

St John the Divine Rastrick

Your Parish Magazine



£1.50

June 2026

Parish of St John the Divine, Rastrick
St John the Divine, Gooder Lane, Rastrick, HD6 1HN

Vicar

Rev'd Michelle Petch - 01484 710538 - vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk

Churchwardens

David Marshall - 01484 718182 - mars42@hotmail.co.uk

Hilary Cartwright - 01484 537399 - hilarymccarthy54@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Ministers

Alan Hoggard - 07756 035591- alanhoggard@btinternet.com

Anne Wiggin - 07507 155186.

Pastoral Minister

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

Safeguarding

Jane Hearson - 07503 931444 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

Health & Safety

Please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

Hall Bookings

Christine Whitaker - 01484 710952 - bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

Our Prayer For Growth

God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,

Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,

wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.

Help our churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment

to you, and in service to our local community,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

Here is a list of regular activities which occur in our church.
Please contact Group Leaders for details of their activities.

Sunday Services in Church

- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Worship (2nd Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Joint Benefice Service (5th Sunday as announced)
- 1:00 p.m. BSL (*British Sign Language*) Service (2nd Sunday)

Mondays in the Community Hall

- 6:00 p.m. Rainbows and Brownies
- 7:30 p.m. Guides
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Monday Meet - 50 Archbell Avenue
- 7:00 p.m. Beer & Banter Men's Group (Various Mondays, monthly
at The Four Sons, Clough Lane) - Alan: 07756 035591

Tuesdays in Church

- 2:00 p.m. Mothers' Union (3rd Tuesday in the month)

Tuesdays in the Community Hall

- 12:00 noon Community Lunch (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:30 p.m. Reminiscent Cinema (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. Tai-Chi

Wednesday Service in Church

- 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th weeks in the month)

Wednesdays in the Community Hall

- Time Wednesday Nighters (1st Wednesday in the month)
- Varies in the Sturrock Room.

Fridays

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (by Zoom). Alan:07756 035591

Rev'd Michelle writes



As I write this, the promised heatwave has arrived. Only a few days ago I was shivering with cold and now the sun is shining down upon us all. You never quite know at this time of year what the weather will bring, but in general we can expect temperatures to rise as we enter June and the season of summer. And we can praise God that, unlike the weather, He is dependable and unchangeable. I am reminded of probably the most famous verse from the Bible on this theme, 'The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness'. Lam 3: 22-23.

As June begins, we enter the long season in the church of ordinary time. After all the celebrations of Easter, Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity we can settle down and take some time to rest and reflect and grow our faith. The lush greenness of the natural world all around us at this time of year reminds us to do this too – to take time to 'grow with God.'

While things might be a little quieter in the church, I do encourage you to join in with all that is on offer. To join us for our regular worship on Sundays, consider the START course if you are new to faith or considering baptism or confirmation, come to a Wednesday communion service, join a home group, come to a healing service. There is much going on to get involved in and to help you to grow in faith.

And so, as we enjoy the warmer weather and watching the plants and flowers grow at this time of year, let's also take the opportunity to consider ways to grow God's kingdom in our own lives and in the communities around us.

With my prayers and every blessing

Michelle

SERVICES AND CHURCH INFORMATION

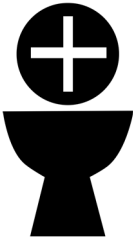
SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - JUNE

Sunday 7th - 11:00 - 1st Sunday after Trinity - All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 14th - 11:00 - 2nd Sunday after Trinity - Holy Communion
1:00pm - BSL (British Sign Language) Service

Sunday 21st - 11:00 - 3rd Sunday after Trinity - Morning Worship

Sunday 28th - 11:00 - 4th Sunday after Trinity - Holy Communion



MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - JUNE

Wednesday 3rd - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 10th - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 17th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 24th - 10:30 - St John's

NEXT UNITED BENEFICE SERVICE

◇ Sunday August 30th - 10:30 - Joint Benefice Service (St J's)

NEXT SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S WITH PRAYER MINISTRY

* Sunday 21st June (11:00)

NEXT HEALING & WHOLENESS SERVICE

* Sunday 28th June (4:00)



Please join Rev'd Michelle live on St John's Facebook page for Morning Prayer at 8.30am every morning Tuesday to Saturday,



or you can catch up later in the day on Facebook or via the link on the home page of our Website.

PRAYER PAGE

Do you have a favourite prayer,
or have you come across a special prayer recently
which you'd like to share?

The following prayer has been sent in by Shirley,
and is one which she has written herself.

Shirley says: "I have taken my prayer from the 23rd Psalm
as I think it covers an up to date thanks giving for my life."

*Heavenly Father, with you as my Shepherd,
I don't need a thing!*

*You have enabled me to lie down in a comfortable,
secure and peaceful place*

*And have given me confidence in my journey
through life.*

*Even when the way gets tough, I'm not afraid
when you walk by my side.*

*I know you will keep me safe as a shepherd when
looking after his flock*

*I have always had something to eat when things
were difficult*

*and you have lifted my spirits when I was tired.
My cup brims with blessings.*

*Your goodness and love still follow me
every day of my life*

and I will remain in Your house forever.

Amen

Prayer Ministry

Prayer Ministry is offered monthly during the 11am Parish Communion Service.

An opportunity to bring concerns, people and situations before God in prayer alongside someone else.

Please come to the main door of the Lady Chapel after receiving communion if you would like to take part.

