



Notices for 17 November

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

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

ST MARK'S NEWS:

SAFEGUARDING - Churches across the country are encouraged to mark Safeguarding Sunday on or around 17 November. It's an important initiative which we are focusing on next week to bring our current Stewardship sermon series to a close. We know that within our congregation there are people who have come to St Mark's seeking a safe space following traumatic experiences in their lives and we recognise that for some people, publication of The Makin Review which identified failures within the Church regarding safeguarding responsibilities and publicity surrounding Archbishop Justin Welby's decision to resign may trigger further confusion, doubt and mistrust in the Church of England. Bishop Pete and Sophie have issued a statement in response to the resignation of the Archbishop, that you can read [here](#). Beth and I would like to reassure you that we and the Safeguarding team at St Mark's are working hard to embody best practice, to support those who have suffered abuse of any kind and to review where improvements can be made to ensure failings of the past are not repeated.

A prayer adapted from the Church of England Liturgical Commission:

Loving God, we pray that St Mark's church may be a place of welcome, security and compassion.

Keep us watchful yet caring, trusting yet ready to question,

that all who worship here may do so in safety and in the knowledge of your love;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

WHAT'S ON AT ST MARKS:

CHRISTMAS CARDS – The International Committee will be selling Fairtrade and charity Christmas cards and goods at the back of church after the 10am service on **Sunday 17 & 24 November and 1 & 8 December**. Do bring some cash with you as we support local businesses and charities selling ethically sourced products for a fairer world.

TAIZE SERVICE AND BRING AND SHARE TEA – On Sunday 17th November there is a Taizé Night Service at 7pm. Join us at 5pm for a bring and share tea as we chat and make plans for next year.

www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH ST MARK'S CHURCH

1 December, 4pm
Christingle service

15 December, 6pm
Big Queer Carols
An open, affirming, and joyful carol service

22 December, 6pm
Carol Service of traditional and
contemporary carols and readings

24 December, 4.30pm
Nativity Service with hot chocolate from 4pm

24 December, 11.30pm
* Midnight Mass, candlelit service of carols,
reflection, prayer, and Communion

Christmas Day
* 8am BCP Communion
* 10am Festive All Age Communion Service
* also online via Zoom

**St Mark's is an open and inclusive
Church offering worship and hospitality
where all are welcome**

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S WRITE FOR RIGHTS GREETING CARDS

CAMPAIGN 2024 - Join hundreds of thousands of Amnesty supporters around the world by taking part in our annual Write for Rights Greetings Card campaign. You will demonstrate your support for 10 people and organisations enduring human rights abuses. **YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!** To take part: [Download the booklet with full details of the cases.](#) For those with no Internet access copies of the printed booklets will be available on those Sundays when Christmas cards are being sold at the back of church. When you have sent your cards, pass the booklet on.

Robin Story

NEW YOUNG MUSICIANS - We interviewed 4 young people on 17 October who will be joining St Mark's musicians. They range from 10-13 years old. Noah, Agnes and Hugo have been singing with Steel City Choristers. Hugo and Zimmo are going to be playing the organ. We look forward to working alongside them as we share and develop one another's gifts and skills.

ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION – From the start of Advent, 1 December, we will no longer be offering intinction at the 10am service and will move to the single option of gluten, dairy and egg free bread and the common cup. Receiving bread or wine only is considered full Communion and there is no pressure for anyone to drink from the Common Cup. Every adult will be offered the chalice and given the chance to hold it for a moment and then return it to the chalice bearer without consuming any wine. We have heard from other churches that this has been well received and offers a meaningful connection to the cup for those who would rather not drink from it. At the 8am BCP service, we will continue to use wafers and will offer intinction and the Common Cup. *Shan and Beth*

WHAT IS IT WORTH – Money, us and St Mark's.

Please read through the [information on the website](#) or at the back of church. We have provided detailed information about our finances, and we are asking people to fill in an anonymous [questionnaire](#), so we can gauge what people value about St Mark's and our priorities as we plan ahead. **About 40 people have completed the questionnaire so far. Please contribute your opinions if you have not yet done so.**



ST MARK'S RECIPE BOOK - Many thanks to all those members of the congregation who have supported us in our fund-raising, via the Recipe Book. This will be the final Sunday when it is on sale after the service, so if you have not yet got your copy please do so this week, or let Pauline or Briony know that you'd like one, and we can keep it aside for you. Don't forget that the books make excellent small Christmas gifts, so it's a good idea to have a few extra! [You can also access the book via the Church website here.](#) There is no fixed price, but we are asking everyone to make a donation, either in cash or via the card reader, and to bear in mind that the books cost £2.00 each to produce. The surplus raised goes to St Marks Anniversary Fund.

