



St Mark's Sheffield

Notices for 16 June

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:

CHANGES TO OPENING TIMES AND OFFICE HOURS OVER THE SUMMER

From 17 June to the end of August the Church will be opening from 1pm-5pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and will also be open on Tuesdays from 1pm-4pm. Zoe will be working in the Church Office from 1- 4pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. She will also be contactable via email or phone on Wednesday afternoons.

EVENSONG WITH THE HAYFIELD SINGERS 16 JUNE 4PM

The Hayfield Singers are a keen non auditioned amateur choir who give two concerts annually in St. Matthew's Church, Hayfield, Derbyshire. They perform a wide range of classical and contemporary repertoire, with professional soloists and orchestra. They are visiting St Mark's Church on 16 June to lead a traditional choral service of evensong.

THE BISHOPS GARDEN PARTY AT BISHOPSCROFT- Bishop Pete and Cathy would like to extend a warm invitation to everyone to attend. There is no entrance fee and there will be lots of opportunities to purchase crafts, cakes, refreshments, plants etc, together with live music, entertainment for the children and much more! They are planning a 'silent auction' for some stellar prizes. The event will raise funds in support of two local charities: The Archer Project for the homeless, based at Sheffield Cathedral; and ASSIST, an asylum seeker and refugee charity in Sheffield.



COULD YOU HELP:

ECO CHURCH STALL - Could anyone do an hours stint on the Eco Church stall at the garden party? All you need to do is chat about our experiences of being an eco-church and give out some leaflets. All part of our commitment to use our gold award to support others.

PLANT STALL - Plants are needed for the plant stall, which raised a good amount for the charities last year.

WITH BAKING - St John's are hoping you can help them again this year with baking for the garden party. All items need to have ingredients listed and any baking can be dropped off at the St Johns office on Friday 21 June 10-12noon or taken straight to Bishops Croft on Saturday anytime from 11am. For more information, please contact Claire at St John's directly
administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to the bellringers from St Mary's Walkley who competed against 5 other teams from the Sheffield District Bellringing Association. The competitors included a team (band) of regular Walkley ringers who won the Chris Munday trophy.



Please pray for all those to be ordained this Peteride, among them

Lu E S Skerratt-Love

To be made deacon by

The Right Rev'd Dr John Perumbalath,
Bishop of Liverpool

In Liverpool Anglican Cathedral on
Saturday 22nd June 2024 at 15:00

Please also pray for Kat, for their family and friends, for
The Rev'd Laura Ferguson, and for the communities of
St Luke's in The City, in which Lu is to serve as Assistant
Curate.

ORDINATIONS - This summer Lu Skerratt-Love and Lizzie Illsley are being ordained deacon.

Lu is getting ordained at Liverpool Cathedral on 22 June at 3pm. People are welcome to attend the ordination service and there will be a party afterwards at St Bride's church (just a few hundred meters from the cathedral). Please could you let Lu know if you would like to attend.

Lizzie will be at St Mark's on 23 June. She'll be preaching and we'll have the chance to say goodbye and pray for her before she is ordained at Sheffield Cathedral on 30 June at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to attend, just turn up. She will be serving her curacy in the benefices of Rotherham, All Saints (Minster) and Masbrough, St Paul.

GEOFF MARSTON – We are saddened to learn of Geoff's recent death and offer our condolences to Shelagh, Alex, Ben and Tim. Please hold them in your thoughts and prayers. Geoff's funeral will be held at St Mark's on **Tuesday 25 June at 12.30pm**. Parking will be very limited so please use public transport or get someone to drop you off at church if possible. The service will also be on Zoom.

ST MARY'S CHURCH WALKLEY WELL DRESSING- St Mary's church will be open each day from Tuesday 25th to Friday 28th June, 10am - 4pm, for preparation of the well dressing. Everyone is invited to come along and do some petalling. It is taking place in the Lady Chapel at the east end of the church. On Saturday, 29th June the church will be open for a market as part of the Walkley Festival South Road launch day, and we will be running well dressing taster sessions. If you have never had a go, it's great fun.

