



The Beacon

Newsletter of St John's Church, Worksop

March 2026

Inside this issue

P1

Church Warden's message

P2

Mothers' Union Anniversary Year

P3

Rachel's Story

P3

Christian Radio

P4

Dates for your diary

P5

About St John's
What's on each week

*Phill Kicks, one of
our Church Wardens, writes*



I have been thinking and praying while away as to what this year might hold for the family of St Johns.

On looking outside, it is cold, wet, dirty, and dismal following all the severe weather. But if you look closer the snowdrops are in full bloom, crocuses and daffodils are on the edge of blooming. Best of all is that the rhubarb and other fruits I transferred last year are sprouting and indicating life is still there.

That is where we are as a church; we are at a new beginning.

Gareth was transferred in and is finding his feet. A new year will start at the Annual Meeting (22nd March - Vision Sunday), when the old team will hand over to him, and a new beginning will start.

He will pick up our vision and tell us all how he hopes to make all those words, currently on paper, along with his vision, become a reality.

We went through the dark and dismal times together, but we had faith. We worked to keep our church open, fruitful, and especially for new shoots to take root. Now the new Gardener can take over and make us all fruitful for Christ.



Mothers' Union 150th Anniversary

Mary Sumner was the wife of an Anglican clergyman. She saw that women needed support, education and Christian input. She founded the Mothers Union in 1876 and despite many problems, such as class distinctions and lack of organisation, the movement grew until today it operates in 84 countries and is a powerful force for Women's Development. MU fights for women to be viewed as equal partners in all spheres of life. It works politically and socially, but always Christian values and prayer are at the centre.

There are celebrations occurring all over the country. In Manchester Cathedral on Saturday 14th March, a Prayer Capsule containing many prayers will be received. On 22nd March the Capsule will arrive at St John's around 3.00 pm and there will be a short service where it will be passed on to the Sheffield Diocese.

A National Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Paul's Cathedral on 10th June and a global ceremony will be held in Durban in South Africa.

We are very honoured that St John's MU will play a play in the 150th Celebrations as our Branch is over 100 years old.

There are leaflets at the back of church explaining our work. Please feel free to take one.



From the Bible



"See! The winter is past;
the rains are over and gone.
Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come"

Song of Songs ch 2 v 11,12



Rachel's Story

I first became a member of St John's when I was 14. My friend Jill invited me along when I stayed at her home in the Summer and then I carried on coming to church. We went to the Church houseparty in the Autumn and then I gave my life to Jesus and became a Christian.

At that time there was quite a large youth group. Alan Hardstaff, Jess Rudman and Jane Moxon were leaders. We had some great times and I met Ian through this group. We have two daughters. Anna and Eleanor and I love spending time with my 2 year old granddaughter.

I work as an Occupational Therapist, with older people who have dementia or mental health problems. The emphasis is on maintaining independence and quality of life. People with dementia may forget what they have done, but remember the positive feelings of doing something nice. They very much live for the moment. I also do some work with anxiety management and promotion of the positive benefits of activity.

I like painting and art work and will look out for opportunities to do craftwork. I am learning the piano and also spend a lot of time reading.

With Church the most satisfying thing I am involved in is with our lovely Home Group. It's been great seeing people grow and develop in their relationships with Jesus

I like this quote -

"Human nature is not fixed and for this we should thank God day and night! We are still capable of change - we can become something other than what we are" (A.W. Tozer, pastor and author).

This gives me hope for all of us.

I also often think about this

"I admire people who go way in, but I wish that they would not forget how it was before they got in. Then they would be able to help the people who have not even found the door, or the people who want to run away from God. You can go in too deeply and stay in too long and forget the people outside the door."

(Samuel Moor Shoemaker).

I don't know anything about the person who wrote it, but it encourages me to stay real.

As we all are, I am excited to be involved in what the Lord is going to do in St John's over the next months and years.

Rachel

Christian Music Review

I came across this *YouTube Music* track the other day. For me it closed off the Beacon articles I had done earlier this year (Jan-Feb), looking at the impact of AI. It's called 'Great I Am' by New Life Worship (circa 2013) and I felt reassured by the line;

*Hallelujah, Holy Holy, God Almighty,
Great I Am.*

*Who is Worthy, none beside Thee, God Almighty,
Great I Am.*

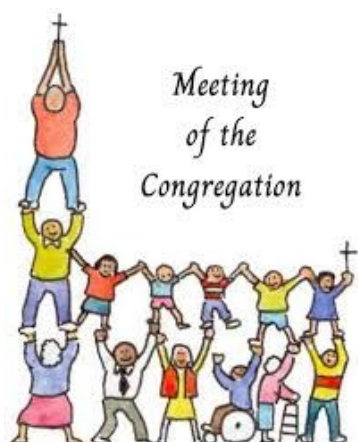
URL link:

https://youtu.be/D7HSYv203Co?si=NqNj-rwWjOhIS_fl

Feel free to get back to me with any comments

Chris L





ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Sunday 22nd March –after Morning Service

All regular church members are welcome to attend this event at which we look back over the past 12 months and look forward to the coming year. It is a special time to give thanks for all God has done during this challenging year and seek His vision for our future.



**Tuesday @ 10 March 31st
Coffee Morning**

Visiting speaker, Maria Burbidge will tell us about the life and achievements of Lady Mary Wortley of Thoresby Hall



Spring Flower Quiz

- 1 Which country is known for its tulips?
- 2 Which Spring flower is protected by the Wildlife & Countryside Act?
- 3 Name 2 Spring flowers with medicinal value.
- 4 Which Spring flower belongs to the asparagus family?
- 5 Which country considers blooming cherry blossom as the onset of Spring?

Answers

- 1 Netherlands
- 2 Bluebell
- 3 Jasmine & Primrose
- 4 Hyacinth
- 5 Japan



About St J's



St John's is a Bible-based, evangelical Anglican Church, open to the moving of the Holy Spirit.

We aim to show the love of Christ to all.

Our main Sunday worship is at 10.30a.m. There is 'Kids' Church' for children aged 3 years and over. Also a creche for under 3s. '**Sunday @ 6**' is an informal evening meeting in the church lounge.

We welcome all who come into our buildings for any reason.

Prayer underpins everything as we support each other in a loving community and reach out to others.



Sunday Services

10.30 am Morning Worship
+ Kids, Church
6.00 pm Sunday @ 6.00
Informal service in the
Church Hall Lounge

Contact Point

Church Office:

Overend Road, Worksop S81 1QG
[usually open Friday a.m. from 9.30—12 noon]
Tel: 01909 472595

Email: office.worksopstjohn@gmail.com

Vicar: Revd Gareth Banton 07897 005843
garethrbanton@gmail.com

Church Website:

www.stjohnschurchworksop.co.uk

Heritage Website: <https://worksopspire.org>

Regular Weekly Diary

Tuesday 10.00—12 noon
Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1.00 pm Mothers' Union
(1st Wed'day of the month)
7.00 pm
Lifeline Praise and Prayer

OR Home Groups

Friday 7.00—8.30 (alternate weeks)
Games Night for all ages

Saturday 10.00—12 noon
Church open to all

*For more details of the above ask one
of our leaders*



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'St John's Church, Worksop'