

# ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

Hatfield, including Duncroft, Dunsville,  
Hatfield Woodhouse and Lindholme



## Church Officers

**Vicar** The Rev'd Chris Bishop  
Tel: 07946 118 230  
Email: [father.chris@outlook.com](mailto:father.chris@outlook.com)

*The church is not a postal address but the  
postcode for SatNavs is DN7 6HN, what  
three words is caressed.ports.heartless*

**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

### Organist

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[vernonhoylemusic@yahoo.com](mailto:vernonhoylemusic@yahoo.com)

### Youth, Children's and Families Worker

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**Church Wardens** Terry Raper  
tel: 07980 378475  
Chrissy Grindle  
tel: 07842 513695,  
please text initially  
**PCC Secretary** Shaun Holt  
email: [shaunholt@gmail.com](mailto:shaunholt@gmail.com)

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tel. 01302 841852

**PCC Treasurer and Giving Director**  
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Fundraising events** Sennette Wroot  
email: [sennette67@gmail.com](mailto:sennette67@gmail.com)

**Housekeeper** Freda Thubron  
email: [freda2mick@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:freda2mick@yahoo.co.uk)

**Barn bookings** Anne Render  
tel: 07977 142001

**Safeguarding Officer** Viv Stubbs  
tel. 01302 846318

## Local Information

**Childline** tel. 0800 1111

**South Yorkshire Police**  
Emergency 999 or 112  
Non-emergency 101

**Hatfield Health Centre**  
tel. 01302 897600

**Out of Hours Doctor**  
tel.01302 761172

**Homestart**  
tel. 01302 340856

**Family Lives**  
tel: 08088 002222

**Bus help line**  
tel: 01709 515151

**Travis St Lawrence C of E Primary School**  
Lower School tel. 01302 840200  
Upper School tel. 842164

**Roman Catholic Priest**  
Roman Catholic Priest:  
Fr Joseph Okeke  
tel: 01405 812248  
Parish Mobile Phone:  
07714 793120

**Methodist Minister**  
Mrs Liz Worsley  
Email: [elizabethworsley17@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethworsley17@gmail.com)  
tel:01302 210286, 077771 92212

**Weldricks Pharmacy Ash Hill Road**  
tel : 01302 842799

**Funeral Directors**  
**Charles Carpenter Funeral Services**  
tel. 01302 841679

**B A Wright & Sons**  
tel. 01302 841296  
tel. 01302 880450

**Wade's Funeral Service**  
tel. 01405 812966

**Magazine Editor** Chrissy Grindle  
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*St Lawrence Church Hatfield would like to thank all the “heroic volunteers” mentioned here!*

## **We hold 'national treasures for the common good' - new repairs fund announced**

The Church of England's Director for Cathedral and Church buildings, Emily Gee, has welcomed the Government's Places of Worship Renewal Fund, and its willingness to invest in repairs and improvements for eligible parish and cathedral church buildings.

She said: "We also welcome the Government's recognition of the special role of historic churches in national life - church buildings are national treasures for the common good.

“They have huge spiritual, cultural and historical significance, and are major centres of practical assistance through food banks, lunch clubs and parent and toddler groups. They serve as a place of sanctuary, refreshment and cultural heritage throughout the UK.

**"The vast majority of fundraising for the maintenance and repair of these buildings is done locally by *heroic volunteers*"**

and Government support is crucial in helping them reach their targets - and we are really grateful for this ongoing support.

"However, we are very concerned that the end of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme - after more than 20 years - will mean added pressure on local fundraisers and inevitably a drain on other sources of funding. We will work with the wider sector and the Government to see how that burden can be alleviated."



Information from Parish Pump, cheers  
for our heroic volunteers from us all!!



## ***Faith in the North:***

### ***Why Hatfield's Story Matters More Than Ever!***

If you've been around St Lawrence for any length of time, you'll know that our church is full of stories. Some are recent: baptisms, weddings, friendships formed over cups of tea. Others stretch back centuries, woven into the stones, the fields, and even the air around Hatfield. But every now and then, a moment comes when the old stories and the new ones meet, and something stirs. I think we're in one of those moments now.

Across the Northern Province the Archbishop of York has launched an initiative called **Faith in the North**. At its heart, it's a simple but powerful idea: the Christian story of the North of England is deep, ancient, and full of life and it still has something to say today. The hope is that churches will rediscover the stories under their feet and let them shape mission, prayer, and renewal. And here's the exciting bit: Hatfield has a unique part to play in this!

