



Notices for 08 February 2026

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 AT ST MARK'S

CHANGE IN WORKING PATTERN AND IMPACT ON FRIDAY MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER

From 1 February, I (Shan) am changing my working pattern back to mainly work full days on Mondays, alternate Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays instead of 5 mornings a week plus Sundays. This is to help me try to regain a better work / personal life balance. As a result, St Mark's will not be offering morning or evening prayer on Zoom on a Friday. This will be reviewed once Helena starts after Easter. In the meantime, the option to join St John's Ranmoor for morning prayer will remain but they do not do evening prayer on Zoom. Beth and myself will aim to host Monday to Thursdays as previously.

ST MARK'S CRAFT AND KNITTING GROUP welcomes new members! We meet at 10.30 on the first Saturday of each month. Come along on **Saturday 7 February** 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 you could bring along that embroidery or mending you've been meaning to finish for ages! Contact Jennie Martin via the church office.

LOST PROPERTY having been displayed after the 10am service last week (Sunday 1st February), will be available for purchase this Sunday (February 8th) before going to charity.

OPEN COMMUNION Sunday 8th February at 4pm. Refreshments from 3.30pm

A sacred space for LGBTQ+ people, their families and friends.

THINKING FAITH Sunday 8th February at 7pm

Poster with full details on the next page.....

THINKING FAITH

8th February 7pm



The Parting of the Ways:

**Why did Judaism and Christianity become separate religions?
with Dr Meredith J C Warren**

Jesus grew up in agrarian Galilee, a part of the world infused with Jewish culture, beliefs and religious practices. He almost certainly understood his message and ministry to be an authentic expression of Jewish faith. His first disciples were Jews and the centre of the early Jesus movement was Jerusalem, overseen by Jesus' Jewish brother, James. In the light of this, how and why did the Jesus movement evolve into something that could no longer be accommodated within Jewish identity? What were the determinative factors and who were the key players? These are some of the questions and considerations we will be exploring during an evening of input and discussion.

Dr Meredith J C Warren, a native Canadian, is currently Senior Lecturer at the University of Sheffield, where she is the Director of the Sheffield Centre for Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies. Dr Warren is a specialist in both early Judaism and Christianity, publishing extensively on topics as far-ranging as the significance of food and taste, the role of women and Christian anti-Judaism. Through adopting an interdisciplinary approach, she is able both to challenge prevailing orthodoxies and to supply new insights from a fresh perspective.



Broomfield Road Sheffield S10 2SE
WWW.STMARKSSHEFFIELD.CO.UK

NEWS:

LENT LUNCHES will take place on February 22 and March 22. February's will be soup, bread and fruit; contributions of bread and spread welcome, *but* don't bring soup without a word to Briony first, as we already have some to use.

LENT GROUPS - Exploring Social Justice: Critical Issues Defining our Time

This year's Lent Course will focus on what it means to seek justice for some of the most vulnerable members of society. Each session will explore social justice through the lens of one of five topics: identity; inequality; disability; asylum; social disintegration. Resource packs will include bible passages, briefings, first-hand testimonies, images, prayers, questions and reflections so that each group or individual can shape the course to reflect their interests, needs or learning styles.

Groups will gather weekly, 5 times during Lent (18 Feb – 28 March) on different days, at different times, in different places, in person and online, so that as many people as possible are able to participate.

Please sign up on the sign-up sheets at the back of church, leaving an email or phone number. We will pass your contact details on to group leaders, and they will be in touch to give you additional details (address, zoom code etc).

Or if you are not coming into church soon, please email the office stating which group you would like to join and we will add you to the group.

Group A with Sandra Newton - full	Monday evenings at 7.30pm on zoom This group is following the themes and focussing on bible study
Group B with Lynn Pocock and Rosie Hughes	Monday evenings at 8pm in Fulwood
Group C with Michael Bayley	Tuesday mornings at 10-11.30am in the church lounge
Group D with Sam and Felicity Cowling-Green full	Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm on zoom
Group E with Bek and Jack Hampson	Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in Walkley
Group F with Tim Crome and Tricia Morgan full	Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, near Ecclesall Road
Group G with Joy and Stephen Straits	Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in Grenoside.

