



Notices for 06 August 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

TRIO - 5th September 6.00pm in the Upper Room There will be an opportunity to see the highly successful short play Trio that was produced by the Sheffield University Drama Society and performed at the Buxton Fringe this year. An exploration of Virginia Woolf and her relationship with Vita Sackville West and Dame Ethel Smyth, not only did the show sell out, but Alison Munro won Best Actress at the Fringe. Christine Heery and Anne Padget complete the set. Donations at the door and all proceeds go towards our costume store. *Anne Padget*

Followed by

PUDDING NIGHT: there will be a repeat of our highly successful Pudding Night on Saturday 5th September. Tickets are £10. Please contact Pauline to see if any places are left rather than just turning up as they are catering for numbers attending!

NEWS

RETRIAL OF CHRIS BRAIN - The retrial of Chris Brain began at Inner London Crown Court on 3 September 2026. The retrial relates to five charges on which the jury was previously unable to reach verdicts.

This will be a further painful time for many victims and survivors, former members of the Nine O' Clock Service, their families, and all those affected by Mr Brain's actions all those years ago. We recognise that these proceedings may renew memories of abuse and cause significant distress for many people.

Thirtyone:eight has been commissioned to provide a specialist helpline, offering a confidential, supportive listening ear and signposting to appropriate support, alongside a more in-depth Listening Service for eligible victims, survivors and those supporting them. Safe Spaces also provides free and confidential independent support for adults affected by church-based abuse, including emotional support, advocacy and help in understanding and meeting individual needs.

Details of how to access independent support are available on the Diocese of Sheffield website: [Independent support services](#)

NEW INTERNAL DOORS - Our new internal doors have been installed this week, making the way into church and the chapel easier to see and more welcoming. We received about £600 in donations from a previous appeal but the doors are costing over £4k so additional donations would still be most welcome! To contribute, please talk to our treasurer David, or make a transfer directly to our bank account St Marks Church PCC, Sort Code 40-41-18, Account number 80724548, reference DOORS.



It is with sadness that we announce the deaths of 2 people with connections to St Mark's.

SIMON STOKER – Simon's funeral will be held on Monday 21 September at 11am at Chesterfield Crematorium and will be followed by a wake at The Miner's Standard in Winster. Those who remember Simon are welcome to attend.

PATRICIA KELSEY – Patricia, a former member of St Mark's church and lunch club, died peacefully on Tuesday 25 August aged 92 years. Her funeral will be at St Mark's on **Monday 28 September at mid-day** followed by light refreshments in the lounge and burial at Abbey Lane Cemetery at 3pm. Please wear dark colours / traditional funeral attire as we come together to remember Patricia. Family flowers only and donations to St Mark's. **Please note the change of date for this funeral.**

Please hold Simon's and Patricia's family and friends in your prayers.

HOMEMADE JAMS AND PRESERVES – Could you make homemade jams, chutneys or preserves to sell in aid of charity at Harvest Festival which will be 4 October? If so, please do so and label with ingredients. Thank you – International Committee.

PCC SECRETARY – we are searching for a volunteer who is willing to support Beth and the team to manage the administration of our PCC meetings and act as a contact point for the Diocese to receive and handle correspondence that helps us keep St Mark's running smoothly. You do not need to be a member of the PCC to undertake this role. If this is the case, you would not have voting rights at the meetings unless it was agreed you are co-opted onto the Council.

PCC meetings are held monthly on a Monday or Tuesday evening between 7.30 and 9.30 pm except for August (holiday) and December (social gathering).

The role would involve working with the Chair to produce and distribute agenda's, booking a meeting room, taking and writing up minutes of the meetings and uploading relevant documents for safe storage onto Google Drive so we are looking for someone with good organisational skills and a willingness to learn and be involved.

Training will be available if required for using Google Drive and other members of the PCC are willing to help with taking minutes if needed.

We are fortunate to have other people who help undertake other aspects of this important role including our administrator Zoe who helps to plan and publicise the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Co-ordinates the Annual Report, and our Church wardens who help complete the Parish returns about membership, attendance, finances etc.

If you think you could offer your skills and time to fulfil this role or would like to discuss what is involved further, please contact Beth or one of the other clergy.

STAND FOR GENERAL SYNOD - Four new clergy and four new lay members are being elected to General Synod this year – and you are invited to stand as a candidate.

Why stand?

- Opportunity to represent the concerns of your community and your diocese at a national level.
- Have a say in national legislation that affects all parts of the Church of England.
- Raise issues and contribute to debates on social and policy matters.

Nominations open on 14 August and close on 7 September

You can find more information [here](#)

DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT DAY - Leading Your Church Into Growth: The Next Step:

Building on the themes of the recent Diocesan conference, this years Diocesan Development Day will take place on Saturday 3 October 2026 between 9 am and 3.45 pm at St Thomas Church, Crookes.

