

April 2022

Vacancy Update - looking to the future

No new information to report, except that we are all looking forward to Hannah joining us (and she has written a good article to introduce herself). We are beginning to think about how to welcome her and enable her to meet everyone in an informal setting. A working party is of course being formed and it would be helpful if anyone with an idea could let the office know so that we can start to plan.

Continue to pray for Hannah as she conducts her remaining services at her churches in Leeds. Be with her leadership team and help then to guide their church through this new season. Pray for the leaders at Sandal Magna,

keep us united, and help us to be ready to help and support Hannah. Brian Pratt, Churchwarden

More from our new Vicar...

I am so pleased to be the next Vicar of St Helen's and St Paul's. It was so lovely to meet some of you as part of the interview day and I felt such a strong sense of God calling me to come and be with you all. am grateful to Bishop Nick for allowing me to have my sabbatical between jobs and I look forward to taking some time to rest, restore, let go of the old and prepare for the new journey we will be going on together. During by sabbatical, I will be spending some time reading, writing, and visiting friends and family who I haven't seen so much due to Covid. I will also be undertaking the Ignatian Spiritual



Exercises - a series of meditations based on the scriptures which I will do as part of a 30 day silent retreat at St Beuno's in North Wales. This only finishes a few days before I am licensed so I'm hoping my voice will have warmed up again by then! Thank you for waiting for me to arrive - and I look forward to coming with fresh energy and pizzaz after the break.



More from Hannah.....

A little about me - I have been a follower of Jesus since I was a young child. My family faith background is in Pentecostal and free churches and I became an Anglican when I went away to University in Sheffield.

I love meeting Jesus in as many different ways as I can - through the Bible, through sung worship, through silence, through nature, through getting together with others around a shared table - whether that be Communion or a dinner table.

I have been ordained for 10 years and have worked for a variety of churches before and after ordination - in Sheffield, London and now in Leeds. I was ordained as Pioneer Minister and have been involved in a number of Fresh Expressions and church plants. I am always keen to find new says to connect people to Jesus. Most recently I have spent five and a half years in East Leeds in two poorer urban parishes.

My key passions are discipleship - learning how to be more like Jesus - and mission - being part of God's lifebringing mission to the world. Coming to Sandal Magna, my initial priorities will be growing relationships and rebuilding church life after Covid. As we move forwards, I hope to see us finding new opportunities for growing God's kingdom in our parish and in the wider Wakefield area.

When I'm not Vicaring, I like walking in the countryside, running, eating good food, reading good books, laughing with friends and enjoying music. I look forward to meeting all of you soon.

Rev Hannah Smith



Contemplative/Meditation Prayer Group

The meeting for this group now takes place in the Barnabas Room, at St Paul's, Walton every 2nd Thursday of the month from 2-3pm. This is up to an hour of guided meditation and competitive Christian prayer.

Sue Davies



Women's Fellowship

Please note the dates for our next meetings as we have a Bank Holiday coming up! MAY 2nd (is a Bank Holiday we know!); Social meeting with coffee & cake JUNE 6th; Sue Woodcock coming to speak "The joys of being eccentric"! JULY 4th; Last meeting before summer break; Scones and cream! Please feel free to pop along, and ladies....bring along a friend too! We look forward to seeing you,10.30 to 12 noon, in the Emmaus rooms. *Gill Heap*

Accepting Applications for Lay Ministry Pathways now

The latest deadline for all lay ministry pathways (LLM, LPM, LWL) is 12 noon on Tuesday May 31 to allow for the necessary interviews and safeguarding checks to take place. Margaret Walker can supply more details. Further information for the Licensed Lay Ministry Pathway may be found at:

https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/ministry/licensed-lay-minister/,
For the Lay Pastoral Minister Pathway may be found here
https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/ministry/pastoral-worker/
and for the Lay Worship Leader Pathway may be found here
https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/ministry/lay-worship-leader/
Angela Elphick

Community Spirit Games Club

This group meets to play board games every 2nd Monday of the month, so the next two will be Monday 11th April and Monday 9th May. Come along and meet others and enjoy the refreshments. No charge.

