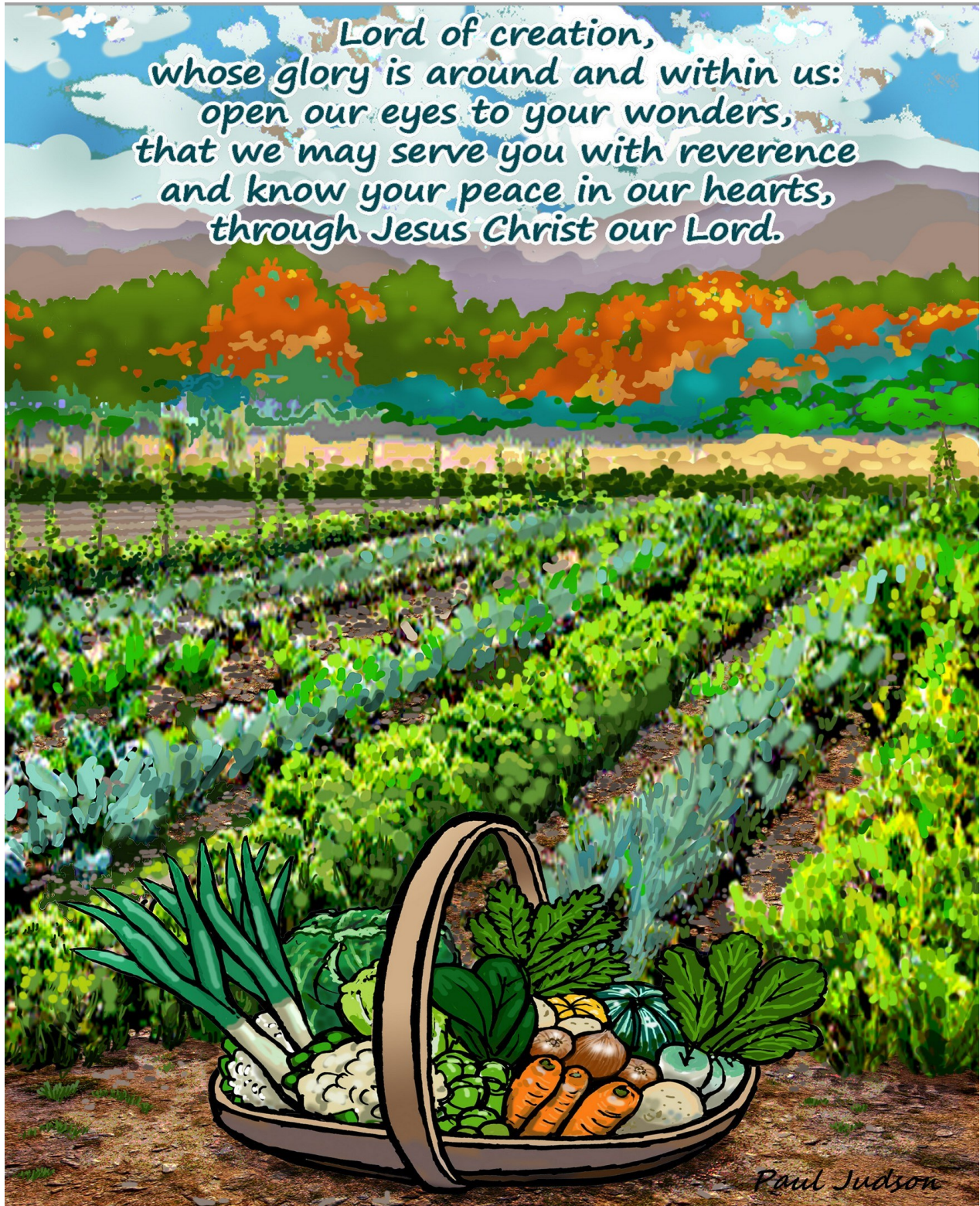


ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

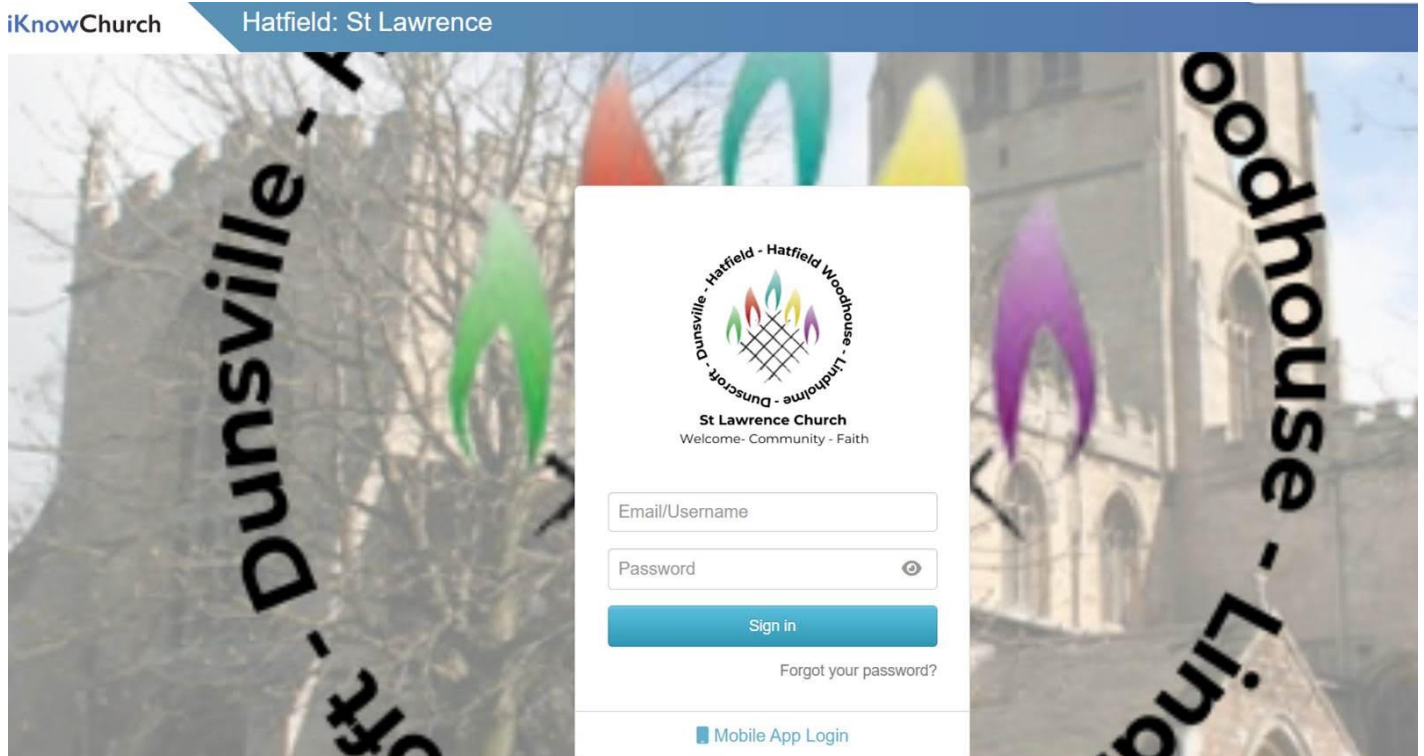
Hatfield, including Duncroft, Dunsville,
Hatfield Woodhouse and Lindholme



Church Officers	Local Information
<p>Vicar The Rev'd Chris Bishop Tel: 07946 118 230 Email: father.chris@outlook.com</p> <p><i>The church is not a postal address but the postcode for SatNavs is DN7 6HN, what three words is caressed.ports.heartless</i></p> <p>Associate Priests The Rev'd Gill Salter Curate The Rev'd Chris Wroot Priest with PTO The Rev'd Joyce Barker Readers with PTO Beryl Adamson Viv Stubbs</p> <p>Organist Vernon Hoyle tel: 07486 895608 vernonhoylemusic@yahoo.com</p> <p>Youth, Children's and Families Worker Rachel Ridler tel: 07851 991286 rachel.ridler@centenaryproject.org.uk</p> <p>Parish Office tel: 01302 350591 email: hello@hatfieldstlawrencechurch.com</p> <p>Church Wardens Terry Raper tel: 07980 378475 Chrissy Grindle tel: 07842 513695, please text initially</p> <p>PCC Secretary Shaun Holt email: shaunholt@gmail.com</p> <p>Electoral Roll Officer Glenys Mashford tel. 01302 841852</p> <p>PCC Treasurer and Giving Director Julie treasurerhatfieldstlawrence@outlook.com</p> <p>Chair and contact for all Social & Fundraising events Sennette Wroot email: sennette67@gmail.com</p> <p>Barn bookings Anne Render tel: 07977 142001</p> <p>Safeguarding Officer Viv Stubbs tel. 01302 846318</p>	<p>Childline tel. 0800 1111</p> <p>South Yorkshire Police Emergency 999 or 112 