

Notices for 28 September 2025

Information about upcoming events, news and how to get involved below.

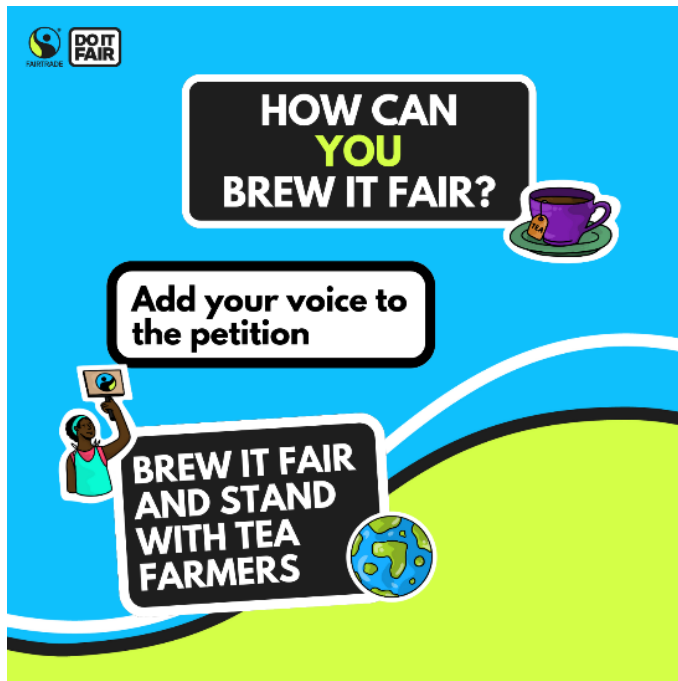
Patterns of worship [here](#), Children's [here](#), church calendar [here](#) and giving [here](#).

THIS WEEK:

SHEFFIELD 10K ROAD CLOSURES – SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER - The Sheffield 10K is scheduled for Sunday, September 28 and will lead to road closures that could affect your journey to St Mark's. You can find out more [Here-](#)

ST MARK'S YOUNG ADULTS will be meeting for coffee after coffee in the Upstairs room from 11.45 - 12.30 on Sunday 28 September.

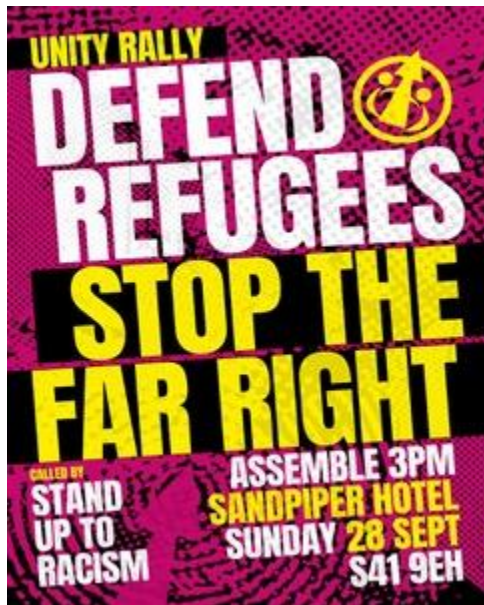
HOMEMADE PRESERVES TO SELL AT HARVEST - Please bring any jars of homemade jam, marmalade, chutney or preserves, preferably clearly labelled with the ingredients, to church and leave on the vestry windowsill ready for us to sell on 5 October when we celebrate harvest festival. **Help to run the stall would be much appreciated.** Proceeds to go to The Archer Project along with our harvest gifts. Thank you. Please see Shan or Dilys.



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

BREW IT FAIR

This year, The Fair Trade Foundation are focussing on the poor working conditions and wages endured by tea farmers and urging the UK Government to address this via trade agreements. Climate change is further threatening tea harvests and necessitating investment to mitigate. Environment Group has already raised this with our MP for Central and advised her to expect more support - so please show your support by signing [here](#) or on the paper petition at the back of church and see the display board for more information.