### **A Story Written Into Our Landscape**

According to the Venerable Bede, one of the great early historians of the Church, **King Edwin of Northumbria** one of the most significant early Christian kings **died here at Hatfield Chase** in 633 AD. His death was a turning point in the Christian story of the North. It's not just a footnote in a dusty book; it happened on the very ground we walk on. Inside St Lawrence, that story is already quietly present. We have a striking icon of **Edwin, Hild, and Our Lady**, and a beautiful stained glass window of **Paulinus and Edwin**. These aren't just decorations, they're reminders that our parish sits in the middle of a story far bigger than ourselves.





## Becoming a Pilgrim Place

We're beginning to take steps for **St Lawrence to become a Pilgrim Place**.

What does that mean? It is simply recognising what God has already given us. A place where people can encounter faith through history, prayer, and welcome. A Pilgrim Place is a church that says: *"Come and see. Come and walk. Come and pray. Come and discover the story of God in this landscape."* It's mission rooted in place. It's evangelism that begins with hospitality. It's renewal that grows from remembering who we are.

The year 2027 marks 1400 years since Edwin's baptism by Paulinus (the first Bishop of York) a huge milestone in the Christian story of the North. I'm already in conversations about the possibility of hosting a major event here at St Lawrence to mark the anniversary. It could be a moment of real significance, not just for us, but for the wider region.

### Why This Matters for Us

- It gives us a way to tell our story with confidence.
- It opens our doors to people who might never come on a Sunday morning.
- It helps us root our faith in something deep, local, and real.

It invites us to pray for renewal in Hatfield.

We're not trying to become something new. We're rediscovering what we already are.

A Parish With a Past and a Future. My hope is that as we step into this, we'll find ourselves encouraged, energised, and maybe even surprised by what God is doing among us.

Hatfield has always been a place of story, of encounter, of faith lived out in ordinary lives.

Becoming a Pilgrim Place simply helps us name that and share it. So let's pray, imagine, and walk this path together. The story of faith in the North runs right through Hatfield. And our chapter is still being written.

With every blessing,

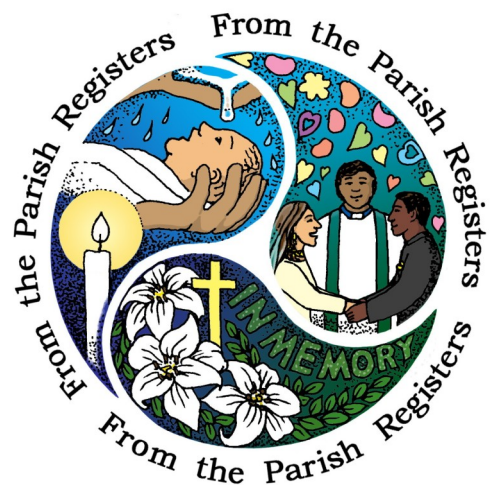
Fr Chris, Vicar of Hatfield.

# 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.



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)

# WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

A service for everyone!

# Friday 6 March

*I will give you rest, come*

**Nigeria 2026**

World Day of Prayer

Location: Dunsville Methodist Church

Speaker: Diana Donobauer

Commences: 2.00PM

All Welcome



**INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION**

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number 233242

# Diary of a Youth Worker

Yes I have officially changed to just be “Youth” worker, and so my monthly slot will be more youth focussed! This was for two reasons:

Our numbers at our youth group have grown quickly in the last few years meaning there are now 20-30 young people every fortnight at Hatfield Heroes. They need more support and time investing in them, and I wasn't able to focus on them before. I have also been given an open door into Ash Hill Academy, which is very rare, and I wanted to take that opportunity to share Jesus with all the teenagers from our Parish.

We now have an amazing clergy and volunteer team who are stepping up to take on some of the things I was responsible for, such a Little Lions and Primary School work. This is a great testament to the strength of the ministry here in Hatfield, and a growing team of people willing to play their part. Maybe there is something you'd like to do or help out with – please do just ask!

So on that note, I'd like to let you know of two exciting things that have happened at Ash Hill Academy this month. One it that our Youth Alpha Course has officially converted into being a Christian Union and is going to continue every term for the foreseeable future. We have gathered some new Christians and some who go to churches across the city, with around 6 attending each time. Unfortunately the school show rehearsals are on the same night, so quite a few who would like to come can't at the moment, but I am hopeful they might do later on. We have seen one of the attendees come along to Café Church which was wonderful! Please pray for all these young people who have been gifted bibles thanks to your generous donations, and we have a great time praying together, playing games, and will be doing the 40acts generosity challenge for lent around school. This will



include a prayer walk around classrooms, leaving gifts for teachers, and handing out chocolate in the canteen!