Group H Student and Young Adults Group, with Seth Roberts	meeting as part of the usual young adults group on Sundays after church.
Group I with Robin and Joan Story, and Beth Keith/Ian Wallis - full	Thursdays at 3pm Ecclesall, near the Ecclesall Road end of Ringinglow Road.

ST MARK'S LIBRARY GAZETTE ISSUE NUMBER TWO OUT NOW!

Hard copies available at the back of church. £5 suggested donation to cover printing costs. Also available to download from St Mark's website [here](#).

WELCOME REVD HELENA ROULSTON

We are delighted to announce that Revd Helena Roulston will be joining St Mark's as our new associate priest with a focus on teens, students and young adults. Revd Helena is currently Head of Chaplaincy at Sheffield Hallam University. She comes to us with a breath of experience and skills in ministering with young people and we are really looking forward to her joining the team.

Helena's Licencing will take place on Wednesday 22 April at 7pm



Helena says...

"Hello!

My name is Helena and I am greatly looking forward taking up my role at St Marks. I have had a focus on teens and young adults all my working career. I love the vibrancy and energy that is catching when you work with young people and I am confident that the young people of the Parish will have lots to teach me!

To tell you a bit about myself – I trained for ordination at Westcott House, did curacy in Winsford, Chester diocese, and came to Sheffield from there to take up my current role of Head of Chaplaincy at Sheffield Hallam University. I enjoy going out and about with my husband and son and when I'm not with family or at work you may well find me at the gym or going for a run. I love to dance, to be outside and ice cream! I find it easiest to connect with God through exploring the world around us. I look forward to meeting you all and wish you all a happy and Holy Epiphanytide. May we follow in the footsteps of the wise men as they listened to the words of creation and found Jesus to be in the most unexpected places."

Helena is on the diocese podcast released last week.

Do listen - either on the diocese website <https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/our-diocese/whats-on/podcast/>

Or wherever you listen to podcasts.

It's a great way to get to know about her.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE IMMIGRATION RULES –

Thanks to everyone who signed the letter to Abtisam Mohamed MP last Sunday. Abtisam spoke in the debate in Westminster Hall on Monday, and mentioned the petition she had received from members of St Mark's and St Mary's.

You have another important chance to make your views known on the government's proposed changes to the immigration rules. Amnesty says: "In summary, the proposals are

dreadful. They are intended and would make life considerably harsher, more uncertain, more marginalised for many refugees and migrants in the UK. The Government generally intends to make refugees and migrants unwelcome in the UK unless they are regarded as highly skilled or relatively wealthy." You can decide what you think by looking at the consultation papers which are available through the Home Office consultation, which is available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/earned-settlement>. The consultation response form is available on that link. **Responses must be received by midnight on 12 February. This is your last chance to make your views on this known.** Amnesty have produced a very helpful guidance form. <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/resources/guidance-responding-fairer-pathway-settlement-consultation>. I strongly recommend using it. This is not a quick job. It takes the best part of an hour (less if you don't add comments) but it is important that we make our views known. Please do it.

Michael Bayley

ANN PETTIFOR'S LATEST BOOK The Global Casino: How Wall Street Gambles with People and the Planet has just been published. 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.

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH (LLF)

On 15 January the House of Bishops released a statement formalising the end of the Living in Love and Faith process. Whilst this was not a surprise it is disappointing. Many are feeling distressed and in grief that the LLF process has resulted in so little change. Together for the Church of England have written this open letter to the House of Bishops - <https://togethercofe.org.uk/open-letter-to-the-house-of-bishops/>. It sums up the feeling and thoughts I have, and you may find it helpful to read. Please look after each other and look out for those who are being impacted by this. I will be in church this Sunday, please reach out to me, Shan, Ian and the wider team if you would find it helpful at this time.

Beth



SMARTPHONE & SOCIAL MEDIA USE BY UNDER 16'S

The UK Government has launched a consultation on children's social media use and banning phones in schools to protect young people's wellbeing and ensure safer online experiences. There are a variety of views about this and arguments for and against the ideas being put forward through a range of media. You can find out more [here](#)

ROUNABOUT 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR St Mark's supports the charity Roundabout with a flat which houses young people at risk of homelessness. There is an encouraging news story here about their work in Sheffield - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cdex960y38po>

From this



Which is more welcoming?