STAND UP TO RACISM 3pm Sunday 28 September
outside the Sandpiper hotel, which currently houses asylum seekers in Chesterfield. This is to counter a planned so called 'family friendly no to illegals protest' being held at the same time.

The organisers of the Unity rally state
'We will not allow vulnerable people seeking safety to be scapegoated. Whatever problems we face in society - and there are many - they are **not** caused by refugees and migrants.'
'We call on all who oppose racism to join us in a **peaceful, safe** and well-stewarded demonstration to say loud and clear:

Refugees are welcome here'

We are told that there is a lot of misplaced support for misplaced nationalism in Chesterfield so those standing up to racism are looking for as much support as they can get. Anyone who wants to attend can email chesterfieldsutr@gmail.com for further details.

NEWS:

DO NOT 'CO-OPT' THE CROSS TO DIVIDE A group of Church of England bishops and clergy have joined other senior leaders from across denominations in signing a joint letter voicing concern at the use of Christian symbols, particularly the cross, at last week's 'Unite the Kingdom' rally.

The letter acknowledges that many of those involved in the rally felt a "deep sense of frustration at feeling unheard and forgotten in the democratic process" but that it also included "racist, anti-Muslim and far right elements". They write "As Christians from different theological and political backgrounds we stand together against the misuse of Christianity. The cross is the ultimate sign of sacrifice for the other. Jesus calls us to love both our neighbours and our enemies and to welcome the stranger. Any co-opting or corrupting of the Christian faith to exclude others is unacceptable."

St Mark's supports this stance.

The full text of the letter and the list of signatories can be read [here](#).

THANK YOU'S

FAIR TRADE - to everyone who ran or purchased produce from the Fair Trade stall recently. Good Taste were delighted that you spent £234.66. They aim to provide a market for high-quality fair trade goods which demonstrate the talent and ingenuity of the producers and enable them to earn a living and provide for their families. All their profits go to support 'TASTE', a charity working in Nigeria to provide clean drinking water and sanitation facilities to the local people.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - to everyone who donated directly to Richard Hides appeal for financial contributions to support the children in the Democratic Republic of Congo who are unable to attend school because they don't have uniforms, a satchel or books. He has transferred £538 to Adelipo. Without education these children face a cycle of poverty, trauma and instability and miss out on the opportunity to rebuild their future so thank you for helping.

SUPPORTING THE ARCHER PROJECT AT HARVEST As in previous years, we will be supporting the Archer Project as part of our celebration of Harvest on 5 October. Please bring donations to church on the day. They are particularly looking for – men's boxer shorts, socks, beanie hats, coffee, sugar, tea bags, tins of baked beans, tins of tomatoes and pot noodles. Please make sure all foodstuffs are well in date before donating and avoid glass jars. They can accept clean, used socks in good condition, but any underwear must be new and in its original packaging for hygiene purposes. To find out the most up to date requests list then please visit their Facebook page, [archerprojectsheffield](https://www.facebook.com/archerprojectsheffield). For general information about the work of the Archer Project visit their website archerproject.org.uk **We are also looking for another volunteer to take the donations to the Cathedral** on a weekday morning the following week– please contact office@stmarksheffield.co.uk

NEW DATES FOR DEMENTIA STARS TRAINING – The daytime September Dementia Stars course led by Grace Stead of Enrichment for the Elderly has been very popular and helped attendees better understand how somebody with dementia experiences the world around them. Grace has agreed to lead an evening course in November. The course consists of 3x2 hour sessions (Bronze, Silver and Gold) on 3 successive Thursdays. There is no fee to attend and it is important to try to attend all the sessions for greatest understanding. A certificate and badge are awarded to each participant attending each level. There is no test or exam. The course is suitable for welcomers, those involved in pastoral care and family or professional carers of people with dementia but is not for people who are themselves on the dementia pathway. The course will be held on Thursdays 13th, 20th and 27th November 6.30-8.30pm at Ranmoor Parish Centre, 5, Ranmoor Park Road, (Opposite St John's Church). You can find a signup sheet on the noticeboard if you wish to attend. See Shan for more information.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME The PGS website will be taken offline from 3pm Monday 13 October, remaining unavailable until the new system launches on Thursday 30 October. During this time, PGS will be unable to register or amend regular or one-off gifts.

