

# St John the Divine, Rastrick

## Your Parish Magazine September 2026

£1.50



**Beer Festival  
18th - 19th September**

**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

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**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

- 8:00 a.m. Prayers for our parish & people (by Zoom).  
Alan: 07756 035591

*Rev'd Michelle writes .....*



As September begins schools and colleges are returning for a new academic year, and those who have been away on holidays are returning and settling back into regular routines. The weather is cooling down a little too, and we can look forward to the season of autumn ahead. I hope whether you have been away or not over the summer that you have at least had time to slow down and relax and take a break of some sort from everyday life.

In the church the long season of ordinary time continues for now, but we can look ahead to harvest festival, followed by the season of remembrance and beyond. As I look back over the summer, I want to particularly acknowledge and give thanks for the Summer Parable groups. They have been well received and supported and have provided a great opportunity for us to grow in faith and learn from one another. Thank you to all those who have prepared the material, led the groups and come along to the sessions.

The big event to look forward to later this month is, of course, the beer festival. Please do consider how you can get involved in this great fundraising community event. Invite family and friends, consider volunteering to help in some way, distribute posters and flyers and come along to support us on the weekend itself.

As we journey on together into the autumn season, let's also remember to give thanks to God for his goodness to us as individuals and as a church. We do have much to give thanks for.

With my prayers and every blessing

*Michelle*

## SERVICES AND CHURCH INFORMATION

### SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - SEPTEMBER

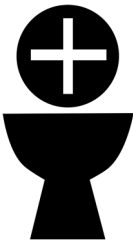
Sunday 6th - 11:00 - 14th Sunday after Trinity - All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 13th - 11:00 - 15th Sunday after Trinity - Holy Communion

1:00pm - BSL (British Sign Language) Service

Sunday 20th - 11:00 - 16th Sunday after Trinity - Morning Worship

Sunday 27th - 11:00 - 17th Sunday after Trinity - Holy Communion



### MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 2nd - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 9th - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 16th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 23rd - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 30th - No service on a 5th Wednesday

### NEXT UNITED BENEFICE SERVICES

- ◇ Sunday November 8th - Eucharist for Peace - 19:00, St J's
- ◇ Sunday November 29th - Advent Sunday - 10:30, St M's

### NEXT SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S WITH PRAYER MINISTRY

\* Sunday 27th September

*(The Healing & Wholeness service that day is cancelled.)*

\* Sunday 18th October (4:00)





## PRAYER PAGE



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

This lovely little prayer was part of  
the Church of England's 'Everyday Faith' reflections  
for the week 24th-29th August.

The theme for the week's reflections was:  
SING TO THE LORD

and they were written by  
**Sammi Tooze**  
*(Discipleship Adviser, Diocese of York)*



God of all beauty,  
whose love is sung through every generation:  
attune our hearts to your presence,  
that our lives, as well as our voices,  
may become a song of praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



**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.

### Upcoming services with Prayer Ministry

- ♦ 27th September
- ♦ 18th October

*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 15<sup>th</sup>, April 26<sup>th</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup>, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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 September 26

