**26th September 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. For Kendall and Harriet as they are baptized today.

**Website:** https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365 **Facebook:** @wakefieldstjohns
**Email:** stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com

**SUNDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2021 – TRINITY 17**
Readings: James 5: 13-end Mark 9: 38-end

*Special Prayer (Collect) for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity*

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of 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 26th September 2021, for a Communion Service with Baptism at 10am. We welcome Kendall Smith and Harriet Emerson who are to be baptized. The doors will open at 9.45am.**

**We ask everyone to wear a face covering while they are in church. This can be a mask or a visor/face shield. Do bring one with you, if possible. We are pleased to announce that we will be singing hymns in the service and there will also be the opportunity to light a candle in the side chapel. Printed service booklets and hymn books will be available, and we will no longer have the one-way system in place. Other aspects of worship – such as the way in which we receive communion – will not change for the time being. All will be made clear in 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 or you may wish to follow the service on your phone during the church service. We have also attached a Roots at Home sheet, an activity sheet and a colouring 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 can find details of this week's Church of England online service by following this link: www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/church-online

## Generosity Week Podcasts

Please follow this link to find a series of podcasts on generosity and gratitude from the Church of England website https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/building-generous-church/encouraging-generosity/ideas-activating-generosity/generosity-1

The ministry and mission of St John's is largely funded through the incredible generosity of those who give to the Church. If you would like to know how you can give to St John's, please see below.

## 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** – 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/home/, 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.

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

**Gift Aid Envelopes** - If you give using weekly or monthly envelopes, you can save up your envelopes until you are able to come back to church, or send Geoff a cheque made out to "St John's Church, Wakefield, PCC". If you would like us to deliver your envelopes for the current tax year, please let Geoff know.

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

## Early Autumn Study course - 'Brief Encounters'

We are offering a Bible study course that uses a selection of 'Brief Encounters' presented in Mark's Gospel. Using these brief encounters, we explore aspects of Discipleship by looking at Forgiveness, the Challenge of discipleship, Family, Discovering Jesus, Jesus' suffering, and Faith.
This course has something to offer anyone wishing to explore what it is to be a disciple and uses Mark's Gospel to get to know a little more of who Jesus was and an understanding of discipleship.
Each week we will run a session on Wednesday afternoon (1.30-3.00pm).

The sessions will be in church or can be joined via zoom if you prefer.

The first session was on Wednesday 22nd September and the course will run for six weeks. Each session can be enjoyed individually, so, if you miss one, that won't be a problem.
There is a sheet in church to sign up or you can let Cath know you would like to attend, either in person or online, by emailing cath.s.fox@outlook.com

## St John's Toddler and Baby Playgroup

St John's Toddler and Baby Playgroup meets on Fridays, during term time, from 9.15 – 11.30am. If you would like more information about the toddler and baby playgroup, please contact Rob on 07702 875014.

## Season of Creation – 1st September – 4th October 2021

As usual, we are observing a 'Season of Creation' from 1st September to 4th October 2021 at St John's. This is an opportunity for us to demonstrate our engagement with environmental issues in five areas:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of our church building
- Management of the churchyard
- Community and global engagement
- Our lifestyle

The Diocese of Leeds is putting on several courses to help us to address these issues. It would be good if some members of the congregation could attend these. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Rob Harper rob.harper@leeds.anglican.org We have a small team working on environmental issues at St John's. If you would like to be part of this team, please do let Rob know.

Next Sunday - **Sunday 3rd October -** there will be a special **Climate Sunday Service** at 10am at St John's which will help us to focus our reflections and prayers on our care for creation.

### Tea-Time Service

We will be starting monthly services on a Sunday Tea-Time (4pm) on Sunday 17th October and on the third Sunday of each month after that.

These services will be very relaxed and include songs, activities, readings and prayers and we will 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.

If you would like more information, please contact Cath (stjohnsyouthteam@gmail.com) or Rob (rob.harper@leeds.anglican.org). Also look out for further details on the noticeboard, newsletter and in October's magazine.

### Coffee/Tea after the 10am service in Church.

We are now serving coffee and tea after most services. If you would be able to help serve drinks to members of the congregation on an occasional basis (no more than once every two months), please speak to Susan.

### Sunday 3rd October 2021 – Trinity 18 – Climate Sunday

There will be a Communion service at St John's at 10am on Sunday 3rd October 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.

### 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

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) know so that she can forward it to 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/81143465385?pwd=NGsybHdEZEZ5UFUzdXNYMjJmZDhwUT09

**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 If you ask for prayer for someone else, please get their permission before you add them to the prayer chain.

**A Message from Bishop Tony about 'Follow Me'**
I am delighted to inform you that the Follow Me sessions for 2021/2022 have been booked and I very much hope that you will be able to attend them once again.

**Follow Me**
**Thursday evenings at Wakefield Cathedral**:-
*Thursday 14th October 2021*
*Thursday 18th November 2021*
*Thursday 20th January 2022*
*Thursday 24th February 2022*
*Thursday 28th April 2022*
*Thursday 19th May 2022*

6.30pm: Evensong
7.15pm: Light Supper
7.45pm: The Talk, (speakers for each of the sessions will be announced in due course).

Feel free to join for one, two or three parts of the evening. Please email my PA, Caroline, if you will be attending including any dietary requirements, thank you: caroline.asquith@leeds.anglican.org

I look forward to being able to meet with you again soon.

Wakefield District City of Sanctuary

## Afghanistan & Asylum Seekers Winter Appeal
**NEW Clothing Items Needed:**
- Underwear & Socks;
- T-shirts;
- Jogging Tops & Bottoms;
- Warm & waterproof Shoes & Flipflops.

For Men, Women and Children. All Ages and Sizes welcome.

We also welcome donations of clean and decent secondhand Winter coats and warm clothing.

## Afghanistan & Asylum Seekers Donations Appeal

**Educational Items & Materials Needed:**

- Simple Dictionaries & Thesauruses;
- Educational Workbooks & Writing Materials.
- Children will also enjoy colouring books, colouring crayons and small toys and books.

All donations can be delivered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm to:
Clothing Store, St Michaels, Westgate Common, Wakefield, WF2 9RW.

Please email us at info@wdcos.org.uk, call or text us on 07800 605397 to check availability before delivery. Arrangement can be made with volunteers for other delivery times.

**Wakefield District City of Sanctuary** 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

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/

**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 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 November magazine is **SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER, 2021**

Contributions to the Editor, Deidre Morris (email: bandmorris@btinternet.com) by Sunday 10th October 2021, please.

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