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm – 9.00pm at the Vicarage or in Church.

Further dates are as follows:

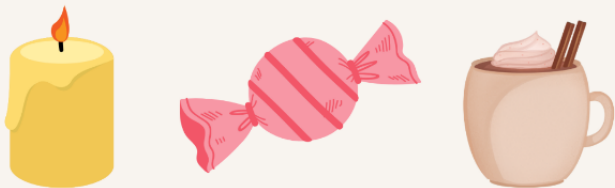
Session 4 – Thursday 6th November 2025

Session 5 – Thursday 20th November 2025

Session 6 – Thursday 27th November 2025

Friday 31st October 2025 – All Hallows Eve – 4.00pm – 6.00pm – Outside St John's

**See You at St. John's
This All Hallows' Eve!**



We'll be outside the church on
October the 31st from 4pm until 6pm
serving hot chocolate, sharing treats,
and hosting fun activities for young
people.

Everyone is welcome! Come and stop
by as we celebrate light, joy, and
community.

St JOHN'S
CHURCH WAKEFIELD
Sharing Christ in the community

Sunday 9th November 2025 – 10.00am – Remembrance Sunday

Thursday 13th November 2025 – 7.45pm – Wakefield Cathedral – Follow Me

Sunday 16th November 2025 – 3.30pm – Confirmation Service at Wakefield Cathedral

If you are interested in being confirmed, please contact Stephanie on 01924 371029 or stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com

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

Wednesday 10th December 2025 – 3.30pm – 5.30pm – Messy Church

You are warmly invited to Messy Church on Wednesday 10th December 2025 from 3.30pm to 5.30pm in church. There will be lots of activities including craft, games and things to explore as well as a time of celebration and worship. There is 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.

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.

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/367nkkd2>

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.)

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

