



St Mark's Sheffield

Notices for 02 March

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:

REVISION OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL - Under the Church Representation Rules, we are required to form a new Electoral Roll in 2025 (as part of the 6 year cycle which the rules specify). Everyone who wishes to be included on the new roll, whether they are on the present Roll or not, must complete an application form by 10 April at the latest if you would like to vote at our 2025 APCM on April 27 after the 10am service. To be on the Electoral Roll, you have to be aged 16 or over, a baptised member of the Church of England or of another Church (in communion with the CofE) and be resident in the parish or have worshipped here regularly for the last 6 months. **You will find paper forms at the back of church**, alternatively please complete this form digitally and return it to the office: office@stmarkssheffield.co.uk

[Application for enrolment on the electoral roll at St Mark's Broomhill](#)

While we revise our electoral roll and as part of our efforts to improve communication, we would like to know whether you currently receive our **weekly email**. If you do not and would like to to sign up please complete this form so we can gain your consent in line with GDPR: [click to sign up](#)

CHANGE OF ZOOM CODE – Please note that some of the codes we use on Zoom have been changed this week. Do check our weekly e-mail for details. If you do not receive this e-mail, do complete the consent form via the link above so you can be added to the list. Codes will no longer be available via our website.

LARGE PRINT RESOURCES - If you need a larger print version of Mark's Messenger or find it difficult to see the liturgy on the screen at church, please contact Zoe or Shan and we can arrange for a copy to be printed and left at the back of church or in in your pigeonhole.

CRISIS in THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - Practical and immediate emergency support to people caught up the conflict in Eastern DR Congo

Last Sunday, during the 10am service, Richard Hide shared some of his lived experience of working in and building relationships with people in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the impact the current escalation of hostilities is having on projects there. We are having a collection to support one of the affected organisations there.

The Recipient will be: Indigenous rights NGO ADELIPO-Congo.

The indigenous Batwa pygmy population of Eastern Congo are marginalised and discriminated against, so are often among the most disadvantaged at a time of crisis such as this.

Adelipo has an ongoing initiative supporting orphans who have been abandoned as a result of natural disasters, conflict and rape. At the moment they are in crisis mode, not just because their coordinator Justin himself fears for his own safety, but because Batwa orphans are caught up in the chaos of the displaced people's camps. They urgently need money for the provision of food,

clothing and medical care. Justin Shamutwa is their coordinator and a friend Richard has known for a number of years.

Donations can be made via St Mark's account, Account name: St Mark's PCC Sort Code: 40-41-18 Account number: 80724548 using reference NGO ADELIPO until midnight on Sunday 2 March.

The donation will then be sent via Richard to Justin and go through the accounts of the NGO. If you would like to donate but are unable to do a bank transfer, please have a conversation with David Armstrong.

ASSISTED DYING LEGISLATION CURRENTLY GOING THROUGH

PARLIAMENT- You will be aware of the current debate on assisted dying and the legislation going through parliament. Many of you are interested and have expressed differing views on this - some are in support of the bill whilst others are against it. Some people have already been active in writing to their MP, to show support, or to raise reservations about the bill. There is certainly not a 'correct Christian' view on it. **On Sunday 9th March at 7pm we are holding a panel discussion** with Revd Dr Mark Newitt (chaplain) and Dr Rachel Vedder (palliative care consultant) to explore this. More information below.

St Mark's Broomhill presents

THINKING FAITH

On the second Sunday of each month we tackle a different topic, with a panel discussion, and lots of time for questions and responses from guest speakers.



**9 MARCH 7PM
END OF LIFE ISSUES**

There will be a summary of the Assisted Dying Bill followed by hearing about the lived experience of working with end of life care with:

Rachel Vedder is a consultant in Palliative Medicine working in Barnsley and has worked in palliative care for 20 years

Mark Newitt is an experienced healthcare chaplain who holds a number of different roles, including working in palliative care settings



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WWW.STMARKSSHEFFIELD.CO.UK



APPOINTMENT OF THE NEXT ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY: Public Consultation

The process for the appointment of the next Archbishop of Canterbury is underway and, a key part of this, is the extensive consultation exercise taking place in February and March.

Wherever you are based, your views matter.

