

Notices for 3 March 2024

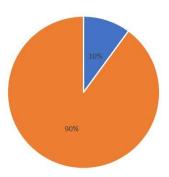
Information about upcoming events, news and how to get involved below. Patterns of worship here, Children's here, church calendar here and giving here.

WHAT'S ON IN & AROUND ST. MARK'S & THE MISSION AREA:



STEWARDSHIP 2024 - We have only had responses from 10% of regular givers to the stewardship letter that was sent in January. We really want a response from everybody so that we know what our likely income will be for 2024 especially as the PCC agreed a deficit budget for this year. So if you have not yet responded please do. You can do this in three ways:

- I. by completing this online form
- By completing the response page in the letter (this can be found on the website here or printed copies are available at the back of church)
- 3. by emailing the treasurer at david.treasurer3@gmail.com



If you have any questions about giving or the finances of the church please get in touch with the treasurer. Thanks. David Armstrong

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING – please save the date for your diary. This will be held at **I Iam on Sunday 28 April** in the building and on Zoom following a shortened morning service.

ELECTORAL ROLL ANNUAL REVISION – this is the list of people who have the right to vote in St Mark's Annual Church meetings, stand for our church council (or one of the local or national bodies e.g., deanery synod, diocesan synod or General Synod). If you are not already on the electoral roll there is a form which needs to be completed and returned to Peter Ryder by Thursday II April, it can be accessed electronically HERE or there are paper copies at the back of church. To qualify you need to be baptised, aged 16 or over and either live in the parish or attend worship here regularly. Worshipping via Zoom also counts. Please do sign up if you haven't already because it's one of the ways the wider church sees how active a parish church is. For more information ask any of the PCC. *Thank you*

A LENT LUNCH - will be held on Sunday 17 March - soup, bread and fruit, with pizza for children. All are welcome to stay. Cost - £3, and pro rata for children. Proceeds to local food banks. Any offers of help on the day, or with making soup, to Briony, please.

LENT GROUPS - If you missed the seminar on How to Eat Bread with Miranda Threlfall-Holmes it is <u>available here</u>. We hope you are now enjoying your lent groups and if you would like to view the Lent booklet, <u>click here</u>.

DOREEN GODDEN – We are pleased to let you know Doreen is back home and would love people to visit here for short periods. Arrangements can be made by contacting David on WhatsApp or Doreen on her mobile. Thank you. Shan.

Lizzie Ilsley will be ordained deacon at 10am on

ORDINATIONS – LU SKERRATT-LOVE AND LIZZIE ILSLEY

Lu Skerratt-Love will be ordained deacon on 22nd June at Liverpool Cathedral and serve their curacy at St Luke's in the City, Liverpool. Lu writes - Thank you so much for your continued prayers, support, and care for myself and Kat during my ordination training, and please do continue to pray for us as we prepare to move. With much love from us both, Lu and Kat.

30th June at Sheffield Cathedral and serve her curacy at Rotherham Minster, with The Chapel on the Bridge and St Paul's Masbrough. She will still be working one day a week as a community speech therapist in Rotherham and is excited to be serve in the same communities in both roles.

Having said goodbye to Lu and Kat before they moved to Birmingham, there will be an opportunity to say farewell to Lizzie on Sunday 23 June.

DIOCESAN ECO CHURCH CHAMPION -We are delighted that Margaret Ainger has



taken on the voluntary role of Diocesan Eco Church Champion, supporting registered Eco Churches across the Diocese. As you probably know, Margaret is our Eco lead and under her leadership, we became the first church in the Diocese to gain a Gold Eco Church award. Working alongside Diocesan Environment Officer Cathy Rhodes and the Environmental Projects Team, Margaret is now using her knowledge and experience to provide advice and support to other churches as they register and work towards awards on the A Rocha Eco Church Scheme. Margaret will also be working with the team to empower others in the

Diocese to take on the role of championing Eco Churches in their local area. Eco Church continues to grow in the Diocese of Sheffield and 8 churches have received Bronze awards since October 2023. There are now 64 registered Eco Churches with 36 awards- 27 Bronze awards, 8 silver and 1 gold. To find out more please see https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/ If you would like to contact Margaret to discuss Eco Church, you can do so via the main contact address for the environmental projects team- environment.admin@sheffield.anglican.org or chat to her after the service.

VACANCY CONSULTATION PROCESS- The process of appointing a new priest is complex as it is governed by church legislation and Acts of Parliament. We would like to invite you to prayerfully reflect, discern and share insights of what is important to you about St Mark's and its leadership. Please consider the following 5 questions which will help us with the vacancy and appointment process. Please click here to share your thoughts or add post it notes to the flipchart in church.