Secondly, to help promote the CU and just generally be a positive presence in school, I have started hosting “Pop-Up Prayer Spaces” in the canteen every Thursday lunchtime for an hour and a half. This means I see every student in the school, and provide opportunities for faith-related discussion, prayer and creativity. So far we have prayed about our hopes and dreams for

2026, pledged to give up or take up new things for lent, and shared the names of those we love on a Valentine’s Prayer Wall! I have lots of creative Easter related prayer space ideas for the next half term, and each week I give away Mark’s gospels and prayer cards to those interested and willing to chat.

Who knows where God will take this ministry and how many we will reach in Ash Hill, but I ask that you continue to pray for me and the young people there over the coming weeks.

God Bless

Rachel – Youth Worker at St Lawrence Hatfield

**Rachel Ridler**

Youth Worker at St Lawrence Church, Hatfield | [The Diocese of Sheffield](#)

Tel 07851 991286 [rachel.ridler@centenaryproject.org.uk](mailto:rachel.ridler@centenaryproject.org.uk)



From 9–15 March, thousands of schools, households and communities around the UK will count the plastic packaging they throw away. We'll then use this evidence to keep pushing the government to take urgent action to tackle the plastics crisis.



Since our last campaign, the UK has elected a new government – one that says it's serious about tackling plastic waste. This is our chance to put their promise to the test.

**Join us again. Sign up to take part in The Big Plastic Count and you'll be part of the movement calling for a fair future that's free from the impacts of the plastics crisis.**

**<https://thebigplasticcount.com/>**

This will give you access to the form online or ask Glenys Mashford or Chrissy Grindle for a copy of the very simple 1-page form to complete. If you send your results online you will get a reply to say how much of the plastic you used during that week can be re-used. Last year, of Glenys and Chrissy's plastic, **only 12%** could be used, and they are both careful not to buy too many plastic-wrapped goods!

So in spite of all the plastic that is collected, and however good we feel about recycling it, the facts are that so much **can't** be recycled. So it's time for a change.... Let's try ....



**REFUSE**  
REDUCE  
REUSE  
RECYCLE



Now there's a challenge for Lent, how much plastic can you

**REFUSE**, to help keep this planet as God made it?

**AN EVENING OF LIGHT CHORAL MUSIC**

*Featuring*



**The Doncaster Wheat Sheaf Singers  
&  
Rawcliffe Harmonics**

**Saturday 18th April 2026**

**@ 7.00pm**

**St. Lawrence Church, Hatfield, Doncaster**

**DN7 6HN**

**TICKETS £8 each**

*To include light refreshments*

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Matthew 25: 14-30

Jesus told a story to help his disciples  
to be ready for the end of time. 'A  
rich man was about to go on a journey...'

He gave his servants money  
to look after, depending on  
what they could do.

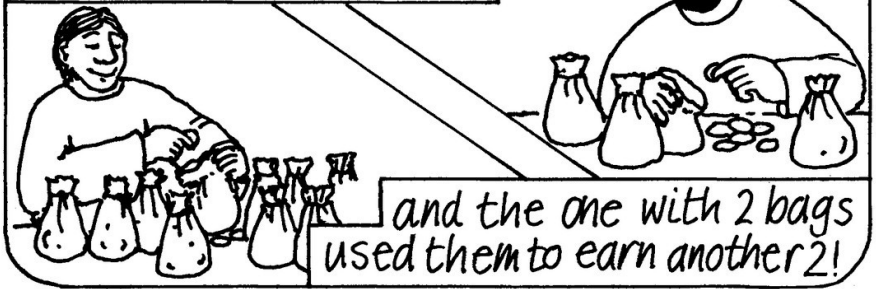


He gave 5 bags of coins to the  
first, 2 to the second, and 1 to the third.

As soon as he had gone,  
the first two servants  
started to work.



The one with 5 bags of coins  
used them to earn 5 more,



and the one with 2 bags  
used them to earn another 2!

The third servant dug a  
hole and buried his bag.



When  
the master  
came back,  
he called  
his  
servants  
to him...



The first two showed him they  
had doubled his money, and he  
was very happy with them.



You are a hard man  
who expects us to work. I  
was afraid so I just hid it.

