

Parish of Sandal Magna Newsletter



The lost are found, the found grow and the lonely are enfolded

October 2021

Vacancy Update

The PCC, Rev Peter Townley (the Archdeacon), and our Patron, Rev Michael Duff (CPAS) have now met for the "Section 12 meeting". We now move to the next stage. We hope that our advert will be approved by the Church Pastoral Aid Society and that in November it will appear in the Church Times. The Church Times is available at The Spring - a reason to pay a visit in November. The closing date for applications is in December and applications will flood in. Once this stage is reached, our two representatives will not be able to comment on the applicants. The applies even if you bribe them with coffee and cake.

Some have asked why there are only two parish representatives. The simple answer is that this is the Anglican System. Viv Buckley has extensive experience in all things Anglican and is well known to almost everyone and understands our aims and hopes for the future. Ed Brindley represents the future. He has a heart for worship and can speak on behalf of the younger members of the congregation who will carry on the work of the church into the future.

Brian Pratt (Churchwarden)

Oasis Autumn Treat

Over the last 18 months we have kept in touch with our Oasis friends by delivering a card and a present at Christmas, Easter and Valentines Day. This month we have delivered one hundred little packs, each containing an individual home-made apple crumble, a little tub of clotted cream and a card. It has been a real blessing to us all and we are so grateful to be part of this pastoral ministry.

Janet Porritt and Anne Pratt



The Parish Office, St. Helen's Church, Barnsley Road, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 6EJ

Tel. 01924 259966 Email: sandalmagna@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: *Ruth McCallum*, ruth.sandalmagna@gmail.com

Assistant Administrator: *Denise Chivers*, denise.sandalmagna@gmail.com (Funerals & Tree of Life)

Volunteer Administrator: *Anne Francos*, annef.sandalmagna@gmail.com (Wedding and Baptism enquiries)

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Free Logs

A large branch fell from a tree in the churchyard. This has now been sawn into logs which are free to whoever needs them on a first-come-first-served basis. To find them, go down the main path, past the church door and carry on in the same direction. They are on the right hand side beyond a pile of twigs. They need to be dried before burning. Please only take the logs and do not chop down any trees!

Brian Pratt (Churchwarden)



Saturday 25th December Lunch

Saturday 25th December is an important date for us. It is the start of our Good News. It is a time when traditionally we spend time with each other, our friends and family, and celebrate the Good News with a meal together. Unfortunately not everyone can share a meal with others, and for various reasons spend Christmas on their own.

in the past some members of our parish have prepared and put on a meal for these people on Christmas Day. I would like to do the same this year in The Spring. What I am proposing is not to be confused with what The Spring is doing for Christmas lunches up to Christmas, all I am doing is using their facilities for one day.

To help with this idea I need a list of people who are on their own on Christmas Day and who might benefit from sharing a meal with others. To help with the catering people need to have booked a place prior to the day. We couldn't cope with people turning up on spec. and it is for people on their own.

I also need some volunteers to help with the occasion. Volunteers to welcome guests, seat guests, serve food, wash up and many more tasks. The meal is intended to start at 1pm and will last for 2/3 hours.

So, if you know of anyone who is on their own at Christmas and who might benefit from sharing a meal with others, or you are happy to volunteer for 2, 3 or 4 hours on Christmas Day then please let Mark Buckley know on 01924 256966 as soon as possible. Give it some thought and many thanks.

Mark Buckley

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Flowers in Church

I was at St Paul's during the Harvest Service. I loved the flowers. Later I went to St Helen's and once again, I admired the arrangements. Thank you to the flower arrangers for those splendid contributions.

Masks in Church

The churchwardens have met to discuss our approach to the current covid situation. Our view is that masks are no longer mandatory and cannot now be insisted upon. However, the wearing of a mask indoors is helpful in reducing the spread of infection to others and so our policy is still to encourage mask wearing.

Similarly, hand sanitising and leaving a name for track and trace is also available and welcomed.

Brian Pratt, Churchwarden



"Come Ye a Caroling" - an Invitation

Are you thinking of Christmas? Surely not - but discussions are already in hand to select hymns and carols to be sung at this year's Traditional Annual Carol

Service to be held at St Helen's Church on the morning of 19th December 2021.

It has been the custom for many years to extend an invitation to members of the congregation to join the choir as guests for this occasion.

Would you like to volunteer? What does this entail as well as singing at the service?

There will be some six choir practices held on Thursday evenings at 7pm, starting in late October. As many of the carols will be sung in harmony, it is desirable that you are able to read music.

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact either Andrea North (01924 251646) or John Arnold (01924 372597). We look forward to hearing from you.

John Arnold (organist)



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Spiritual (and physical) Food at Wakefield Cathedral

We are blessed to live close to a Cathedral with opportunities to meet with other Christians and expand our spiritual horizons. Once or twice a month, different courses on a Wednesday or Thursday evening this winter. Perhaps something to do with friends or your small group?

Wednesdays at 7pm: Finding Your Rhythm

6 th October	Celebrating
20 th October	Creating
3 rd November	Resting
24 th November	Encouraging
8 th December	Sharing
12 th January	Reflecting
26 th January	Praying



Bishop Tony's 'Follow Me' evenings: Thursdays at Wakefield Cathedral

You are invited to evensong (18:30); a meal (19:15) and a talk (19:45) – feel free to join for one, two or three parts of the evening. Ideally **email Caroline Asquith** Bishop Tony's PA if you'd like to reserve a place, and to give an idea of numbers for catering, but you can just turn up on the day too.

Caroline.Asquith@Leeds.anglican.org

14 th October	Revd Dr Hayley Matthews "Sowing the Seeds of Love"
18 th November	Speaker to be confirmed
20 th January	Fr Luigi Gioia, Praying
24 th February	Speaker to be confirmed
28 th April	Speaker to be confirmed
19 th May	Bishop Rowan Williams, Creating

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