

Sunday 26th April 2026

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 the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan and in other conflict zones. We pray for all those who are preparing for baptism and confirmation in May. We pray for the appointment of the new Bishop of Leeds.

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

Facebook: @wakefieldstjohns

Email: stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com

Sunday 26th April 2026 – The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 2: 42-end John 10: 1-10

Special Prayer (Collect) for The Fourth Sunday of Easter

St John's Prayer for Growth

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one
flock,
to the glory of God the Father.
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 26th April 2026

St John's will be open today, Sunday 26th April 2026, at 10.00am for a service of Holy Communion.

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

Live Stream of 10.00am Services

We will live stream the 10.00am service today 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 27th April 2026 – 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 29th April 2026 - 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 29th April 2026 – 7.30pm – 9.00pm – Confirmation Preparation – Session 6

The Adult Confirmation Group will meet at the Vicarage.

Thursday 30th April 2026 – 7.30pm – 9.00pm – Youth Group at Church for young people aged 11+ (Year 7 and above).

Friday 1st May 2026 – 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 3rd May 2026 – 10.00am – Megan's Leaving Service

There will be a service of Holy Communion at which Megan will preach. Megan has been on placement with us for the past two years during her training for ordination at St Hild College. She will be finishing her placement at St John's on Sunday 3rd May. The service will be followed by a bring-and-share lunch.

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 June magazine is **Sunday 10th May 2026**

Contributions to the Editor, Deidre Morris (email: bandmorris@btinternet.com), by Sunday 10th May 2026, please.

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.

Advance Notices

Sunday 10th May 2026 – 10.00am – Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in Church.

This year's APCM – Annual Parochial Church Meeting – will be held on Sunday 10th May 2026 as part of the 10.00am service.

At the meeting there will be elections for churchwardens (two vacancies) and PCC members (three vacancies for a three-year term of office, one vacancy for a two-year term of office and two vacancies for a one-year term of office). There will also be elections to Deanery Synod (three vacancies). Nomination forms for Churchwardens, Deanery Synod members and PCC members are available at the back of church.

Please note that we are only able to accept nominations with handwritten signatures – this means you need to return hard copies or scan in the signed forms and email them to Stephanie stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com

The Electoral Roll closed on **Sunday 19th April 2025**. The revised Electoral Roll (names only) will be put up in church for the two weeks leading up to the APCM. If you didn't get a chance to add your name to the Electoral Roll by 19th April, you will be able to do so after the APCM on 10th May 2026.

Wednesday 13th May 2026 – 3.30pm – 5.30pm – Messy Church

You are warmly invited to Messy Church on Wednesday 13th May 2026 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 16th May 2026 – 9.00am – 11.00am- Lego Breakfast

Sunday 17th May 2026 – 3.30pm - Confirmation Service in Wakefield Cathedral with Bishop Toby, Acting Bishop of Leeds

Sunday 17th May 2026 – 4.00pm – *NO* Tea-Time Service

The next Tea-Time service will be on Sunday 21st June. Please do pass on this information to anyone you know who might be thinking of attending the Tea-Time Service.

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

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.