- ◆ 21st June
- ◆ 19th July
- ◆ 16th August

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Phil 4:6)



A service of prayer and thanksgiving for

Healing and Wholeness 2026

Sundays @ 4 pm

Feb 15th, April 26th, June 28th, Sept 20th, Nov 22nd

An informal gathering with music and videos to reflect, to pray and receive prayer for our Community, Our World, Others, and Ourselves.

For further information, contact Alan 07756035591

All welcome

Daily Lectionary Readings June 2026

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<u>01-Jun</u>	<u>02-Jun</u>	<u>03-Jun</u>	<u>04-Jun</u>	<u>05-Jun</u>	<u>06-Jun</u>
The Visitation Romans 12.9-16 Luke 1.39-49 [50-56]	Psalms 5 Joshua 7.16-end Luke 10.38-end	Psalms 119.1-32 Joshua 8.1-29 Luke 11.1-13	Psalms 14 Joshua 8.30-end Luke 11.14-28	Psalms 17 Joshua 9.3-26 Luke 11.29-36	Psalms 20 Joshua 10.1-15 Luke 11.37-end
<u>08-Jun</u>	<u>09-Jun</u>	<u>10-Jun</u>	<u>11-Jun</u>	<u>12-Jun</u>	<u>13-Jun</u>
Psalms 27 Joshua 14 Luke 12.1-12	Psalms 32 Joshua 21.43 – 22.8 Luke 12.13-21	Psalms 34 Joshua 22.9-end Luke 12.22-31	Barnabas the Apostle Acts 11.19-end John 15.12-17	Psalms 31 Joshua 24.1-28 Luke 12.41-48	Psalms 41 Joshua 24.29-end Luke 12.49-end
<u>15-Jun</u>	<u>16-Jun</u>	<u>17-Jun</u>	<u>18-Jun</u>	<u>19-Jun</u>	<u>20-Jun</u>
Psalms 44 Judges 2 Luke 13.1-9	Psalms 48 Judges 4.1-23 Luke 13.10-21	Psalms 119.57-80 Judges 5 Luke 13.22-end	Psalms 56 Judges 6.1-24 Luke 14.1-11	Psalms 51 Judges 6.25-end Luke 14.12-24	Psalms 68 Judges 7 Luke 14.25-end
<u>22-Jun</u>	<u>23-Jun</u>	<u>24-Jun</u>	<u>25-Jun</u>	<u>26-Jun</u>	<u>27-Jun</u>
Psalms 71 Judges 8.22-end Luke 15.1-10	Psalms 73 Judges 9.1-21 Luke 15.11-end	Birth of John the Baptist Galatians 3.23-end Luke 1.57-66, 80	Psalms 78.1-39* Judges 11.1-11 Luke 16.19-end	Psalms 55 Judges 11.29-end Luke 17.1-10	Psalms 76 Judges 12.1-7 Luke 17.11-19
<u>29-Jun</u>	<u>30-Jun</u>	<u>01-Jul</u>	<u>02-Jul</u>	<u>03-Jul</u>	<u>04-Jul</u>
Peter and Paul Galatians 3.23-end Luke 1.57-66, 80	Psalms 87 Judges 14 Luke 18.1-14	Psalms 119.105-128 Judges 15.1 – 16.3 Luke 18.15-30	Psalms 90 Judges 16.4-end Luke 18.31-end	Thomas the Apostle Ephesians 2.19-end John 20.24-29	Psalms 96 Judges 18.1-20 Luke 19.11-27

Other Apps and websites that are worth exploring: 'Everyday Faith', 'Our Daily Bread' 'Lectio 365', 'Daily Prayer', 'Word for Today' Google search or find them on play store.

Or Join Michelle online Tuesday - Saturday on Facebook: [stjohnthedivinerastrick](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivinerastrick)

Monday Meet 2 pm – 4 pm

All Welcome

At the home of Shirley Stow
50 Archbell Avenue, HD6 3SU

An informal gathering with the opportunity
To unpack the Bible readings from the previous day,
Talk current issues, tackle everyday dilemmas,
Drink coffee, and eat cake.

Faith, fun and fellowship

For further information or to confirm location
call Shirley (01484 714209 or Alan (07756 035591)

BSL Service at St John's, Rastrick,

Second Sunday each month:

11 Jan, 8 Feb, 8 Mar, 12 Apr, 10 May, 14 June



St John's Rastrick HD6 1HT



12.15pm = Coffee
1pm Service start.

Email: deafminister@leeds.anglican.org

The Vicar's Remarks at the APCM



We plod along nicely week in week out, and I think it's only when you stop and consciously take stock that you realise how much has actually been achieved, and that we are moving forward and growing in such a positive way. You can read all the practical detail in the APCM booklet, but there are some things I wish to highlight or add.

Firstly, in terms of **worship**. We have a good mix with organists and music group, and an occasional Morning Worship in addition to our regular communion services. Thanks to Alan and Anne our LLM's for their leading of worship and all our musicians. I also thank Alan and Anne for their input with home groups, healing services, Lent courses and so on. Of course, Anne was licenced to us as LLM last September. Many of us went to Battyeford for the service. It's great that she is staying with us, and I know her ministry is appreciated. We now also have the monthly BSL deaf service. Rev'd Jill Swallow covers services when I'm away – special thanks to her for that.