JULIAN PRAYER – From June, in addition to sending out the weekly Julian Prayer e-mail, this contemplative prayer meeting (which includes 30 minutes of silence), will be held at 7pm on Zoom on the second Monday of the Month and at 7pm in the Chapel on the fourth Monday in the month (24 June). If you would like to receive the weekly Julian Prayer e-mail with the short reading or reflection to aid silent or contemplative prayer, please e-mail Shan.

ST MARK'S GREEN MOWING - Additional volunteers wanted please - to join the mowing roster. Take it in turns to cut the grass with our petrol machines, 3 or 4 times a year. It's great exercise that doesn't involve a gym subscription fee (!). Please contact Martin on 07505 992922 or martin.godley@tiscali.co.uk

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - Thank you to everyone who took part in the door-to-door delivery, and events during Christian Aid Week. So far, we have banked £964.10 p and donations via the e envelopes raised £741.75. A grand total of £1705.85 (excluding gift aid).

BROOMGROVE NURSING HOME LOOKING FOR ACTIVITIES

The Activities Team at Broomgrove Nursing Home has asked if there is anyone - or a group - who might be willing to go to the home on a one-off basis, to give a travel talk, a picture presentation, some music or reading/drama, in fact, anything which would occupy residents for a session of one hour approx. *MarksThree* has visited recently and performed to a receptive audience. If this is something you might be able to do, have a word with Rosalind Rogerson, or contact the Activities Team directly at activities@broomgrove-trust.co.uk.

UPDATE FROM LIZZIE'S FRIEND FROM AFGHANISTAN

I would like to thank those who helped me with my recent indefinite leave to remain application, which was successful. I now have full UK status. This has made my case stronger to bring my siblings to the UK. My solicitor believes I have a good chance of winning my siblings' case in court, however I cannot do this without your kind support because I won't be able to pay for the barrister she has chosen to represent me. My siblings' case hearing has been listed to take place on Wednesday, 21 Aug2024. This means I urgently need support with the outstanding fees to pay for the barrister's services. A kind friend who wishes to remain anonymous has offered to match any donations up to 1000 pounds made by the end of June. May God bless you all. Thank you all for making this possible. If you want to learn more or can donate, please click [here](#)

PINKNIC 13 July Peace Gardens, 11am-7pm – Volunteers needed!

Open Sheffield is running a stall at the Pinknic and looking for volunteers to help at Sheffield's inclusive, family-friendly LGBTQ+ event. We are looking for people who could volunteer on the stall, either with set up, packing away, or to be on the stall for a couple of hours with others. If you can help, or would like to find out more please let Beth know (beth@stmarkssheffield.co.uk)

GOD AFTER DECONSTRUCTION - 13 AUGUST 7.30 PM

In conjunction with the Progressive Christianity Network, St Mark's Sheffield presents an evening with American theologian Thomas Jay Oord dealing with the challenging topic of faith deconstruction. The session will offer a hopeful and hope-filled vision of Christianity that doesn't rely on the traditional toxic traits of a violent and domineering deity. He advocates an 'open and relational' approach to Christianity which says that the God who is love experiences what we experience, feels our pain and sadness, and is not able to control our actions. Expect answers for your questions, and questions for your answers as together we explore Christianity beyond deconstruction.



Dr Oord is a philosophical theologian and minister in the Church of the Nazarene. He advocates for full acceptance of queer people and has recently been charged with teaching doctrines contrary to the Church of the Nazarene and conduct unbecoming of a minister for his efforts to move the denomination to be fully affirming.

He is the author of a variety of popular books including 'The Uncontrolling Love of God' and 'God After Deconstruction'. He directs a doctoral program at Northwind Theological Seminary and the Center for Open and Relational Theology.

He will be giving seminars in Sheffield, Hull and York in mid-August and then speaking at Greenbelt Festival.



SAVE THE DATE 20 – 22 September - Mission Area Weekend

Following the success of the last Parish weekend at home, we are planning another weekend which will involve all 3 churches in our 3 Spires Mission Area.

Do save the date. Further information will follow.

