



Notices for 5 October 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](#).

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER

As we enter the season of harvest, we give thanks for the fruit and growth of the past year and begin to look ahead, planning for the year to come. We are deeply grateful for the generosity shown over the last 12 months — in financial giving, expertise, enthusiasm, and care. This time last year we faced a deficit, but through your gifts we are now in a much healthier position. Your support has enabled the PCC to plan wisely and invest in the life of our church and building. This Sunday we want to share with you some of the ways your giving has already borne fruit, and some of the things we are looking forward to. 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.

Giving Time

Volunteering is a key way to contribute to the life of the church. A list of opportunities is available at the end of this notice sheet and at the back of church. These range from one-off tasks to regular commitments, and from practical help to ministry roles. Please prayerfully consider whether you could offer your time and gifts.

Giving Money

The Church of England encourages us to consider giving away 10% of income after tax, with 5% to the church and 5% to other charities. We know everyone's circumstances differ, but regular giving — even in small amounts — makes a significant difference. While we expect a modest surplus this year it will need more than this to fund the new clergy post. Please reflect and pray about your giving.

David Armstrong, our treasurer, has produced a list of [financial questions and answers](#). These, and the [church's full accounts](#), are available on the website and at the back of church. If you have questions or want to know more about our finances please talk to, or email, David (david.treasurer3@gmail.com)

Please return your financial pledge, either [digitally here](#) or on the paper forms available in church. It would be great if we could have responses by mid-November. Please remember that if at any time your financial circumstances change you can always amend this pledge. All responses will be treated confidentially and will only be seen by the treasurer.

With gratitude for all that you give and all that you share,
Revd Beth Keith, on behalf of The PCC of St Mark's.

THIS WEEK:

COFFEE CONCERT SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER, 11.30 am. Do stay on after the 10am service! The concert will be about half an hour long. Including performances from the Steel City Choristers.



OPEN COMMUNION 4pm SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER

A Sacred Space for people who identify as LGBTQ+, their families and friends. With refreshments from 3.30pm

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. She is a retired Methodist minister, regularly leading worship in the churches of the Sheffield Circuit. She is the author of two books that tell Arthur's story and explore faith in relation to her family experience.

BRING and SHARE LUNCH SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER. Sorry for mixed messages re lunches. We are NOT having a shared lunch this week, but we ARE aiming to have a bring and share lunch after the 10am service on Sunday 23rd November. We need help with setting up, washing up and clearing away. If you are able to help, please speak to Beth.

NEWS:

ASSOCIATE PRIEST FOR ST MARK'S

We are seeking an Associate Priest with a heart for ministry among teens, students and young adults. This is a four-year, full-time post, with stipend plus a generous housing allowance. There is an option of reduced hours at 0.75 if any applicants wish to explore this. [More information on the post can be found here](#). If you know anyone who might be interested please share the information with them.

DIOCESAN STRATEGIC PROGRAMME UPDATE: On Monday, 13 October members of Sheffield Diocesan Strategic Programme Team will be updating Hallam and Ecclesfield Deanery Synods on:

- the refreshed Diocesan Strategy
- what the funding recently secured from the national church can be used for
- what this means for our twinned Deaneries of Hallam and Ecclesfield.

This is an open meeting so that interested members of our churches can attend if they would like to do so. The meeting will be at Christ Church, Stannington, starting at 7.30 pm. They need to know numbers of people attending by Monday 6 October so please e-mail Jane Doran via hallamdeanerysecretary@gmail.com if you are planning to attend.

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.

USPG When Carol Miller spoke about the work of USPG in September she left some interesting literature which is on and underneath the last notice board on the left before you go out of church. Do look at it and take what you want. Michael Bayley

ANN PETTIFOR'S NEXT BOOK The Global Casino: How Wall Street Gambles with People and the Planet will be published in late January 2026. Rhyme and Reason on Ecclesall Road have kindly offered to make this available to members of St Mark's at a reduced price of £15.00. Anyone interested in taking up this offer is encouraged to contact Rhyme and Reason directly.

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 newcomers, 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.

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](#).