We've had lots of special services along the way in 2025 – joint Benefice, various groups – panto, Rucksack and so on. Saturday coffee mornings are doing really well. We see to have celebrated lots of birthdays – especially 90's, and other special occasions. A particular highlight was on September 28th when Canon Michael Story celebrated 50 years since his ordination, and Alan 25 years as a Reader.

Secondly, our work in **the community**. I regularly visit the schools to give talks, take assemblies or welcome the children into church for visits and special services. We now have a team who visit the men at Cygnet Lodge on a fortnightly basis. A small team led by Jane also take a service monthly at St Winifred's. Thank you to her, and for her other role as safeguarding officer.

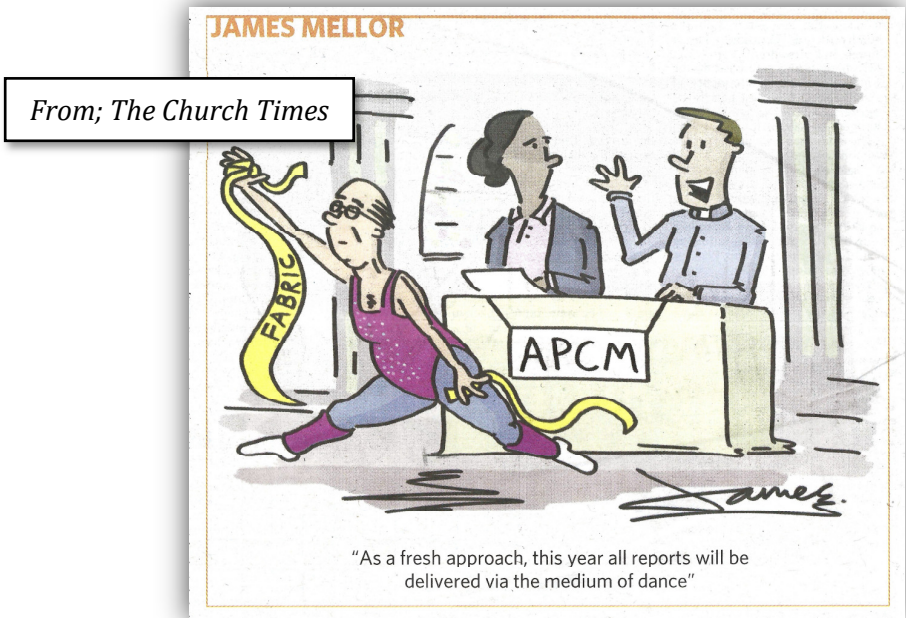
In church the porch wasn't quite finished for Christmas, but it is now. It was paid for by grants and means we no longer have those cold draughts. Sadly Cherry had a stroke and had to step back from many of her roles. I'm grateful to Alan and a number of others for taking over care of the finances. Our numbers are growing and it's lovely to see some younger people. We have a strong MU branch, Eco group, Missions and Charities and others. We have had 3 baptisms in 2025, no weddings, and sadly 6 funerals including Margaret Raine.

A big **thank you** to everyone who has had an official role during the last year and everyone who has helped in any way to keep the show on the road. As I've said in previous years, I consider it a privilege to be your Vicar and serve you.

There is always lots more to do as we journey on together, but God has been good to us and am sure will continue to sustain us and be with us in the years ahead.

God bless you all.

Michelle



David was thankful that the Vicar was having second thoughts regarding the delivery of the Fabric Report...



Hand to Mouth Ministries

HAND TO MOUTH

Could you be one of our school volunteers?

- A heart for children
- A heart for schools
- A few spare hours
- A desire to share faith



What does volunteering involve?

Our Amazing Journey into a holy space is a series of around 7 stations based on a theme that helps children to think about and reflect on the Christian faith and their own beliefs. Volunteers help by reading instructions to pairs of children, assisting them with simple activities. This enables children to focus, absorb and enjoy the session. Volunteers bring a wonderful opportunity for the children to really engage and chat about what they are learning.

I was so happy because of how God likes me

Stay with us for a couple of hours or for the whole school day

Join us in one school, or in several in your local area.

Volunteer with us whenever it suits you: fit your school visits in around your other commitments.

No minimum commitment: work with us as often as you want.

What happens next?

If you'd like to see what we and our volunteers get up to in school, we'll send you an expression of interest form to fill in, and arrange for you to visit a local school with us.

Contact us! Email: office@handtomouth.org.uk

Safeguarding

If you decide you'd like to become a volunteer, we follow a simple but important volunteer recruitment process. Please ask if you have any questions.

Your invitation to...

Start!

Are you fairly new to Church, or perhaps you are returning after a break?

Are you wanting to find out more about the basics of the Christian faith?

Maybe you are considering baptism or confirmation?

The START Course

Six one and a half hour sessions
with films, time to talk, listen and ask questions.

Including Breakfast!

- *What's Life all about and where are we going?*
- *Is there a God and what is he like?*
- *Why is life so messy?*
- *Who is Jesus?*
- *Why the Cross, and what does it mean for me today?*
- *Where do I get started and how far forward can I go with God in my life?*



In St. Matthew's Church, 10:00 - 11:30 on the following dates:

Saturdays 13th, 20th, 27th June, 4th, 11th, 18th July

Please speak to Rev'd Michelle if you are interested,
or would simply like to know more about this 6 week course.