If you knew what I  
expected, why didn't  
you do it?



Get out of here!



# **Bishop backs action to curb 'truly appalling' AI deepfakes**

The availability of technology creating sexualised deepfakes of real people is “truly appalling” from a Christian perspective, the Bishop of Oxford, Steven Croft, has said.

Bishop Steven, who leads for the Church of England on AI and technology, was speaking after warnings that criminals appear to have been using the Grok tool, which is linked to X, to create sexualised images of children.

Grok announced recently it was restricting the use of image generation and editing to most users, although they are still available to paying subscribers.

Bishop Steven, co-chair of the Anglican Communion Science Commission, said: “From a perspective of Christian faith, all the major world faiths, and civil society, the unleashing of this capacity in Grok by X is truly appalling.

“The sexualised deepfakes of real individuals used without their consent is immensely damaging to the individuals' dignity and the dignity of our society.

He supported the Government’s drive to ban nudification apps through an amendment to the Crime and Policing Bill. And he urged the Government “to apply the same robust stance across the entire technology sector and to develop a new framework for responsible AI deployment which identifies benefits but also highlights dangers.”

*Information from Parish Pump, February 2026*



# Give thanks ...

If you have food in the fridge, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep... you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish somewhere... you are amongst the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness... you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation... you are ahead of 500 million people in this world.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death you are more blessed than three billion people in the world.

If your parents are still alive and still married... you are blessed with a family that is increasingly rare.

If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful... you are blessed because the majority can, but do not.

If today, you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on the shoulder... you are blessed because you have made contact with another human being.

If you can read this message, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read. So count the blessings that God heaps on your head every day.

*This came from a treasured church parish magazine of Hazel's, dated March 2001. She asked me to check the accuracy of the percentages, but I deliberately haven't, they will still be just as shocking... I shall now look through them, and while feeling so very thankful that it nearly overwhelms me, I'm going to put a big tick on the ones I can do something about, and do something about them!*

*Join with the Editor for Lent...?*

**Can you help?**

**Can you spare 1–2 hours on a  
Thursday afternoon?**

**Little Lions toddler group needs you!**

**What we need**

- Help setting up
- Serve tea and coffee to grown ups
- Make snack for toddlers
- People as a friendly face to talk and play
- Help to tidy away



**Speak to Joy Bishop  
if you can help**

Text on 07891826639  
Email on  
[joybishop\\_vicarage@outlook.com](mailto:joybishop_vicarage@outlook.com)





Each MONDAY coffee afternoon 13:30 -15:00 Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist

Each WEDNESDAY coffee after church at St Lawrence, Holy Communion at 10, chat, coffee, light a candle, sit quietly, 11-12:00

Each WEDNESDAY coffee morning 10-11:30 at Stainforth Methodist

Each THURSDAY coffee morning 10-11:30 at Dunsville Methodist, Greens Road.

Each THURSDAY chair exercise group 13:30-14:30 at Hatfield Woodhouse Village Hall

Each SATURDAY 10-12 coffee morning Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist church

**Tuesday Garden Club**, 19:30 Working Men's Club at Hatfield Woodhouse (every first Tuesday) This is a great group of helpful enthusiasts, and one of them WILL have a garden like yours, whether it's wild-life friendly intentionally or not!

**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!

Every second Saturday in the month coffee afternoon 14:00-15:30– Dunsville Methodist Church Greens Road

Hatfield Woodhouse Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Chapel  
Charity Coffee Afternoons

We can now accommodate dog walkers outside (our new table and chairs) and if it is raining in the back room.

Weekly Pop up stalls are back if you want to book, please see Mandy so call in any Saturday Morning when we can arrange a date for you.



<https://www.vecteezy.com/free-vector/artwork>>Artwork Vectors by Vecteezy</a>

## **February**

**24th Tuesday** our Lent course continues, Talking Jesus, at 7pm, come and find out why we do, and how we do talk about Jesus! The evening will run weekly through Lent, carrying on **March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th,**

## **March**

**14th coffee morning in the Barn 10-12 in aid of Diabetes UK** Home-made cakes always appreciated, raffle prizes, and there may be a tombola!!

**15th Mothering Sunday** 10:00 our Choral Communion, with distribution of flowers, and an evening Worship Service as it's the third Sunday in the month.