You can find more information about the questions being asked and how you can participate [here](#)

This consultation closes on 31 March, so please ensure your response is submitted by that date. Your feedback will play a vital role in shaping the decision-making process on who should be nominated as the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

CAR PARKING: If you wish to use a visitors' space as a one-off, to attend the hospital, please contact Briony or Tim, so we know you are not a "rogue" parker. Thank you for your co-operation.

HELP OUT AT ST MARK'S:

LENT LUNCHEAS AND BEYOND: A simple lunch will be offered on Sunday 9 March and 6 April. All are welcome to stay. If anyone would like to co-ordinate one of these, please contact Briony.

COULD YOU WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR MARK'S MESSENGER? – The next edition of Mark's Messenger will be in June and will be edited by Shan. If you have an article, book review or photograph you would like me to consider for inclusion, please send it to me by the end of April. The theme for this edition will be healing, wholeness and peace. Thank you. Shan

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST MARK'S:

5 MARCH is Ash Wednesday and we will be holding a service at 7pm at St Mark's this year. This day marks the beginning of Lent and include 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.

LENT COURSE 2025: THE PARABLES – LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP THIS WEEK

Lent Groups this year will be looking at some of the parables we find in the gospels. To do this the group will be using storytelling and drawing on Paula Gooder's book The Parables. Lent Groups from St Mark's and St Mary's will be meeting once a week on 5 consecutive weeks between 6th Mar – 13th April. They will be meeting online or in person, on various days/times. You can sign up for a group either by emailing the office or adding your name to the sign-up sheets at the back of church.

Group A with Sandra Newton: Monday evenings at 7.30pm on zoom -**FULL**

Group B with Lynn Pocock and Emily Baughan: Monday evenings at 8.15pm in Hangingwater **FULL**

Group C with Jane Brooke: Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in Netheredge

Group D with Hannah Jones and Michael Bayley: Wednesday at 3pm in the church lounge **FULL**

Group E with Tim Crome and Tricia Morgan : Wednesday at 7.30pm near Ecclesall Road **FULL**

Group F with Bekah and Jack Hampson: Wednesday evenings at 8pm on zoom

Group G with Boyd Morgan, Joy and Stephen Straits: Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in Grenoside

Group H with Shelley Johnstone: Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in Walkley at St Mary's Church

Group I Student and Young Adults Group, with Seth Roberts and Bethany Leake meeting as part of their usual group.

COFFEE CONCERT - After the service on **9 March** there will be a Coffee Concert of piano music by Zulfiqar Willington

BURIAL OF ASHES, SHIRLEY ELLINS -Some of you may remember Shirley Ellins who died in April 2023. She had been attending St Mark's and the Methodist Church before the covid lockdown. We are holding a short service of remembrance and burying her ashes in the Garden of Remembrance on 18th March at 2pm, followed by a cup of tea and cake in the lounge. Rosie, her stepdaughter, would like to invite anyone who knew Shirely to join with us.

23 MARCH – We will have our usual 8am, 10am and 7pm services. If you are planning on attending St Mark's church on this date – do plan ahead and check the route of **Sheffield Half Marathon** which starts and ends in Sheffield city Centre. Your journey to or from church could well be affected by road closures which will start from 08.30 that morning.

27 APRIL - Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held in church immediately after the shortened morning service. 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'll 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 about being on PCC and the Electoral Roll. *Beth & Shan*

27 APRIL BRING AND SHARE LUNCH - After our APCM we plan to have a bring and share lunch to which all are welcome.

CONFIRMATION

If you would like to be baptised and/or confirmed at Sheffield Cathedral on Easter Eve (19th April) please have a chat with Beth asap or email her on beth@stmarkssheffield.co.uk .

WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY:

BISHOP OF SHEFFIELD ANNUAL LECTURE – 3rd and 4th March.

Happy are those': Wisdom from the Psalms on happiness, wellbeing and caring for mental health with Rev Dr Isabelle Hamley, Principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge. Isabelle Hamley has been a parish priest, a university chaplain, chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury and now serves as Principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge. She is passionate about Scripture and the way it speaks into the life of the world and of the church. She has written extensively on issues of justice, violence, trauma and mental health; her books include *God of Justice and Mercy: A Theological Commentary on the Book of Judges*; *Embracing Justice*; *Struggling with God* (with Chris Cook and John Swinton); and *Embracing Humanity*. [More info and booking here.](#)

