

2nd January 2022

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.

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

Facebook: @wakefieldstjohns

Email: stjohn.churchwarden@gmail.com

SUNDAY 2nd JANUARY 2022 – Epiphany

Readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6

Matthew 2: 1-12

Special Prayer (Collect) for Epiphany

Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end
in 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 2nd January 2022 at 10am, for a communion service.

As you will know, it is, once more, a legal requirement that everyone should 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. The chairs have been moved to enable social distancing and we have re-introduced the one-way system. We will not be serving coffee or any other refreshments in church for the time being. 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.

The service is available on our YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDyIQ-Vbrv-5bikSlpgV2QQ> Just click on the link and select today's service from the range of videos on the channel. The link is also available on Facebook and via the Services and Events page on A Church Near You. The standard Christmas and Epiphany order of service (in word and pdf) is attached to the email containing this newsletter. Service booklets will be available in church. However, you may wish to follow the service on your phone during the church service.

St John's Christmas Services Videos

Carols by Candlelight

Christingle

Christmas Day Family Communion

You can access these Christmas services on the St John's YouTube channel by following this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDyIQ-Vbrv-5bikSlpgV2QQ> You can also access them via A Church Near You by following this link: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365>

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

Calendars on sale today – Sunday 2nd January 2022 at 11.00am

Michael Slack's professionally printed calendar featuring his own artwork are available at the back of church today. Michael is selling his calendars for £10 each, with all the proceeds going to St John's Church funds. If you would like to buy a calendar, please speak to Michael in church or ring him on 01924 364268.

Next Tea-Time Service – Sunday 16th January 2022 at 4pm

The next Tea-Time service is on Sunday 16th January 2022 at 4pm. Everyone is welcome.

Tea-Time services take place on the third Sunday of each month at 4.00pm. These services are very relaxed and include songs, activities, readings and prayers and 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? Refreshments may be available before the service, depending on the COVID situation.

If you would like more information, please contact Rob (rob.harper@leeds.anglican.org). Also look out for further details on the noticeboard and in the newsletter.

Please note that the Tea-Time Services will not be streamed.

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. There will be a Toddler and Baby Playgroup session this coming Friday, 7th January 2022. If you would like more information about the toddler and baby playgroup, please contact Rob on 07702 875014.

Sunday 9th January 2022 – The Baptism of Christ

There will be a Communion service at St John's at 10am on Sunday 9th January 2022 which will be live streamed. The link to the St John's YouTube Channel is in the newsletter each week. The live stream will be available from 10am and you can also access it via A Church Near You and Facebook. The newsletter will be sent out at 8am as usual.

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

easyfundraising – new to St John’s

Did you know that, whenever you buy anything online, you could be raising a free donation for the church?

There are over 6,000 retailers, including John Lewis, Argos, eBay, M&S, Just Eat, Domino's Pizza and Audible, ready to give a free donation every time you shop online via “easyfundraising”. It only takes two minutes to sign up.

Plus, if you sign up and raise £15 in donations, easyfundraising will give us a bonus £15 donation.

All you have to do is:

1. Go to: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohnschurchwakefield/?invite=55JAR3&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=raf15-e.

(In case you need to type it in, we have shortened this to <https://tinyurl.com/367nkkd2>.)

2. Click 'support this cause' and create an account.

3. Choose from over 6,000 retailers to do your online shopping as normal and our cause will receive a free donation with every purchase you make.

You can do this through the easyfundraising website, via a phone app or by setting a donation reminder which will pop up whenever you visit a site offering donations and flag them up when you search on Google or Bing.

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.



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

There will be no Morning Prayer on Zoom on Monday 3rd January 2022 as it is a Bank Holiday. Morning Prayer on Zoom will resume on Monday 10th January 2022 and 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.

Follow Me

Thursday evenings at Wakefield Cathedral:-

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 Bishop Tony's PA, Caroline, if you will be attending including any dietary requirements, thank you: caroline.asquith@leeds.anglican.org



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 January magazine is **SUNDAY 9th JANUARY 2022**

Contributions to the Editor, Deidre Morris (email: bandmorris@btinternet.com), by Sunday 9th January 2022, please.

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