

St JOHN'S CHURCH WAKEFIELD

Sharing Christ in the Community

St John's Square /Wentworth St. Wakefield WF1 2QU



**Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty,
the King of
Creation**



Parish Magazine September 2026



We have a 10.00am service of Holy Communion each Sunday

We provide hand gel as you come into church and at the entrance to the prayer chapel.

There are candle, shell and leaf prayer stations in the side chapel.

At the communion we offer bread and wine. If you do not wish to use the common cup you may just partake of the bread.

Refreshments are available after the service.

On the 4th Sunday of this month we offer prayer for healing with the laying on of hands, in the side chapel.

The 10.00am service is live streamed and 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.

If you are on e-mail you can receive the weekly newsletter this way. Please let Stephanie know if you would like this.

Tea-Time Service

We also have a service at 4.00pm on the third (4th Sunday this month). **Everyone is welcome.** The service is very relaxed with songs, activities, readings and prayers.

It is for everyone: families of all kinds, children, adults, young and old. Why not come along? Drinks and biscuits (and sometimes cake!) will be available before the service.



Sitting in church one Sunday I had a beautiful reminder of what it means to grow in faith.

As a teacher, September brings a familiar wave of anticipation. The school bells ring again, classrooms are full, and my weekdays are filled with managing the energetic noise of learning.

With the summer holidays over, families are settling back into routines: children are wearing fresh school shoes, carrying new backpacks, and are full of that restless, back-to-school energy.

Last term a child in my classroom proudly stood up and told me, "I am a Muslim!" with absolute confidence and joy. It made me reflect on how beautifully and simply children own their identity. It also made me wonder: do we feel that same deep, unshakeable pride to stand up and declare our faith out loud?

Cultivating that proud sense of belonging starts right here in our church, even when it gets a little messy or full of hard questions. During an earlier classroom discussion, another child openly questioned how Jesus died on the cross, trying to make sense of a love so sacrificial. Later, in the playground I saw a group of children process round the playground, re-enacting the Easter story, taking turns carrying a makeshift cross.

Sometimes, their theology is deeply profound; other times, it is wonderfully literal. When I asked where Mary and Joseph went in the Christmas story, one child declared they went to Tesco! Children don't accept faith blindly; they wrestle with it, filter it through their daily lives, act it out, and absorb it

Recently in church a toddler dropped a toy car loudly onto the

hard floor. Behind me, a baby cooed during the quietest moment of the readings. Instinctively, I watched the parents. Mum's face was red with embarrassment as she hurriedly gathered her bag, to make a walk of shame to the back of church .

In that moment, I wanted to reach out and say: "Please stay. Especially now, they belong here as a new year begins."

In the classroom, we often need silence for focus. But in the House of God, complete silence is a symptom of emptiness. Jesus never told the disciples to quieten the children so He could finish His lesson. Instead, He rebuked adults who tried to push them away, saying that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to these exact, messy, unpredictable little children .

A crying child is not a sign of a bad parent or a disturbed service. A noisy child is a sign of life.

Children absorb things, even when they seem quite unaware of their surroundings. A child drawing on the floor during a service is still soaking in the words of the prayers, the warmth of the music, and the safety of the community.

This is where they learn the language of faith. This is where they form the identity that allows them to one day stand up in the world, ask the big questions, and proudly say who they are.

This September, as we pray for our students and teachers returning to school, let's choose to smile rather than frown at the distractions. That noise is the sound of a happiness and Gods love.

Alison Purdy

DIARY DATES for SEPTEMBER 2026

Wed 2 11.00am-1.00pm Drop In to St John's

Fri. 4 9.00am Toddler & Baby group

Sunday 6 Sept. Trinity 14

10.00am Holy Communion

Mon 7 9.30am Morning prayer on Zoom

Wed 9 11.00am-1.00pm Drop In to St John's

Fri. 11 9.00am Toddler & Baby group

Sunday 13 Trinity 15

10.00am Holy Communion

Mon 14 9.30am Morning prayer on Zoom

Tues 15 7.30pm PCC meeting

Wed 16 11.00am-1.00pm Drop In to St John's

Fri. 18 9.00am Toddler & Baby group

Sat 19 1.00-4.00pm OPEN for HERITAGE WEEKEND

Sunday 20 Trinity 16 Generosity Week 1

10.00am Holy Communion

(tea time service is next Sunday)