| Monday                                                 | Tuesday                                                       | Wednesday                                                 | Thursday                                         | Friday                                            | Saturday                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <u>31-Aug</u>                                          | <u>01-Sep</u>                                                 | <u>02-Sep</u>                                             | <u>03-Sep</u>                                    | <u>04-Sep</u>                                     | <u>05-Sep</u>                                     |
| Psalms 123<br>2 Samuel 18.1-18<br>Acts 10.34-end       | Psalms 132<br>2 Samuel 18.19 – 19.8a<br>Acts 11.1-18          | Psalms 119.153-end<br>2 Samuel 19.8b-23<br>Acts 11.19-end | Psalms 143<br>2 Samuel 19.24-end<br>Acts 12.1-17 | Psalms 142<br>2 Samuel 23.1-7<br>Acts 12.18-end   | Psalms 147<br>2 Samuel 24<br>Acts 13.1-12         |
| <u>07-Sep</u>                                          | <u>08-Sep</u>                                                 | <u>09-Sep</u>                                             | <u>10-Sep</u>                                    | <u>11-Sep</u>                                     | <u>12-Sep</u>                                     |
| Psalms 1<br>1 Kings 1.5-31<br>Acts 13.13-43            | Psalms 5<br>1 Kings 1.32 – 2.4<br>Acts 13.44 – 14.7           | Psalms 119.1-32<br>1 Kings 3<br>Acts 14.8-end             | Psalms 14<br>1 Kings 4.29 – 5.12<br>Acts 15.1-21 | Psalms 17<br>1 Kings 6.1<br>Acts 15.22-35         | Psalms 20<br>1 Kings 8.1-30<br>Acts 15.36 – 16.5  |
| <u>14-Sep</u>                                          | <u>15-Sep</u>                                                 | <u>16-Sep</u>                                             | <u>17-Sep</u>                                    | <u>18-Sep</u>                                     | <u>19-Sep</u>                                     |
| Holy Cross Day<br>1 Kings 8.63 – 9.9<br>Acts 16.25-end | Psalms 32<br>1 Kings 8.63 – 9.9<br>Acts 16.25-end             | Psalms 34<br>1 Kings 10.1-25<br>Acts 17.1-15              | Psalms 37<br>1 Kings 11.1-13<br>Acts 17.16-end   | Psalms 31<br>1 Kings 11.26-end<br>Acts 18.1-21    | Psalms 41<br>1 Kings 12.1-24<br>Acts 18.22 – 19.7 |
| <u>21-Sep</u>                                          | <u>22-Sep</u>                                                 | <u>23-Sep</u>                                             | <u>24-Sep</u>                                    | <u>25-Sep</u>                                     | <u>26-Sep</u>                                     |
| Matthew<br>2 Corinthians 4.1-6<br>Matthew 9.9-13       | Psalms 48<br>1 Kings 13.11-end<br>Acts 19.21-end              | Psalms 119.57-80<br>1 Kings 17<br>Acts 20.1-16            | Psalms 56<br>1 Kings 18.1-20<br>Acts 20.17-end   | Psalms 51<br>1 Kings 18.21-end<br>Acts 21.1-16    | Psalms 68<br>1 Kings 19<br>Acts 21.17-36          |
| <u>28-Sep</u>                                          | <u>29-Sep</u>                                                 | <u>30-Sep</u>                                             | <u>01-Oct</u>                                    | <u>02-Oct</u>                                     | <u>03-Oct</u>                                     |
| Psalms 71<br>1 Kings 21<br>Acts 21.37 – 22.21          | Michael and All Angels<br>Revelation 12.7-12<br>John 1.47-end | Psalms 77<br>1 Kings 22.29-45<br>Acts 23.12-end           | Psalms 78.1-39<br>2 Kings 1.2-17<br>Acts 24.1-23 | Psalms 55<br>2 Kings 2.1-18<br>Acts 24.24 – 25.12 | Psalms 76<br>2 Kings 4.1-37<br>Acts 25.13-end     |

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.

## 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)

# 90

# Michael Storey

invites you to stay  
for drinks and cake after the service on:

# Sunday 4th October

to celebrate his 90th Birthday!





## MU MATTERS

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

We have had some lovely and interesting times here at St Johns MU over the past few weeks and we thank God for our continual faithful work and commitment to the MU throughout the world. Let your peace dwell in every household so that being touched by ministry we may bear witness and shine as beacons of your enduring love.

In July Carol Padgett once again came and gave a superb summer flower demonstration and in the heatwave too !! The arrangements were raffled off so some lovely displays for the winners to take home to brighten up their living/dining room/kitchen etc.



On the 23<sup>rd</sup> July a few of us attended the area gathering at Heckmondwike taking along a packed lunch . Quite interesting to see the various goodies being partaken of especially St Johns, as I think we all had the same idea - take some to share with each other - so quite a feast all in all at our table !!!

Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup> was our monthly coffee and cake this year towards the MU 150 year appeal. This was a great success £ 350 being sent to Mary Sumner House. Cakes were then served the next morning at the 11 0 clock Morning Worship Service.

The following Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup> August, we celebrated Mary Sumner Day, when every member of the MU across the diocese was given in a little gift bag a small tealight a provincial prayer and a prayer for personal use. These were to be lit at 3pm. We however had an inclusion in our morning worship service at 11, this being when we could fit it in amongst the business of our church. It was really quite moving. The candles were displayed on a table at the bottom of the chancel steps and members of the MU walked up in turn and lit these. Rev'd Michelle read the provincial prayer and spoke a few words about the 150 year anniversary of MU. Included in the service was a lovely hymn sung to the tune of Love Divine. This was written by a MU member from the York Diocese Joan Atkin. Lovely words in this hymn.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> August we attended the funeral service of Julia's husband Eddie, who passed away after an illness borne with dignity and courage. R.I.P. Eddie and rise in glory. Much love to you Julia from your friends here at the MU and I am sure lots of other people here at our lovely little family at St Johns.

Thank you as always to all our members and a special thank you to Michelle for her continued support and also to you the congregation who always give generously at all times.

A prayer taken from MU Midday Prayers at the beginning of August.

The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith.  
The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service.  
The fruit of service is peace.

May you all have a restful and peaceful Bank Holiday

God Bless

Ann

## Glasses for Armley Prison

If someone sent you to go and get the glasses, I wonder what sort of glasses you would get? Would they be flutes in which some exciting fizz can be poured? Would you get beer tankards? Would you get a small mirror in which you could look at yourself or use it within an ornamental garden. It might be that you think of Alice through the Looking Glass and disappearing down a rabbit hole? Wrong! All of them wrong!

The Mothers' Union Members throughout the Leeds Diocese were asked to collect glasses that they knew were no longer needed for those men on remand at Armley Prison. So no, not drinking glasses, or looking glasses, or mirrors, but spectacles. Imagine having poor eye sight, but not quite understanding why you couldn't see clearly when others around you could read notices on nearby walls when you could not. Perhaps those men at Armley have never been able to read and no one had ever checked their eye sight and removed the blurriness from their vision. I have recently had a very unwelcome eye accident and had to wear a patch for 5 days. The difference it made to my vision was astounding, and for those few days I felt very vulnerable and disorientated.

The Mothers' Union works closely with different charities and supports many groups of people and causes where our contributions, however small, could make a difference. The other month Reverend Roger Reece spoke at one of our Gatherings about his work as Chaplain at Armley Prison. He is one of 7 Chaplains representing different faiths and providing confidential support and a listening ear. He enlightened us about how his work there is unique and how it offers hope and non-judgemental compassion. The Chaplains offer respect and a safe space for discussions about grief and anxiety and there is counselling and the opportunity for transformation. They arrange concerts and other cultural events within the prison. These are creative events reminding the men of the better side of humanity and to foster community. The Chaplains give reassurance to family and friends since good family relations help with rehabilitation. The Chaplains also link prisoners with Churches close to where they may live when they leave prison.

The prison is always looking to recruit "Prison Visitors" particularly for those who have no visitors or whose family live a long way away from Armley. As I have written in this column on many other occasions there are groups of us who volunteer in New Hall Prison in Mirfield leading sociable cooking sessions, providing a friendly face on the Mother and Baby Unit and offering visitors tea and coffee on arrival.... which may have been from a great distance.

