

Making Disciples who make Jesus known

HEADLINE NEWS!

VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY

This Sunday at St John's we will be displaying our rolls of honour of those in Bilton that died during the wars. Bilton Historical Society have also researched and compiled a thorough biography on every name on the rolls and have produced 2 fantastic folders with the information in. If you would like to come and have a look these will be available on Sunday and in the church office afterwards. Our prayers on Sunday will be themed on VE Day and you will be able to light a candle in remembrance.



CHURCH SPRING CLEANING MORNING

Many hands make light work....

Our volunteer cleaning teams at St John's do an amazing job every week but the Energy Audit Team, Green Team and Buildings Team are getting together on **SATURDAY 24TH MAY**, from 9am-12noon to give St John's a thorough spring clean, and they would be grateful of any help, even an hour out of your morning. They have hired a tower so we can clean the tall windows (don't worry you won't need to go up there!) and would like to give the church a good deep clean before we host Emma's leaving service and Matthew's licensing service, reaching those parts that we don't have time to get to during the weekly cleans. We have some cleaning materials available but if you want to bring your own that would be great. All help will be gratefully received. Thank you!

TODAY'S SERVICES AND EVENTS

SUNDAY 11TH MAY (*Fourth Sunday of Easter*)

9.00am Holy Communion (SJ)

10.30am Holy Communion (SJ)

Readings: Acts 9:36-43; John 10:22-30

10.30am Café Church (SL)

12.30pm Baptisms (SJ)

6-7.30pm Youth Worship Night at Wesley Chapel

CHURCH LIFE

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Sunday 18th May, after the morning services, approx. 12pm at St John's Church

Election of Churchwardens, PCC members and Electoral Roll Officers

Nomination forms are available in both churches and should be signed by the individual nominated and proposed and seconded by someone on the Parish Electoral Roll. Forms can be returned to any churchwarden or the Parish Administrator. We have the following PCC vacancies:

3 vacancies for 3 years; 1 vacancy for 2 years; and 1 vacancy for 1 year

Why should I come to APCM?

It is a great opportunity to find out what has been happening in the life of the church and to listen to and pray for our plans for the coming year.

NB All church members are welcome to attend but you must be on the electoral roll in order to vote.

Why would I want to be on PCC?

Service on PCC is a really important role within the church, not least because the PCC helps to shape the ongoing direction of St John's & St Luke's. It involves 6 meetings and 1 awayday each year.



Our next BAPTISM INFORMATION SESSION

is on Monday 12th May 7.30pm at St John's.

If you are thinking about having your child baptised at St John's or St Luke's you are welcome to join our list of attendees for this session.

Please get in touch with the parish office to find out more.

The May 2025 issue of our parish **FOCUS MAGAZINE** is available to buy at both churches for 60p. The copy date for the June issue is **Sunday 11th May**, articles to be sent to sjslfocus@gmail.com or left in the drawer at the back of St John's.

EXTENDED SUMMER COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 14th June, 10.00am-12.30pm

St John's Church Hall and Outside Area

(weather permitting!)

This year we are not having the usual summer fair but are having an extended coffee morning with all proceeds going to church funds.

We will have all the usual stalls but also extras including local guiding hosting stalls, chocolate and bottle stalls; and prosecco and refreshments will be available to buy.

We are looking for donations of chocolate and sweets, bags and bars; and bottles—any type from bubble bath to fizz. You have time to have a clear out or grab an extra item when you do your weekly shop. Donations can be left at either church in the marked boxes.

As usual we are looking for raffle and tombola prizes, so if you have any or know of any local businesses that would be able to donate anything please do get bring those in.

This is the biggest fundraiser for the church funds each year and your help and support is appreciated.



A **FATHER'S LOVE LETTER** is an intimate message from God to you, from Genesis to Revelation, and it is available at both churches for you to take away and read

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COMFORT BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ

will be at St John's on Tuesday 13th May,
2-3.30pm.

Comfort is a place to be alongside others who are experiencing grief and share the pain of loss. People will be there to listen to you as an individual and respect your story.

Afternoon tea will be served and there will be an opportunity to light a candle for a loved one.
A warm welcome awaits.

There is no need to book, all are welcome.

Pie and a Pint Men's Night: Friday 6th of June

Starting from the Bilton Cycleway 6.45pm.

The proposal is to walk to the Boars Head at Ripley, if you don't want to do the walk you would be more than welcome to join us at the Boars Head for 7:30pm for the meal. A provisional booking for 20 people has been made.

Price: £21 to include Steak Pie, Chips and Mushy Pees and your first drink. **The price includes a tip.** Veggie or allergies alternative available on request.

Please contact **Lee Jones 07773354063** to book your place, a £10 deposit is required.