Initially bookings are limited to five people per church. If space remains available, they will offer additional spaces in the final fortnight. If you are interested in attending, please talk to one of the Clergy team. Further details can be found at <https://sheffdio.org/DevDay26>

HELP OUT

HOUSING NEEDED - A member of St Mary's Walkley, who has recently been granted asylum, is now looking for a room or flat to rent in the local area. She is a reliable person, and would be a wonderful tenant or lodger for anyone with a spare room or property available. If you know of anywhere suitable — or simply want to keep an ear out — please speak to Beth Keith, who can be contacted in confidence. Even small leads or suggestions would be gratefully received, and any help the church family can offer in welcoming her into a stable home would mean a great deal.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2026 - As in years past, St Mark's will be open to the public for four hours on Saturday 12 September and Tuesday 15 September. Members of the congregation are of course very welcome to come on either day, when there will be people available to talk a little bit about the building and our community. Help is also required to staff the open days (from 10:00 to 14:00 on each day). If you are willing to help, please contact Philip Booth. philipabooth@btopenworld.com



FIRST AID TRAINING - Pauline and I are keen to update our first aid training and find that have found that St Johns Ambulance will run a free 90-minute emergency first aid session for a group of at least 6 people. Let us know if interested and we will follow up. millers@mm1728pm.plus.com

COMING UP AT ST MARK'S:

Thinking Faith



The Dangers of Translation:
William Tyndale and the
English Bible by Rev'd Canon
Professor Loveday Alexander

Sunday 13 September at 7pm

THINKING FAITH

SEPTEMBER - Please save the date for Sunday 13 September for our next Thinking Faith Session, [more information here.](#)

RESTORE – Members of St Mark's are launching a new service for those aged 30s & 40s. Please do join us in the chapel on September 16.

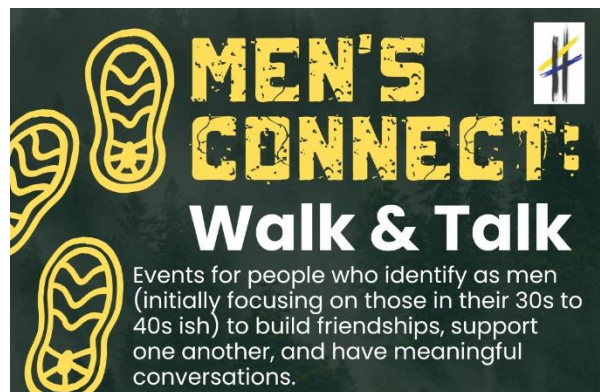


MEN'S CONNECT - Members of St Mark's are launching a new group. [Learn more about it here](#) and please do join in. If you need a ride let us know and we can arrange rides accordingly.

Details of the first event: Start 9am, end around 1pm, starting from the From [Curbar Gap Car Park - Eastern Moors](#) estimate 2.5 hrs and we will end with a pub lunch [at The Grouse Inn](#)

Further details, look at the link: [Frogatt, Curbar and White Edge red deer circular walk](#)

If you are planning to attend, please speak to Stephen Straits in church or email the office.



CONCERT FOR NEPAL - Saturday 26th September at 7.30pm at St Marks, no tickets required. [More here.](#)



WHAT'S ON IN THE MISSION AREA:



The First St John's

Uncovering What Was Lost

Do you know that St John's Ranmoor, a familiar Sheffield sight for over a century, is not the original church? The first St John's was built on the same site in 1879 and destroyed by fire less than ten years later in 1887. Only the spire, incorporated into today's building, remains from that church.

This year Scissors Paper Stone will celebrate Heritage Open Days with art and trails that reveal the first St John's Church.

12th - 17th September 2026
See overleaf for opening times

St John's Church, Ranmoor
Ranmoor Park Road, S10 3GX

www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Free
Heritage
& Art
Event

IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY:

CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY URBAN PILGRIMAGE - 17th October in Sheffield
Church Action on Poverty in Sheffield will be holding an Urban Pilgrimage as part of Challenge Poverty Week. The walk will visit a day centre for rough sleepers and other church-based projects responding to poverty in the city, with opportunities for prayer, reflection and learning about how churches can better support this work. For more information, [click here](#) or contact Joe Forde

FROM OUR ENVIRONMENT GROUP:

ECO TIPS:

If you are interested to see how UK electricity is being generated the website <https://grid.iamkate.com/> shows live data with clear graphics. You can also call up pie charts showing the difference between the past day's, past week's and past year's generation and compare these with all time since 2012 showing how much we have moved away from fossils and now often get 60% or more from renewables. I have seen it up to 92.2%! *Michael Miller*

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

WATER AID - Following the introduction by Ian Wallis to the e-mail last week about water supply, you may wish to make a donation to Water Aid at www.wateraid.org/uk They help provide poorer communities overseas with clean water and hygienic sanitation. Related charities are Tree Aid and Solar Aid. <https://treeaid.org/> "works with communities across Africa, harnessing the power of trees to restore ecosystems and support lasting livelihoods" and <https://solar-aid.org/> works in partnership with local communities to develop and build innovative programmes that ensure everyone can have access to light, including providing solar lamps to families so that they no longer have to use polluting kerosene lamps or candles. These charities improve people's lives but the latter also help reduce carbon emissions." *Michael Miller*