Revd. Roger Reece took away 3 large bags full of men's spectacles. Our hope is that they will enable those in Armley to see and read more clearly. And have a better vision of the times ahead. If you have any men's spectacles which you feel you can pass on, or are interested in the work of the MU and volunteering in the Prisons do contact me and we can chat a little more about it. [juliatum65a@gmail.com](mailto:juliatum65a@gmail.com)

Julia

*First published in The Echo - 13th August*



*The photo is of all of the spectacles collected by people from St John's and St Matthews. Thank you so much.*

ALL SOULS'  
AMATEUR OPERATIC  
SOCIETY

PRESENTS...  
**MAGIC**  
AT THE  
*Musicals*

**PERFORMANCES**

- ★ Saturday 10th October | 2.30pm  
St John's, Rastrick, HD6 1HT
- ★ Sunday 11th October | 2.30pm  
St Jude's, Halifax, HX1 2XE

**BOOK NOW**

Tickets £10

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🌐 [ticketsource.com/](http://ticketsource.com/)  
[all-souls-amateur-operatic-society](http://all-souls-amateur-operatic-society)

## Just a reminder...

I'm very careful that all the images I use myself in the magazine are with permission or copyright free. If you send me items with images, I'm leaving that responsibility to you.

*Pam*

## **Autumn Events at St John's**

There is a lot happening during the final quarter of the year at St John's. I'm sure you can find something here to tempt you....

### **Beer Festival**

18th–19th September

Our popular Beer Festival with beers, ciders, food, live music and a fantastic atmosphere.

### **Orchestra of Square Chapel**

4th October

An afternoon of wonderful orchestral music.

### **All Souls Operatic Society – Magic at the Musicals**

10th October

A spectacular afternoon celebrating some of the best-loved songs from musical theatre.

### **Brighthouse Theatre Productions – Noises Off**

28th–31st October

A hilarious comedy and wonderfully chaotic backstage farce.

### **A Celebration of Simon & Garfunkel**

14th November

Enjoy the timeless songs and harmonies of one of the world's best-loved musical partnerships.

### **Paddock Orchestra**

21st November

Enjoy another opportunity to hear live orchestral music at St John's, including orchestra members Anne B, John H, Pam D and Graham K.

### **Pantomime – Aladdin**

8th–12th December

A wonderful festive treat for all the family.

### **Christmas Carol Service**

20th December

Nine Lessons & Carols with the Rastrick Voices.



## ECO Church

### God's care for a suffering world.

"I just find it all so worrying," said Olive. "When I think of my grandchildren, what sort of a world will they live in? All these heatwaves, poor harvests, floods..."

"Yes, I agree," I replied, "and the only reason I can face the future is 'cos I'm a Christian. Because I'm looking forward to the day when God recreates heaven and earth. And, in the present, that He hasn't stopped caring about his creation, or about us, despite the way we've messed things up."

I've been lucky enough to attend a course on 4 evenings run by Gateway church in Leeds, at which we looked in detail at the scale of the present climate and nature emergency, yet explored the many biblical passages where God speaks hope into our damaged world. Like Solomon's prophetic prayer that confidently expects that if his people repent of their wickedness and cry out to him, he will heal their land.

As Christian people, we have a powerful message of hope for our generation, in our God who has promised 'never to fail us or forsake us'.

*John Hearson (for the Eco Church)*



## Change of name. Re-use Stall

The **Swap stall** will be known as the **Re-use Stall**, as many people still assume that they need to bring something to swap, which is not necessary. It is another way of recycling.

The next Re-use stall is Sat 12th & Sun 13th Sept.

Thank you *Eco Church*





# Music News

I've just come back from a lovely holiday in Germany, where I think its fair to say I went on a fabulous 'church-crawl' (*...better than a pub-crawl!*)

Ooh, I could tell you about some amazing churches, but keeping within the 'organ' theme, what I did notice was that some of these wonderful places of worship were experiencing the same problems that we had with restoring their pipe organs.



Here's a clever way for the Church of St. Peter and St Paul in Eltville to show the running total raised through sponsoring a pipe.

Sponsoring an organ pipe at the Cathedral in Mainz is rather more expensive than our pipes were to sponsor. The largest (up to 32') costs 5,000 Euro!



The Basilica in Bingen has already begun installing a new organ and they are trusting God for the remaining money to come in.



