

18th July 2021

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

**For our prayers this week:**

For all those suffering from COVID-19; for the NHS and all who are caring for those who are ill. For our community as we seek to support one another through the current crisis. For Lindsey, who was ordained deacon on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, as she starts her curacy at Coley and Northowram. For Rob, who was ordained priest on 26<sup>th</sup> June, and for Cath, who was commissioned as a Lay Minister (Reader) on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

**Website:** <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365>  
**Email:** [stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com](mailto:stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** @wakefieldstjohns

**SUNDAY 18TH JULY – THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Readings: Ephesians 2: 11 - end

Mark 6: 30 – 34, 53 - end

*Special Prayer (Collect) for The Seventh Sunday after Trinity*

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is small as mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory  
and the flourishing of your 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 this Sunday**

**St John's will be open today, Sunday 18th July 2021, for a Communion service at 10am. The doors will open at 9.45am.**

**Please note that everyone needs to wear a face covering while they are in church. Do bring one with you, if possible.**

**Please also be aware that no one should join any other group or mingle with any person from another group before, during or after the service.**

**Live stream!**

The 10am service in church today will be live streamed and the live stream will be available from 10am onwards on the St John's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDyIQ-Vbrv-5bikSlpgV2QQ> Just click on the link and select the service for today from the range of videos on the channel. The link will also be available on Facebook and via the Services and Events page on A Church Near You. The order of service (in word and pdf format) is attached to the email containing this newsletter. You may like to print it off and bring it to church with you.

Otherwise, you may wish to follow the service on your phone during the church service. We have also attached a Roots at Home sheet and an activity sheet for families to do together. These are taken from Roots © ROOTS for Churches Ltd (www.rootsontheweb.com) 2002-2020 and reproduced with permission. You will also find a colouring sheet.

You can find details of this week's Church of England online service by following this link:  
[www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/church-online](http://www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/church-online)

## **A message from Stephanie:**

### **What difference will the lifting of Government restrictions on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021 make to services at St John's from Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July onwards?**

I am sure that many of you will be asking yourselves this question! The fact is that we have only just received guidance on the implications of the lifting of Government restrictions from the diocese. We need some time to work through the guidance and apply it to our situation. All the way through the lockdown our focus has been on proceeding with caution to keep people safe and this will continue to be our approach. We are aware of the rising number of COVID cases and the devastating effects of long COVID and so, along with many churches and other organisations, we are likely to work towards a gradual easing of restrictions over time. The churchwardens and I need time to prepare an amended risk assessment for the PCC to approve. Any changes are likely to be introduced on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August at the earliest. This means that the precautions contained in our current risk assessment (such as the wearing of face coverings, social distancing etc) **will continue to apply** for the next few weeks. I know that some of you will be disappointed by this news. However, our focus must continue to be on keeping everyone safe. I ask you to be patient for a little longer as we work out the best way to negotiate this next stage of the pandemic.

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – Trinity 8**

There will be a Communion service at St John's at 10am on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 which will be live streamed. The link to the St John's YouTube Channel will be in next week's newsletter and the live stream will be available from 10am. You can also access the live stream via A Church Near You and Facebook. The newsletter will be sent out at 8am as usual.

If you are intending to come to the 10am Service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021, it would help us with our planning if you could let Susan Lawson know (01924 378101 or [shlawson0@gmail.com](mailto:shlawson0@gmail.com))

### **Missing newsletters!**

We know that some people are not receiving their weekly newsletter from St John's as it is going into their spam. There is nothing that we can do about this when we send the newsletter out. It means that you need to check your spam folder to see if the newsletter is there. If it is, it is a case of changing the spam settings on your device so that your newsletter finds its way into your inbox each week! If you need any assistance with this, please contact Nick Fox via the email [stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com](mailto:stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com)

If you ever don't receive the St John's Newsletter email and it has not gone into your spam, please let Susan (01924 378101 or [shlawson0@gmail.com](mailto:shlawson0@gmail.com)) know so that she can forward it to you.

### **Evacuation Practice**

Keeping us all safe, at all times, is very important to us at St John's. As part of our Fire Risk assessment, we are required to undertake an evacuation practice. This will help us to see whether our evacuation plan is appropriate for those using the building.