01484 710538 - vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk



MU MATTERS

**Mothers' Union Matters,
Join us, join in.....we are changing lives.**

It's a bit like Marmite, you either like it or not. You either think the extensive regeneration of Brighouse town centre is a waste of money and will present many problems for Brighouse, the community and for the shop keepers, or you think it will rejuvenate Brighouse town centre, providing safe and attractive walkways and a much calmer atmosphere with less traffic coming along Commercial Street using our town as a rat run to avoid the traffic lights, potholes and roundabouts on the outskirts. No matter what your views are, it will be different. But at the moment it looks chaotic.



Have you noticed how in the centre of the roadworks in Brighouse, there are not only barriers preventing our walking across the road to a particular shop but they change on a daily basis preventing our using a way through only to find that it is now blocked off? Are you aware that just outside Aldi there are two gates enabling the heavy digging machinery to move from one section of the works to another? These gates, and there is a similar one close to Wetherspoons, are controlled by a "Gateman". He has the final say in letting machinery through, or not, in the interests of pedestrian and workmen's safety. At the end of every day the site is swept and the roads and footpaths are left as clean and tidy as possible.

It's like life really, isn't it? Except that there are no gates or blocked footways to Heaven. We can keep sweeping up after ourselves each day praying that the following day will be less full of temptations and issues. God sweeps us clean and then we go and muck it up again. The barriers we face are all made by mortals. The Mothers' Union provides life line help and assistance to many different and varied people and communities, in the UK and much further afield. Through fundraising we send money and gifts of love to those who are in greater need, whose lives are chaotic. Items of clothing go to the many orphanages, which now exist, in Ukraine. Money is raised to fund support sessions for women in Burundi who are not numerate or literate.... these sessions are a wonderful way to enable the women to start to run their own small businesses and to enable them to check their change when haggling on the markets. ...less chaotic and more managed. Here in Yorkshire many MU ladies volunteer for work in the prison at Mirfield hoping to add a little normality into the women's lives with cookery sessions, providing welcome drinks to their visitors and being alongside the women who have babies with them. The MU raises awareness of Modern Day Slavery and supports with Gifts of Love to those who had fled their homes where there is domestic abuse.

Christians across the world have been celebrating Easter and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. His supreme sacrifice for us all has cleared away the gates and barriers and each day we can sweep clean enabling us to be closer to God. The stone got rolled away from the mouth of the tomb. I wonder what are the stones and barriers which block our way forward?

To know more about the Mothers Union contact me
juliatum65a@gmail.com

Julia

Missions & Charities

The Turning Point Counselling Service

16 Church Lane, Brighouse, HD6 1AT



ANXIOUS?

FEELING LOW?

DEPRESSED?

OVERWHELMED?

FEELING LOST?

BEREAVED?

Why Choose Us?

- ✓ Low-cost Counselling
- ✓ Self Referral
- ✓ Client Led Therapy
- ✓ Based in Brighouse

What our clients say...

“Being able to talk about a range of issues without being judged has been both enlightening & freeing.”

“If it wasn't for Turning Point, I don't know where I would be today. It has been a real life-saver.”

“I really feel the counselling has changed my outlook on life and has helped to repair my mental health.”



For more information call **01484 950808**
or to complete an online enquiry form, scan the
QR code to visit our website.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

www.turningpoint-brighouse.org.uk

Register

**Please support the Coffee Morning
on June 13th 10:00-12:00
in aid of this excellent charity**



Appeal for old reading glasses

Prison Chaplain Revd. Roger Reece, has made an appeal for old reading glasses.

The MU are collecting these reading glasses for men in prisons who have never been to an Optician and therefore are unable to read anything due to their sight having never been checked. I cannot imagine what it would be like not to be able to read !!

There will be a box at the back of church for this. Maybe you or your friends or relatives have some old glasses lurking in a cupboard or drawer somewhere which you could place in the box? Thank you.



Deadline Sunday 21st June

Ann Johnson

BRIGHOUSE CENTRAL FOODBANK

We are grateful for all your contributions to the Brighouse Central Foodbank. In June we would particularly appreciate the following:

- Cans of custard
- Jars of jam
- Cans of baked beans with sausages.

Thank you so much for your support.

Rosemary & Norman



St. John's Rucksack Club

Rucksack Club 7th June

Leader : Tina Butterick

Area: Illingworth

Half Day Walk : This half day walk is approximately 4 miles long and takes just over 2 hours to complete. It starts and terminates at Illingworth Moor Methodist Church where there is ample parking.

Participants will enjoy wonderful views around Ogden Water and various paths, tracks and fields along the way. Only one short, steepish incline, but worth it for the view.

Depart Church 1.15 pm

Contact Details : 07719963548



Rucksack Club 27th June

Depart Church: 9.30

Leaders: Jenny Rawson : 07985232515

Sandra Hollingdrake :07531906738

Details:

5 mile walk from Heptonstall main car park in the village. We go through the village, a steady climb through Eden Wood onto Heptonstall Moor (lovely Views) then over the moors passing Jack Bridge and Hebble Hole Bridge into Eaves Wood. We return to Heptonstall. A few stiles to cross on the walk.

RUCKSACK CLUB - SUMMER LUNCH

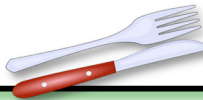
Our summer lunch will take place at 2.00 pm on Sunday 28th June at the home of Oriel Kelly, 8 Healey Wood Gardens

The cost will be £10 children under the age of 12 free.

Please bring your own folding chair.

To help maintain costs we would welcome salad donations

Contact Roger Ellis at: rogmarg.ellis@gmail.com
or 01484 718013 by Sunday 21st June
if you would like to attend
so that we can order the food.