...but they all recognise the special contribution which the organ makes to worship, just as we (in our much smaller way) are appreciating our wonderful refurbished Conacher!

*Pam*

## What the Vicar has been doing

Just a selection...



Celebrated  
Mary Sumner Day  
with the MU



Parables Home Group  
at Cherry's  
joining in / leading



With St Matthew's PCC  
at Heatherwood



Attended a Clergy Chapter Meeting  
at St Martin's Brighthouse



Supported the  
Charity Jigsaw Festival  
with Michael Storey



Led the  
MU Eucharist  
for the monthly  
meeting.



## Understanding the kingdom of God

*“The kingdom of God is within you.”*

[Luke 17:21 NKJV](#)

In one sense, the kingdom of God is future, eternal, and heavenly. When Christ returns to set up His kingdom on earth, the prophecy will be fulfilled: ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!’ (Revelation 11:15 NKJV). What a glorious day that will be for all of God’s redeemed children. But until then, Jesus said, ‘The kingdom of God is within you.’ That means as a born-again believer living in this world, you’re called to demonstrate what it means to live under the rule of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Winston Churchill famously quipped: ‘Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all those other forms that have been tried.’ All human government is flawed and ultimately destined to fail because it’s made up of flawed human beings. So as citizens of the kingdom of God, we are called to be ‘light’ that illuminates darkness and dispels ignorance, and ‘salt’ that flavours, cleanses, heals, and enriches the lives of those we come in contact with (see Matthew 5:13-14). We are called to practise the principles of God’s kingdom in the marketplace of life. Whether you work in education, transportation, medicine, politics, agriculture, IT, sales, manufacturing, etc., you are called to demonstrate the benefits of living under the rule of Christ and by the guidance of His indwelling Holy Spirit. ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord.’ When Christ returns, that promise will be totally fulfilled. Until then, Jesus said, ‘Occupy till I come’ (Luke 19:13 KJV).

Copies of Word for Today are available online or at the back of church.

## **Notes from a churchwarden 16 – Of Swallows, Spaniels, and Services**

Lynmouth, N.Devon, site of the famous flood that destroyed half the village in 1952, was my destination this year for a holiday. My intention was to visit some of the places mentioned in 'Lorna Doone' by R D Blackmore.

High on the list was Oare church, or The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary to give its full name. Through a church window, which can still be seen, Lorna Doone was shot and wounded on her wedding day. The central section of the church is the oldest part, dating back to medieval times, but the tower and the current chancel are Victorian.

I had taken the trouble to check on the internet about services, and it indicated that a service was conducted on the first Sunday of the month. As I was going on the second Sunday, I should have an uninterrupted visit. I arrived



about 10.15 and as I started up the footpath, a couple of other people followed. 'Are you coming to the service' a lady said. My brain suddenly shifted a gear. 'I was just coming to look around. I didn't realise there was a service this morning' I replied. 'Oh yes, there's a service every Sunday, the churchwarden insists on it' she said. A wry smile crossed my face. I indicated that I was quite happy to attend a service, especially in this church as I was following 'Lorna Doone'. I said 'But I have my dog with me, so I can't really. 'Oh. Bring him in. We often have dogs in the service, Labradors, Retrievers. It's not a problem' the lady replied. 'But you'll have to wait a bit, as the service is at 11.00am'

I sat in the porch with Cadbury, my working cocker spaniel, whilst I waited to go in. I noticed a bird fly into the porch and then fly out again. Then it happened again a minute later. Casting my eyes

upwards I noticed two nests at either side of the eaves, and one of them appeared to be the current home of a swallow, who was busily flying in to the nest, waiting a few seconds and then flying out again. Whether there were young in the nest I couldn't see and my attempts to photograph it were not very successful.



Eventually, I entered the church with Cadbury. I was a little concerned, as anyone who has owned a spaniel will know that sitting still for more than five seconds, is not really in their DNA.