**23rd Monday 1.30pm to 3.00pm Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Chapel will be running a Coffee Afternoon** on behalf of the Friends of Hatfield Church Building Trust, bless them!! There'll be a raffle and a selection of pre-loved jewellery for sale and hopefully some cakes, and guaranteed a warm welcome and good conversation!

**27th Friday Thorne Library Spring Fair** from 10am to 12 noon. Friends of Hatfield Church Building Trust will be there with a wonderful pre-loved jewellery stall, and you know how good that will be, but there'll be lots of other craft stalls to browse too and maybe cakes to buy.

**29th PALM SUNDAY**, Holy Week begins, and the service begins with a procession from the Barn field into church, with donkeys!



And its a new date, our annual St Lawrence Summer Fayre date has been moved to Saturday 27th June, on the Barn Field as usual.

## 15<sup>th</sup> March – Mothers and children

Whatever our childhood was like, it was formational. We learned from our earthly parents, good things ideally, although not everyone's childhood is great.

In the Bible, St Paul refers to the importance of up-bringing and of spiritual heritage. When he greets Timothy in his second letter to him, he calls him his 'Dear Son', praises his 'genuine faith' and then goes on:

**"You share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you."**

Timothy's childhood had been rooted in the Old Testament scriptures that he had been taught by his mother and grandmother. Their example had set him on the right path, until he was old enough to choose for himself to follow Jesus.

Physically, we when we are young, we need nurturing by mothers and fathers. Spiritually it is the same. When we come to faith, we need spiritual mothers and father to help us grow into maturity as God's adopted children.

We also need spiritual sustenance: regularly reading the Bible, spending time in God's presence in prayer, and worshipping with the family of the Church.

God – our heavenly parent - provides our personal nurturing through prayer and the Bible, but He also gives us each other, to encourage and share our experiences of his faithfulness.

However imperfect our earthly upbringing was, *God is a good, good Father*, a perfect parent who will only teach us *good* things. And gradually, as the fruit of the Holy Spirit ripens in us, we will become more like Jesus. We will gain more of the family likeness!

Is there someone in your life who has helped you to grow spiritually? This Mothering Sunday, thank God for them.

Is there someone your life whom you have 'mothered' or 'fathered' along the way? This Mothering Sunday, pray for them.

# Friends of Hatfield Church Building Trust

We have just received a cheque from Recycling for Good Causes for £79.75 which is probably the most we've ever received! Happy days. We are about halfway to filling another sack with all the old cameras that have been donated recently so please keep all the items coming in eg jewellery, watches, iPads, mobile phones, used stamps, foreign currency and Sat Nav's and cameras, working or not.

The lovely volunteers at Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Chapel will be running a Coffee Afternoon on Monday 23rd March from 1.30pm to 3.00pm on our behalf. There'll be a raffle and a selection of pre-loved jewellery for sale and hopefully some cakes. Please drop in and brighten up a boring Monday.

We have been invited over to Thorne Library to have a Pre-Loved Jewellery stall at their Spring Fair on Friday 27th March from 10am to 12noon. There'll be lots of other craft stalls to browse too and maybe cakes to buy.

Then we will be holding another Coffee Morning in Hatfield Community Library on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April from 10am to 12pm with a raffle, Tombola by DN7 Foodbank, home-made cakes and of course our ever popular Pre-Loved Jewellery.

Also please note there is a **change of date** for the annual St Lawrence Garden Party (now renamed the Summer Fayre!) which has been moved to **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June**, on the Barn Field as usual.

**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

# February 100 Club and Vera's chatter

1<sup>st</sup> prize John Chaplin

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Brian Adamson

3<sup>rd</sup> prize Peter Render

Well congratulations gentlemen, the first male winners this year, you have my permission to spoil yourselves.

To continue the congratulatory theme, congratulations to Hilary Dinsdale on choosing the romantic couple at our Valentine-themed coffee morning last week, actually I think she just chose a number which then happened to be the random number chosen by someone else to be the winner, but the game helped us to raise £313.00 for Yorkshire Cancer Research. A worthwhile amount for them, my thanks to all our generous friends. I did that young person thing to get the names, "Google" who knew Hitler and Eva Braun would be on that list ? Nobody chose them.

Our next coffee morning is the 14<sup>th</sup> of March when Diabetes UK will be the charity, I know we shouldn't be encouraging cake etc and it will still be in Lent, so feel free to run around the barn field reading a religious tract before or after consuming vast quantities of fabulous cake, only kidding, just come and enjoy lovely company.