ST MARK'S CRAFT AND KNITTING GROUP would welcome some new members! We meet at 10.30 on the first Saturday of each month. Come along for fellowship, sharing of craft skills, and tea and biscuits! We knit donated wool into prayer shawls, and garments and blankets for Baby Basics. Or come along with that embroidery or mending you've been meaning to finish for ages! Contact Jennie Martin via the church office.

STATEMENT FROM THE BISHOP OF SHEFFIELD FOLLOWING THE TRIAL OF CHRIS BRAIN – Following the verdicts which found Chris Brain guilty of 17 charges and not guilty of 15 others, Bishop Pete issued a statement addressed directly to the survivors, their families and friends, and to everyone affected by these events. The statement can be found [here](#)

CHANGE TO ST MARK'S OFFICE HOURS While Rachael is covering our Operations Coordinator role, her working hours will now be 9:30 to 2:30 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. It would be appreciated if items for the notices are received by close of work on Wednesdays as the notices are designed, proofread and frozen into PDF on Thursday mornings. As a lone worker, Rachael is choosing to keep the outer doors locked, so please email or phone ahead if there are items you need to drop off/ collect. The building will be open as usual during Tim's working hours 1pm to 5pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

SEPTEMBER EDITION OF THE MESSENGER out now! Available on the website. Printed copies at the back of church (donation to cover printing would be appreciated). To join the email circulation list, please email the office.

COMING UP AT ST MARK'S:

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER

Do come along to either of our morning services (8am or 10am) on Sunday, October 12th for Stewardship Sunday.

This will be a time to:

- * Update you on the ministry that has been happening through the gifts entrusted to us
- * Look ahead at the vision and plans for our church in the coming year
- * Reflect on how each of us plays a role in caring for and strengthening our community of faith.



YOUNG ADULTS AT ST MARKS

Join us for 'coffee after coffee' 11.45am-12.30pm

Sunday 28th September: **Welcome to St Marks Young Adults! (with board games)**

Sunday 12th October: **How does st Mark's do church? (Q&A)**

Sunday 19th October: **Introduction to Taizé**

Sunday 2nd November: **LGBT+ Inclusion in church**

Sunday 16th November: **Christianity and activism**

Sunday 30th November: **Ethical consumerism**

Sunday 14th December: **Christmas social**

*Anyone is welcome age 18-30(ish) - students, non-students & graduates



St Mark's Broomhill presents

THINKING FAITH

12 October 7pm



**Faith encounters disability
Challenges and Insights**

The Reverend Frances Young, OBE, FBA

Frances Young, the mother of Arthur, who was born with profound learning disabilities, taught Theology at the University of Birmingham from 1971 to 2002. In mid-life she was ordained as a Methodist minister, and now in retirement regularly leads worship in the churches of the Sheffield Circuit. After Arthur's death aged 54, with her husband now aged 90, they moved to Sheffield to be near family support. Her books, *Face to Face* (1985, 1990) and *Arthur's Call* (2014), tell Arthur's story and explore faith in relation to her family experience.



Broomfield Road Sheffield S10 2SE

WWW.STMARKSSHEFFIELD.CO.UK

HELP OUT:

Boycotting supermarkets re Gaza. Many thanks to all who signed the petitions which have been in church. We need to publicise this initiative as widely as possible and I am told that the best way to do this is through Facebook. This is foreign territory to me. Is there anyone who could offer to work on this with me? I will be very pleased to hear from you. Michael Bayley (0114 258 5249, mjbayley36@gmail.com)

LIBRARY VOLUNTEER –Would you be interested in joining the Church Library Group? The role is not onerous as the Library Group only meets up about two to three times a year. You would join their rota and be available to offer advice and support to library users at the main 10.00am Sunday service every couple of months or so. If you are interested, please contact Joe Forde, Church Librarian, at joe.forde@tiscali.co.uk

WELCOME TEAMS - would very much appreciate some additional help. If you would like to be involved (one morning every 6 weeks) in this role of welcoming people and serving refreshments, please speak to **Jean** or **Maria** or email jean_baxter5@hotmail.com. Thank you.