The church interior is quite interesting, with many singular features, which I won't go into here. Cadbury and I were shown into the old oak choir stalls, complemented by the whitewashed walls. We were therefore, behind the wooden pulpit, and nicely carved wooden eagle forming the lectern. The congregation totalled eight (nine if you include Cadbury), three people opposite me, two others on either side of me, an organist and a vicar.

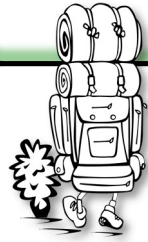


The service comprised two hymns, one at the beginning and one at the end. Fortunately Cadbury, who was on a short lead, didn't decide to join in, as he always does when the 'Go Compare' opera singer comes on the television, with a heartfelt howling. The service was recognisable, if a little dated.

I thought, they do very well to have a service every Sunday, as the church is somewhat isolated, at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile from the nearest dwelling. I enjoyed my time at Oare church and its attendant swallows and dog friendly service. It's certainly different.

**David Marshall**

## St. John's Rucksack Club



### SATURDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

**Leaders:** Jenny and Sandra

**Contact details:** 07985232515 or 07531960738

**Walk Details:** Norland Scarecrow Trail

**Leave Church :** 10.00 a m

Parking in Norland Post Code (HX6 3RL) : Free on the playing fields next to the main Scarecrow Tent. Trail sheets £2 to raise money for Local Charities. Around 80 scarecrows (sports thyme) covers an area of about 3 miles .

### SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER – AFTERNOON WALK

All are invited to join us on a 3 mile stroll round the  
**NATIONAL GALLERY “ART ON YOUR DOORSTEP”**  
outdoor exhibition at OAKWELL HALL, Birstall.

Leaving church at 1.30pm prompt to walk at 2pm.

Suitable for all with only one flight of upward steps and no stiles!

*You can hand in a completed, non-competitive, quiz sheet  
to be entered in a prize draw!!*

**Leaders:** Anne Beaumont,  
Judith Ogden and Anne Aspinall.  
07931947609

Let us know you are coming.



ST JOHNS PANTO

## PARISH LUNCH

Join us for a 3 course lunch of your choice  
served by members of St John's Pantomime Society.

Enjoy a welcome glass of sherry  
followed by a delicious three-course meal.  
Bar available - drinks will be available to purchase  
throughout the event.

Dessert donations welcome!  
We would be delighted to receive homemade or  
shop-bought desserts to share with our guests.

Come along. Enjoy a lovely lunch,  
and support the St John's Pantomime Society!

## 27th September 2026

From 12pm

Large portion - £9    Small portion - £6

Tickets available from:  
David Marshall 07596711282

## Missions & Charities

### Nyakiswa Youth Training



*Kefline and Kemange*

Kefline and Kemange have now completed their secretarial course and both have got jobs with the Diocese of Mara - one at Issenye Secondary School and the other at Buhemba Rural Agricultural Centre.

The people of Nyakiswa have chosen 2 more girls - Lucia and Hellena both aged 19 - to start the secretarial course.

Both girls have actually begun

their studies in July as the Training Centre has changed the start date.

Money raised at the September 12th Coffee and Cake will help to support Lucia and Hellena with course fees, accommodation costs, uniforms etc.

*Missions and Charities group*

### BRIGHOUSE CENTRAL FOODBANK

We are grateful for all your contributions to the Brighthouse Central Foodbank.

In September we would particularly appreciate the following:

- Cans of chilli con carne
- Cans of corned beef
- Cans of rice pudding
- Packets of cream crackers

Thank you so much for your support.

*Rosemary & Norman*



## Samaritan's Purse - Shoeboxes

As a church, we are once again supporting the work of the Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Christmas appeal. Leaflets will be in church from



September and as usual, for those who would like to buy a box already made up, a limited number will be available again this year, at a cost of £17 per box including shipping.

