

Parish of Sandal Magna Newsletter



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

Summer 2023

From our vicar, Revd Hannah Smith



Hello everyone. I hope everyone is enjoying the summer weather and are having opportunities for rest and restoration. I will be having some time away myself over the summer in quite an unusual way. I will be going to stay at a retreat centre called St. Beuno's in North Wales for a month's silent retreat! I will be doing something called the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. These were created by St. Ignatius, who was a Spanish soldier in the 16th century. When he was injured in battle and was recuperating, he spent a long time meditating on the Bible and as part of his spiritual life developed a series of meditations on the life and work of Jesus. I will be journeying through these meditations during my

retreat. I was planning to do this as part of my sabbatical before coming here, but sadly my Dad died three days before I was meant to go, so I am doing it this summer instead! Please do pray for me as I am away – and I hope to come back with fresh inspiration for the autumn!

Revd Hannah Smith

Parish News

Communion across the parish. From September we will be changing the pattern of our services so communion is offered every week across the parish. On first Sunday of the month at St. Paul's, on second Sunday of the month at 9:30am at St. Helen's, on third Sunday of the month at 11am at St. Helen's and at 11am St. Paul's and on the fourth Sunday of the month at 9:30am at St. Helen's. Very many thanks go to Liv Clark and her team who set up for communion at St. Helen's for enabling this to happen more often there – and also to Catherine and Susan who set up regularly at St. Paul's.



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Tel. 01924 259966 Email: sandalmagna@gmail.com

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More Parish News

BBQ Many thanks to everyone who came to the Vicarage BBQ on 2nd July – and to all who helped, bbq-ed, brought food and helped it all run smoothly. If you have plates etc that you may have left at the Vicarage contact Hannah and she can arrange for their safe return!



New Headteacher We are very excited to announce that Mrs Caroline Butterworth has been appointed the next Headteacher of Sandal Castle School and will be starting in September. She is currently Headteacher of Flanshaw Junior and Infant School so already knows Wakefield, and the governors are very pleased at her appointment.

Memorial Service Advance date for your diaries – Sunday 5th November at 4pm will be our annual Memorial Service to remember those we have loved and lost. All welcome and further details nearer the time.

Ephesians In the autumn, we will be working our way through the book of Ephesians at our Sunday services. Perhaps you might consider adding it to your summer reading to prepare?



Rev. Hannah Smith

Caroline Butterworth

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A conversation between a Parishioner and the Organist

Parishioner: I'm on my way to the 9.30am service at St. Helen's Church and looking forward to joining in with the singing of the hymns.

Will we be singing any of my favourite hymns today? One of those whose words I find so meaningful, personal or with a tune which inspires me to sing.

Organist: Well, there are 847 hymns in our hymn book 'Ancient and Modern - Hymns and Songs for Refreshing Worship' - first published in 2013. So it would take about four years to sing all of them once!

Parishioner: I can't wait for four years so, come on, what can I do?

Organist: The hymns for July and August have already been chosen and where possible, reflect the bible readings or the theme of the service along with certain seasons of the church year or special occasions.

However, we definitely want to hear from you.

Parishioner: How do I do that?

Organist: Make your selection(s) - and leave a note on the organ with your name, the number and title of each hymn. Yes - I look forward to hearing from you and many other members of the congregation.



John Arnold - organist

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The Bells

In June Sandal tower hosted the annual Fun and Sunday Service Bellringing Contests. The winners of the contest were Ossett A team from Holy Trinity Church Ossett who rang Sandal treble Bob method as their contest piece.



Winners of the fun ringing contest were The Pygot family members team from Ossett church.

Three of Sandal Church ringers Eddie, Shaun and Ann joined in to make 2 more fun teams, one all male ringers team and one all female ringers team.

Gill made light refreshments.

The meeting appeared to go down well. Thanks to all who attended and took part. Also thanks to Chris Moxon for chairing the meeting and Richard Pagdan for judging the contest.

Photos attached are of Chris Moxon, Secretary of Central branch presenting Andrea Pygot, representing Ossett A team. Group photo is Ossett A team.