IS ENGLAND (STILL) A CHRISTIAN COUNTRY? Some reflections from Ian Wallis on the Unite the Kingdom rally and Christian nationalism, available in the resources section of church website https://www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk/Articles/725850/Is_England_still.aspx

THANK YOU'S

PHASE – The concert raising money for Phase held on 26 September at St Mark's was enjoyed by a full church and raised over £3000 thanks to your generosity. Thank you to everyone who helped and attended. It was great to have information about how Phase is working in remote areas of Nepal to improve nutrition and maternal health.

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.

SUPPORTING THE ARCHERS PROJECT AT HARVEST Thanks to everyone who contributed for donations to the Archer Project, for preserves and for buying them! And to Rosie and Dilys for taking the donations to the cathedral.

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.

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.

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 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. Apologies that the first print run had a few pages missing at the end. The correct version is now up on the website and at the back of church.

COMING UP AT ST MARK'S:



The poster features a light cream background with musical notes and birds. At the top, a blue bird is on the left and a purple bird is on the right, both perched on branches. The title 'ST MARK'S SONGBIRDS' is in large, bold, brown letters. Below it, 'CHILDREN'S CHOIR' is in smaller, brown letters. The text 'Does your child love to sing?' is in bold black. Below that, the schedule 'Thursdays 4:30 - 5:15pm' and location 'St Mark's Church, Broomhill' are listed, followed by 'Children aged 4 to 7 years old'. At the bottom, a group of six diverse children are singing and dancing on a red carpet, with a green parrot on the left. The contact information 'For more information, email Eleanor: music@stmarkssheffield.co.uk' is at the bottom right.

ST MARK'S SONGBIRDS

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Does your child love to sing?

Thursdays 4:30 - 5:15pm
St Mark's Church, Broomhill
Children aged 4 to 7 years old

For more information, email Eleanor:
music@stmarkssheffield.co.uk



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



 student
christian
movement



THINKING FAITH

7-8.30 pm, on the second Sunday of the month in the Upper Room.

Each month we tackle a different topic, with a panel discussion, and lots of time for questions and responses from guest speakers.

9 November – Understanding Islam

Ameena Blake, Muslim Chaplain to the University of Sheffield

7 December – Have we given up on Truth?

Hallvard Lillehammer, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Sheffield

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 Pauline Miller, Gill Macgregor & Fleur Bayley for donating flowers, and Mary-Jane Ryder, Jean Baxter and Jennifer Hurrell for arranging them in October. 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.

CHRISTIAN AID CAROL SINGING this year will be on Saturday 6th December 2-3pm outside the old Debenhams on the Moor. Please put the date in your diaries! More details later.

WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY:

CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY URBAN PILGRIMAGE – Saturday 11 October

Fir Vale, 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

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION – HOSTING REFUGEES – Thursday 16th October 6pm

Join Refugees at Home, with hosts Huw Thomas and Jillian Creasy for an online information session to find out about hosting refugees and how you can get involved. [Refugees at Home](#) is a charity that connects refugees and people seeking asylum with hosts across the UK. The vision is for every refugee and every person seeking asylum to have a safe place to stay. To book on to the session, click [here](#).

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FILM SCREENING: MASTER OF LIGHT - Wednesday 22

October 6pm. Carpenter Room, Sheffield Central Library, Surrey Street S1 1XZ. Join Sheffield Libraries and Sheffield DocFest for a screening of this documentary, winner of the First Feature Competition at Doc Fest 2022. Tickets are free. To book via Eventbrite, click [here](#). As this film does not have an official BBFC age classification, attendees should be over 18, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

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](#)

PRIME WHOLE PERSON CARE DAY Saturday 15th November 9am – 2pm. St John's Owlerton, Hillsborough, Sheffield S6 2DF. Dr Emma Hayward, a GP and medical school educator in Leicester and a lay reader in her local church and her team of Christian healthcare educators from Prime will run a half day course on how we can work together with health and social care to enable ourselves and our congregations be healthy and whole. Click [here](#) for more information about Prime.

For more information contact healing.ministry@sheffield.anglican.org.

