

Notices for 24 August 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:

PLEASE NOTE NIGHT SERVICE HAS BEEN CANCELLED ON 24 AUGUST.

With various people away at Greenbelt, and it being the August bank holiday weekend we have decided to cancel night service on Sunday 24 August.



GREENBELT - Those of you who are going to Greenbelt this weekend, have a look out for Jo Musker-Sherwood. Jo will be speaking about resistance, activism, and burnout recovery, drawing on burnout recovery practices from across the world, and the wisdom of grief tending practices and nature / body connection.

NIGHT SERVICE will meet again On Sunday 31 August at 7 pm for a service of Healing and Wholeness led by Jo Musker-Sherwood outside on the Green. A gentle space to tend to some of the personal and political griefs that many of us are with at the moment.

NEWS:

PRAYING AND PETITIONING FOR PEACE - St Andrew's Psalter Lane church will be open each Wednesday in August, 12 - 1.30-pm, for people to go in to pray for peace. It is hoped that this will give encouragement to the very many people who are distressed and disheartened at the lack of trust and readiness to resort to violence that human beings worldwide increasingly seem to be exhibiting. As Christians, whatever else we may or may not do, we are called to pray.

WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO? – The current situation involving Israel and Gaza is a sensitive one and raises many issues. Whilst we believe in equal rights and dignity for both Palestinians and Israeli's, what is very clear is the strength of feeling and condemnation of the Israeli government's military operations in and around Gaza that are killing civilians and have led to a humanitarian catastrophe. There are a number of people at St Mark's working to help the children of Gaza and their families by:

- advocating for political change by writing to our Prime Minister, MPs or the Israeli Ambassador here in the UK. See an example you can send [here](#)
- Boycotting supermarkets that stock goods from Israel. Please sign the petition forms to the local supermarkets at the back of church. You can find more details of how to do this [here](#). There are also national petitions you can sign up to [here](#) and [here](#).

- donating to humanitarian aid charities – The DEC have updated their appeal for aid and address the question “What is happening in Gaza and can DEC charities still provide aid?” To read this or donate, please look [here](#)
- joining vigils
- signing petitions demanding the immediate lifting of Israel’s total blockade of Gaza to allow full and safe humanitarian access, as well as condemning the use of starvation as a weapon of war.

If you feel challenged by these issues and want some inspiration to help you take the next step to do something, do listen to Boyd’s sermon [here](#) or have a chat with Nick Jowett, Joe Forde, Michael Bayley or Michael Miller, all of whom are willing to share their thoughts with you.

BOYCOTTING SUPERMARKETS FOR GAZA. Thanks to all of you who signed petitions last Sunday. There was an excellent response. A new petition for Lidl is available this week so could you please sign that and if you have not signed the other six and would like to do so. Michael Bayley

DEMENTIA STARS TRAINING - SEPT 12, 19 & 26 1.30 - 3.30 pm @ ST Mary’s Walkley -
 As part of our Mission Area’s ongoing commitment to raising the awareness of dementia in our congregations, Grace Stead from Sheffield’s Enrichment for the Elderly has agreed to offer the Dementia Stars course at St Mary’s Walkley. The course consists of 3 x 2 hour interactive sessions. There is no charge and no test or exam. The course will take place on 3 consecutive Friday afternoons on September 12th, 19th and 26th at St Mary’s church Walkley from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm and is open to people connected to our Mission Area. Each level builds on what has been learned in the previous levels so it is important to try to attend all the sessions for maximum benefit. I have done the bronze level online and plan to complete the remaining sessions at St Mary’s. Grace is an excellent communicator and uses real life dementia situations to help us understand more about how somebody with dementia experiences the world around them, how this affects their behaviour and how we can best support them. It is practical, non academic and very accessible and would be of benefit to anyone supporting someone with dementia personally, professionally or informally. There is a sign up sheet at the back of church for you to reserve your place. Shan

LENT COURSE 2025 AND 2026 If you participated in this year’s course and would appreciate an opportunity to share your experiences. If you would like to suggest possible topics or approaches for next year’s course. There will be a brief meeting in the lounge on Tuesday 23 September at 7.00 pm. Alternatively, send your reflections and suggestions to Ian on ian@stmarkssheffield.co.uk. Thank you and thank you to those who have already offered feedback or recommendations.