Many thanks, *Gill Mills.*



A CELEBRATION OF

# SIMON & GARFUNKEL

AS HEARD ON  
**BBC RADIO**

**PERFORMED LIVE BY  
TIM CHU & IAN BAILEY**

**The UK's NUMBER 1 NON TRIBUTE SHOW**



★★★★★

*"Tim and Ian moved between harmonies and shared vocals like a gestalt entity, with all the vocal nuances, dynamics and phrasing that make S&G so unique while finding their own take on the material. Absolutely first class."*

★★★★★

*"A stunning blend of observation, interpretation, and perfect vocal synergy."*



**SATURDAY 14th November 2026**

**ST JOHN THE DIVINE RASTRICK HD6 1HT**

**Doors 6.45pm / starts 7.30pm**

**Refreshments Available**

**Tickets £15 email bookings@stjohnrastrick.org.uk**

**or local rate box office on 0333 666 3366**

**<https://www.ticketsource.com/timtone-productions>**

**[www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg](http://www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg)**

## Church Coffee Mornings

### Coffee & Cake!

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

Here's the complete list for the year.

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



## 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](mailto:stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com)  
with the heading, 'Caption'. Deadline: Wednesday 23rd September.



Thank you for all of  
your suggestions.

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

**Pam Dimbleby**

and was chosen by  
Darrin Petch

The Vicar resorted to a bit of chauffeuring  
in order to supplement her stipend

# Eco Church - Re-use Stall

The next  
Eco Church Re-use Stall  
is on:

**Saturday 12th &  
Sunday 13th September**



## COFFEE & CAKE

The next Coffee & Cake in Church  
will be on **Saturday 12th September 10.00-12:00.**  
Hosted by **The Mara Group**



## COMMUNITY LUNCH

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



### The rest of the 'caption that' entries for August's photo:

- I always like to co-ordinate my clothing with my cars!
- OK Darrin, beat that!
- Michelle has bought this car to grow into.
- It will not fit in my drive, so I will have to park it here.
- I have checked that there is a wine bar in it, so off we go - church outing!
- At least I can renew my marriage vows in style.
- "About time I got the right car to arrive in and officiate at weddings."
- New car Michelle? You will have difficulty parallel parking in Brighouse..
- Do you think my legs are long enough to reach the pedals?
- Well, I never thought it would stretch so far!!

## Beer Festival



We are now preparing for this year's Beer Festival, which will take place on 18th and 19th September 2026. As you know, the festival plays an important role in supporting the work of St John's and a chosen local charity, which in 2026 will be the Cromwell Bottom Local Nature Reserve. The festival is also a great way to bring our community together by creating a welcoming space where people can enjoy time together.

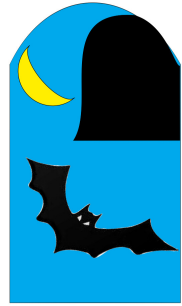
There are several ways you can support:

- Tell your family and friends to put the date in their diaries and plan to spend time with them over the weekend.
- Take posters (available in church) to local shops, cafes, and places where people gather.
- Take a pile of fliers from church to hand out to friends, family, and neighbours.
- Follow and share us on Facebook: search for 'St. John's Beer Festival'.
- Offer to help over the weekend – we need lots of volunteers – details later.
- Consider sponsoring the festival. (details in church)

Alan

## ***PUZZLE PAGE by the Bat in the Beltry***

September and we can look forward to the Beer Festival and the Parish Lunch this month. In between the eating and drinking, try these two if you have the time.



### **26 – 17 Butterfly Bonanza**

We've recently had the big butterfly count in the country, so below are ten British butterflies for you to identify from the list given. There are, however, two extra butterflies in the list that do not appear. Can you also identify the two butterflies not illustrated?

1)



2)



3)



4)



5)



6)



7)



8)



9)



10)



**List:- Gatekeeper, Clouded Yellow, Common Blue, Speckled Wood, Comma, Red Admiral, Scotch Argus, Painted Lady, Meadow Brown, Brimstone, Large Blue, Peacock**

## 26 – 18 Connections

The answers to the following questions have a connection that links them all. Answer the questions and identify the link.