Anne Brough and Margot Cutt

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Prayer Cafe at Portobello Gala

St Helen's Church will be hosting the Prayer Cafe at Portobello Gala again this year. We are calling all bakers! We have been truly blessed with your baking on previous years and are asking if you would be able to provide cakes again. The Gala takes place on Wednesday, 2 August so we would ask if you can drop cakes off at The Spring on Tuesday, 1 August. If you are leaving tins please can you clearly mark them with your name. For any further information please speak to Mary Hampton.

Sarah Cutts Portobello Community Forum



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News from Ali in Zambia

Hello everyone, Muli Bwanji! I am still in Zambia giving guitar, singing and English lessons to locals and leading singing in English. Delightful work and very useful for the children. One 16 year old has asked me to help him with his English. He is still at school and struggles with his confidence and a speech impediment. I am so pleased he was able to ask me. If you cannot speak English well here, your chances of employment and working your way out of poverty become very limited.

I am still working with the local village community up the river, mainly with singing and dance groups. I teaching children the song I have written for a charity ZAWS (Zambezi Animal Welfare Services) which works with local dogs, cats and donkeys. Yesterday I spent the afternoon with the founder looking after 4 day old puppies who's mother died shortly after giving birth. She had been eating plastic bags, desperate for food. This is a real problem here. Even the National Park which is home to all the beautiful wild animals – elephants, giraffes, buffalo, zebras etc is strewn with plastic bottles, bags and polystyrene containers along the roadside.

I am setting up our own not for profit organisation with two amazing Zambian professional musicians and community workers. I am planning to come back to the UK in the middle of September up until Christmas. I cannot wait to see everyone again. Please continue with your prayers coming in this direction. I love being here and it is also often extremely challenging. If anyone feels moved to send a donation towards the work I am undertaking it would be very gratefully received. Either give to Margaret Walker who will pass it on, or e-mail me at bullivent@hotmail.com for details. Thanks. Ali BuBulliventyou everyone. Zikomo, mutsale bwino. On-going news on www.facebook.com/alibullivent and Inst: AliBSings



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Women's Fellowship

Our next meeting is on Monday 3rd July (at 10.30am, in the Emmaus rooms as usual) when we will be doing something crafty! As always, accompanied by a cuppa, delicious cake and good company!

THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST

We shall have our next get together on Monday September 4th, same time & same place! This will take the form of a Home Produce Sale, the proceeds of which will be for our charity contribution to the October speaker, from Support Dogs.

So we would really like you to make or bake something!

Please ladies, do come along and see what goodies there will be to purchase and remember to bring your £££; sorry we are still dealing in 'real' cash!

Many thanks,

Gill Heap

Women's Fellowship Meetings 2023/24

MOSTLY held on the first Monday of the month, 10.30am-12noon
(in the Emmaus rooms)

SEPT 4th - Home Produce Sale

OCT 2nd - Support Dogs

NOV 6th - AGM

DEC 4th - 'I wonder what happened to that baby'

2024

JAN 8th - NOTE THE DATE! Joining in with Community Games

FEB 5th - Emergency First Aid; Perry Morton

MARCH 4th - Lent Service

APRIL 8th - NOTE THE DATE; Joining in with Community Games

MAY 6th - BH But we are still meeting! Social catch up!

JUNE 3rd - Help The Heroes (tbc)

JULY 1st - Last meeting before the summer break ; Social!