UPCOMING EVENTS

The next 6 weeks are very busy in the parish and we have both Emma's celebration service and Matthew's licensing service quite close together, for both events we are wanting to provide refreshments afterwards for everyone to enjoy, Val Carr will be drawing up a list of food items to donate on the day in the hope you can bring something to one or the other, but please do not feel that you have to put your name down at this time if you are not able to, we always get lots of contributions and we do not want anyone feeling like they have to if they are not in a position to.

The sign-up lists will alternate between both churches.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the refreshments whether you have contributed or not, we are joining together as a community in these occasions.

To receive this notice sheet by email weekly and to be added onto our distribution list please complete a **CONSENT FORM** available in church or apply via our website by clicking to 'subscribe'

LITTLE FISHES is our parent/carers and child group at St Luke's on Thursdays, 9.30-11.30am and it now has some spaces for new families. £1 per family, includes crafts, toys, games, singing and refreshments. For more information contact Tracey on 875768 or just go along to try it.



What's Happening

MAY

Sunday 18th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SL)
	12.00pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting (SJ)
	6-7.15pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 19th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7.30pm	Energy Audit Working Group Meeting
Tuesday 20th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	3.30-5.00pm	Pause (Year 6-13) Drop-In Space (SJ Hall)
	7.30pm	Start Course (SJ)
Wednesday 21st	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.00pm	Thirst Table at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 22nd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
	10.30am	Wedding Rehearsal (SJ)
Friday 23rd	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
Saturday 24th	9.00am-12noon	Church Cleaning Working Party (SJ)
Sunday 25th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Holy Worship (SL)
Tuesday 27th	7.30pm	Start Course (SJ)
Wednesday 28th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 29th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	6.00pm	Wedding Rehearsal (SJ)
Saturday 31st	1.00pm	Wedding (SJ)

JUNE

Sunday 1st	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Parade Service (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	12.00pm	Emma's Leaving Lunch in Hall (SJ)
	6-7.30pm	Youth Worship Night at Wesley Chapel
Monday 2nd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	2-3.00pm	Monday First at Dene Park Community Centre
Tuesday 3rd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	3.30-5.00pm	Pause (Year 6-13 Youth Drop-In) (SJ Hall)
	7-8.00pm	Limitless Camp Meeting (SL)
	7.30pm	Start Course (SJ)
Wednesday 4th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)

	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	1-3.00pm	Green Team banner Making Session (SJ)
	7.15pm	Finance & Buildings Committee Meeting (SJ)
Thursday 5 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 6 th	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ)
	6.45pm	Men's Pie & Pint Night, meeting at Bilton Lane cycleway
	7-7.45pm	Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Sunday 8th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Café Church (SL)
	12.30pm	Baptisms (SJ)
	6-7.15pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 9 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	11.00am	Licensing Service Rehearsal (SJ)
Tuesday 10 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.00am	Walking Group (SJ)
	2-3.30pm	Comfort Café (SJ)
	3.30-5.00pm	Pause (Year 6-13) Drop-In Space (SJ Hall)
	7.00pm	Matthew's Collation and Induction Service (SJ)
Wednesday 11 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.15pm	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
Thursday 12 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 13 th	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ)
	7-7.45pm	Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 14 th	10.00am-12.30noon	Extended Coffee Morning in Church Hall (SJ)
Sunday 15th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SL)
	6-7.15pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 16 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 17 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	3.30-5.00pm	Pause (Year 6-13) Drop-In Space (SJ Hall)
	7.00pm	PCC Meeting (SJ)
Wednesday 18 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre

THE GREEN TEAM



Sewers and Stitchers needed!

Help needed to complete the new welcome banner!

Our new banner created from surplus material is now well on its way but we need some more pairs of hands to stitch to the finish. A small team will be working on the banner on Wednesday 14th May and 4th June 1pm-3pm in St John's East End room. Please contact Claire on 07734 277450 for more information.

We recycle printer cartridges and batteries at both churches, do you also know you can bring in other items to be recycled at St John's too? Terracycle have stopped their recycling scheme for dental products but you can still bring in your

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS, WRITING INSTRUMENTS AND CONTACT LENSES. These can all be taken to various

shops/outlets to be recycled and there are bags available, so if you know you will be near one of the recycling hubs, maybe you could take the products with you? Let's work together!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

THE BELOVED SON

Performed by Andrew Harrison at Ripon Cathedral

Tuesday 1st July, 7.30pm

A powerful solo performance exploring the life of Henri Nouwen—Catholic priest, psychologist, and one of the most influential spiritual writers of the 20th century. At the height of his academic career, Nouwen left it all behind to join the L'Arche community in Toronto, dedicating his life to people with intellectual disabilities. His journey touches on family, faith, emotional crisis, and the search for belonging. Was it a step back or a prophetic act of love and courage? The Beloved Son invites you to decide. Tickets priced at £14 and available from www.ripontheatrefestival.org/event/the-beloved-son/