Mon 21 9.30am Morning prayer on Zoom

Wed 23 11.00am-1.00pm Drop In to St John's

Fri. 25 9.00am Toddler & Baby group

Sat 26 9.00-11.00am LEGO BREAKFAST

Sunday 27 Trinity 17 Generosity Week 2

10.00am Holy Communion

4.00pm Tea-time service

Mon 28 9.30am Morning prayer on Zoom

Wed 30 11.00am-1.00pm Drop In to St John's

3.30-5.30pm MESSY CHURCH

Fri. 2 Oct 9.00am Toddler & Baby group

Sunday 4 Oct Trinity 18

10.00am Holy Communion

Mon 5 9.30am Morning prayer on Zoom

Wed 7 10.00am-1.00pm Drop In to St John's

Come and join us for an exciting



Wednesday 30th September

3.30pm — 5.30pm in church

Games, activities and food

Create, celebrate, worship

*Come along and join in the
activities and fun!*

All children to be accompanied by an adult, please.

*(Food is available for adults
as well as the children)*

**If you have any questions, contact Cath on
cath.s.fox@outlook.com**

**Saturday
19 September**

1.00 - 4.00pm

**St John's is open
for the Heritage
Open Weekends**

Explore this beautiful
Georgian church
in person
and / or by a
video presentation.

Tours of the tower
and of the crypt.

Follow the Mouse Trail
to discover more!

Display of Archive
material, photos,
documents etc.

Display by the
Wakefield
Family History
Society



No entry charge

Refreshments available:
tea, coffee, squash,
cakes, and biscuits.





*In need of company or
conversation?*

Lonely, or just at a loose end?

Wanting some warm quiet space?

Each Wednesday St John's is open 11.00am – 1.00pm

Anyone is welcome to 'drop-in' for a cup of coffee or tea.

There will be people to chat to, if you want some company.

We can offer some local information, if needed.

You can see the inside of this lovely Georgian church, if
you've not been in before.

There is space for quiet, if that is what you need.

You might just want a warm space to eat your lunch.

Do come along, we'd love to meet you.



'JJs ' (St John's Juniors)
Sundays at 10.00am

*Every Sunday we provide activities for children at
the back of church - colouring, crafts etc.*

*When possible we meet in the Samaritan Room
for story, prayer and activities.*

Learning and growing in faith.

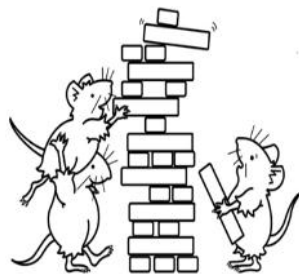
All children 4-11 years old are welcome.

**Further details from Cath Fox on
cath.s.fox@outlook.com**

Come along and try our **LEGO BREAKFAST**

Do you want to spend some quality time with your children or grandchildren?

Do you like building with Lego, demolishing Jenga, or playing traditional board games?



Would you like a bacon sandwich (veggie option available) and a hot drink, while playing games in a peaceful place?

All children please bring an adult.

Come along and join in at:

St John's Church, Wentworth Street WF1 2QU

Saturday 26th September

9.00am - 11.00am

Free admission (no unaccompanied children)

Voluntary donation of £1
for a sandwich and a drink

During September we celebrate Creationtide,
and all the amazing animals, plants, landscapes etc.
that God has provided.

This is expressed in the hymn below, which can be
sung to the tune Abbot's Leigh.

Earth is gift of God's creation
ours to nurture or neglect.
We are called to witness boldly
that all life deserves respect.
We are kin to every being,
sharing space on earth, our home.
Yet we squander vast resources,
seek to save ourselves alone.



When our lifestyle lessens others
we become a measure less.
When we choose to live more simply
we confirm what we profess.
Can we lose our tunnel vision,
see those who are cast aside,
sense the hurt of broken pledges,
hear the planet's silent cries?

Tending space within earth's garden,
honouring the future here,
we can serve with God as partners,
a community of care.
Strengthened by the rainbow's promise,
sign of God's enduring grace,
let us dare to live our calling
in our time and in our place.