Sometime during July, we will be having an evacuation practice during a Sunday morning service.

Evacuation Plan in brief:

On hearing the alarm (air horn)

- stewards (wearing hi- vis) will give clear instructions
- leave the building via either the main ramp entrance or the west door (under the tower)
- ask for assistance if needed
- assemble at the end of the path leading from the west door – the path which passes the area of remembrance (there are benches to sit on if needed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to one of the churchwardens or Cath Fox (Health and Safety Officer).

### **St John's Toddler and Baby Playgroup**

The St John's Toddler and Baby Playgroup meets every Friday in term time from 9.15 – 11.30am so this coming Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July is the last session before the summer break. If you would like to book a place for this Friday, please call Stephanie on 01924 371029. Please note that all COVID precautions will still be in place, so do bring a face covering with you.

## Midweek opportunities for worship and prayer

### Morning Prayer on Mondays at 9.30am

Morning Prayer on Zoom lasts about twenty minutes and consists of a Psalm, a Bible reading and some prayers. All welcome. Here's the Zoom link if you would like to join in

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89866690323?pwd=NHZXaEc2TkJEcFBXbmtpOE5WTEpadz09>

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

### 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](mailto:drandgmwhite-cooper@talktalk.net) If you ask for prayer for someone else, please get their permission before you add them to the prayer chain.

**Wakefield District City of Sanctuary** Please note that Wakefield & District City of Sanctuary has moved from Kirkgate to St Michael's Welcome Centre, Westgate Common, WF2 9RW. The clothing store, resource centre and food bank are all based at St Michael's.

### Food Store – Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1pm – 3pm

### Asylum Seekers Support Fund - Wednesdays 10am – 12pm

**Clothing Store** - Local asylum seekers are also welcome to contact WDCoS by text or phone **07800 605397** or email [linda@wdcos.org.uk](mailto:linda@wdcos.org.uk)

If you would like to donate to **Wakefield District City of Sanctuary ASSF (Asylum Seekers Support Fund)**, the details are as follows:

**Sort Code 30-99-01 Account Number 17824568**

Your gifts are appreciated as tokens of friendship, welcome and humanitarian concern. For further details, see the website: <https://wakefield.cityofsanctuary.org/>

### Giving to St John's

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

**The Parish Giving Scheme – LATEST UPDATE** - If you pay tax, you can join the Parish Giving Scheme. If you wish to join, this will help our cash flow over the coming weeks.

#### **A message from the Parish Giving Scheme:**

The PGS is delighted to announce the launch of a new telephone service, designed to enable prospective donors to set up a regular Direct Debit donation to your parish **over the phone**.

How will it work?

The service operates on weekdays between 9am and 5pm.

Call **0333 002 1271** and one of our administrators will take you through the sign up process – this normally takes around 15 minutes. You will need to have the following information to hand:

- Personal bank account details
- The name of the parish you wish to donate to
- You will need to confirm if you want to increase your gift in line with inflation each year
- Confirm if you are eligible for Gift Aid
- The PGS code for your parish (usually 9 digits in length) \*

*\* Please contact Geoff Lockyer [geoff@geofflockyer.co.uk](mailto:geoff@geofflockyer.co.uk) for the PGS code for St John's.*

The Parish Giving Scheme is also able to receive postal forms for new members. Please contact Geoff Lockyer [geoff@geofflockyer.co.uk](mailto:geoff@geofflockyer.co.uk) for more details.

**Standing Orders** - will continue as before.

**Gift Aid Envelopes** - If you give using the gift envelopes you can save up your envelopes until you are able to come back to church.

**Our QR code** on the next page can be used to make donations to St John's.

## Newsletter

We intend to send out this newsletter each week by email. If you know anyone else who would like to receive the email, please email [stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com](mailto: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>).

## Magazine

**Copy date** for the September magazine is **SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

Contributions to the Editor, Deidre Morris (email: [bandmorris@btinternet.com](mailto:bandmorris@btinternet.com)) by Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2021, please.

Please send items for the newsletter to Stephanie ([stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com](mailto:stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com)) no later than the preceding Thursday.