Non-emergency 101</p> <p>Hatfield Health Centre tel. 01302 897600</p> <p>Out of Hours Doctor tel.01302 761172</p> <p>Homestart tel. 01302 340856</p> <p>Family Lives tel: 08088 002222</p> <p>Bus help line tel: 01709 515151</p> <p>Travis St Lawrence C of E Primary School Lower School tel. 01302 840200 Upper School tel. 842164</p> <p>Roman Catholic Priest ? Roman Catholic Priest: Fr Joseph Okeke tel: 01405 812248 Parish Mobile Phone: 07714 793120</p> <p>Methodist Minister Mrs Liz Worsley Email: elizabethworsley17@gmail.com tel:01302 210286, 077771 92212</p> <p>Weldricks Pharmacy Ash Hill Road tel : 01302 842799</p> <p>Funeral Directors Charles Carpenter Funeral Services tel. 01302 841679</p> <p>B A Wright & Sons tel. 01302 841296 tel. 01302 880450</p> <p>Wade's Funeral Service tel. 01405 812966</p> <p>Magazine Editor Chrissy Grindle</p>

iKnowChurch, do you know iKnowChurch?

It's not really a trick question, iKnowChurch is the communication link we use at St Lawrence, and you can have access to it! Like any communications setup it has areas for the public, that's us, and areas for the people making the plans and holding the private information. It's how reminders are sent out for making hot chocolate for Hatfield Heroes—a vital duty in the life of the church!- it's how the weekly newsletter is sent out to 142 people without tapping "send" 142 times, it's how two weddings aren't planned for the same day, it's how services are planned so that there is a variety evenly spaced through the month.