To book click [here](#) All welcome! Refreshments provided. Please bring your own lunch.

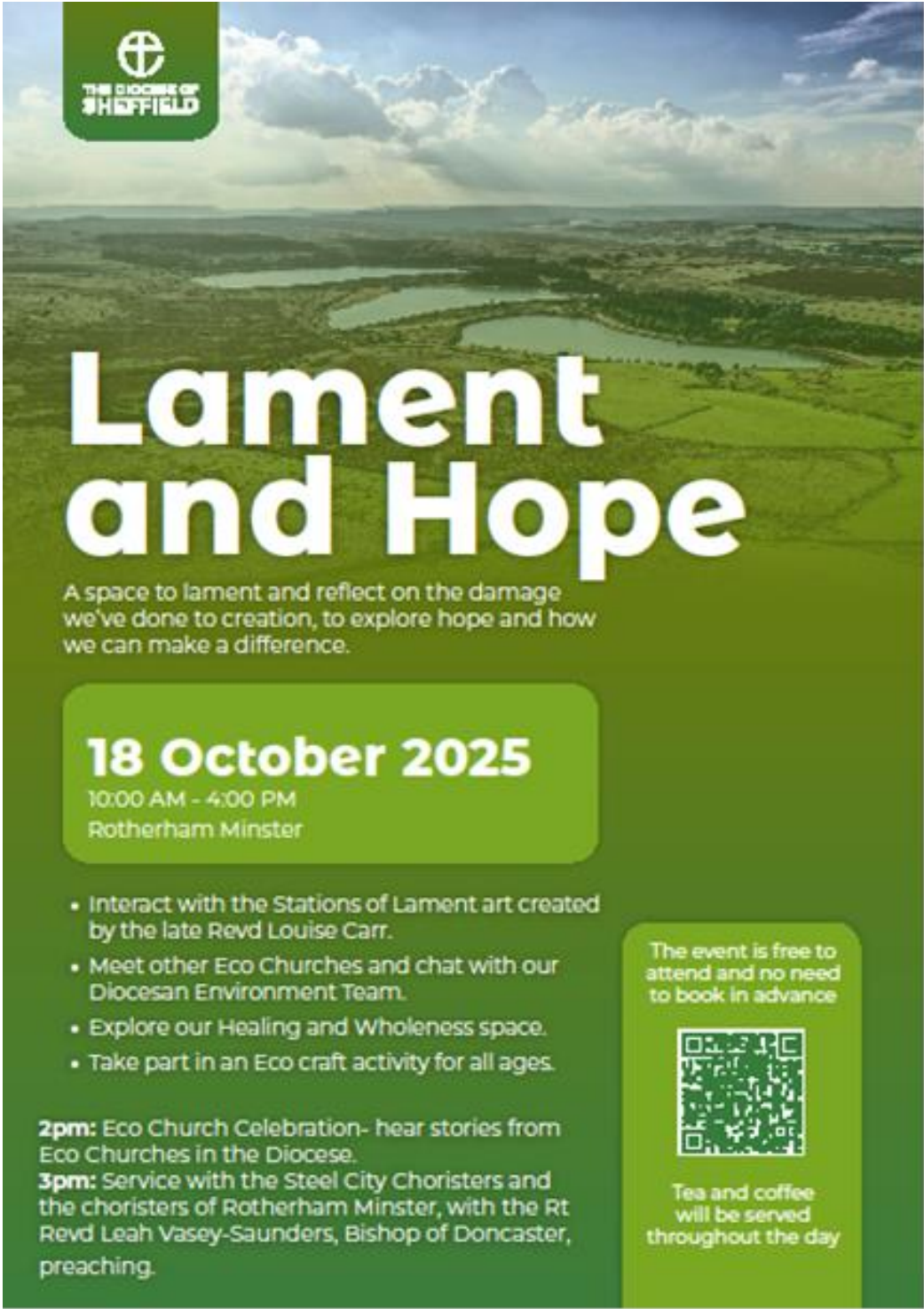
FROM OUR ENVIRONMENT GROUP:

Calling a Wounded Earth Home - Whirlow Spirituality Centre

Wednesdays, 7- 8.30pm 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](#)



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

Have your food shop delivered

Home delivery is like the public transport of groceries. Instead of having 20 odd cars make their way to the supermarket – one van drives around delivering to everyone in the area (and many supermarkets are upgrading to an electric fleet, too). Additionally, it means you're less likely to impulse buy which can help to reduce any waste food.