Edith Sinclair Downing 2000

© Wild Goose resource Group, Glasgow G51 3UU



MARRIAGE
*May God bless
their life together*

1 August Nicola Harley & Craig Campbell

FUNERALS

We commit to the Lord's eternal care

7 May Barbara Flint
at Wakefield Crematorium

14 May Dorothy Birkenshaw
at Wakefield Crematorium

Alternative prayer

Charlie had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer. 'Fine', said the pleased mother. 'If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you.'

'Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave,' said Charlie. 'I asked Him to help you put up with me.'

How to get to heaven

The teacher asked her Sunday School class: 'If I sold my house and my car, had a big car boot sale and gave all my money to the church, would I get into Heaven?' 'No!' the children all answered.

'If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the grass, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into Heaven?' Again, the answer was, 'No!'

'Well,' she continued, 'then how can I get into Heaven?' A five-year-old boy shouted out, 'You've got to be dead first!'



China and the underground Church

Imagine you are at a crowded house church with 100+ people. Most are young students, keen to learn about Jesus and worship Him. It is in near-dark, and quiet, as the church is kept secret, because it is not allowed to exist. Suddenly, the police pour in, rounding everyone up and taking names. The church is shut down, the worshippers are detained. Lucky ones were freed after 24 hours. Some were kept for a full week.

The Church leaders, Zhang and Jinyi, planted this church 2 years ago, and numbers grew steadily. They knew it would be closed because it was illegal. Zhang was interrogated, fined £6,500 pounds and sent to jail for 3.5 years. Jinyi worried for all their young people, now fearful and scattered like lost sheep. She had no-one to turn to. Other underground churches were too fearful to offer support: any contact could bring danger. Jinyi understood their fear, but was struggling with her faith and found herself sinking into silence.

Open Doors workers came alongside Jinyi - giving her care and support. Slowly Jinyi recovered, and despite the risk she met one-on-one with some young people. Several began to lead small groups, then youth gatherings in different homes. There are now 10 underground small groups with 70+ young people, growing in faith and extraordinary courage, with Jinyi as their guide.

Please pray for Jinyi that she will remain strong, that the Lord will uphold her. God has called her to this ministry. He has not forgotten her and he loves her. Sadly Zhang is still in prison, despite a release date some months ago. Jinyi needs to know she is not alone. She needs our support and prayers. Please pray for Zhang to be released and for Zhang and Jinyi to be comforted with God's presence. And pray too for Open Doors workers as they support and strengthen the underground Church in China.

Margaret Kirkham

I AM VERY GRATEFUL for the jam jars you bring in for me, and I'd appreciate a lot more as we go into the autumn. I need jam jars with lids but **ONLY** jars which held sweet things like jam, honey, or chocolate spread. Please leave them in the reception area, or give directly to me.



I have a number of jars which held egg pickles or savoury sauces. If anyone could use these for chutney etc. I am very happy to pass them on. If, in the next few months, you happen to have a glut of fruit suitable for jam please ask me if I can use some of it: in the last year I have been given damsons, strawberries, plums and apples. They made wonderful jam.

Deidre Morris

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



Prayer / Action

Chatting over coffee after the service, a retired churchwarden happened to say how annoyed he had been when his then vicar said, 'We must pray about it.' 'It's not prayer we need, but some action to get this done!' was his response. It was as though prayer and action had nothing to do with each other, and clearly for him prayer was very much second best!

It can be very easy to say, almost glibly, 'Take it to the Lord in prayer'. As if that is the whole answer to the problem. Surely prayer should be our *first* response? Making our dilemma clear to God in our prayers should also help to clarify things in our own minds. We are then better able to consider what action needs to be taken, and take it. One PCC, with a major decision to make, had a detailed discussion. They then lit a candle at the centre of the table and the members spent 15 minutes in silent prayer to allow the Holy Spirit to guide them at this crunch point. Prayer is important at the outset, and at the decision stage.

Timing

Prayer before action may not be a quick process. God has his own timescale. We may experience times of waiting for something that needs to happen, and despite our prayers nothing does happen. Then suddenly it is as if the last piece has fallen into place and everything happens very fast – not just for us but for other people who were also involved and perhaps for others we knew nothing about. But God knew. And we ALL matter to Him.

Sometimes we are so sure that what we are planning is right, and we are keen to get on with things. But obstacles keep cropping up. It takes a lot of courage to do, as one parish did when yet another hitch cropped up, and say 'If this is not resolved as we expected, then we stop this project for the time being, and wait on God's guidance for the future.' They were

able to recognise that their plans, however right and good they seemed, might not be God's plans, This was prayer and deliberate Inaction!