FLOWERS FOR A SPECIAL MEMORY

Thank you to

Wednesday Nighters
Michael Storey
Gerald Savage

for donating monies
to the Flower Fund in May
It is much appreciated



What the Vicar has been doing

Just a selection...



Chaired the APCM



Spirituality Conference,
Launde Abbey



Rita's Baptism



Sundown Swing!

At the Christian Aid Coffee Morning



Pentecost Praise



Sang, "Hallelujah" with the Rastrick Voices at the 'Gloria' concert

Knit & Natter at St M's



Ascension Day Assemblies at Woodhouse School



Baptism talks Year 1 Woodhouse School



St. M's Coffee Morning



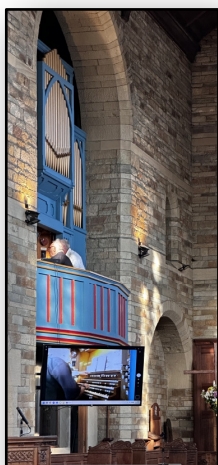
Led the MU Retreat at the Briery, Ilkley

Our wonderful Conacher organ

I wonder whether you were at the 'Gloria Concert' on 17th May, because if so, you'll have heard the two fabulous pieces Graham Kennedy played on our lovely Conacher - two contrasting pieces, but both so sensitively played for the style of the music. *Intermezzo* from *Cavalleria Rusticana* finished with the most beautiful high 'flute' sound, which Graham tells me was, "The choir stopped diapason on its own, high up in its register making a beautiful sound", and then the *Toccata* from Boëllmann's *Gothic Suite* which built up the volume and the tension till the music just just took your breath away.

According to Graham, our particular organ is, "*great for people who are organists because they get to do orchestration and sound mixing whenever they play. It is particularly good on the St John's Conacher because of its roots in the cinema / theatre world. It has lots of options for solo stops with many different 'colours'.*" I do know that neither of those pieces would have been possible before the refurbishment.

Also at the same concert, when the organ (Graham again) accompanied the *Hallelujah Chorus*, a member of the audience remarked that THAT was the organ at its best, it's what it was meant for, and that you can't beat a good pipe organ!



There has been a lot in the media (Facebook in particular) about the decline in pipe organs and the alarm this is sparking. According to 'Pipe up for Pipe Organs', nine organs a week are getting scrapped. Sadly, some of these are due to church closures, but the cost of maintenance and repairs is also a factor, as is the introduction of Worship Bands. I'm very happy with Worship Bands, but I do still feel there's a place and a need for both, and as long as congregations consist of various ages and various tastes in music (when different music 'speaks' to different people), then we mustn't throw the baby out with the bath water!

David Price Concert
2025

In the 'Church Times, the Very Revd Dr Michael Higgins (former Dean of Ely) remarks that the organist's part in worship is crucial in encouraging singing and bringing worship alive. He also believes that, "*The days of the pipe organ could be numbered in all but our larger parish churches*". At St. John's, we know first hand how the organ inspires us and greatly adds to our worship.

As a desirable organ to play, it is also gaining popularity. We've had open console days, concerts and recitals, each time bringing new people into church,

I'm sure, like me, you are so grateful to our Vicar and PCC for having the foresight to preserve our unique organ. We could so easily have lost it for good. I know that if we hadn't gone ahead with the refurbishment, it would now be making a very sorry sound, with missing notes, stops not working, and before the refurbishment the bellows were dangerously near to completely packing in, leaving us with no sound (no organ) at all!

Hallelujah! ...that the organ continues to inspire us in our worship,

...and that includes the *Hallelujah Chorus!*

As Rev'd Michelle quoted during our organ celebrations:

Praise the Lord!... ..Praise him with strings and [organ] pipe!
Psalm 150: 1a 4b NRSV

Pam

DAVID PRICE - CONCERT ORGANIST

SUMMER UK TOUR 2026



Accommodation needed.

David Price FRCO (CHM) is again including our wonderful Conacher organ at St John's in his 2026 UK Summer tour.

The recital is on Thursday 2nd July.
He will need B&B for two nights (1st. & 2nd.)

Can you help please? If so, please let Pam know. Thanks.



ECO Group

The People's Emergency Briefing - by John

Saturday 6th June, 7-9 pm in the Church Hall

Just to summarise in case you haven't been following the story: A large group of experts who study the physical sciences including



climate and nature, plus specialists in healthcare, national security etc., came together to produce an event on 25th November 2025. All were concerned that we need to take urgent action to adapt to the changes that threaten life as we know it. The solutions already exist. They need implementing!

All MP's and Lords were invited to the event; 150 attended, one-sixth of them. The organisers decided to produce a film to be shown in every constituency, with MPs invited. Their aim: for parliament to vote for the film to be shown on national TV. It includes clips from the expert briefings featured in the original event in Westminster Hall, plus comments specially for this film.

We are now unlikely to have a preliminary viewing, so **please book a (free) ticket by scanning the QR code on the poster.** Otherwise, call John on 07505 823037.

Church Coffee Mornings

Coffee & Cake!

Held on the second Saturday each month. 10:00 - 12:00

Here's the complete list for the year.