Those of us who look at the newsletter 😊 took the opportunity to see it on the big screen recently, and Rachel and Rosh showed us how it worked, and what we all had access to. It was great to see the cogs in the wheel of our expanding church, and to feel that we too can be part of it all. R+R are very happy to show anyone in the parish office, just check when they can put their work to one side for 15 minutes or so!



BLAW Baby loss awareness week

9th – 15th October 2025

‘Together we care’

As the wife of a vicar, I am often in the role of supporting others in their joys and sorrows. But baby loss awareness week is a reminder that I too have walked the painful road of losing babies, and the care we receive in those moments, makes all the difference.

Chris and I are blessed with four living children, but in between them, we have known the heartbreak of losing three babies.

In our journey, we have experienced both the absence and the presence of good bereavement care. At our first miscarriage we were given the news and then left in a corridor before being sent for blood tests in a busy waiting room, I remember sitting there watching the world go by whilst mine felt like it had just ended. We felt utterly alone, as though our grief was invisible to those around us. We searched out the hospital chapel and chaplain who sat with us, and afterwards at home we felt so upheld in prayer from our family and friends.

At other times however the experience was very different. At our second miscarriage we were taken straight to a bereavement room, given tea, time and space to process our grief, and treated with gentleness and respect.

When our son Gabriel was stillborn, every member of staff showed genuine care, not only for us, but for him too. We were encouraged to spend time with him, to hold him, to make memories. Their compassion gave us dignity and space to grieve, and left us knowing his short life was valued.

What I’ve learned is that care matters deeply. The difference between feeling abandoned and feeling supported can rest on the smallest gestures, a quiet room, a kind word, a cup of tea, a willingness to listen. And beyond hospital walls, we have also known the care of the church

and our wider community, family and friends surrounding us with prayer, remembering our babies by name, and reassuring us that we were not alone.

Baby loss never fully leaves a family. Even everyday questions like 'how many children do you have?' can open up tender places in the heart. But when we know that others care, that our grief is shared, that our babies are remembered, and that our pain is not dismissed, we are given strength to carry on.

This is why Together we care is such an important theme. As Churches, as friends, as communities, we can help make sure no family feels they must grieve in silence. We can listen without judgement, speak the names of our precious babies, pray for those whose hearts are broken, and encourage excellent bereavement care in our hospitals.

Gentle ways we can show we care together during BLAW

There are many small, thoughtful things we can do to show love and care for families who grieve. You might like to:

Light a candle on 15th October at 7pm for the wave of light, to remember babies gone too soon.

Remember milestones, birthdays and anniversaries, they can be gently acknowledged and this can mean a lot.

Hold grieving families in prayer, asking God's comfort and peace for them.

Send a kind message or card to someone you know who has experienced loss.

Place a flower somewhere special as a quiet act of remembrance.

Offer to sit beside someone in Church who may find this week especially hard.

Even the smallest acts of kindness can shine God's love into someone's deepest sorrow.

Church Ribbon Display

Baby Loss Awareness Week 9th – 15th October 2024

If you would like a Ribbon displayed in memory of a baby please choose a ribbon and write your babies name if you would like to and we will hang your ribbon in Church to remember your baby.

A Reflective Service

Saturday 11th October at 6:30 pm

If you or a friend or family member has lost a baby in pregnancy, birth or early years, you are very welcome to come and remember them, whether the loss was yesterday or 80 years ago.

Joy Bishop

Arrangements for Baptism (Christening) and Weddings

St Lawrence would love to celebrate your special day with you and your family. The first step in arranging a Baptism or a Wedding is to attend one of our services. Please introduce yourself to Chris our Vicar, who will speak with you about the next steps.

These are joyful and life changing events! Both require making serious promises before God and some preparation will take place before a date can be set.

Another option for Parents is a 'Thanksgiving Service' rather than a Baptism. This is a great way to celebrate the gift of a child with family and friends for those who aren't quite sure about God, but would still like to thank Him for the gift of a new life! Thanksgiving Services can be booked directly with Chris our Vicar and don't require any preparation.

Funerals

Norman Elvin

Barry Stanley Brownsword



Chris our Parish Priest is very happy to be contacted directly by email or phone to arrange a convenient time for any of the following;

- A conversation for spiritual guidance and advice

- The Sacrament of Confession

- House Blessings

- Visiting parishioners, especially the sick

- Ministry at the time of death (day or night)

What a talented lot we are!

If you know people in the congregation you will probably know some of them are talented, in all sorts of different ways! This is one of the talented Andrea Ashmore's delightful poems!

St Peter and St Paul

"Heaven's pretty full now",
Said St Peter to St Paul,
"But people keep arriving,
Where shall we put them all?"

"We'll make them take a ticket",
St Paul said to St Peter,
"They come up when their number's called,
You can be the Official Greeter".

"What a good idea,"
Said St Peter to St Paul,
"They do that down at Tesco,
It keeps the queues quite small".

"Well there you are, problem solved",
St Paul said to St Peter,
Make them form an orderly line,
It'll make the place look neater".

I'll install the machine on the Pearly Gates,
Said St Peter to St Paul,
"And put up a screen for all to see,
Like they do in the Bingo Hall".