NEW TREASURER REQUIRED - The Parish of Attercliffe and Darnall seeks a new Treasurer as theirs retires after 11 years. The PCC needs someone to handle bookkeeping. Tasks like cash handling and invoicing are covered. If you can spare a little time each week and would like to know more, please contact David Armstrong.

ST. JOHN'S RANMOOR are celebrating their 150-year anniversary in 2029 with a project called Paper, Scissor, Stone! [More information about this event and the celebrations can be found here](#)

TRAUMA INFORMED MINISTRY DAY, 19 OCTOBER, 9.30-14.00

An interactive workshop by Rev Hilary Ison at St Mark's Church Broomhill S10 2SE.

Come and equip yourself to deal with the stresses and strains of daily life better.

An interactive workshop exploring how understanding ourselves and our body's reaction to trauma better can enable us to build resilience for the future. Hilary will help us learn how to check in on ourselves and respond in a more considered and creative way, enabling us to look after ourselves and accompany others better in pastoral ministry through difficult times. We will look at how we can respond in a helpful, healthy way, both individually and collectively as congregations and communities, and the biblical and faith resources available to help. We will finish with an optional healing service. Refreshments will be provided but please bring your own lunch. Hilary is a great speaker who is experienced in all kinds of church leadership and teaching and a trustee for St Lukes for Clergy Wellbeing. For more information and to book [Click Here](#)

JUNE 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:

Join #30DaysWild. One of A Rocha UK's firm beliefs is that we are more likely to nurture and defend God's creation if we spend time enjoying it. The Wildlife Trusts' 30 Days Wild challenge is a great opportunity to engage with nature as an individual, household, or with your church community throughout June. Find some wild ideas [here](#)

Election Matters

As an Eco Church, we take seriously our responsibilities to engage with local, national and international issues. The General Election 2024 is a great opportunity for us all to influence how our country is run. It's a chance to talk to people in our community about our values and the issues we care about. We can encourage our country's leaders to put those values into practice when they're making decisions that affect us all. With the urgent, interlinked crises of cost-of-living, climate and conflict, now is a crucial time to be part of the national debate. Find out more at <http://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote>

Lots of resources for Christian voters are available on the Churches Together website:

<https://churcheselection.org.uk/442>

In particular, the Environment Group encourages you to promote the proposed Climate and Nature Bill to our future MPs. This is a plan for a new UK law that addresses the full extent of the climate and nature crisis in line with the most up-to-date science. The Bill is the only proposed legislation before the UK Parliament that ensures a comprehensive and joined-up approach to the emergency.

<https://www.zerohour.uk/climate-and-nature-bill/>

CALLING FOR THE PROTECTION OF CLIMATE AND NATURE



Will you and your church answer the call to care for creation?

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
MATTHEW 6:10

Support the campaign for the Climate and Nature Bill

The CAN Bill will address the full extent of the climate and nature crisis in line with the most up-to-date science. In May 2024 it had cross party backing of over 150 MPs. Help get it into the next Parliament!

ASK YOUR CANDIDATES TO BACK THE CAN BILL

Ahead of the General Election we want every prospective parliamentary candidate to support the Climate and Nature Bill. It will make us:

- ✓ Better off - by ensuring our homes are properly insulated, and our energy is cleaner, less expensive and more secure
- ✓ Healthier - by reducing air pollution, and by encouraging healthier, more sustainable food consumption, while supporting our farmers
- ✓ Happier - by protecting our green spaces and the wildlife that depends on them, ensuring everyone has access to nature
- ✓ More resilient - by reducing the threats from extreme weather, such as flooding, erosion, and crop failure

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.
GEN 2:15

LET'S CALL FOR THE LEGISLATION WE NEED TO TAKE CARE OF CREATION.

zerohour.uk
greenchristian.org.uk



And finally...

A prayer for voters

Loving God, we face a choice.

Be with us as we consider the options,

weigh the arguments and assess the claims and the candidates.

But also prompt us to listen: to the voices on the margins to the cry of the earth, and to those who reach a different conclusion to us.

God, we pray that you would stimulate our minds, stir our hearts and sanctify our choosing.

Help us also to remember your command to love our neighbours

both during and after this election. Amen.