Gill Heap

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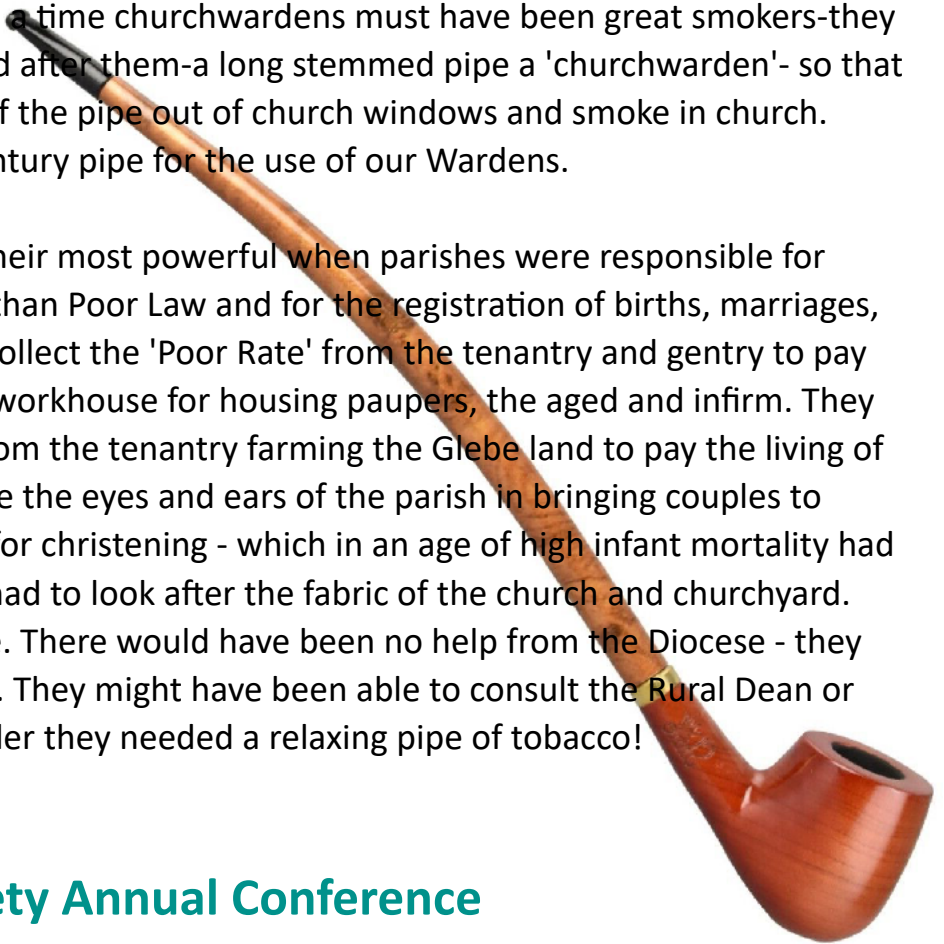
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The Golden Age of Churchwardens?!

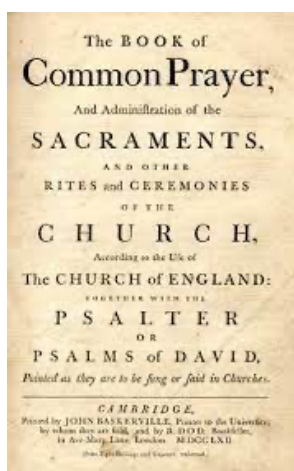
Andrea North, one of our churchwardens, remarked that she found smoking detestable. Yet once upon a time churchwardens must have been great smokers-they have a type of pipe named after them-a long stemmed pipe a 'churchwarden'- so that they could put the bowl of the pipe out of church windows and smoke in church. I purchased a clay 18th century pipe for the use of our Wardens.

Churchwardens were at their most powerful when parishes were responsible for administering the Elizabethan Poor Law and for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths. They had to collect the 'Poor Rate' from the tenantry and gentry to pay for the cost of the parish workhouse for housing paupers, the aged and infirm. They had to collect the rents from the tenantry farming the Glebe land to pay the living of the Parson. They had to be the eyes and ears of the parish in bringing couples to marriage and new-borns for christening - which in an age of high infant mortality had to be done quickly. They had to look after the fabric of the church and churchyard. Truly a burdensome office. There would have been no help from the Diocese - they were geographically huge. They might have been able to consult the Rural Dean or the Archdeacon. No wonder they needed a relaxing pipe of tobacco!

Mike Keeton



Prayer Book Society Annual Conference



This takes place from 17-19 August 2023 at Liverpool Hope University. The Prayer Book Society which has existed for 50 years aims to preserve as far as possible the liturgy of the Book of Common prayer 1662. The Society welcomes non members to the Conference. One of the Highlights will be a tour of Liverpool Cathedral and Choral Evensong there. For further details please contact Mike Keeton.