"I think the Boss will like it",
St Paul said to St Peter,
"We can measure them up for their robes while they wait,
And charge them by the metre".

So next time you're down at Tesco,
And you're standing in that queue,
Remember St Paul and St Peter,
They're keeping their eye on you!

Andrea Ashmore

The Friends of Hatfield Church Building Trust

We had an excellent Coffee Morning last month in Hatfield Community Library which was very well attended. There was a 21 prize raffle (ask Anne and Vera about the HUGE marrow!!), our Pre-Loved Jewellery stall and a great tombola by Janet! As well as our drinks and biscuits the Church provided lots of delicious buns and cakes to buy and the DN7 Foodbank did a great biscuit tombola plus Pete Bullers brought his wonderful bespoke birdboxes to sell so there was lots to keep our customers busy. Our total takings were £308 which was fantastic, the DN7 Foodbank took £100 plus the Church made £40 on cake sales so we were all highly satisfied. We have to thank Sue and all the Library staff who made us all so welcome and provide a lovely venue.

Happily, the funds keep rolling in from our jewellery sales.... we've had a



great month with sales of scrap gold and silver amounting to a whopping £462 plus the jewellery stall at Sarah Jane's Tea Rooms in Dunstable made £66 including a generous donation from John and Sarah Jane, many thanks to them and their customers. We'll be back towards the end of the year.

We've had an invitation from The Friends of Quarry Park to have our jewellery stall at their Community Coffee Morning on Sat 25th October in Hatfield Community Library and we have accepted so please come along and join us from 10am till 12 noon. They have invited other organisations too including the DN7 Foodbank who are doing a biscuit tombola, the Friends of Jubilee

Park, Pete Bullers with his handmade bird boxes and hopefully the Cubs.

Information – You can become a ‘Friend’ for a minimum donation of £5 per year. These subscriptions are the backbone of our fundraising efforts with all funds raised going only to maintain, conserve and restore our wonderful Grade 1 Listed building and grounds. Anyone can join us. For more information and to pay Membership renewal fees please contact Jean Singleton, Eastby, Cuckoo Lane, Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6QE. Tel 01302 842363.
Tina O’Halloran

On October 1st we remember

Theresa of Lisieux - making the most of life

Theresa of Lisieux (1873-97) should be the patron saint of teenage girls and young women who want to make the most of their lives, despite being constrained by family and school or work.

Theresa grew up in a strict, devout Roman Catholic middle-class family in France, one of four sisters. Her father was a watch-maker. Like her sisters, she entered a Carmelite convent at 15, and stayed there. She was never able to go anywhere, do anything extraordinary, or hold any responsibility. She died at the age of 24 of tuberculosis. Yet this quiet young Carmelite nun became so nationally popular that she was declared patroness of France 50 years after her death. Not bad for someone who didn’t get out much!

So how did Theresa do it? By not intending to do it at all. Theresa never set out to become famous: instead, she quietly determined in her spirit to seek God, and, having found Him, to honour Him in her life, to live as closely as she could to the teaching in the gospels.

The result was a life so spiritually radiant that her convent asked her to write a short spiritual autobiography of her pilgrimage. Theresa obliged with ‘L’Histoire d’une Ame’, which soon became so popular that it was translated into most European languages and several Asiatic ones. Theresa also prayed for people who were ill, and there are many reports of miraculous healings that took place in answer.

After Theresa died in 1897, her book just went on selling. People found the artless sweet simplicity of her observations on her pilgrimage as a Christian compelling. Theresa reminded people of what Christianity was really all about: simple but utter devotion to Christ, not endless outward observance of religion. Theresa helped many in the Roman Catholic Church in France to remember the first principles of their faith.

Diary of a Youth, Children's and Families Worker

What a September it has been this year – I have certainly felt God moving as we start the new term and I hope you all did too. Coming back from my annual leave straight into Mission Week was amazing. I was able to spend three mornings on the church door talking to children and parents, offering free cups of tea and prayer where needed. We saw a vast array of people, from the mum dropping their reception class child off for the first time in tears, needing a hug as she went on with the rest of her day, to the slightly nervous children not sure what to expect of a new



teacher, those who didn't want to see the back of the holidays, and the parents very much in need of adult company and a chat after 6 weeks with the kids! Many conversations were had, and we invited lots to church and the Banquet event. It was such a joy to see some of those faces at Café Church on the Sunday afternoon too as we continue to pray that God will stir in the hearts of people and draw them back to church.

I am also one assembly away from completing my Backpack Blessing Roadshow around the schools in Hatfield, and I always receive such a warm welcome. This year I am challenging the pupils to be a light and shine before others this school year – so that they will bring praise to God, their school, their class and their families. Jesus is the ultimate light and example for us, but we all have our own light that we can shine out wherever we go. The God moment in this year's roadshow was at Sheep Dip Lane Primary Academy, where the head said excitedly that they are learning "This Little Light of Mine" in their singing assembly on Friday, and that they want to sing it for us when we go in for Open the Book.

God certainly seems to be working in the background of all the groups and

activities I am involved in, and here are some other things I am thankful for this month:

Abbie and Joy taking over the running of Little Lions Toddler Group on Thursdays. They have such a passion for our little ones, I know they will do an amazing job! Rev'd Gill and Sarah support them in this too, and I'll be popping down whenever I can, but this frees up my Thursdays to run the Youth Alpha Course at Ash Hill Academy from October.

