



ST JOHN'S NEWS

27th September 2020

www.stjohnschap.co.uk

THE KING & HIS BRIDE

THE MUSIC OF GRACE

PSALM 45

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sunday 27th Sept <i>HARVEST</i>	9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Ordinations of D Whitehead & J Crossley – Sheffield Cathedral Family Worship D:Group – Parish Centre
Mon 28th - Sat 3rd	9.00am	Morning Prayer (Mon-Sat)
Wed 30th	7.30pm	Element – Parish Centre
Thurs 1st	7.00pm	Rooted – Parish Centre
Fri 2nd	7.30pm	Element – Parish Centre
Sunday 4th Oct <i>TRINITY 17</i>	10.30am 6.00pm	Morning Worship D:Group – Parish Centre

All Services can be found online by clicking this link: [St Johns Online Worship](#)
or at www.stjohnschap.co.uk/live Office email :- office@stjohnschap.co.uk

PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer needs: If urgent prayer is needed for someone ill, in hospital or any other reason, please ring Fee Battey 07814 918972

VICAR'S LETTER – 27th SEPT 2020

Dear Friends,

'Choose ... from among you [those] who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.'

Acts 6:3

God gives leaders

I don't know if you've noticed it, but the Lord has all sorts of interesting ways of providing new leaders for his people:

- for some, they have an unusual encounter, like Moses or Ezekiel – God stops them in their tracks and they hear him saying 'It's you!'
- some are invited by an existing leader – as were Jesus' disciples, or Timothy by Paul
- some are nudged by friends or family, like Andrew bringing Peter to Jesus
- some even *want to do it!* They don't need much prompting, they sense there's a job to be done and want to help. As Paul says to Timothy, 'if anyone wants to provide leadership in the church, good!' (1 Timothy 3:1, *The Message*)

We are so grateful for those God has given us at St. John's. As we approach our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), we thank those who've led us for the last few years on PCC, but whose term is now ending: Fred & Judith Winks (as Deanery Synod representatives), Steve Brook (as Treasurer), Georgina Battey, Ann Boldock, Ruth Langan and Michal Lipka. We have been richly blessed with their gifts, their wisdom, their time and sheer hard work.

Urgently seeking leaders

But that means this October we are **urgently needing new leaders** among us at St. John's. Let me share what the needs are. As I do, please keep in mind the varied ways the Lord draws people into leadership – and have a careful look at the various nomination forms sent out with this newsheet, because those explain a little of what's involved.

So what kinds of leaders are we looking for?

1. **PCC members:** we have 5 vacancies on PCC, which alongside our vicar, takes all the major decisions affecting our life and witness. The PCC meets 6 times a year, currently on Zoom.
2. **Deanery Synod Representatives:** we have 2 vacancies, and this means both being on PCC *and* 4 or 5 Deanery Synod meetings a year. This is a key role in keeping us connected with the wider church, especially in 2021 when they will be electing a new General Synod for the C of E nationally.

And last, but by no means least, we are seeking this year one new

3. **Churchwarden:** Tony Gardiner has served us loyally for the last two years, but very understandable family and work demands mean that he has to stand down. I entirely agree this is the right step, though of course we will miss his gifts. Ideally Tony would like to finish at our APCM, but because he is keen to give a new appointee time to be found, and to ensure there's no gap in our senior leadership, he has kindly said if no one stands by the APCM, he serve for a short further period, until **22nd November 2020**, when a Special Parish Meeting will be held to elect his successor. I will be saying more at the APCM, but I want to record now how much we have appreciated Tony's faithful, hard-working and wise support and leadership in his time as warden.

What can we do?

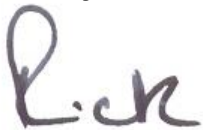
So those are the needs our church has at present. You may be wondering, what happens next? Three things:

- **Pray & ponder:** *pray* that the Lord would provide the PCC members, Deanery Synod Reps, and Churchwarden that we need. Pray for the Lord to draw the right people to these roles. And *ponder*, asking the Lord: 'could it be me'? (Even if I don't feel very qualified! The Lord has a tendency to use those who don't feel up to the job...)
- **Nudge & nominate:** if you know someone who you is right for one of these roles – maybe it's you – then approach them, and gently raise the idea. If they're up for it, see the nomination forms sent out with this newssheet, fill it in as best you can, and with their consent! Then send it to the PCC Secretary, Pat Smith, c/o the Parish Centre, 21, Housley Park, Chapeltown S35 2UE or email Pat at ps.1253@yahoo.co.uk

- ***Come & vote:*** also with this newsheet you will find the formal notices, agenda, nomination forms and Reports booklet for the APCM on 18 October. The APCM will be after a short morning service at the Newton Hall. Because of Covid safety precautions, we can't all be there in person, so we are following the advice from the Diocese and offering the chance to join the meeting via Zoom. If you you'd like the Zoom details, please contact Fee at the Parish Office. We will remind you about this nearer the time, as you may first want to see if you're able to come in person on the day. Please join us as you can on the day, and vote for the new additions to our team.

If you've any questions any of this, please don't hesitate to contact me. Join me in praying for Christ to provide us with all that we need. And as we pray, we are not anxious or afraid: we come with confidence and expectation. For Jesus has not left us alone; as our current sermon series reminds us, he's a husband who feeds and cares for his bride (Ephesians 5:29), and gives all the gifts his people need (Ephesians 4:7-13).

Every blessing,



HELP US GO LIVE!

We're looking **now** for folks [1] who are coming to our resumed Sunday worship, and [2] have a mobile phone capable of videoing the service live through YouTube. We have the software and other hardware to do this, but want to form a team of folks willing to go on a rota to do this, week by week. If you could help with this, again please respond to the letter sent with the newsheet.

PRAYING FOR LEADERS

TODAY David Whitehead & Jim Crossley are ordained as priest and deacon respectively by Bishop Pete at Sheffield Cathedral – sadly they're only allowed a tiny number of visitors, but please hold them in your heart and prayers. You can however watch a livestream of the service at <https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/events/ordination-weekend-at-sheffield-cathedral>

ZOOM GOES THE PCC!

Your PCC met by Zoom met recently:-

- **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Income is down slightly, but expenditure has reduced even more, so we are currently over in surplus. It was agreed to defer fixing the 2021 budget as we are waiting to hear from the Diocese what they will ask us to contribute.
- **PARISH CENTRE MANAGEMENT TEAM:** Building work was delayed but scaffolding is soon going up. It is hoped as the Parish centre begins to be used the cleaner will start working part time.
- **YOUTH MINISTER'S REPORT:** Michael has now been here a week and has met the groups for social activities, and is grateful to the whole team for their help. It wasn't possible for a face-to-face handover from Carl to Michael because of Covid.
- **PCC VACANCIES:** The APCM will be Sunday 18th October. There are 7 PCC vacancies to be filled, including 2 Deanery Synod representatives. Thanks, were expressed to Michal Lipka, Ruth Langan and Fred & Judith Winks for 6 years of loyal service.
- **RESUMING PUBLIC WORSHIP:** It was agreed that the 10.30am and 8 am services would resume on 11th October with live streaming of the 10.30 service for those who don't yet feel ready for public worship. It was also agreed to start Holy Communion.
- **AUTUMN AND CHRISTMAS 2020 PLANNING:** It was agreed that the Church Weekend Away would be postponed until next year. The Giving review is postponed to November. It is hoped that the Memorial Service will be able to take place. Discussions about the format for a Remembrance service are still underway.

To find out more about any of these discussions, please contact any PCC member.

John 16:33 (NIV)

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