Mike Keeton Co-ordinator of the Leeds Diocese branch of the Prayer Book Society.

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New life for the Tree of Life

Over the last few years, the tree of Life has begun to look a bit tired, and a Tree of Life committee is working hard to resolve the issues. The committee consists of myself, Ruth, Hannah, and Neale with valuable contributions coming from many others. There is a detailed faculty agreed with the diocese for the Tree of Life in 2015 which guides the solutions we are allowed to use.



The Engravings: The leaves are made from Kilkenny stone with lettering that fades over time. This is a design feature as it is representative of the living organism that is the Tree of Life. This was not properly explained when people purchased the leaves and many have since expressed disappointment. The committee are resolving this in three ways:

1. Leaves are being re-engraved, with letters sent to each purchaser about this.
2. Investigating a white engraving infill, but it will take time to prove that this solution works.
3. A digital map which is explained below.

The Resin: In places the Resin has lost its bond at the edges and in some areas is coming away from the tree sculpture stone. The PCC have authorised the committee to spend a large sum to investigate and instruct a company to undertake a major resin rebuild.

The Grass: The Tree of Life faculty states that that the leaves should be embedded in the ground and surrounded by grass. Over the next few months all the leaves will be levelled and new grass seed will be sown to bring the lawn back to life.

A Digital Map: The leaves will be digitally mapped and will be accessible via both our internet website and a QR code. You will be able to find the leaf of your loved one by clicking on the leaf details. More options with photos, videos should also be possible.

Craig Orr on behalf of the Tree of Life Committee.

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Spring Fundraising

Normally we raise money for others but this time we are raising funds for The Spring Kitchen Renewal

As The Spring continues to bless our local community with quality second hand goods and home-cooked food for the last 26 years, we are now in need of a new “fit for purpose” kitchen to see us into our next season – Key focus will be renewing the flooring and wall coverings and installing commercial ovens and hobs to keep up with the never ending baking and cooking. Also replacing all the surfaces and cupboards with stainless steel benches and shelving and installing some proper extraction and improved ventilation – helping to create a much more pleasant working environment for the team and our army of volunteers. It has been much needed since coming back after COVID to be honest but we just wanted to wait a while and let things settle down before we started to seriously think and pray about such a big decision.

So having finally made the decision to go for it I am now seeking your financial support in helping us achieve our goal through our very first Crowdfunding – basically asking all you folk, who love and support us and who are in a position to financially support us, to donate money – there it is I’ve done it I am asking for yours and the wider community’s financial support through this Newsletter, through Crowd funding on social media and through direct requests to people who visit the Spring but may not have a connection with our Parish.

I do appreciate that now is a tough time to ask for financial support, as we all deal with the spiralling costs of living from day to day, however is there really ever a good time ? It is something that we as a staff team have talked about, prayed about and handed to God to name the time – which it would appear is now, as we deal on a daily basis with a hob that doesn’t light properly, an oven that keeps not baking, a water boiler that’s not boiling and various doors that keep falling off the kitchen units !!!

So how much are we looking to raise?

£ 15,000

How can you donate ?

- Through direct donations at The Spring with cheque or cash
- Through bank transfer to - **The Spring Community Shop & Café** using the following details : **Sort Code 089299** and **Account Number 65377927**, please use as your reference **Kitchen Renewal**
- Via our Facebook JustGiving Page – using Bank Transfer or Debit Cards



All amounts, however small or large will be treated in the strictest of confidence and will all be used to bless the Spring Kitchen renewal.

I would ask you all as our Church family to continue to pray with us in this venture and for us all to be blessed with a positive outcome as we continue to serve everyone with the love of Jesus.

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Other news from The Spring

On 5th June we were delighted to welcome Carol Watson, who having served as a volunteer in the Café for the past 14 months, is now covering a period of sickness for our lovely Joyce. Do call in and say Hi if you're around – Carol is settling in really well and very much values being part of our Spring Staff Team.