1. She wrote & recorded a song about Warren Beattie's vanity;
2. A small carpet & and sounds like a range of Scottish mountains over 3,000 ft?
3. One of the group members had a yacht called drum?
4. First appeared in Ester Rantzen's 'big time' working 9 to 5 in 1980?
5. Someone was knocking on their door in 1976?
6. You could see her 'on a midnight train to Georgia' in 1976?
7. The sun always shone on TV for this band?
8. She was known as the 'delta lady' & married Kris Kristofferson?
9. She was 'simply the best'?
10. What's the connection?

## Last month's answers

### 26 – 15 If music be the food of love

- 1) Vivaldi 2) Mozart 3) Mozart 4) 'The Thieving Magpie'  
 5) The Unfinished Symphony 6) Benjamin Britten 7) Jacques Offenbach  
 8) The Clock Symphony 9) Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" 10) Chopin



## 26 – 16 Spot the difference



**MORE NEXT MONTH**



Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

*Marty Haugen, b. 1950*

## SHIRLEY....

The other evening, I tuned in to the Top Ten Hymns. All my favourite hymns were sung in descending order, in various churches and I eagerly awaited for the number one choice. What could it be? "Walk with me", a contemporary hymn, or "What a Friend we have in Jesus" from Sunday School days? What a surprise it was to learn it was "Jerusalem"!

I love this patriotic hymn.

**"Jerusalem" is a poem by William Blake that envisions a spiritual and idealized England, contrasting divine presence with the harsh realities of industrialization. The poem is inspired by a mythical legend that Jesus, accompanied by Joseph of Arimathea, visited England in his youth, though this story is largely symbolic rather than historical . Blake uses this legend to explore whether England could become a "New Jerusalem," a place of peace and spiritual fulfilment, in contrast to the "dark Satanic Mills" of the Industrial Revolution . *Wikipedia***



*Images: Mills = Pixabay, Photo = Brighouse from Thornhills*

It was written by William Blake around the early eighteen hundreds and was first performed during a music festival at the Albert Hall and has been a feature of the Last Night of the Proms ever since. I have read that King George V would have liked the verses adapted and used as a national anthem. I am not sure if this is true but I understand it is sung at Labour Party meetings.

It was sung a lot whilst I was in school during second world war and, I must admit, I didn't realise its significance at the time.

Perhaps we should adopt it again, I know the Women's Institute have. We should be proud and strive to bring back the glory and pride which sometimes seems to be missing today.

*Shirley*

---

## AND FINALLY....



*Reproduced  
by kind permission  
of Andy Robb,  
who invites you to visit  
his 'Derek the Cleric'  
Facebook page.*

I reckon ours at St John's is not very typical either... Pam

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - SEPTEMBER

## Tuesday 1st

Community Lunch & Reminiscent Cinema 12:00

## Saturday 5th

Rucksack Club Walk (Norland) 10:00

## Monday 7th *(and every Monday)*

Monday Meet/Home Group at Shirley's. 2:00- 4:00

## Saturday 12th

Coffee & Cake (Hosted by Missions & Charities) 10:00-12:00

Re-use Stall

## Sunday 13th

British Sign Language service 1:00

Re-use Stall

## Thursday 17th *(and following Thursdays)*

Home Group at Cherry's 10:30-12:00

## Friday 18th - Sat 19th

Beer Festival

## Saturday 20th

Parish Lunch 12:00

Rucksack Club afternoon walk (Art on your doorstep) - 1:30

## Sunday 27th

Prayer Ministry during the service

Parish Lunch 12:00

## Tuesday 29th

Harvest Service at Railway Bridge View 2:00



All items for the October magazine to: [stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com)  
by 9:00 a.m. **Wednesday 23rd September please.**



Website : [www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk)



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



Facebook : [www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine)

### Wi-Fi

Network : everywhere

Password : anywhere