JULIAN PRAYER UPDATE – From now until the start of September, Julian Prayer will just be offered via a weekly e-mail to those people who have requested to receive it. Apologies to those of you who like to join on Zoom or in the chapel but due to other commitments, at the current time we do not have sufficient people to sustain facilitating it in person. We will keep the situation under review and let you know when we can restart the Zoom sessions in the first instance.

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.

SECURITY AROUND THE CHURCH BUILDING A polite reminder to all keyholders, to please lock up when you leave. Recently on different occasions, windows and the main doors have been found open first thing in the morning. Please do NOT return borrowed items by leaving them in the porch outside the main doors.

WEEKDAY USERS OF THE CAR PARK Please be aware that the padlock code changed on Monday 28 July. We have contacted those people from church who need to know; if we've missed anyone out, please contact carparkingstmarks@gmail.com *not the office*.

SOCIAL SECURITY TWO CHILD LIMIT – Response from Abtisam Mohammad MP

On Sunday 1 June, Mark James and I offered members of the Congregation an opportunity to sign a letter to local MPs, calling on the Government to end the two-child limit in social security, which is greatly increasing child poverty. Abtisam Mohammad MP has now given a full and positive reply, which she has asked to be relayed to members of the congregation. You can read the letter we sent [here](#), and Abtisam's response [here](#). *David Price*

COMING UP AT ST MARK'S:

On Sunday 7 September at 10am – Carol Miller, Church Engagement Manager for USPG, an Anglican Mission Society, will be joining us to share some insights into the work of USPG, its approach to mission and how we can develop our connection with this charity which we have supported through International Donations for many years. You may be surprised by what she has to say. There will be lunch after the service. Do come if you can. Carol will be staying for lunch so there will be plenty of time to talk with her and ask questions. *Michael Bayley*



The poster features a dark background with a colorful, starry nebula effect in shades of purple, blue, and red. In the top left corner, there is a circular logo containing a stylized cross or star shape in yellow and blue. The text is centered and reads: '7:30PM | 9 SEP' followed by 'ST MARK'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR' in a white, sans-serif font. Below this, the word 'FUNDRAISING' is written in a smaller, spaced-out font, followed by 'QUIZ NIGHT' in large, bold, white letters. Underneath, it says 'SUGGESTED DONATION: £8/PERSON'. The location is listed as '@ STEEL CAULDRON TEA ROOM & TAVERN 3 SPOONER ROAD, BROOMHILL'. At the bottom, it says 'GATHER YOUR TEAMS & BOOK YOUR PLACES ASAP!...' and includes a QR code in the bottom right corner.

THINKING FAITH

Please note that this month we are meeting on the FIRST Sunday!

7 September 7pm

The Future of Church-State Relations Dr Jonathan Chaplin



The Church of England is the Established Church in this country, with the monarch serving as its titular head. This unique position comes with privileges, expectations and responsibilities extending well beyond those who identify as 'CofE.' What are those privileges, expectations and responsibilities? Are they still justifiable within an increasingly multi-cultural, secular society? And what are the alternatives – how might the Church of England and the state relate in the future? These are just some of the issues and questions to be addressed by our speaker.

Dr Jonathan Chaplin is an Anglican political theologian and Fellow of Wesley House, Cambridge, where he contributes to the work of the Centre for Faith in Public Life. He works on issues of faith and society, democracy, secularism, pluralism, multiculturalism and eco-theology. Jonathan is the author of *Beyond Establishment: Resetting Church-State Relations in England* (2022) in which he argues for the disestablishment of the Church of England. In his spare time, Jonathan works with Palestinian campaigning groups, helps look after four grandchildren (two of whom attend St Mark's!) and plays in jazz-blues bands.



WWW.STMARKSSHEFFIELD.CO.UK

Coming to St Marks
'JUST' ECONOMICS? with Ann Pettifor

Political Economist

Saturday 20 September 2025

9.30 am to 1.00pm

Free Admission - donations invited

Booking now open!