All this applies to individuals as well as church congregations. Prayer and action go hand in hand, but the order in which they happen may be very important.

Persistence in Prayer

When I read this article I was reminded that persistence in prayer is also important, particularly when there are no 'instant' answers (which everyone expects these days). We began praying the St John's Prayer for Growth (did you notice it on page13?) several years before the Covid outbreak which closed all the churches.



When we re-opened, sadly some members had died and others were too frail to be physically with us. A few had found other places to worship, and some had stopped belonging to any church. But a core of people came back immediately, and others re-joined as health and confidence improved. We continued to pray 'Our' prayer every week, and include it in the newsletter and magazine, and many have always included it in their daily prayers.

And we noticed that people kept coming to St John's. In ones and twos new people came, and many stayed. Not everyone comes every week, but they come often. Some people do not come to the Holy Communion service, but to the Teatime Service, or Messy Church, or Lego Breakfast, or Toddlers' Playgroup, or the Wednesday Drop-in. Or they watch the service via the internet.

Hopefully we welcome everyone as Jesus would do, and they soon feel they 'belong' at St John's. But it is important that we continue to pray 'Our' prayer, so that God's work continues in this place and so that new people feel they have found a place to belong, and to which they can contribute.

Deidre Morris

Trying a New Perspective

There is always something new to discover, something new to learn. At every moment in life, opportunities exist for us to increase our understanding of ourselves, the world around us and of our human family.

We are comfortable in our familiar surroundings, with our friends, our family and our social lives. There is a certain contentment in that, which is no bad thing. But I also feel that investigation is good for our spiritual health and well-being.

I visited a National Trust property in the Midlands, where there was an art exhibition. Takumasa Ono relocated to the UK when sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Culture to promote Japan in Britain. He became an artist in residence with the National Trust and we saw his Henro exhibition. Henro means pilgrimage in Japanese. It's a Buddhist activity, started centuries ago by monks, as a way to connect with nature and with God. Takumasa's pilgrimage took him to many Trust properties.

Curiously, he seems to have looking through a sort of fish-eye lens. Initially I wasn't sure that I liked this style, but it grew on me. I realized that I was viewing the images from a broader perspective. I could have retreated to my comfort zone and gone for a walk but that would have shut out new ideas and fresh perspectives.

The experience led me to reflect on the idea of using the fish-eye lens to look at things from a fresh perspective. The effect was profound.

Like Takumasa, we are all on a pilgrimage. With commitment, our journey will take us into a deeper relationship with Jesus; to an increasing desire to live by his standards and to discard those aspects of our lives that run contrary to his blueprint for us.

We experience all sorts of reviews every year, like physical health, work performance and personal finance. But how

often do we check our spiritual health? I offer a few questions we might ask ourselves:-

- Do I have a growing awareness of God's presence in my life?
- Am I increasingly aware of my own sin?
- Is there something in the Bible I'm struggling to understand?
- Am I growing in love for those people I have found it difficult to love?
- Is there discipline to my spiritual growth?
- Is my lifestyle noticeably different from my peers who don't know Jesus?
- Am I actively involved in a local church?
- Is my relationship with God a source of great delight?
- Do I live with increasing gratitude because of what God has done for me?
- Am I pursuing God's plan for my life and how I fit into God's global purpose?

That last question leads us to focus that fish-eye lens on to where Jesus is at work and of how we might fit into his plan.

As Teresa of Avila wrote in the 16th century:

"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

To be fit for purpose we need a regular spiritual health check, and a willingness to discard the 'old familiar jackets' that keep us from moving forward on our journey with Jesus.

Rev'd Biddy Wigley

St John's School Page

St. John's CE (VA) Junior & Infant School is a Church of England primary school for children aged 4–11. The school is guided by its vision, "**Growing together, becoming all that we are created to be,**" inspired by the biblical parable of the Mustard Seed. The school's ethos is built around the core values of **nurture, learn, succeed, together**, creating a caring Christian environment where every child is encouraged to flourish academically, socially, spiritually and personally.

The school places children at the heart of everything it does, fostering a strong sense of community between pupils, families, staff and governors. It aims to provide a high-quality education that develops confident, independent learners who are motivated to achieve their full potential while creating happy and lasting memories of school life. We have a wonderful relationship with Reverend Stephanie and the church community at St. John's Church.