CHANGEMAKERS CONFERENCE - The Sheffield CA committee warmly invite you attend an online screening of the annual Changemakers conference on Saturday March 8th - 10.00am until 13.45pm (approx) at St Gabriel's Church, Dobbin Hill. Full details are on the poster on the international committee notice board and you can also use the link below to see the programme for the conference and to register for this regional event- [Click here.](#)

ST JOHN'S – OUR MISSION PARTNER - Scissors Paper Stone is hosting a series of events at St John's Church in 2025, exploring the lives of those who shaped the Ranmoor community. These events include guided tours, talks, exhibitions, and workshops, offering a fascinating insight into local history. Please support them by attending events or spreading the word. More details can be found [HERE](#)

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 for the Mental Health & Christianity Conference features a purple background. At the top left is the logo for 'Mental Health & Christianity' with a green cross symbol. Below it, the text reads 'MENTAL HEALTH & CHRISTIANITY CONFERENCE'. A QR code is positioned to the left of the text 'Book now', with a curved arrow pointing from the QR code to the text. Below the QR code is the URL 'https://MHandCConference.eventbrite.co.uk'. At the bottom left is the 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 event details are provided: 'Saturday 22nd March, 2025, Wesley Hall Methodist Church, Crookes, Sheffield'.



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

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](#)

TO ALL THOSE WITH TEENAGERS: The National Youth Orchestra will be performing at the City Hall on Wednesday 16th April and tickets are free for teens! "The musicians will bring Stravinsky's Petrushka to life, with shifting rhythms and harmonies dancing between each instrument, creating an intoxicating world of sound. A palpable connection between the Orchestra and the soloist is central to Jennifer Higdon's Percussion Concerto with Jordan Ashman, BBC Young Musician of the Year 2022, as soloist. Tickets £22 | **Tickets free for teens**"

THE ENVIRONMENT:

"Several members of the congregation have become concerned about the closure of local recycling points around the city since August which is due to stalemate in a dispute between Veolia and the two unions Unite and GMB who represent their workers. Environment Group has investigated the issue. Disappointingly there is no evidence of progress at the moment so we raised our concerns. You can read the Council's response here. We have asked our local councillors to keep pressing for a solution."

Our question to the Waste and Street Scene Committee, Sheffield City Council:

I write from St Mark's Church, a Gold awarded Eco- Church (8,000 churches

who work for the climate, nature and our communities). We are dismayed at the closure of most local recycling centres and the almost complete absence of information available to residents about what is happening - nothing on the Veolia or Council websites - it all looks like business as usual. This has lasted many months. Congregation members are asking me about this all the time - anxious that this plastic should be recycled and not burned (despite the reclaimed heat). Folk have garages piled high with the stuff. This week I took mine to the Longley Ave West Recycling Centre - their recycling bins were overflowing and I was advised to put mine in Household Waste. Sheffield has declared a climate emergency and we need to take action about plastic. I understand from my local councillor, who had a protracted job getting the information himself, that there is an industrial dispute paralysing things. **Is there more you could do to press for a resolution? Such as using contractual levers? Please do all you can to restore our services - and please tell us what is happening? Here is the response:** All Recycling Bring sites are currently closed due to the industrial action being carried out by Unite members which has reduced the availability of Veolia's workforce. The decision to close the bring sites was taken to ensure the continuation of essential black, blue and brown bin collection services. Discussions are taking place with Veolia to reopen some sites at the earliest opportunity, however any decision to reintroduce the sites can only be taken if there is full confidence that essential services, including black, blue and brown bin collections are not negatively impacted. We are offering as much support as possible to minimise impact on the public during the strike action, and we are encouraging Unite and the GMB to engage in discussions to resolve this inter-union dispute. Information and updates relating to the closure of the bring sites is provided on our service alerts page. Environment Group have also raised these concerns with Veolia directly and with our 2 local councillors. NB Updates can be found at www.sheffield.veolia.co.uk , not on the Sheffield council website

ECO TIPS

Shop Second Hand

Save money, mix up your style, protect the planet. Ditch damaging fast fashion and get some feel-good threads instead. Charity shops and second-hand clothes apps are great places to look for brands you already wear and love and to find some new outfit inspiration.

Second-hand kitchenware, tools and toys can also keep more cash in your wallet and help reduce the amount of stuff being produced, which is good for the planet. And don't forget to take your unwanted items with you to donate.

(Source Friends of the Earth)

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

28.02.25

