



Notices for 15 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

THANK YOU FROM ANNE BUTTON' FAMILY - A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making Anne's celebration of Thanksgiving such a special day. We were overwhelmed by the outpouring of love, care and joy we all received from everyone which will remain in our memories for ever.

We would like to mention special thanks to the Lunch Club team, who put together everything we were hoping for; Mum would have been delighted! We are also indebted to the other "behind the scenes" people-the verger, organist, florists, sound and IT engineers, who ensured everything was perfect. We would also like to say a huge thank you to Rev. Shan, whose kindness, thoughtfulness and unstinting support made it such a special occasion. Finally, a massive thank you to everyone who contributed to the Alzheimer's Society, raising £1000 towards their vital work. Just amazing, thank you for such generosity. Arthur, Angie and Helena

CHANGE IN WORKING PATTERN - 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.



NIGHT SERVICE – TAIZE PRAYER Sunday 15th February at 7pm.

A service of singing, prayer, and silence, using the pattern and style of worship practiced at the Taizé Community.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE – Wednesday 18 February at 7pm.

This day marks the beginning of Lent and includes the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Ash Wednesday, to be marked with the sign of the cross on your forehead and to receive Holy Communion.

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 full	Monday evenings at 8pm in Fulwood
Group C with Michael Bayley Spaces available	Tuesday mornings at 10-11.30am in the church lounge
Group D with Sam and Felicity Cowling-Green One space remaining	Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm on zoom
Group E with Bek and Jack Hampson spaces available	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 – 1 space remaining	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.

LENT GROUP MATERIALS AVAILABLE NOW. Please use a digital version if you can – these can be viewed and downloaded from our website [here](#) Hard copies are also available at the back of church.

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](#).

WELCOMING REV'D HELENA ROULSTON - Helena's Licencing will take place on Wednesday 22 April at 7pm



Helena has recently been on the diocese podcast.

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 on 1st February.

Abtisam spoke in the debate in Westminster Hall on Monday 2nd, and mentioned the petition she had received from members of St Mark's and St Mary's. Thanks also to everyone who filled in the response form to the government consultation.

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.



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](#)

ROUNDABOUT 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>

Safeguarding Audit Surveys – Spread the Word

Our diocese is currently taking part in an independent safeguarding audit being carried out by INEQE Safeguarding Group on behalf of the Church of England. You may already have seen information about this through earlier mailings, and we would like to thank everyone who has already taken the time to complete a survey.

The surveys are live until 11.30pm on Wednesday 11 March 2026. Every response matters, and your help in encouraging wider participation will strengthen the audit and support safer, more transparent church communities.

You can find out more and take part in the survey [here](#)

Read on for more news...

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 even 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

COMING UP AT ST MARK'S:



YOUNG ADULTS 'COFFEE AFTER COFFEE'

February 22nd,
March 8th,
March 22nd,
April 26

During Lent, materials from this year's Lent course will be used.



COFFEE CONCERT Sunday 1st March at 11.30am
(after the 10am communion service)



OPEN COMMUNION – Sunday 8th March at 4pm

A service held on the Second Sunday of every month creating sacred space with all who identify as LGBTQ+ and allies. Refreshments are served from 3.30pm.

Read on.....

THINKING FAITH

8 March 7pm



Pilgrimage

The Very Reverend Abigail 'Abi' Thompson

Dean of Sheffield Cathedral

Tom Daggett

Director of Music at Sheffield Cathedral

From the beginning, 'journey' has been both a practice within and a metaphor for the life of faith. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus summoned people to accompany him as he fulfilled an itinerant ministry. The early Jesus movement soon became known as the 'Way.' By the fourth century, pilgrimage was practised within Christianity as a means of deepening faith, with the emergence of popular sites.

Although long embedded within Catholic and Orthodox spiritualities, as well as within those of other religious traditions, in recent decades its worth has been discovered much more broadly, both in sacred and secular contexts. Why has pilgrimage become so popular and what has it to offer?

Dean Abi Thompson and Tom Daggett walked part of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela last year and will return this March to complete the final 100 kilometres of the Portuguese Way, a coastal route from Vigo to Santiago, to raise funds for the Cathedral's 'Archer Project' and its 'Choir with No Name.' Tom and Dean Abi will both speak of their experiences and offer reflections on pilgrimage.



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

HELP OUT:

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

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



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.