

Notices for 26 January

Information about upcoming events, news and how to get involved below.

Patterns of worship [here](#), Children's [here](#), church calendar [here](#) and giving [here](#).

NEWS AT ST MARK'S:

NEW SAVE THE DATE The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will now be held in church on **April 27**. At the meeting, we review the past, assess where we are now and look ahead at where we are heading over the next year or so. We begin with worship at a shortened 10 am service, hear something of Beth's vision for St Mark's, receive the Annual report in which we share various aspects of the ministry of St Mark's over the last year, thank those who are standing down from lay and ordained service, elect new people into various roles, our treasurer presents the budget and there is an opportunity to ask questions or express concerns before we look forward to how we can work together to support the mission and ministry of St Mark's as we reach out to the world. Please do save the date so you can attend and be part of this important meeting. If you want to vote or stand for election, you do need to be registered on our electoral roll. Do ask us for more details. *Beth & Shan*



SAD NEWS REGARDING JANET EARWAKER – I'm saddened to let you know that Janet, a long-standing member of St Mark's, died on Monday 20 January at Broomgrove Trust, her home since she had been unable to continue to live independently. Please pray for Janet, her children Bill and Rosie, and Sue Hammersley who along with other people from our congregation, had a deep connection with Janet and John for many years. We will let you know details of the funeral once we have them. Shan

THE RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRD WATCH time is upon us again, 24-26 January 2025. The Environment Group is going to survey our Green. Please survey your own gardens/local green spaces as monitoring our birds is essential in protecting them. You can do this online here <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>. For more information [watch this video](#)

HELP OUT AT ST MARK'S:



NAMASTE - There is an ongoing collection at St Mark's of good quality warm clothes and coats, as well as toiletries, shower gel and period products for refugees. Please bring items to the building to be passed on. Do keep this in mind if you received relevant gifts surplus to requirements for Christmas!!! Thank you so much for your generosity. Dilys, St Mark's International Donations Committee chair

FLOWERS- Contact Mary-Jane Ryder if you could help arrange the flowers occasionally, training provided. With thanks to Arthur Button, Charles Stirling & Pauline Elliot for donating flowers, and Mary-Jane Ryder, Jean Baxter & Jennifer Hurrell for arranging them during January

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST MARK'S:

THINKING FAITH - this monthly event explores diverse topics with panel discussions, guest speakers, and time for questions and responses. Also on Zoom.

February focus: **The spirituality of children**, featuring:

-*Dr Emily Baughen* (University of Sheffield) –

History of childhood and its intersections with humanitarianism and politics.

-*Canon Dr Jane Brooke* (RE Specialist) – Insights into faith development and spiritual education.

-*Huw Thomas* (Director of Education, Sheffield Diocese) – Church schools and the spirituality of children.

Join us for this engaging and reflective session, open to all. [Click here for more.](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89515577906>

Meeting ID: 895 1557 7906

THINKING FAITH

9 FEBRUARY 7PM

How spiritual are children?

Join us as we start to explore the spirituality of children by listening to three speakers, asking questions and reflecting together.

WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY:



DREAMS & REALITIES HOMECOMING

Sheffield Cathedral
Tuesday 4 February 2025
Evensong 5:30PM
Reception 6:00PM

Welcome home this powerful and moving portrait exhibition by Sheffield artist Stephen Martin as it finishes its UK tour.

See the paintings and hear about the impact they've made.

Book your place at
[dreamsandrealities.
eventbrite.co.uk](https://dreamsandrealities.eventbrite.co.uk)



DREAMS AND REALITIES

HOMECOMING - Members of the congregation are warmly invited to Sheffield Cathedral at 530pm for Evensong and 6 pm for the reception on Tuesday 4 February. It is an event co-sponsored by the Cathedral, St Mary's Bramall Lane and Church Action on Poverty. David Price

MENTAL HEALTH & CHRISTIANITY CONFERENCE – 22 March, Wesley Hall Crookes. Aimed at ordained or lay, who are working or volunteering with people in churches and Christian organisations. However, it is open to anyone who is interested. The Conference aims to deliver a high standard of information based upon both science and experience while respecting and incorporating the Christian faith. **The Keynote Speaker is theologian Dr Simon Hewitt—Lecturer in Philosophy and Religion at Leeds University, he also** draws on his own experience of bipolar disorder. Lunch and refreshments will be provided throughout the day. Suggested donation of £12.00 but pay as you can also available. [Tickets and more information here](#)



The poster features a purple background with a white logo at the top left that says 'Mental Health & Christianity'. Below the logo, the text 'MENTAL HEALTH & CHRISTIANITY CONFERENCE' is written in white. A QR code is positioned to the left of the text 'Book now', with a black arrow pointing from the text to the QR code. Below the QR code is the URL 'https://MHandCConference.eventbrite.co.uk'. At the bottom left, there is a logo for 'Organised by Sheffield Methodist Circuit'. On the right side, there is a photograph of Dr. Simon Hewitt sitting on a rock in a natural setting. Below the photo, his name and title are listed: 'Dr Simon Hewitt, Lecturer in Philosophy & Religion, Leeds University'. At the bottom right, the date and location are given: 'Saturday 22nd March, 2025, Wesley Hall Methodist Church, Crookes, Sheffield'.



The poster has a dark blue background with a photograph of a large, multi-story stone building. The text 'THE UNCONTROLLING LOVE OF GOD' is written in large, bold, white and orange letters. Below this, 'UK CONFERENCE' is written in smaller white letters. At the bottom left, the date 'Date: 4-6 June, 2025' is displayed in white.

THE UNCONTROLLING LOVE OF GOD - Join us at Highgate House Conference Centre, Northamptonshire, to discuss ideas that will change the way you think about the divine. Based around a series of set piece dialogues, this conference will open up avenues of theological thought that challenge the mainstream consensus that 'God' is all powerful and fundamentally 'in

control'. Drawing on work from scholars and practitioners from various parts of the Christian tradition, we will question these certainties and explore other ways of understanding the nature of God. [More here](#)

THE ENVIRONMENT:

ECO TIPS

Coming together is the best way to make change happen. And there's nothing like the power of community to make us feel inspired and more hopeful about the future.

Join the Environment Group, sign petitions, write to your MP about things that concern you or sign up to emails from Friends of the Earth for great tips on simple changes to live more sustainably and ways you can join others in taking action.

Source: Friends of the Earth

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