So many Year 6's joining our Hatfield Heroes Youth Group this September! We had our largest number in church on Sunday, with 17 coming down, and there are now 27 on our register if everyone turns up!!! I remember going to the PCC a couple of years ago to speak about doubling the numbers in our Youth by 2030, but God seems to be in much more of a hurry than us. The amazing thing is that many of them do come to Café Church too, so please pray for their continued spiritual growth.

A team to work alongside. I am forever thankful for the volunteers who support me and the staff team at Hatfield St Lawrence. To see the success of Lawrence's Place this month has me excitedly planning some "family focussed" ideas to go alongside the community café such as "Pokemon Card Swap Tables", "Christmas Present wrapping stations" and the opening of our Uniform Bank at the same time.

My plea to you this month is to ask for your support for the upcoming Youth Alpha Course. This is an exciting opportunity, but one that needs the full support of our whole church family. Please could you consider helping in one of three ways:

Praying! Pray for all 30 places to be filled and for more young people to be interested in attending than we have space for. Pray for God to speak to these young people and bring transformation and salvation.

Volunteering. It would be great to have a second helper to come along and chat with the young people each week. It will be 2-3:30pm on Thursday afternoons



Donating. The cost of resources, snacks for each week and to gift each attendee a bible at the end will be approximately £300 (or £10 per young person). If you could sponsor a young person or pay the whole amount, please speak to me or pop a donation in the collection marked with "Youth Alpha Course". Any excess can be used for other youth activities.

Rachel – Youth, Children's and Families Worker

Rachel.ridler@centenaryproject.org.uk

Dear Editor...

Just occasionally the editor asks for items for the magazine, there are wonderful regular contributors but it is good to broaden the input, and the editor runs out of ideas! So thank you Dave! And bless you Mick for taking Dave and God seriously...

Dear Chrissy, you asked for some stories about visiting other Churches. This may interest you. Dave Ketteridge

Sandra and I are frequent visitors to Cyprus, and like to trip out to The Troodos Mountains to the village of Kakopetria (naughty rock), where on this occasion we included my Best Man Mick Poulton and his wife Leslie, and took them into the ancient church of St Nicolas tis Stegia (the church with the roof), where, as is our custom, we light a tallow candle and say a silent prayer for the wellbeing of our family. When I explained to Mick the reason, he decided to have a go too and told me he had made a wish for his son, who hadn't been in contact for weeks. That evening, sat round the pool supping a nice whisky, his mobile phone rang and it was the errant son ringing for a chat. "Blimey, that was quick" said Mick. True story. Draw a moral from that!



Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship

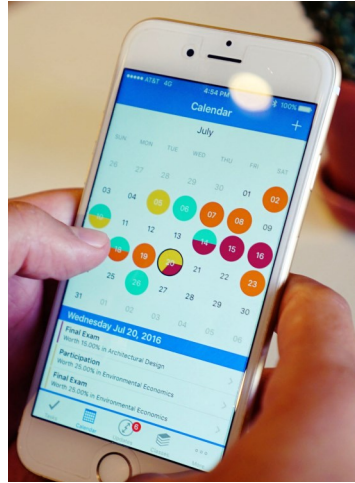
If you have ever paused in the Lady Chapel, you will have noticed the small lamp that burns gently behind the altar. This Sanctuary Lamp is a sign of Christ's presence in our church, a reminder that He is always with us, a light shining in the darkness.

As well as being a symbol of Christ's presence, the lamp may also burn in memory of a loved one who has died. Many people find it comforting to mark a special date, such as a birthday or the anniversary of a passing, by dedicating the lamp to someone they hold dear.

The lamp may also be sponsored for other occasions and reasons for thanksgiving: to celebrate a wedding anniversary, to give thanks for answered prayer, for recovery from illness or surgery, to welcome the birth of a child or grandchild, or simply to express gratitude for the love and support of our church family. Whatever the reason, the light of the lamp becomes a visible sign of prayer, hope, and thanksgiving.

For a donation of £10, you can sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp, which will burn for a whole week. Your dedication will also be included in the weekly newsletter, so that the whole church family may share in your remembrance or thanksgiving in prayer.

If you would like to sponsor the lamp, please complete one of the application forms (available on the side table), place it



SEPTEMBER

The next **Come and Sing session** will be held on **Tuesday September 30th at 6.30pm**. No commitment is sought after these sessions, just an invitation from our Organist, Vernon Hoyle, to enjoy singing in a group, rehearsing hymns and responses coming up in future services.

OCTOBER

2nd Thursday Stainforth History Group 19:00 Stainforth Methodist Church (every first Thursday) You don't have to be a member to come to this friendly group, there's a remarkably small entrance fee to cover costs, and you will be made most welcome!

5th Sunday Bishop Leah, the new Bishop of Doncaster, will Celebrate and Preach at the 10am **Choral Communion Service**, during which service she will change Chris's title from 'Priest-in-Charge' to 'Vicar'. We will also belatedly celebrate the **100th Birthday** on September 13th of Lew Rhoades, so there will be cake & wine to enjoy afterwards! Spread the word and bring a friend!

6th Monday Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Church Coffee Afternoon in aid of The Jasmine Centre & The Chatsfield Suite, Doncaster, Raffle and Tombola @ 3pm, please note later time each Monday.