January 10th:	Hosted by the Wednesday Nighters ✓
February 14th:	Hosted by the Church Musicians ✓
March 14th:	Hosted by Missions & Charities ✓
April 11th:	Hosted by Wednesday Nighters ✓
May 9th:	Hosted by Christian Aid ✓
June 13th:	Turning Point
July 11th:	Hosted by the Brownies
August 8th:	Hosted by the Mothers' Union
September 12th:	Hosted by the Mara Group
October 10th:	Hosted by the Rucksack Club
November 14th:	Hosted by the ECO Group
December 12th:	Hosted by the Mothers' Union



Notes from a churchwarden 15 – The Final Frontier

"Space: the final frontier. These are the voyages of the starship Enterprise. Its five year mission: to explore strange new worlds; to seek out new life and new civilizations; to boldly go where no man has gone before!" I suspect most of us are familiar with that opening to the television programme 'Star Trek'. Well, in 1977, a small unmanned probe was launched into space, its five year mission etc, etc. This small probe was called 'Voyager 1'. Its mission was to fly by Jupiter and Saturn, before heading out into interstellar space, sending back all sorts of scientific information to earth. On board was a golden disc with various details about planet earth, its occupants and its place in the universe, together with instructions how to play it, just in case the probe was picked up by some intelligent life elsewhere.

It was still travelling and sending back information in 1990, and before NASA switched its camera off, it was turned round and took one last picture of earth from a distance of 5 billion miles. This is that picture (with the earth ringed). I find it quite sobering, seeing that tiny dot captured in a shaft of sunlight, surrounded by nothingness. It reminds me of the biblical phrase '.....for dust you are and to dust you shall return". I must admit, if I was God, I'd probably create several worlds and place them so far apart, there couldn't be any communication between them, and just see how they all developed, but that's just me.



It also reminds me of the reference to Earth in the comedic book 'The Hitch Hikers Guide to the Galaxy' by Douglas Adams, where it is described as a one word entry as 'Harmless' which is then updated to 'Mostly harmless'. It helps put things in perspective, and for me at any rate, just helps confirm the existence of the Almighty, however he may manifest himself.

Voyager 1 is still travelling and sending back information, now 48 years after its launch, albeit some of its instruments have been



switched off to conserve power. It takes nearly one day for information to reach Earth, and the probe is now 15 billion miles away.

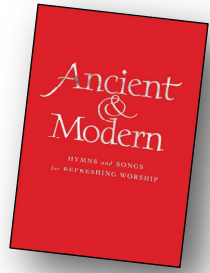
To put that in some sort of context, it recently passed the one light day distance

from Earth. The nearest star, apart from our Sun, is Proxima Centauri, which is 4.3 light years away. Such distances are difficult to comprehend. Voyager 1 hopefully will have enough power to keep going for another 3 or 4 years, after which it will continue travelling until it hits something, is picked up by something, or lands somewhere. Voyager 2, launched within a fortnight of Voyager 1, has a similar mission and also carries a golden record. I hope that one or both of them do eventually make contact with some form of life, and I am reminded of a saying I once saw which says 'Do not confine God to a box, which represents the limits of your imagination'.

David Marshall.



Music News



Do you remember the Musicians' Coffee Morning when we were raising money

to buy a couple of new hymn books - one for the organ and one for the Bechstein? Well they've arrived. This new version of an old favourite hymn book includes some of the newer hymns which we enjoy singing, and which we are able to include as we don't need a whole set of congregational books - just the screens! I'm thinking of favourites such as Bernadette Farrell's, "Christ be our light", as well as others, equally lovely, which we may not know yet. Thank you!

Musically, the Voices and the Group have been very busy. I was SO proud of the Rastrick Voices at the Gloria Concert (*See photo on Shirley's page*) when their singing was so controlled, so together and so moving! In true 'Church Musician' mode, we sang the 23rd Psalm (Dibley version!) and John 3: 16 (*God so loved the World, from Stainer's 'The Crucifixion'*), and I'm sure that the sensitive way they sang them must have brought the words home! As a contrast, we finished with, "You'll never walk alone", and of course, there was a repeat of the glorious 'Hallelujah Chorus'.



It was the Music Group's turn at our Pentecost Praise on the afternoon of Pentecost Sunday - and what fabulous weather for an al fresco celebration of the birthday of the Church, followed by a picnic! "The Spirit lives to set us free" we all sang with gusto, in worship, and for anyone on the street to hear! "Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me...", "Right here in this place, the Spirit is moving..." among other things, and of course, "This is the day... ..when the Spirit came..."



We also prayed the Lord's prayer in a variety of languages (*including the Yorkshire dialect!*) as we were reminded of that first Day of Pentecost, when the crowds each heard the Apostles speaking in their own language!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing,
Psalm 100: 1-2 NRSV



Pam

DAVID PRICE - CONCERT ORGANIST

SUMMER UK TOUR 2026



**THURSDAY
2ND JULY
7:30 PM**



The Conacher Organ at St John's

ST JOHN THE DIVINE, RASTRICK

ENTRANCE TO RECITAL FREE (RETIING COLLECTION)

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FROM 7:00

INCLUDING CHEESE & WINE FOLLOWING THE RECITAL

St John the Divine, Gooder Lane, Rastrick

**Hopefully!
...we need volunteers!**



HUDDERSFIELD MEN'S VOICES

present

SUMMER SERENADE

With their Guest

SARAH OGDEN (Mezzo Soprano)

Musical Director: James W Morgan

Accompanist: Jane Robertson

Saturday 11th July at St. John the Divine, St John's Street
HD6 1HT. Commencing 7:15 pm, Doors open 6:30 pm.