As a voluntary aided Church of England school, St. John's emphasises both academic achievement and character development. Staff work to nurture children's confidence, resilience and values. They ensure the children leave school equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for the next stage of their education and to make a positive contribution to their communities.



We pride ourselves in having a loyal and committed staff team who work extremely hard to equip children with the enthusiasm, confidence, self-belief and skills to become all they can be. We want them to have special and happy memories of their time at our school.

Helen Headteacher



Mouse Makes

The **Bible** is a collection of **books** that took over 2,000 years to write!

The books were written by many different people, all helped and inspired by God. The Bible has books about:

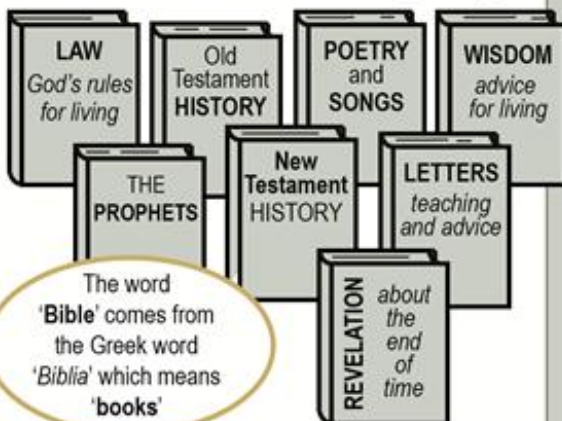
There are **66** books in the Bible. How many can you name?



BIBLE WORDS

The Bible words in **BOLD** type on this page are also hidden in the word search, can you find them?

P L B O W I K
R I O S I L G
O G O N S W O
P H K E D O L
H T S W O R D
E R L T M D O
T E A E G O D
S V W S E E D
L E T T E R S
T L W A N L O
H A M M E R N
O T I E H I G
N I R N I R S
E O R T S A B
Y N O R T I I
F I R E O N B
P O E T R Y L
F O O D Y O E



The word '**Bible**' comes from the Greek word '**Biblia**' which means '**books**'

God speaks to us today as we read the Bible.

The Bible encourages us, corrects us and shows us how to live, it also describes itself as:



Mirror
James 1:23



Food
Hebrews 5:12-6:1



Honey and Gold
Psalm 19:10



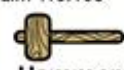
Light
Psalm 119:105



Rain
Isaiah 55:10-12



Seed
Mark 4:14



Hammer
Jeremiah 23:29



Fire
Jeremiah 20:9



Living Word
Hebrews 4:12



Sword
Ephesians 6:17

...but most of all The Bible teaches us about **God** and how we can be friends with Him.

The parable of the Fish and the Nets

JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE
CATCHING FISH!

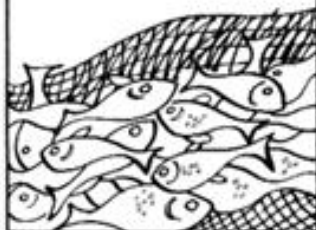


WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING
THEY THROW THEIR NETS
INTO THE LAKE...



...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL,
THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.



THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL
BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN
CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS
WITH OUR LIVES.



BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN
ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.

Community Use of St John's Church

Wentworth St, Wakefield, WF1 2QU

The church building is fully accessible, with ramp access to the main door, and two ramps giving access to the staging.

Our accessible toilet also provides baby change facilities.

For further information, or to enquire about hiring our facilities, please e-mail: stjohn.churchbookings@gmail.com

Comfortable chairs in the nave offer flexible seating for up to 200 people. There is a dais, a keyboard and a sound system. Cost is £30 an hour. WiFi, sound system, computer projection equipment, electric piano and organ can be included, subject to an additional charge, on request



The Samaritan Room has space for up to 15 people. It costs £15 an hour.

Our fully equipped kitchen opens onto a café area with 6 tables + 24 chairs. The tables can be removed to make a larger, more flexible, meeting space. The café



area costs £18 an hour, including the kitchen. The kitchen costs £15 per session (half day or evening) when hiring the nave or Samaritan room.



Steward £10 per hour (negotiable for regular bookings)

What's in your hand?

September is a time to get back to our normal routines after the summer break. It is also a good time to consider how God can use us to make a real difference in our workplace, school, family, friends and community. He equips us with everything we need to make His love known.