7th Tuesday Garden Club, 19:30 Working Men's Club at Hatfield Woodhouse (every first Tuesday). Yes winter is a time for gardening, to be outside gathering leaves in sunshine can be glorious for any of us, and gardening catalogues can count as real gardening when

warm and cosy indoors!

9th Thursday from 7 – 9pm Bishop Leah will be visiting us again: and will be joined by the Bishop of Sheffield, Pete Wilcox. This service is open to Churches across the Deanery, so we look forward to linking up with many friends, and sharing refreshments afterwards

11th Saturday in the Barn Children's Society coffee morning and annual box opening Barn 10-12. See page

11th every second Saturday coffee afternoon 14:00-15:30– Dunsville Methodist Church Greens Road

12th Sunday Harvest Supper & Hymns 6:30



*There will be songs to sing, food to eat,
our God to worship, and many, many
thanks to be given, come and join us!*



16th Thursday Deanery Synod at 7pm for 7.30pm, St Mary's Stainforth. This really might not be your thing!! But it's how the church works in bigger ways than just St Lawrence, even though that is the centre of our church universe, of course!

27th Monday Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Church Coffee Afternoon in aid of the British Legion Raffle @ 3pm

NOVEMBER

2nd Sunday @ 6:30pm 'ALL SOULS' Memorial Service for 2025

14th Friday Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Church is raising money for Weston Park Hospital, 11-2, refreshments, stalls, tombola, Weston Park Stall and a raffle.

A little word about Deaneries, see 16th... Each diocese in the country is split into groups of churches called Deaneries, our Deanery goes as far as Goole to the north-east, and we are at the other end of it with Stainforth, Barnby Dun is in the next Deanery. We are joined with Adwick Deanery, but we usually meet by ourselves as otherwise people are making a long journey! But on 16th we're meeting together, Stainforth is the nearest parish to Adwick, we'll socialise, have cake I'm sure, and Alex Shilkoff will be with us, she is the strategic programme director for Sheffield diocese, come and find out more!!

Street Prayer Project— October update

Hello everyone,

As part of my ministry in our community, I have started a **Street Prayer Project**. Each week, I will be praying for different streets in our mission area and delivering prayer cards to let residents know when their street will be included in our prayers. These cards will also have details of our church services for the week.

If you receive a card, please know that you and your neighbours are being lifted in prayer. If you have specific prayer requests, you are warmly invited to get in touch or join us for the service on the date mentioned, or any date!

If you see me out and about, please stop and say hello—I'd love to chat!

This month, we will be praying for the following streets :

Mile End Ave	Danum Road
Bosworth Close	Doncaster Road
Blenheim Close	Tower Gardens
Naseby Close	Beechwood Court
Coppice Avenue	Lings Lane
Norman Drive	Millers Court
Norman Road	

May God bless our streets, our homes, and all who live here.

Rev Chris Wroot [Curate]

Hatfield Church

frchriswroot@gmail.com 07884 325366

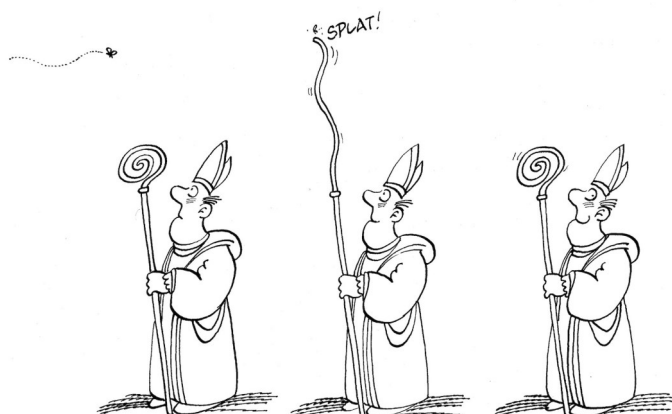


I'm really delighted to tell you that in the week of 15th September the Rev'd Chris Wroot and Andy Green have cracked the 2,000 delivery mark, they have delivered 2,000 prayer and invitations to our beautiful church, and church magazines, within the parish. The first ones were printed in mid-April, and since then these great inviters have travelled across our parish, not just working from end to end but making sure every area is visited.

So if you see them please give them a shout of encouragement and a welcome smile, you can see where they're going next on the page opposite.



They don't always take a photo but when delivering 300 invitations on Broadway in June on the same day they had some help from three St Lawrence people, thank you Freda, Alan and Dawne. Look out for them and you can have your photo taken too!



Sorry it's a repeat cartoon but the Bishops might appreciate this one, give them a magazine someone!

Don't ya just love the way He works. . .

We were sat drinking tea and yacking away, slowly becoming aware of the lady patiently waiting. Says she "I'm going to be very busy next week and was hoping someone could, just this once, launder the altar cloths for me". Being the only unbusy one at the table I found meself volunteering.

*So there's me walking from church, a tad bemused & taking meself to task. With me sensory issues and me ptsd I **never** offer to do water based tasks. Starts to panic and thinks - just get up early and get it done wi nobody and nowt to interrupt - panic subsides and anxiety settles.*

Wakes up 6ish. No red envelope anywhere. Just knew I never left it in their car, but. . . 8ish, phones the curate & before I can ask, he shouts down the phone at me "I've got it". PHEW

Eventually, tea time, puts the cloths to steep. Full on panic now sure i'd do summat else stoopid; ruin em. Hangs them to dry. Huge sighs of relief. Starts to rain, so in they come and hang them on towel rail.