Refreshments available

Tickets £12 Children free, available from:
Ryecorn Wholefoods, 33 Bethel Street, Brighouse
Roger Ellis rogmarg.ellis@gmail.com or 07551914243
Scan the QR Code or on the door



This concert is sponsored by RYECORN WHOLEFOODS Ltd



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AIMED AT IMPROVING YOUR WELLBEING.

-  EVERYONE CAN JOIN IN.
-  THESE WALKS ARE A GREAT WAY TO EXPLORE YOUR LOCAL AREA.
-  ADAPTED FOR ALL ABILITIES.
-  THEY ARE FRIENDLY, FUN AND A GOOD WAY TO MEET NEW PEOPLE.
-  NO EQUIPMENT NEEDED, JUST SOME COMFORTABLE SHOES.

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WALK STARTS AT 10

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Caption that!

Can you think of
a suitable caption
for this photo?

The winning caption
will be printed
with the photo
in the next magazine.

Have a go!



Send your suggestions to: stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com
with the heading, 'Caption'. Deadline: Saturday 20th June.



Thank you for all of your
suggestions.

The winning caption
for last month's photo
was sent in by
Alan Hoggard

and was chosen by
Roger, Rod & Derek
from all of your
(*anonymous*) replies:

"What's that woman up to now?"

Eco Church - Swap Stall

The next
Eco Church
Swap Stall
is on:

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th July



COFFEE & CAKE

The next Coffee & Cake in Church
will be on **Saturday 13th June** 10.00-12:00.
To raise money for **Turning Point**



COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next Community Lunch
will be on **Tuesday 2nd June**, 12:00
Followed by the Reminiscent Cinema, 1:30



MU Sheeple Drive

Tuesday the 16th June
at **St. John's**



Tickets £2.50 including tea and biscuits.

There will also be a cake stall.

Time approx. 2.30 after the MU Service.

Rastrick St. John's Beer Festival



**Friday 18th September
3:00pm - 10:30pm**

**Saturday 19th September
1:00pm - 10:30pm**

**BEERS, CIDER & FIZZ
FOOD AVAILABLE**

Entry £4

**Includes a souvenir
glass & programme**

Supporting St. John's and
Cromwell Bottom Wildlife Group



www.stjohnsbeerfestival.org.uk

**Community Hall
St John the Divine
Gooder Lane
Rastrick
HD6 1HN
2 min walk from
Brighouse
Railway Station**



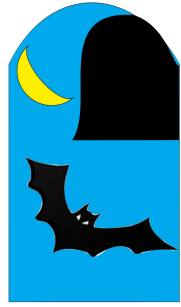
For further details including sponsorship opportunities to promote your business or group please email info@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

PUZZLE PAGE by the Bat in the Beltry

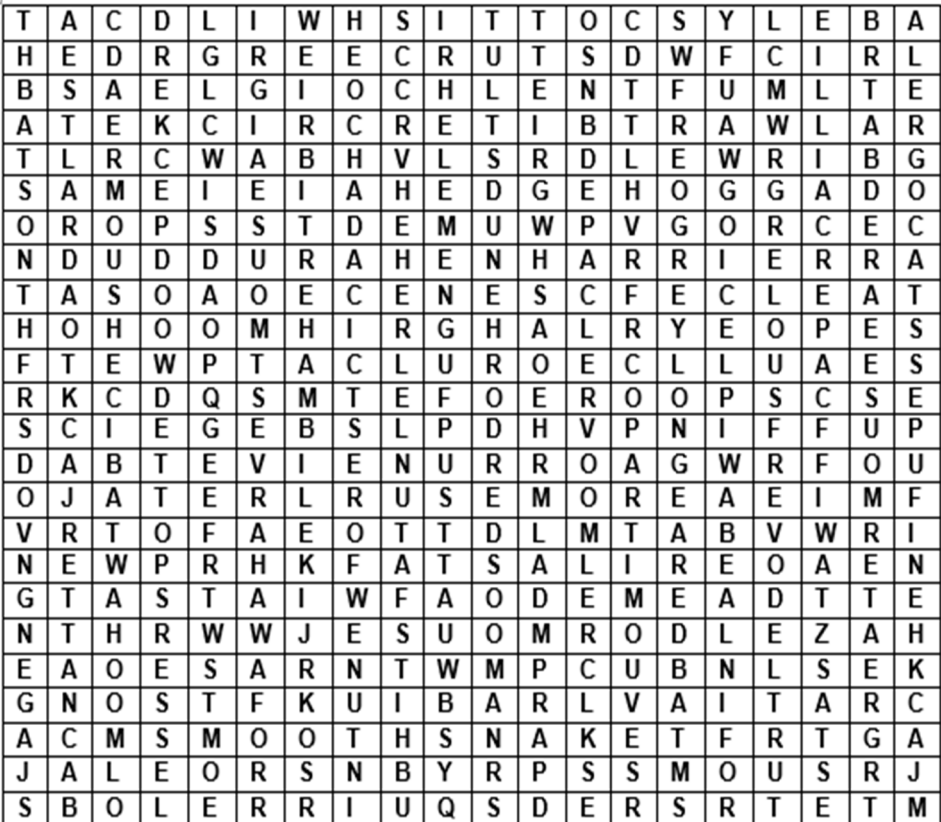
As summer approaches, try these two

26 – 11 Endangered

Below is a list of twenty one British endangered species. Can you find them all in the Wordsearch below? In addition you will see red highlighted letters in the list. If you can unscramble those, you will find a twenty second endangered creature. What is it?