FLOWERS- thanks to David Godden, Mike Willis, Pat Hunt and Rachel Pilkington for donating flowers, and Rachel Pilkington and Sue Godley for arranging them during September. Please contact Mary-Jane Ryder if you could help arrange the flowers occasionally. Current arrangers are happy to offer support and guidance if you have not done flower arranging before.

WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY:

CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY URBAN PILGRIMAGE – Saturday 11 October

Firvale, Upper Wincobank and Firth Park. We will gather between 9 am and 930 am at St Cuthbert's Church, Barnsley Road, opposite Northern General Hospital, for our opening service and briefings on the Church's food bank etc. We shall then set off for Upper Wincobank Nondenominational Chapel, founded in 1841 by Mary Ann Rawson, the famous anti-slavery campaigner. From there, we go to Firth Park Methodist Church for our packed lunches and final discussion, ending by 2.30 pm.

It is a picturesque, diverse and cosmopolitan area, which has faced its share of challenges in recent years. We shall walk about 2 ½ miles altogether, including some uphill and downhill stretches. Parking can be difficult near Northern General Hospital so you may prefer to use the convenient bus services to Fir Vale and back from Firth Park. If interested, please email our Secretary at briony.broome@hotmail.co.uk

SUPPORTED LODGINGS Event – Wednesday 12 November. 5.30pm at the Town Hall.

Supported Lodgings is a relatively new service being run by the fostering service for young people aged 16-21. The fostering service say 'the requirement for their hosts are less than for being a foster carer (e.g. they can provide a home for a young person and be in fulltime work) we think the scheme works particularly well for young refugee young people (also known as Unaccompanied Asylum seeking children or UASC). Sheffield city Council Fostering Service have had people from really diverse backgrounds apply and feel that there may be a whole load of people out there who would be up for considering being a host but who just don't know about their scheme in the same way that people know and understand about fostering.' Book [here](#)

FROM OUR ENVIRONMENT GROUP:

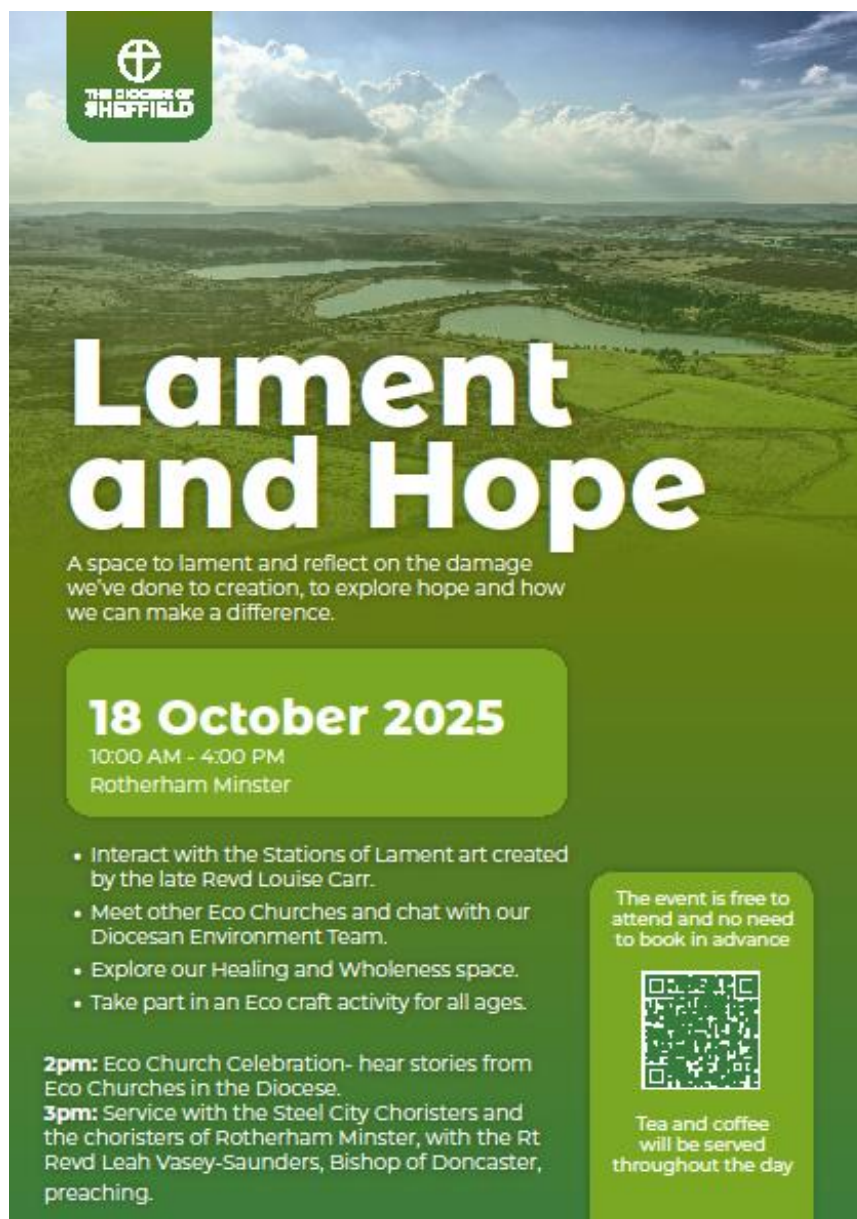
Calling a Wounded Earth Home - Whirlow Spirituality Centre


Wednesdays, 7- 8.30pm 1, 15, 29 October, 12 November.

£6 for an individual session or £25 for all 5 sessions

Five sessions, every other Wednesday, started on 17 September. Drawing on resources developed by the Green Christian movement these five linked sessions aim to help us navigate our complex emotional responses to climate breakdown through a Christian lens of love, wisdom, and justice. Together we will hope to reach a place of active hope. There will be prompts for reflection, times of silence and times to share together. The sessions will be led by Catherine Fish and Margaret Ainger, both members of Green Christian. Participants are encouraged to book for all the sessions, as they lead on from each other, but it is possible to book sessions individually.

You can book for a single session or all 5 sessions via Whirlow Grange [here](#)



 THE DIOCESE OF SHEFFIELD

Lament and Hope


A space to lament and reflect on the damage we've done to creation, to explore hope and how we can make a difference.

18 October 2025
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Rotherham Minster

- Interact with the Stations of Lament art created by the late Revd Louise Carr.
- Meet other Eco Churches and chat with our Diocesan Environment Team.
- Explore our Healing and Wholeness space.
- Take part in an Eco craft activity for all ages.

2pm: Eco Church Celebration- hear stories from Eco Churches in the Diocese.
3pm: Service with the Steel City Choristers and the choristers of Rotherham Minster, with the Rt Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders, Bishop of Doncaster, preaching.

The event is free to attend and no need to book in advance



Tea and coffee will be served throughout the day

ECO TIPS

Book Review

The environment Group would like to recommend an encouraging book

‘Not the end of the world’ by Hannah Ritchie

It’s about what we need to do globally so that people can lead good and healthy lives whilst reducing damage to the natural environment.

It draws on information collected by Our World in Data, whose mission is to publish the research and data to make progress against the world’s largest problems.

www.ourworldindata.org

Michael Bailey has written an excellent summary if you would like a flavour of it.

You’ll find it on Page 24 of the June 2025 edition of Mark’s Messenger [here](#)

There is a copy of the book in the church library
and it is stocked by WOB secondhand, as well as your usual bookstore.

Eco tips from congregation members are welcome - please send them to the church office.