When God gave Moses the job of bringing the Israelites out of Egypt, He asked the question, '*What is in your hand?*' (Exodus 4:2). Moses was holding his staff, which represented his livelihood (what he was good at); his resources (his flock represented his wealth) and his security (which God was asking him to lay down). God asks the same question of us: *What has God given you?* Our gifts, temperament, experience, relationships, mind, education can be used in the work God has given us to do. How will we use them to make a difference in the places where He calls us to serve Him?



John Ortberg, in his book *It All Goes Back in the Box*, speaks of Johnny, a 19-year-old with Downs Syndrome. He worked at a supermarket checkout putting people's items into bags. To encourage his customers, he decided to put a *thought for the day* into the bags. Every night his dad would help him to prepare the slips of paper and he would put the thoughts into the bags saying, '*I hope it helps you have a good day. Thanks for coming here.*' A month later the store manager noticed that Johnny's line at the checkout was three times longer than anyone else's! People wanted Johnny's thought for the day. He wasn't just filling bags with groceries, he was filling lives with hope!

What has God given *you* that will help and encourage others?

Paul Hardingham

YOUR **PARKING** SPACE

This company operates our car park, on the corner of St John's Avenue and Wentworth Street WF1 2QU. You can pay for parking on an hourly, daily, monthly basis. You pay with your mobile phone: either call 0330 333 8434 (local rate) or download the YourParkingSpace app. (available on the app store or Google play) For either method you need to enter St John's Church location ID: 11173. This ID is displayed at the car park, along with all other details. You will be advised of the rate being charged once you have input your preferred option. The car park has 24/7 monitoring of number plates. Any car parking without payment may be issued with a Parking Charge Notice, so that only paying or permitted vehicles use the area.

Full terms and conditions are on their website:

[www.yourparkingspace.co.uk /company/terms-conditions](http://www.yourparkingspace.co.uk/company/terms-conditions)

YourParkingSpace Ltd. Company No 08670309

Any revenue from the car park goes to the church.

trickycat

Professional web design



Creating or redesigning a website may seem daunting at first, but trickycat makes it easy for you. No matter what your budget we can help you with your project

For a free quote or more information please feel free to contact us

Marc Field

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Mobile: 07952 502588

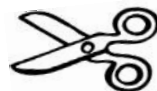
E-mail: info@trickycat.com

Website: www.trickycat.com

All our sites comply with Google Analytics

Wakefield Tailoring

Mr Hamid Yavari Shoar



Clothing alterations / Curtains / Soft furnishings
Leather bags, all sizes / Tailoring for men & women
Children's wear / Specialist in formal wear

The Ridings Shopping Centre, Upper Mall

Tel 07479686220 Email samyavari76@gmail.com

Duke of Edinburgh's Award celebrates 70 years

In 1956 Buckingham Palace announced plans for a 'Duke of Edinburgh's Award'. In this post-war era Prince Philip wanted to help boys bridge the gap between leaving school at 15 and starting National Service at 18. He also wanted them to build self-confidence and a sense of purpose to support them into their future. He believed a youth programme would improve their skills and equip them to make valuable contributions to their communities and society.

The pilot scheme soon expanded. After a year, 7,000 boys had started a programme and 1,000 Awards had been achieved. Girls joined in 1958. The DofE continued to evolve, and took on their current format of Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition, and Residential at Gold level in 1980.

In the Covid19 pandemic of 2020, 330,000 DofE volunteers' efforts equated to almost £8.5 million in a time of need.

The DofE says: "It hasn't been an easy few years for young people, and the future feels uncertain. But, in 70 years we've learnt never to doubt what young people can do. So often, when they get the chance to prove to themselves what they're capable of, there's no limit to what they can achieve.

"We're here to celebrate and champion every young person. To provide a safe environment of support and challenge that grows as they do. Whatever their ability, background or interest, DofE offers young people the chance to strive for achievement, overcome obstacles, and set their minds to a personal challenge. When you prove to yourself that you're ready for anything, nothing can hold you back. Our Founder HRH Prince Philip once said: 'There is more in you than you might think.' And, here at the DofE, we help you realise that."

Prince Philip died in April 2021, but DofE thrives thanks to the tireless support of Prince Edward, now Duke of Edinburgh.