To this

Entry to St Marks

When you walk into St Mark's you are in a corridor with a selection of solid wooden doors. It is not clear which leads into the worship area. This is not very welcoming and tends to result in doors being left open which cause cold draughts in the winter.

After consultation with the church architect a design for new doors has been agreed. These have a similar design to the originals but containing glass panels. This design has been presented to the diocese for approval.

This approval has now been received and we can progress changing the doors and making St Marks more welcoming.

The doors into the chapel are changing in a similar way.

The Solution

The new doors will cost about £6,000 to manufacture and install. This cost can be met from existing fabric reserves.

However, if you were able to help to pay for the doors we could keep the reserves for other items.

If you are interested in making a donation towards the cost of the doors please talk to David, the treasurer. Alternatively, you could simply transfer your donation to the church bank account with a reference DOORS.

In the unlikely event that the appeal raises more than the cost of the doors any additional money will be used for other fabric items.

Thank you

Fabric & Finance Committee



Our 2026
3 Spires Mission Area Weekend
will be held over
10-12 July 2026

*Bishop Leah Vasey-Saunders
will join us on 11 July*



Do save the dates, and talk to
Alison Wragg, Ian Wallis or Shan Rush
if you can contribute ideas or can offer help
with planning

HELP OUT:

ST MARK'S SOUP/SANDWICH RUN – Volunteers and Leaders Required

The Soup Run has been operating for many years and provides food and drinks for those unfortunately living on the streets of the City. The number of people we serve varies from month to month, but a few months ago we served over 20 people on one evening.

Over the last few years our numbers have dwindled and we now have only one group going out each month. Prior to Covid we had sufficient numbers to cover every week and we would like to try and get back to that position. As a volunteer you would be involved in preparing sandwiches and drinks in the kitchen at St Marks and then walking around the city centre serving anyone in need. If you are interested in becoming a Leader, you would be additionally responsible for liaising with team members and ensuring that there are adequate stocks of drinks & food. The current group meets on Sunday evenings at 5pm and are generally finished before 7pm, a relatively modest commitment. If you are interested in a taster session or seeking more information, please contact:

Paula Jones Mobile 07729 7414970 Email paulajones024@gmail.com
Tim Wilson Mobile 077659 15830 Email timwilsontring@yahoo.co.uk

DONATING FLOWERS. Many thanks to everyone who donated flowers to decorate church during 2025. Mary Jane would like to check that if the same people would like to continue this year. If you do NOT wish to continue donating, then please contact Mary- Jane as soon as possible, otherwise she will work on the assumption you are happy to continue. If anyone would like to be added to the rota to donate flowers for a certain Sunday then please let Mary-Jane know. mjryder.ivypark@btinternet.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)

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.

IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY



Triangle of Unity Art installation outside Sheffield Cathedral

Until 10 March. Family Day 14th February. No tickets or booking required.

Sheffield Cathedral is proud to host The Triangle of Unity Learning Programme, a national art and education initiative from *The World Reimagined* and the Church of England's Racial Justice Unit. The project encourages young people to explore heritage, climate change, identity, and global connections through creative learning.

Visitors can enjoy a vibrant display of 10 Globe sculptures, created by pupils from Rossington All Saints Academy, Rossington St Michael's C of E Primary School, and collaborating artists. Each Globe reflects the pupils' thoughts on heritage, identity, and our shared environment, offering inspiring insights from the next generation

More information [here](#)

Urban Theology Union: Festcrift Saturday 7th February 2-3pm

United Reformed Church, Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2JB or on Zoom

An open event that celebrates the UTU and John Vincent's contribution in a volume of essays. Come and get your copy of the book, Radical Disciple and interact with the editors and contributors.

If you can't make it in person join via the Zoom link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87968102928?pwd=zNYmXVhZj3LoddkcR7nfHQ469cklE4.1>

Meeting ID: 879 6810 2928, Passcode: 265172

Help support the ongoing work of the UTU by making a donation via Zeffy

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/donation-form/small-donations-for-utu-events>;

For more information please contact the UTU office at office@utusheffield.org.uk



ST HILD

St Hild – Job Vacancy, closing date 27th February

The Yorkshire Theological Education Partnership (YTEP) is a partnership between Church Army, St Hild, The College of the Resurrection, and the York Diocesan School of Ministry. Please see the attached flyer for the part-time role of YTEP Academic Registrar.