Finally sets up me ironing area. One cloth missing! So there's me at 3 in the morning, torch in hand, searching the garden. Untangles the dog from the hedgehog, thinks "never again. never ever again". Of course it's ont' floor below towel rail. Wot a plonker.

Places first cloth ready, picks up me iron & am suddenly flooded with the deepest, most contented, sense of peace; A sense, in my mind, of the connectedness, through centuries of all

the hands doing what mine are about to do. Just love, but love the way you work Lord.

Of course Lord, being as you're in the middle o everything, I allus look to the befores and the afters.

Before was you telling me next step in us healing was peace. "Yeuch" methought " do I have to? " then an email fromt' vicar ending with a prayer " in His name that you know peace " and as I read, a sliver of a sense of what it felt like.

After was this morning when the lady asked again. She placed the envelope in my hand and I filled with equanimity and joy

Syntyche

This author signs herself Syntyche, not her real name. In explanation she adds

And folks will ask. Syntyche was a square peg in a round hole - philippians 4:2

The direct quote is " I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you, [] help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life." 'Our' Syntyche definitely isn't a deliberate faller-outer, God has made us all to be different from each other, thankfully!

This wasn't written for the magazine. When I had asked about altar linen again a few weeks later Sheila told me what had happened the first time, making us laugh as she told the story, then bringing tears to our eyes with the peace she felt. Please write for us again Sheila. Editor

100 Club and Vera's chatter

1st prize Phillipa Cousins

2nd prize Pat Walker

3rd prize Mary Leggot

Congratulations all of you, this is the last draw of this cycle so you could use your winnings to pay for 2025/ 2026 or just enjoy an unexpected treat.

I have spent some time this morning getting the 2025/26 sheets ready, quite a sobering event. It is not until you look at lists that you realise how many people are missing. My nature being what it is I have turned myself around and remembered a happy moment with all the people we have lost, sometimes it is hard to count ones blessings but is better than wallowing in sadness. I was blessed with having a mother who had no time to dwell on sadness and brought us up to go forward in faith knowing that the big plan was not ours to know but trust in God's goodness for us, I hope I have imprinted this into my children.

I will share a fun moment from this week. Adele Dore has an apple tree that has been bountiful this year, I got the offer of apples for the food bank so Adele and I attacked the apple tree, and honestly attack is the correct word! Any passers by would have thought we were a comedy sketch! Neither of us are tall so Adele's yard brush was brought in to drag the branches down while I leapt up and down grabbing apples. Lots of laughter ensued, we filled many shopping bags with apples which were gratefully received at Church on Wednesday and food bank on Friday. Thank you Adele for thinking of us, I know John and Sheila would have been giggling watching us and delighted that the little tree they planted went on to do good, they were lovely people who loved our Church and community. I will always remember John laughing and telling me a tale, he did not understand why Sheila needed so much money to spend on the children's clothes because he only ever saw them in pyjamas, (think about it), a hard-working man whose craftsmanship can be seen all around Hatfield.

Best wishes to you all, plant your bulbs now so they can snuggle down and be ready to bring you joy in the Spring.

Vera x



SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER

Whether you're popping in for a cuppa and a bacon bap or looking for a friendly face and good conversation, **Lawrence's Place** is here for you.

We know that loneliness and social isolation affect people of all ages, and this café is our small but meaningful response — a space where no one has to feel alone.

Run by volunteers on a not-for-profit basis, the café will offer affordable drinks and simple snacks, so that everyone — individuals, families, carers, and those on a tight budget — can join in without worry. Our focus isn't just on refreshments, but on hospitality, care, and community.

We will be inviting local charities, advice services, and wellbeing groups to share information or simply be present, making the café a bridge to other helpful resources in the area.

Whether you're new to the neighbourhood, a long-time resident, a parent needing a breather, or someone simply looking for good company, you're warmly invited. Come and be part of something hopeful and grounded in community. There's always a seat at the table — and always a welcome waiting.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON AT LAWRENCE'S PLACE
A COMMUNITY CAFE WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS.**

The Children's Society coffee morning and box opening

The Children's Society is supported by St Lawrence Church, by a Christingle service at Christmas, and by 40+ people having boxes in their homes that hold the small change from their pockets. Don't belittle this, read on. To the end.

Last year this so-called "small change" raised nearly £1,000, mainly in 1p, 2p and 5p pieces, I know I counted them and carried them to the bank! Keep reading.



Someone asked me recently why I supported The Children's Society. I really do respect and trust other children's organisations such as the NSPCC. It's not a competition, if anything there need to be more groups helping children! But I personally support the Children's Society because they are a Christian organisation. That means that they are interested in children's lives beyond this world, as well as their life on earth. They do not overtly "preach the Gospel" but show God's love by example, and have Christian values. Another reason is that they are proactive to the very top level of decision-making. They research partly by asking thousands of children's opinions in their famous Good Childhood Report, and taking that information to Parliament to change the lives of children in the UK.