- I. What is it about St Mark's that inspires you?
- 2. What values in a future incumbent or Priest in Charge are most important to you?
- 3. What do you most value about St Mark's that you would like to continue?
- 4. Is there anything you would like to see change?
- 5. How would you express the essence of St Mark's in an advert to attract a suitable applicant to fill the vacancy?

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - If you are considering baptism or confirmation and would like to discuss this further, please to talk to Beth Keith either after the service or contact on email beth@stmarkssheffield.co.uk.

ST. JOHN'S RANMOOR - Please join our mission partner, as they embark on celebrating their 150-year anniversary in 2029 with a project called Paper, Scissor, Stone! Over the next 5 years, they have a diverse array of events and celebrations planned. Starting on April 13 at 4.30pm when the local historian, Loveday Herridge, will be talking about their founder, the brewer and art collector, John Newton Mappin, with real ales and Victorian music. £3. More information about this event and the celebrations can be found here

STARMER TO ANNOUNCE SCALING BACK OF £28BN GREEN INVESTMENT

PLAN - If this headline worries you as much as it worries us at Environment Group, we have 2 suggestions to make:

I. Contact Paul Blomfield, MP for Sheffield Central, at paul.blomfield.mp@parliament.uk

to express your concerns. Remember to add your full name, address and postcode as you will only get a reply if you are a constituent. Or your local MP if you live in a different ward (https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP).

2. Complete the questionnaire seeking views on Labour's main pledges, being conducted by Abtisan Mohammend, candidate elect for Central, via her website on https://abtisammohamed.com/listening-to-you. It would seem that anyone can complete this one. Most questions have an environmental angle. It will take 10 mins. We really want our elected representatives to be aware that reneging on these pledges is extremely worrying to large numbers of us. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE - Welcome and Licensing of The Revds Sue Hammersley and Sibylle Batten at HOLY ROOD HOUSE, Saturday 25th May 2024, 2-5pm with afternoon tea. A warm welcome to everyone. RSVP to office@stmarkssheffield.co.uk for catering.

GOLDDIGGER TRUST VISION EVENING - Join the Golddigger Trust team at a secret location on March 20th at 8pm as we share our next steps in serving Sheffield's young people at our Building for their Future Vision Evening! Discover our plans and how you can help shape young people's futures and be part of something meaningful. Please RSVP for location details here: https://www.golddiggertrust.co.uk/vision-evening

THREADS THROUGH CREATION' - From 19 January - 3 March, Sheffield Cathedral is hosting 'Threads Through Creation', a stunning exhibition of twelve embroidered silk panels that explore the story of creation. Admission is free. The panels are individually crafted

using layers of silk, hand-dyed materials, metallic leathers and gold leaf, miles of thread – and more than eight million stitches! The exhibition has been created by textile artist Jacqui Parkinson, who took her inspiration from the poetic verses of Genesis. Her astonishing stitching is attractive and eye-catching and designed to be accessible to people of all ages. Jacqui has created an exhibition with a vibrant narrative and spectacular designs. She says: My aim was to capture the wonderful extravagance of the Creation story and to delight people who see it. Despite Adam and Eve's fall from grace, it remains a story of love and promise, something we can all do with these days."



NOS INVESTIGATION South Yorkshire Police has confirmed that Chris Brain is being investigated for alleged crimes committed between 1981 and 1995 whilst he was leading the Nine O'Clock Service in Sheffield. The police are appealing for any further potential victims or witnesses, who may not yet have spoken to police, to come forward. Information about how to do this, and a range of support options for anyone affected can be found on the Diocesan website - https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/support/safeguarding/victim-and-survivor-support/nine-oclock-service/.

FOREST CHURCH – The Forest Church gathering is happening on Sun 3rd March 4pm on the field behind St Tim's. We'll sing, cook on the fire and use prayer stations on the theme of the Spring Equinox. Everyone is very welcome. We'd love some more help with things like

keeping an eye on the fire because we've had lots of children coming, feel free to get in touch if you'd like more information. Thanks! Jen Ryder and Oli Giles

MARCH ECO TIP

This year, we will be supporting the Eco Tip calendar provided by Rocha, who gave us our Gold Eco Church Award last year, follow along for a new tip every month:

CELEBRATE SPRING- Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the season – breathe in the fragrance of blossoms, observe budding catkins, note different bird songs, spot footprints, or use the Pl@ntNet app to identify spring flowers. Nature can boost our happiness, so spend time in your garden, on your balcony, and in local green spaces. Dedicate quality time to appreciate creation's beauty, and thank God for the hope that spring can bring.