Please join us for a **GREEN GARDENING QUESTION TIME** on Wednesday 14 May from 7pm-9pm at Centre On Gracious Street, Knaresborough. Come join us for an evening of fun and learning all about sustainable gardening practices. Our panel of experts, with experience from HBC, Rudding Park, Horticap and Harlow Carr, will be on hand to answer any and all of your burning gardening

questions. Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with fellow gardeners and gain valuable insights into how to create a more environmentally friendly garden. There will be refreshments as well as a raffle and a plant stall. (One of the raffle prizes is a family pass to Harlow Carr Gardens, which would be a wonderful opportunity to see the magnolias and rhododendrons at the moment!) Tickets (£10) are available from Castlegate Books in Knaresborough (cash only, please), the Red Box in Starbeck, and online at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/green-gardening-question-time-tickets-1326192209599>

SUPPORTING MINISTRY & MISSION

Many of us give regularly to our churches, but beyond our regular lifetime, a **GIFT IN A WILL** can be a final and powerful expression of gratitude and thanksgiving towards God that will help transform a church's future and support mission here in this country, and overseas. Here at St Johns and St Lukes we welcome all gifts in wills, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference in our parish. Our PCC legacy policy is to use gifts to help fund significant development projects; whether this be to buildings, to purchase equipment, or to support mission. If you would like to have more information on this, pick up a leaflet in church, visit our website [here](#) or contact Rob Bath on 07817 799640, or by email robertabath@yahoo.co.uk.

 Choose the UK's most trusted home insurer and we'll donate **£130** to your church. At Ecclesiastical, we pride ourselves on providing honest and specialist insurance, and our home insurance is no different. To benefit, all you have to do is quote '**Trust130**' when you take out your policy, and we will arrange the rest. To get a quote: speak to one of our team who will be happy to help: phone 0345 777 3322; or email household@ecclesiastical.com; or visit www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130



**Raise a £35* donation
for us when you book
a beach holiday**



*Average donation amount

EASYFUNDRAISING

Thinking about a 2025 holiday?
TUI, Booking.com, Haven Holidays,
Expedia, loveholidays & 1,000s more
work with easyfundraising so Bilton St
John & St Luke - Yorkshire can receive a
free donation when you book!

On average, we could get a £30
donation from a trip you are booking
anyway! To find out more, visit: [https://
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/travel-
hub?
utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=what
sapp&utm_medium=facebook&utm_co
ntent=travel-wa1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/travel-hub?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=what_sapp&utm_medium=facebook&utm_content=travel-wa1)



We love welcoming everyone into our churches, whether it's to mark an important time in someone's life, to worship regularly, or to come together in the heart of the community.
If you'd like to support your local church, perhaps you'd consider making a gift? You can make a regular or one-off gift simply and safely online, through the **PARISH GIVING SCHEME**, scan the QR code to find out more.



THIS WEEK'S DIARY

MONDAY 12 MAY

9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)
7.30pm Baptism Information
Session (SJ)
7.30pm Green Team Meeting

TUESDAY 13 MAY

9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)
10.00am Walking Group (SJ)
2-3.30pm Comfort Café (SJ)
3.30-5.00pm Pause (Year 6-13)
Drop-in Space (SJ Hall)
7.30pm Start Course (SJ)

WEDNESDAY 14 MAY

9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)
10.30am Holy Communion (SJ)
10.30am Thirst at Dene Park
Community Centre
12.15pm Community Lunch at
Bilton Community Centre
1-3.00pm Green Team Banner
Session (SJ)

THURSDAY 15 MAY

9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)

9.30-11.30am Little Fishes (Parent
& Child Group) (SL)

FRIDAY 16 MAY

1-3.00pm Wellbeing Café (SL)
6.30-7.15pm Junior Choir Practice
(SJ)
7-7.45pm Adult Choir Practice (SJ)

SATURDAY 17 MAY

9.30am Litter Pick in Church
Grounds (SJ)

SUNDAY 18 MAY (*Fifth Sunday of Easter*)

9.00am Holy Communion (SJ)
10.30am Morning Worship (SJ)
*Readings: Acts 11:1-18
John 13:31-35*
10.30am Morning Worship (SL)
*Readings: Acts 11:1-18
John 13:31-35*
12.00pm Annual Parochial Church
Meeting (SJ)
6-7.15pm Ignite (Year 7+ Youth
Group) (SL)

CONTACT US

SAFEGUARDING

For any queries or concerns, contact

Gill Clarke (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

safeguarding.sjsl@outlook.com Tel: 07837 186435 / 01423 565129

THE MINISTRY TEAM

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Emma James (Young People's Worker)

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