

Sunday 30th November 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 Bishop Nick as he prepares to retire at the end of November.

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

Facebook: @wakefieldstjohns

Email: stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com

Sunday 30th November 2025 – Advent Sunday

Readings:

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Matthew 24: 36-44

Special Prayer (Collect) for Advent Sunday

St John's Prayer for Growth

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
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 30th November 2025

St John's will be open today, Sunday 30th November, at 10.00am for a communion service.

'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 1st December 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 3rd December 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.

Thursday 4th December 2025 – 7.30pm – 9.00pm – Youth Group in Church for young people aged 11+ (Year 7 and above).

Friday 5th December 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 7th December 2025 – 10.00am – Holy Communion Service for the second Sunday of Advent.

Sunday 7th December 2025 – 3.00pm – Memorial Service - A Service of Hope

A special service to remember loved ones who have died recently or some time ago. All welcome.

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.

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 January magazine is **Sunday 7th December 2025**

Contributions to the Editor, Deidre Morris (email: bandmorris@btinternet.com), by Sunday 7th December, please.

Advance Notices**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.

Saturday 13th December 2025 – 1.00pm – 4.00pm – Clean up/Trim up

Volunteers needed to spruce up the church before our Christmas Services.

We will be in Church between 1 pm and 4 pm on Saturday 13th December. If you also fancy helping to decorate the tree and Church, please sign up at the back of Church or text me 07712989714.

Thanks Sally.

Sunday 14th December 2025 – 6.00pm – Carols in the Square

Traditional carol singing in St John's Square accompanied by members of the Yorkshire volunteers Band.

Wednesday 17th December 2025 – 7.00pm – Carols by Candlelight

A traditional service of readings and carols.

Sunday 21st December 2025 – 4.00pm – Christmas 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.

Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24th December 2025 – 11.00am – 1.00pm – Drop in

Christmas Eve - Wednesday 24th December 2025 – 3.30pm and 5.00pm – Christingle Services

There will be two services so that we can fit everyone in!

Christmas Eve - Wednesday 24th December 2025 – 11.00pm – Midnight Communion

This is a candlelit service to begin Christmas.

Christmas Day – Thursday 25th December 2025 – 10.00am - Christmas Day Family Communion

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.

Notice for Parish Giving Scheme users

The new PGS platform is now live and contains lots of useful information.

Easyfundraising

Use **easyfundraising** to help raise funds for St John's Church whilst you do your shopping online. Click ~~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.

Please note that it is possible to support more than one charity through easyfundraising. Simply go into your account and click on 'change the cause you support' and select the different cause. This can be changed each time you shop.

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