We held a **Fundraising Tea for Kaiju Martial Arts on Sunday 11th June** and raised just over £900 towards the cost of sending several young people to the World Championships in Orlando, Florida in October this year.

On **Saturday 20th May** we hosted a **Musical Evening for CAP**, organised by Mark Wilkinson, which was a great success after years of interruptions – raising over £300 pounds for CAP

Future Spring Events

Thursday 27th July @ The Spring, from 6pm – 9pm – Sonia Foo will be hosting an evening of Coping with Anxiety and Stress the Natural Way with Bach Flower Remedies – Places are priced at just £10 which includes making your own 30ml Remedy and can be booked by calling Sonia on 07450 704 607.



On Saturday 29th July from 3pm – 5pm we will be hosting an Afternoon Tea to raise funds for Breast Cancer Now, a Charity that will be close to many people's hearts, certainly my own – so please do contact The Spring to reserve your places :



Tickets, including a Full Afternoon Tea with Sandwiches, Cakes, Scones, Jam & Cream and a Glass of Pink Fizz are priced at just £20 with £15 going to Breast Cancer Now. Please help us raise as much as we can – tickets are limited to 50 and are available from The Spring Café Counter from 4th July.

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Transforming Lives for Good (TLG)

TLG will once again be happening throughout the School holidays at Portobello Community Centre – Sarah and her team will be co-ordinating doing Godly play and enjoying some home-cooked food as we continue to host our beautiful families we met during COVID and offering that little bit of extra support during the school holidays .

Lunch Club dates are as follows from 11.30 – 1.15pm

Wednesday 26th July – Portobello Community Centre

Wednesday 2nd August – Prayer café @ Portobello Gala Day 10am – 3pm

Wednesday 9th August – Portobello Community Centre

Wednesday 16th August – Portobello Community Centre

Wednesday 23rd August – Portobello Community Centre

Wednesday 30th August – Trip to the Coast



Looking forward at The Spring

We are always looking for Volunteers to help us with our families so do get in contact with Sarah Cutts on 07799534702 or email her sarahcuttspcf@gmail.com if you think it may be something of interest to you. Finally, after all that, we shall be closing The Spring for our annual Summer Break and all being well, our Kitchen Renewal on Wednesday 23rd August 2023, re-opening on Tuesday 12th September – renewed, refreshed and refurbished.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 12th September – Spring Re-opens

Friday 29th September – Macmillan Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning - FUNDRAISER

Saturday 7th October – Tearfund Big Quiz Night - FUNDRAISER

That's all folks !!!!

Blessings to you all. Much love

Cath & all @ The Spring



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Christians Against Poverty Prayer Team

Nick and Vivienne Drayton are our CAP Dept Centre Managers. They say "We are keen to have a group of volunteers who would be willing to pray for CAP and our clients because we know God does and can intervene in people's lives in times of distress.

If you would be willing to be part of this prayer team, could you write your name on the list and insert details about your preferred method of contact."

The list will be in the Emmaus Room on Sunday mornings, or you can give your details to the office who will add you to the prayer list.



Paid Cleaner needed for St Paul's

After 16 faithful years cleaning at St Paul's, May Winterbottom has had to retire from this volunteer role. It has now been decided to recruit a paid cleaner for 2-3 hours a week to clean St Paul's church. It would be preferable to have a local person or someone who comes with a recommendation rather than going to an agency. If you know someone who would be interested, please contact the parish office on 01924 259966 or Margaret Walker on 07799217904.

Shield

All SHIELD evenings are held at St Helen's, Emmaus Rooms. 6pm and 7:30pm. Voluntary £1.00 per session is welcomed.

July 2nd - creative evening with Andy Owen

July 16th - Summer Special BBQ with The Cross Project. Bring a friend.