Scottish Wildcat, **Red Squirrel**, **Hazel Dormouse**,
Water Vole, **Hedgehog**, **Greater Mouse-Eared Bat**, **Beaver**,
Grey Long-Eared Bat, **Harvest Mouse**, **Turtle Dove**,
Capercaillie, **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker**, **Hen Harrier**,
Puffin, **Curllew**, **Swift**, **Smooth Snake**, **Natterjack Toad**,
Northern Pool Frog, **Wart Biter Cricket**, **New Forest Cicada**.



26 – 12 MMM...Thinks

Can you work out the following logic puzzles?

1) A man is caught on the king's property. He is brought before the king to be punished. The king says, "You must give me a statement. If it is true, you will be killed by lions. If it is false, you will be killed by the trampling of wild buffalo. If I can't figure it out, I'll have to let you go." Sure enough, the man was released. What was the man's statement?

2) Three men are lined up behind each other. The tallest man is in the back and can see the heads of the two in front of him; the middle man can see the one man in front of him; the man in front can't see anyone. They are blindfolded, and hats are placed on their heads, picked from three black hats and two white hats. The extra two hats are hidden, and the blindfolds are removed. The tallest man is asked if he knows what colour hat he's wearing; he doesn't. The middle man is asked if he knows; he doesn't. But the man in front, who can't see anyone, says he knows. How does he know, and what colour hat is he wearing?

3) Let's pretend we're on the metric system and use kilograms instead of pounds to give us a starting base number of 100. Four people (Alex, Brook, Chris and Dusty) want to cross a river in a boat that can only carry 100kg. Alex weighs 90kg, Brook weighs 80kg, Chris weighs 60kg and Dusty weighs 40kg, and they have 20kg of supplies. How do they get across?



Last month's answers

26 – 09 Sum up

†

6	x	3	/	9	=	2
--	■	+	■	--	■	■
5	+	1	--	4	=	2
X	■	/	■	+	■	■
7	X	2	+	8	=	22
=	■	=	■	=	■	■
7	■	2	■	13	■	■

26 – 10 Mind Maze

- 1) The word 'wrong'
- 2) The name of the ship
- 3) The ship made of wood is heavier. Since pound for pound steel is much stronger than wood, the ship made of wood would require a great deal more material for it to be of equal strength.

MORE NEXT MONTH



SHIRLEY.... BEAUTY IS IN THE EAR OF THE BEHOLDER



Last month I went to a concert of music at St Johns Church. I was not sure if I would enjoy it as the programme gave the names of some pieces I did not recognise. However, I was not disappointed. I did enjoy it. Admittedly, not all of them, but it was interesting to hear some pieces which were new to me. I really enjoyed the music I recognised, particularly The Hallelujah Chorus. The voices of the choir filled the church with a glorious sound full of praise.

I also loved hearing Roger and Hammerstein's, "When You Walk Through a Storm" from their musical, 'Carousel'. This was especially nostalgic for me as it was playing unexpectedly just after my husband had died and it really gave me hope and confidence to face the future with my two young daughters.

Music, I think, is a bit like an artist's brush and pallet with which the artist creates a picture suggesting atmosphere or emotion; or like Mother Nature, when you wander through a quiet wood covered in bluebells you have another picture which stirs emotions.

I am glad I bought that ticket. It has given me this food for thought for all God's gifts around us!

Shirley

AND FINALLY

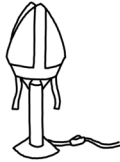
...in honour of the Bishop's visit to the Benefice at the end of May.

MITRES

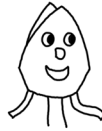
ALTERNATIVE USES



TEA COSY



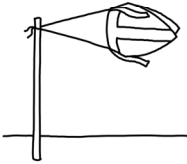
LAMPSHADE



PUPPET



HANGING
BASKET



WINDSOCK



PIPING BAG



DIRECTION
SIGN



OVEN MITT



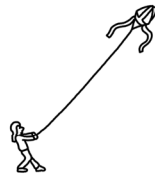
COLLECTION
BAG



BUNTING



WASTE PAPER
BASKET



KITE



POPCORN
HOLDER



BASEBALL
GLOVE



BELLOWS

CartoonChurch.com

Dave Walker - Used with permission

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - JUNE



Monday 1st *(and every Monday)*

Monday Meet. 50 Archbell Ave. 2:00-4:00

Tuesday 2nd

Community Lunch & Reminiscent Cinema 12:00

Saturday 6th

People's Emergency Briefing (Community Hall) 7:00

Sunday 7th

Rucksack Club Half Day Walk: Depart Church 1:15

Saturday 13th

Coffee & Cake (In aid of Turning Point) 10:00-12:00

START- St Matthew's 10:00

Sunday 14th

BSL Service 12:15

Tuesday 16th

MU Sheeple Drive 2:30

Saturday 20th

START- St. Matthew's 10:00

Sunday 21st

Prayer Ministry during the service

Last day to bring old reading glasses.

Saturday 27th

START- St. Matthew's 10:00

Rucksack Club Full Day Walk: Depart Church 9:30

Sunday 28th

Rucksack Club Summer Lunch, 8 Healey Wood Gardens 2:00

Healing and Wholeness Service 4:00

All items for the April magazine to: stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com
by 9:00 a.m. **Saturday 27th June please.**



Website : www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk



Parish Calendar : <http://tinyurl.com/jcjrehp>



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