More info at: <https://www.dofe.org>

*Do you have a DofE experience you'd like to share?
We'd love to hear from you.*

Readings at the 10.00am Communion Service

Date	Day	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
6 Sept.	Trinity 14	Romans 13:1-10	Matthew 18:15-20
13 Sept.	Trinity 15	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
20 Sept.	Generosity Week 1	Philippians 1: 21-end	
27 Sept.	Generosity Week 2	Philippians 2: 1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

*The views expressed in this Magazine
are those of each writer and are not necessarily held
by the Editor, Vicar or PCC.*

Magazine Contributions

The Editor is always pleased to receive news of events, to come or which have taken place; reports of church activities; original articles, stories, etc. We cannot guarantee that they will be included, and they may be edited before inclusion.

Please send items for the October 2026 issue

By 13 September 2026

All copy should be sent to the editor: Deidre Morris
at 263 Park Lodge Lane, Wakefield WF1 4HY

Or e-mail to: **bandmorris@btinternet.com**

Mission Statement

St John's is here to be a living, loving and serving witness to Christ; worshipping, learning and growing in our faith together, reaching out to share God's love in the community and bringing His Word to all

PARISH ACTIVITIES / ORGANISATIONS

Parish Morning Prayer Mondays at 9.30am on Zoom
A Psalm, a Bible reading and some prayers. All welcome.

The Zoom link to join in is:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89866690323?
wd=NHZXaEc2TkJEcFBXbmtptOE5WTEpadz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89866690323?wd=NHZXaEc2TkJEcFBXbmtptOE5WTEpadz09)

Church Drop-In 11.00am—1.00pm Wednesday
Everyone is welcome to drop in for tea/coffee, a chat etc.

Toddler & Baby Playgroup 9.00-11.30am Friday in church
(during term time)
A time for babies, toddlers and their carers to play and to share.

Church Choir Practice after the 10.00am service
Join us in helping to lead Sunday worship

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Purposeful activity in a structured, fun environment.

25th Wakefield Scout Group For boys and girls, held in the Scout Hut by St. John's Parish Centre.

Details: Group Scout Leader Simon Daley, 07814

413401 <https://www.facebook.com/25thstjohnsscouts>

Rainbows

To register an interest, visit www.girlguiding.org.uk & click on join
Rainbows contact Ann Coulson – 07932394020

Sunday Services at St John's

EVERY SUNDAY

10.00am Holy Communion (also available on You-Tube)

Candle, shell and leaf prayer stations are available in the side chapel. Tea, coffee, juice & biscuits are served after the service.

10.00am St John's Juniors - 'JJs' - meet for story, prayer and activities in the Samaritan Room. All 4-11 year-olds welcome. (Term time only) During holiday times craft etc. activities are available. We have toys and books in the café area, for younger children, but parents are asked to supervise them at all times.

3rd SUNDAY EACH MONTH (usually) (4th Sunday in Sept.)

4.00pm Tea-Time Service

For everyone: families of all shapes & sizes, singles, children, adults, young and old. A relaxed service, with songs, activities, prayers and readings. It begins with tea, coffee, juice – and sometimes with cake.

4th SUNDAY EACH MONTH During communion

Prayer for healing, with the laying on of hands, is offered in the side chapel.

Everyone, of any age, is welcome at all our services.

The entrance door to the church is on the city centre / High School side of St John's Square. There is a ramp access for wheelchairs and pushchairs up to this door.

There is a fully accessible toilet at the church, and a baby-change facility. A wheelchair is available if needed.

There is an induction loop for those who use a hearing aid.

Who's Who at St John's

Vicar **The Revd Stephanie Buchanan**

Tel: 01924 371029

e-mail: stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com

Assistant Clergy: **The Revd Paul Ellis** 01924 367976

Churchwardens: **Sally Jones** 07712 989714

Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers)

Cath Fox 01924 386422

Brian Morris 01924 369437

Treasurer: **Geoff Lockyer** 01924 368972

To ask about booking any of the following - Church, Church Reception Area, Samaritan Room -

e-mail: stjohn.churchbookings@gmail.com

Magazine Editor, and Advertising Manager

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01924 369437 e-mail: bandmorris@btinternet.com

Our Website: **www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365**

Find us on Facebook at **[@wakefieldstjohns](https://www.facebook.com/@wakefieldstjohns)**



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