Anne Dobson

Follow Me

A series of inspirational teaching sessions exploring faith and discipleship held at Wakefield Cathedral, continues with Fr Luigi Gioia on Thurs April 28th at 6.30 pm.

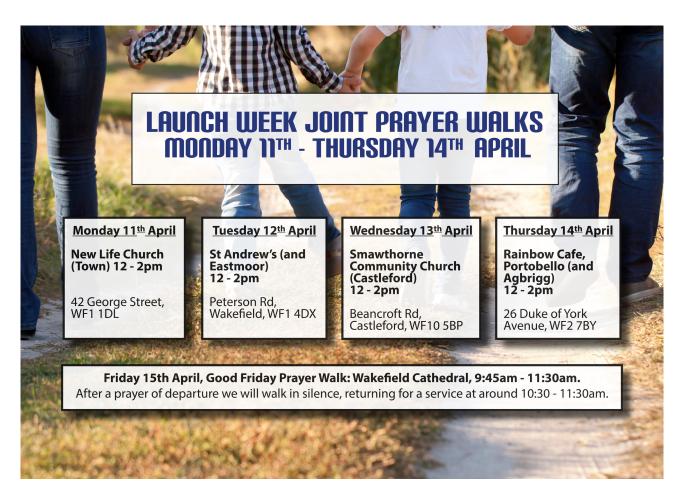


Vision Wakefield has launched a Pray Every Street Campaign

Their vision is to cover our district in prayer, street by street, by praying as we walk. Prayer walking shifts the spiritual atmosphere and partners with God's vision for our areas, bringing healing, freedom and ultimately building His Kingdom on earth. A new Prayer-Walking App has enabled us to mark each street that we pray for as we walk! This visible sign inspires and encourages other Christians in the district, we are stronger together.

Their website gives you details of the app and is full of resources including praying for non-walkers, children's resources and how to share your faith.

https://www.visionwakefield.co.uk/pray









We stand with Ukraine

We have all watched with horror as the Ukrainian war has unfolded and (so far) over a million refugees have left their country often leaving family members behind.

We all want to do something, and stories of people in neighbouring countries have set an example for us to follow in their beautiful compassionate acts. The fact that our government's response has been pitiful should not stop us all contributing. At times like these we realise that you may want to give something, to do something to help.

The DEC Appeal

Right now, the way we can all help most is by supporting the Disasters Emergency Committee appeal. https://twitter.com/hashtag/UkraineAppeal so, our appeal to you is, if you can, to support this DEC appeal financially. If you cannot, please spread the word to those who are able to give.

Red Cross DEC Appeal page

Our appeal

We are not currently collecting clothes or food, we have no storage free, and no way of getting them to those in need. In time we hope that we may be able to help with new clothing only.

Article on our website

From the committee, working group and trustees.



Easter Services

Good Friday, 15th April

2-3pm at St Pauls. A meditative "Hour at the Cross" Service.

There is also a prayer walk from the Cathedral at 9.45am, returning to the Cathedral for a service 10.30 to 11.30am.



Easter Sunday 17th April

- 9.30am Holy Communion Service at St Helen's, with Rev Jude Smith
- 11.00am Holy Communion Service at St Helen's with Rev Jude Smith (There will be a children's session for 5-11 year olds during this service)
- 11.00am Holy Communion Service at St Paul's with Bishop Tom Butler

Covid and Communion

Covid continues to exert an influence in our daily lives. So much so that, much to my embarrassment I tested positive and thanks fully suffered only a relatively mild infection. Nevertheless, we need to be alert. However the big question today, is how should we receive communion. As promised, it has been discussed and it was decided to continue as we have been doing at least until after Hannah has arrived. The celebrant will drink the wine and the congregation will receive the wafer. All other ways were discussed: sharing the chalice as pre-covid, dipping the wafer in the cup, and individual cups as preferred by non conformist worshippers. Each system brings its own challenges and so, on balance, the covid status quo remains. *Brian Pratt, Churchwarden*

Sunday School re-starts

It will be every 3rd and 4th Sunday from Easter onwards. For 5-11's (under 4's with an adult). I'm hoping to have a 1st Sunday once we get in the swing of things:)

Laura Truter