Please contact Rachel Chapman for more information. 07815 770540

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Open Doors - persecuted church and event in Leeds

The Parish has had links with Open Doors for many years, so here is some information from Amy McElhinney, about their work. She says, "Here is a photo from a recent piece of work in Nigeria where over 130 young people received bibles – I wanted to be sure



to send a photo of the real people Open Doors works with. This is the link to the webpage for our most recent campaign"

[Serving Persecuted Christians Worldwide - Arise Africa - Open Doors UK & Ireland](#)

I also wanted to let you all know about an event Open Doors is having in November in Leeds. The event, Standing Strong, is a chance for churches to gather together to worship, pray with the persecuted church, hear more about Open Doors and hear from our guest speaker Kim Sang-Hwa, originally from North Korea, who discovered her parents secret bible hidden in their home which she knew would mean imprisonment in a brutal camp, or even death. She will be sharing her testimony and giving us insight into the very real dangers Christians in North Korea face – the most dangerous place in the world to be a Christian. The event is free, and refreshments will be provided, people just have to reserve a space at the event at the following link: [Standing Strong Northern England Tickets, Sat 4 Nov 2023 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#). We would love to see people from St Helen's and St Paul's at our gathering.

Here are my contact details if anyone at St Helen's or St Paul's ever wishes to be in touch to explore further how the churches can connect with the persecuted church.
God Bless.

Amy McElhinney Church Engagement Team
Open Doors UK & Ireland

	+44 (0) 1993 777 379
	AmyM@opendoorsuk.org
	www.opendoorsuk.org

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Regular Activities at St Helen's and St Paul's

Church Groups or Activities	
1 st Monday of each month 10.30 -12.00	Women's Fellowship. Emmaus Room. Contact Gill Heap. 01924 250103
2 nd Monday of each month 10.30am – 12.00	Community Spirit Games. Emmaus Room, St Helen's. Contact Ann Dobson. 01924 250562
3 rd Monday of each month 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Mother's Union. Barnabas Room, St Paul's
Wednesday 9.00am -12.00	Gardening Team. Contact Alex Hull 01924 256764
Church Cleaners 9.30am –	Contact Vickie Lord. 01924 255938
Wednesday 7.00pm	Bellringers practice for Sunday Services. St Helen's. Contact Margot Cutt. 01924 255918
Thursday 7.00pm	Choir Practice. Usually the Thursday before the 2 nd and 4 th Sundays. St Helen's Church. Contact John Arnold. 01924 372597
2 nd Thursday of each month 2.00 – 3.00pm	Contemplative Prayer Group. Barnabas Room, St Paul's. Contact Sue Davies. 07749 592858
Other Activities (charges may apply)	
Monday in term time 1.30 – 3.30pm	U3A Recorder Group. Emmaus Room, St Helen's. Contact David Johnson 07484 230520
Monday in term time 7.00pm to 9.15pm	Wind Band. Contact Adele Jones. 07850 483727
Thursday eve	Soroptimists, Barnabas Room, St Paul's. Contact Linda Phillips 07709 282403
Various days and times	Pilates, Barnabas Room, St Paul's. Contact Gill Carr. 07968199169

A Notice about Notices

Any one wishing to have a notice read out on Sunday mornings, could they please let Anne Francos have a copy at least a week in advance. annef.sandalmagna@gmail.com or drop a copy in the office. Telephone 01924 259966

I am only in the office on Tuesday mornings.

Anne Francos

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)

Website: www.sandalmagna.com Facebook page: Sandal Magna Parish YouTube: Sandal Magna

Parish of Sandal Magna Newsletter



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

Services at St Helen's and St Paul's to September 2023

Sunday July 9th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's (All Ages Together) 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday July 16th	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Helen's (Holy Communion) (with kid's church) St Paul's (Holy Communion)
Sunday July 23rd	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's 5.00pm Cafe Church, (The Spring Community Cafe)
Sunday July 30th	11.00am Joint Service at St Pauls
Sunday August 6th	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday August 13th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday August 20th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's (Holy Communion)
Sunday August 27th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday Sept 3rd	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's (with kids church) 11.00 am St Paul's
Sunday Sept 10th	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Helen's (All Together) 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday Sept 17th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's (Holy Communion) (with kid's church) St Paul's (Holy Communion)
Sunday Sept 24th	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Paul's 5.00pm Cafe Church, (The Spring Community Cafe)

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