(Source: Good Energy)

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

Stewardship 2025

Giving Time

Volunteering is a key way to contribute to the life of the church. Here is a list of opportunities. These range from one-off tasks to regular commitments, and from practical help to ministry roles. Please prayerfully consider whether you could offer your time and gifts.

Sundays

Welcome and Coffee Team - Sunday 10am Service

Join a team to welcome and offer refreshments, commit to helping once a month.

Contact Jean on jean_baxter5@hotmail.com

Sound desk, zoom and visuals - Sunday 10am Service

Full training and support provided. Commit to helping about once a month.

Contact Maria on a.oliver833@icloud.com

Reading, leading prayers, or administering chalice - Sunday 10am Service

Training provided. Commitment variable from once a month to once every 3 months.

Contact Shan on Shan@stmarkssheffield.co.uk

Church Lunches – Occasional Sundays after the 10am Service

Join a team preparing, serving and tidying away church lunches. Three times a year commitment. Contact Briony on briony@professor3.f9.co.uk

Children's Team – Sunday mornings, occasional Sunday afternoons

Help out in creche or with the children's and teens groups. Safeguarding training and DBS required. Training and support provided. Commitment once a month.

Contact Hannah on childrensworker@stmarkssheffield.co.uk.

Choir and Music – Sunday 10 am service plus Thursday evening practice. Commitment from weekly through to occasional for festival services. Contact David on music@stmarkssheffield.co.uk
Supporting Night Service – Sunday 7pm Service Help set up for night service with the service leader and make drinks after the service. Commitment once a month. Contact Beth on Beth@stmarkssheffield.co.uk
Sandwich Run – Sunday afternoon Join a team taking sandwiches and hot drinks to those sleeping rough. Commitment once a month. Contact Paula paulajonesflp@icloud.com

Mid-Week

Lunch and Friendship club – Wednesday lunch during term time Join the team providing a welcoming space for those largely housebound to enjoy a freshly cooked meal followed by activities. Contact Jean on jean_baxter5@hotmail.com
Painting the church railings – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday afternoon. If you'd like a practical mid week project such as painting the railings, contact Tim on caretaker@stmarkssheffield.co.uk. Commitment can be regular or occasional.
Looking after the Memorial Rose Garden - anytime If you would like to care for the memorial garden, we are looking for someone to help with weeding and caring for the flowers. Regular commitment but at anytime. Contact Briony on briony@professor3.f9.co.uk
Social media help We are looking for some to help us by taking photos and creating publicity posts. To find out more contact Rachael on office@stmarkssheffield.co.uk
Flower Arranging – Fridays and at festival times Would you like to create flower displays. Support and training provided. Commitment occasional. Contact Mary-Jane Ryder on mjryder.ivypark@btinternet.com
Care Home Communion – various days and times Join a team of people going into care homes to lead services, training provided. Commitment once a month. Contact Shan on Shan@stmarkssheffield.co.uk
Supporting Asylum Seekers - variable. If you would like to find out how you can support asylum seekers in Sheffield but don't know where to start, please contact Beth Keith on Beth@stmarkssheffield.co.uk Commitment variable.

Vocation

Exploring Vocation - ongoing

If you are feeling a call or nudge to explore a call to lay or ordained ministry, please talk to Beth. She can help you to think this through and to gain experience in different aspects ministry. Contact Beth on Beth@stmarkssheffield.co.uk

Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme

If you are aged 18-30 and would like to have a year out exploring what ministry in the Church of England looks like, have a chat with Beth. Commitment 1 year from September 2026. Accommodation and grant provided. Contact Beth on Beth@stmarkssheffield.co.uk
<https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/your-calling/vocation-calling/young-vocations/>