YTEP Academic Registrar

- Closing Date Friday, 27 February 2026 (noon)
- Interview Date Tuesday, 10 March 2026
- YTEP Academic Registrar at the Mirfield Centre
- Part-time role .4 FTE

The recruitment pack is available at <https://sthild.org/st-hild-partner-job-vacancies>

St Hild – short courses

St Hild is offering 5 short courses, some either online or in person, starting in April 2026.

The five St Hild short courses information and registration can be found at <https://sthild.org/flexible-options>. These options include:

L4/5 Intro to Christian Doctrine in person in Mirfield 6:30 – 9 on Wednesdays

L5 Baptist History and Principles 6 sessions Online Thursday

L4/5 Introduction to Spirituality & Discipleship/Ministry 5 sessions In Person in Sheffield 1:45 -4:30 on Mondays

L7 Advanced study of Christian Figure: Julian of Norwich 5 seminars Online on Thursdays with optional retreat at Cliff College May 16-17

L7 Advanced Christian Doctrine (Doctrine in Focus), Online Thursdays

Scissor Paper Stone Events at St John's Ranmoor

The Victorian who sat in the pews of St John's, the walls that enclosed them and the windows that lit them connect Ranmoor with worlds far beyond this hillside.

Saturday 7th March, 4pm, St John's Church
Wives, Widows, Spinsters: Women in Victorian Ranmoor
A talk by Val Hewson with refreshments available. Tickets £5*.

Friday 27th March, 7.30pm, Ranmoor Parish Centre
The medical networks of St John's in the late nineteenth century
A talk by Dr Jenny Stephenson with refreshments available. Tickets £5*.

Saturday 25th April, 4pm, St John's Church
Edgar Allen: 'A Man from Sheffield'
A talk by Sue Roe with refreshments available. Tickets £5*.

Thursday 21st May, 7.30pm, Ranmoor Parish Centre
From Louth to Gladstone Rd: The Servants of Ranmoor
A talk by Mary Grover with refreshments available. Tickets £5*.

Tickets for all events are available from TicketSource or the St John's Parish Office.

*These events are free to students and under 18s.

Visit St John's website www.stjohnranmoor.org.uk to find out more about Scissors Paper Stone and to read the blog

Pigeons Project



Youth Frontier Trust Pigeons Project Festival Day

Wednesday 1 April The Greenhouse at Barnes Close Birmingham

The Pigeons Project, run by the Youth Frontier Trust offers events with and for Christian Youth and their families. The next event is on 1st April – more details on their website [here](#).

Youth Frontier Trust ask all young people to attend as part of a group with an adult group leader. A parent ally who comes to Open Communion with her family is looking to put together a group from Sheffield. To find out more contact Hannah (childrens@stmarkssheffield.co.uk)



At the Rainbow's End by Clare Summerskill

A new verbatim play addressing homophobic and transphobic abuse of older LGBTQ+ people in care and receiving care in later life.

Saturday 9th May. 3.30 and 6.30pm

Sunday 10th May 6.30pm

The Broomhall Centre, Broomspring Lane, Sheffield, S10 2FD

Presented as script in hand performances by Artemis theatre company, and followed by a Q&A with the writer, the audience and informed panellists.

Performances are free but booking via Eventbrite is essential

Saturday 9th May 3.30pm

- [‘At the Rainbow's End’ by Clare Summerskill - a play Tickets, Sat, May 9, 2026 at 3:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Saturday 9th May 6.30pm

[‘At the Rainbow's End’ by Clare Summerskill - a play Tickets, Sat, May 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Sunday 10th May 6.30pm

[‘At the Rainbow's End’ by Clare Summerskill - a play Tickets, Sun, May 10, 2026 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

FROM OUR ENVIRONMENT GROUP:

ECO TIPS:

Try Clothes Swapping as an alternative to fast fashion



"Swishing" as it is known in America is the simple act of swapping preloved clothes <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swishing>

Sheffield Clothes Swap is run by Common Thread

https://www.facebook.com/CommonThreadSheffield/?locale=en_GB

Ecotip supplied by Matt from Night Service

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