Internationally-acclaimed economist, Ann Pettifor, will offer critical analysis of prevailing governmental strategies before outlining an alternative ethically driven, environmentally-responsible approach in which economics serves the common good. Expect to be challenged, informed and inspired.

Registration

Admission is free, but delegates must register either beforehand via Eventbrite or on the day on the door. Donations are invited and can be made in advance on the day via Givealittle.

Register [here](#)

Donate [here](#)



CONCERT FOR **NEPAL**



Friday 26th September 2025

8.00 pm

St Marks Church, Broomhill, S10 2SE

No tickets required!

Sheffield Sinfonietta

Directed by Gordon Busbridge from the Harpsichord

Programme Includes:

J.S. Bach - Suite No.3 in D major for Three Trumpets, Timpani and Strings

Telemann - Concerto for Three Trumpets and Strings

Vivaldi - Concerto for Two Violins in A minor

J.S.Bach - Brandenburg Concerto No.3 in G major

Including soloist David Tonkin - Trumpet

Violin soloists- Hannah Thompson-Smith and Charlotte Pinder

Please come and bring friends These concerts have been truly amazing

For more information please contact Dilys Noble on 07817651178

St Mark's facilities are all suitable for disabled access.

Retiring Collection for PHASE Worldwide - Changing lives in Nepal

PHASE Worldwide Reginald Arthur House, Percy Street, Rotherham, S65 1ED. Registered charity no: 1112734

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
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HELP OUT:

PRESERVE FLAVOURS NOW FOR ENJOYMENT LATER - Now is the perfect time for making homemade jams, chutneys and preserves over the summer / early autumn. If you can, please put back a jar clearly labelled with the ingredients and bring to church from 21 September ready for us to sell on 5 October when we celebrate harvest festival.

CALLING ALL JAM AND PRESERVE MAKERS – We have spare glass jars and a tree full of crabapples. If you would like to take some off our hands, please contact David or Sarah Armstrong. If you don't have our contact details you can email david.treasurer3@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](mailto:joe.forde@tiscali.co.uk)

MEALTRAIN – Just as we support families with a new baby, we would like to support Zoë and Leyla as they adopt 2 children (Age 2 & 4 years) into their family. They would prefer to have a meal a week for several weeks than a block of daily meals as this will help them establish a routine. If you could prepare meat or vegetarian cottage pie, cheesy pasta, meatballs in sauce, sausage and mash or spaghetti bolognese (the children's favourite) for a Wednesday up until 10 September, please contact Shan who will send you the link for the MealTrain. Thank you

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.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS As in years past, St Mark's will be open as part of the Heritage Open Days programme, on 16 and 19 September. We need volunteers to staff the period when we are open, between 13:00 and 17:00 on Tuesday (16.09) and 10:00 and 14:00 on Friday (19.09). There are useful notes available about the church, its architecture and its stained glass to help you with the task. Contact Philip Booth 0114 2550634.

FLOWERS- thanks to Maureen Whitebrook, Stuart Bennett, Lenni Oglesby, Peter Ryder, Shelagh Marston & Cicely Chibnall for donating flowers, and Rachel Pilkington, Jennifer Hurrell & Briony Tayler for arranging them during August. Contact Mary-Jane Ryder if you could help arrange the flowers occasionally, training provided.

WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY:

OUR MISSION PARTNER St John's Ranmoor Scissors Paper Stone is hosting a series of events at St John's Church in 2025, exploring the lives of those who shaped the Ranmoor community. These events include guided tours, talks, exhibitions, and workshops, offering a fascinating insight into local history. Please support them by attending events or spreading the word. More details can be found [HERE](#)

PRAYERFUL JOURNEY THROUGH HREADS OF THE CROSS' - Join Canon Jane Brooke as she leads a prayerful journey through this exhibition by Jacqui Parkinson at Sheffield Cathedral on Tuesday September 9th at 11.00am. Book through Sheffield Cathedral website [here](#)

STORIES OF HOPE AND HUMANITY FROM THE NHS – live storytelling evening.
18 September at 7.30pm. - Montgomery Theatre. Register via Eventbrite [here](#).

FROM OUR ENVIRONMENT GROUP:

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.