"For our 2012 Fair and Square campaign, we called on the Government to extend free school meals to all children living in poverty. In response, they announced that all children in reception, years one and two would be entitled to a free school meal." Since then they've kept pushing, this time for free school meals for all families on Universal Credit, watch this space!

Theirs was the boost, with other information, that made the Government limit the price of new uniforms, and that also lead to uniform banks, such as we have at St Lawrence. Without the Children's Society the price of school uniforms would be even higher today.

(Look on <https://hatfieldstlawrencechurch.com/uniformbank/> for their next date, and when you're clearing sort out for The Great Christmas Jumper Swap, get them ready by November 23rd, swap date to follow!)

What they say about themselves:

"We respond to government proposals, inform parliamentarians about our key concerns, and provide briefings suggesting solutions. We have championed dis-

advantaged children throughout our 140-year history, and today our policy work is focused on these groups of disadvantaged children:

- ♦ children in poverty including the impact of debt and financial exclusion on children and young people
- ♦ children at risk including children who run away and those involved in or at risk of sexual exploitation
- ♦ young refugees and migrants including trafficked and undocumented children
- ♦ mental health and children and young people's wellbeing.

“We work with decision makers at both the national and local level to tell what children and young people want and what they think about their lives.

“By focusing our efforts on the most marginalised or discriminated young people we strive to ensure that every child has a good childhood.”

Everyone is aware of the financial pressures of life in 2025, and the helpless feelings of not being able to do anything to help anyone. An important way to help is to tell people about the Society, pass on this magazine for instance. Of course help financially too, yes the 1p, 2p, 5p all count towards their costs!

From the 2001 census there were 5,630 households in the ward of Hatfield, a population of 15,048, it's now 17,584. If every *household* put 1p in a box every week there would be £2927.60 by the end of the year. Do the maths, yes it's £7824.96 if every person put in 1p. And 1p a day from every person... £54925.20.



Never belittle putting pennies in boxes, this is not little money!

Come to the Barn on 11th, Saturday, there's a good coffee morning 10-12, come and find out more!

But the most important way to help the Children's Society is to tell God about it, to pray for the Society and the children and young people it serves.

Our apologies Paul that your advertisement didn't get into August's magazine, it got lost on the way through, which is why it's not as you set it up, my apologies.

So please have a couple of months free advertising, and we'll be in contact to see how we can tweak your original.

PJS

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Paul styles on 07813777432 or Email

paulstyles@live.co

The scary amount of money spent on Halloween

When did you first spot Halloween-themed items in the shops this year?
Some were on sale in August. Seriously. August.

But perhaps no wonder – as in the UK Halloween has become the third-largest retail event after Christmas and Easter. In 2019 we spent £474million. By last year it had grown to £776million.

Who spends all this money? Millennialists and young children are driving the sales, with about £40 spent on each costume. The supermarkets are the most popular places to buy the costumes, and then there is all the party stuff and trick and treats to add to the shopping trolley...

Some retail analysts predict that America will spend about \$12 billion dollars (£8.8 billion pounds) on Halloween this year. The UK might spend about £800 million.

That may be frightening enough, never mind the costumes!

*We chose to celebrate All Souls another way...
All the Souls we know, have known and won't ever know,
will there be
Treats in the Churchyard again on October 31st??*

Loving God, we ask
that our places of
worship may be
centres of learning,
encouragement,
support, and hope.
As we worship and
serve you together,
may others meet the
Servant King.

From the Church of
England's Everyday
Faith app.



One off cleans

Weekly, Fortnight
monthly

Sarah's Cleaning Service

07563808300

Sarahbridge82@gmail.com

Joining in on Facebook!

You can join Rev'd Gill or Rev'd Chris Wroot on Friday mornings at 8:30 for a short Morning Prayer— 10 minutes
Go to the St Lawrence Hatfield page and try it out!



Please ensure that copy for the magazine is with the editor by the 15th of each month, preferably in writing. This means that the magazine can be put together, printed and collated and in church by the last Sunday in each month, and to be delivered by the time of the first activities in the month.

Copy to
Chrissy Grindle, letter in church or to
60 Station Road, or email:
maghatfieldchurch@gmail.com

Thank you.

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Worship times

Each Monday to Thursday Morning Prayer at 9:15 in church

Each Wednesday 10.00 Holy Communion followed by Open Church from
11.00 – 12.00 join us for coffee, chat, light a candle, quiet prayer.....

Each Thursday 15:00 Holy Communion Service Book of Common
Prayer (BCP)

Sunday 5th

10:00 Choral Communion with Bishop Leah!
And Lew Rhodes' 100th birthday!

16:00 Café Church

Sunday 12th

10:00 Choral Communion

18:30 Sunday Harvest Supper & Hymns

Sunday 19th

10:00 Choral Communion

16:00 Café Church

18:30 A reflective and quiet service

Sunday 26th

8:30 BCP and Breakfast,

10:00 Choral Communion



November 2nd Sunday @ 6:30pm 'ALL SOULS' Memorial Service

*The Editor would like to point out that Bishops are
very busy people, nearly as busy as parish priests!*



*Our very new Bishop of Doncaster, Bishop Leah, will be
coming on Sunday 5th, **AND THEN SHE'LL BE COMING
BACK WITH BISHOP PETE** on Thursday 9th! See page 15*

We must be doing something right !

Please do come to give them a good Hatfield welcome.