MIDDLE EAST HUMANITARIAN APPEAL – I'm sure all of you have all seen or heard the news at some time in the last week and are aware of the devastation that the conflict in the Middle East has caused to civilians. In Gaza, ninety percent of the population are displaced and in Lebanon, more than a million people have had to leave their homes in search of safety. The DEC has launched an emergency appeal to provide the basics of food, emergency shelter and medical assistance. The government have said they will match pound-for- pound up to £10 million donated by the public to this appeal. Please do donate [here](#) if you are able to.



PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Beth's licencing service has now been confirmed for 15 January at 7.30pm.
Please save the date. More details to follow

COME AND SING EVENSONG WITH STEEL CITY CHORISTERS – Sunday 24 November at St Marks. Rehearsal 2 – 4 pm. Service 4 pm. Followed by tea and cakes. Please sign up. [More info here.](#)



CHRISTIAN AID CAROL SINGING - We are singing again at the bottom of The Moor on Saturday 7th December, and I hope that I can encourage lots of people join us. Especially young voices and instrumentalists !!! We have revised the time of the last group, which now will be from 2 to 3 pm. There will be hot drinks at the cafe at St Matthew's Carver Street during the day. Please let me know if you can join us. *Dilys*


SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT THINKING FAITH DISCUSSION -

THINKING FAITH

8 DECEMBER 7PM
SAVE THE DATE

**Virgin birth? Incarnation?
What do the gospels tell us?**

The evening will explore why the gospels vary and what they reveal about the birth of Jesus, the incarnation and the virgin birth.




On the 2nd Sunday of each month, we explore a new topic with panel discussion and Q&A from guest speakers. This month, The Revd Dr. Ela Nutu Hall, Ian Wallis and Steve Moyses

WHAT'S ON IN THE MISSION AREA:

ST MARY'S WALKLEY:

- **Saturday 7 December 10 - 12** Coffee morning with Wreath making workshop
- **Saturday 14 December 10 - 4** (Church and Hall) Walkley Christmas Market organised by Walkley Festival group. St Mary's are providing drinks, cakes and possible other activities

[More on their website here.](#)



BEER & hymns

The Ranmoor Inn, 20th November, 8pm

The choir and clergy of St John's, Ranmoor invite you to join them for some favourite hymns and a pint at The Ranmoor Inn.

For more information contact rowan.ireland@johnsranmoor.org.uk

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

REQUIEM MOZART

Ave Maris Stella - Cecilia McDowall
Adagio & Fugue in C minor K. 546 - Mozart
Adagio - Guillaume Lekeu

Hallam Choral
Hallam Sinfonia
and soloists

Musical Director: Kate Thompson

Tickets £15 adults
£5 students
(Under 18s free)
Cash or card
on the door or
scan QR code



St. Mark's Church
Broomhill, S10 2SE
Saturday 23 November
7.30pm



THE ENVIRONMENT:

COP 29 - Whilst we pray for our world leaders at COP29, you may also like to urge our Prime Minister to oversee a full action plan for getting to Net Zero by 2050 - we don't currently have a plan which will get us there, despite our targets

<https://action.friendsoftheearth.uk/petition/tell-pm-stop-the-climate-lawbreaking-2030>

RECYCLING IN SHEFFIELD – New Resource Available!

Our Environment Group has created a *Recycling Opportunities Around Sheffield* guide, highlighting local options for recycling various materials. The PDF is now on our website on our environment pages– [click here](#). Let's work together to make sustainable choices for our community!



GOOD NEWS ON THE CLIMATE AND NATURE BILL - Now is an exciting moment for the Climate and Nature Bill, the only 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. Thanks to Dr Roz Savage MP, the Bill is now going through Parliament but it needs our help. We need at least 102 MPs to attend the second reading and support the bill on Friday 24 January to take it to the Committee stage. Should you like to help, please write to your MP **NOW** asking them to attend this rather than book something else in their diaries. [The Zero Hour website](#) makes it really easy to write a personalised email. [Watch Ros Savage's 1.5 min video about it.](#)



THE MARCH FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE JUSTICE takes place in London on Saturday 16th November to coincide with the COP29 summit, starting from outside the British Museum on Great Russell Street at 12 noon. If you wish to attend, please speak to Alan Yearsley or email alan_yearsley@hotmail.com. Details of the event can be found at <https://climatejustice.uk/cop29/>

NOVEMBER 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:

Green your home. Combat climate change and reduce heating costs by identifying and sealing drafts around your home. Find the gaps that let the cold air in and warm air out (think keyholes, letterboxes, cracks around the edges or bottoms of windows and doors, loft hatches, floorboards, etc.) and fix these gaps using the correct materials and online tutorials. Additionally, place foil or radiator panels to reflect heat into your room. Pray for those who might be experiencing the cold this winter

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