Something else to look forward to is the Spring concert by the Wheatsheaf Singers joined by Rawcliffe Harmonics on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm in Church, guaranteed to be an enjoyable evening with time left over to go to the pub afterwards.

Before that of course comes Easter. We have been to the first of this year's Lent lectures this evening and discovered that 45% of the population believe in the resurrection, does that surprise you? It stunned me because how can you believe in the resurrection if you don't believe in Jesus and if 45% of the population believe, why are people so unkind to each other when we have a God of love leading us? Answers on a post card please or come to Church to discuss further with someone cleverer than me.

Back to Easter... for several years now we have decorated the Church with Easter Lilies and will do so again this year. There will be a sign up list in Church so we know how many to buy, the idea came about because it is many peoples' tradition to put flowers on graves at Easter, and as I -with lots of others- can't get "home" at Easter we dedicate flowers in memory of our loved ones in this way. Also of course it makes

a stunning back drop to our Easter celebrations which will be uplifting, joyful and suitably glorious.

One more thing, the computer in the library turned itself off before the last song on Friday goodness only knew why except Fiona's clever son told her the correct name for the problem. It's all to do with the workings over heating, sadly I mislaid the piece of paper that I wrote the phrase on, but I will find it again. I'll use it constantly whenever as now I am at a loss for words of explanation or polite expletives when as a moment ago I lost my letter! It's now 23.40 and I really think it would be unkind to ring Fiona to check .

Did you know today was **do a good deed** day? I am sure the parish magazine readers do not need reminding to do good deeds.

Sleep well all of you and dream of beautiful things waking up refreshed and ready for another of God's wonderful moments.

Vera x



Sarah preferred to let the church family work the hymns out for themselves!

# MRS HARDING'S GUIDE TO CHURCH ETIQUETTE

by Mrs Pauline Harding, Head Server (since before most of you were born, and certainly before the carpet)

1. Arrive early.

Not “bursting through the west door during the second hymn” early. Early enough to sit down, compose yourself, and locate the correct page in the order of service without visible panic.

2. The bells are not feedback.

If they ring for twenty minutes before the service, this is not a complaint about your punctuality. It is a courtesy reminder that time, like salvation, waits for no one.

3. If you ask, “Is this my seat?” it probably isn’t.

But if you’ve sat there for thirty-seven consecutive years, you may defend it gently, with dignity, and a well-placed hymn book.

4. Pray first. Always pray first.

Before chatting. Before adjusting flowers. Before enquiring why the curate has chosen that stole.

5. Coffee exists.

It is not a sacrament. You may survive ten minutes without it.

6. The kneeler is not a footrest.

Nor is it a percussion instrument during the sermon.

7. Candles are devotional.

They are not birthday accessories, mood lighting, or something to “have a little blow at”. Wax on church linen is to be avoided at all times. It's REALLY annoying.

8. The organ voluntary is not background music.

It is not the soundtrack to your catching-up session about your hip operation. Lionel did not spend all of Friday afternoon serving Bach during a quinquennial inspection for you use it as background to your bunions story. Appreciate his act of worship, please. Peasants.

9. The Peace is warm, not vigorous.

A handshake is sufficient. A full family reunion involving three generations and weather reports is excessive.

10. Children are welcome.

If they make a joyful noise, we rejoice. If they dismantle the credence table, we intervene.

11. If you drop the collection plate,

we will all pretend it was meant to happen. Dignity is a shared project.

12. Hymns are sung.

Murmured reflections upon them are not the same thing. Imagine you're on the terraces at Havnot FC, and give similar enthusiasm to worship.

13. Notices are brief.

They are not an opportunity to recount the entire history of the Bring & Buy Sale of 1987.

14. Incense is not smoke.

It is theology you can see.

15. If you are unsure when to stand,

watch Mrs Harding. (This has been reliable since 1958.)

16. Do not correct the reader mid-lesson.

Even if they pronounce Habakkuk like a Scandinavian furniture range.

17. The sermon is not a referendum.

You may disagree internally. Externally, you may look thoughtful. Written feedback to the preacher has been known to elicit a carefully calibrated response from the Vicar.

18. Silence is not awkward.

It is rare and should be treated with respect.

19. After the blessing, remain standing.

We leave together. This is civilisation.

20. Go home faintly scented of polish and prayer.

If you feel slightly unsettled, slightly comforted, and unexpectedly grateful, you have done it properly.

Pauline Harding, Head Server

"Only trying to help"

Disclaimer

[https://www.facebook.com/tom.kennar?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/tom.kennar?locale=en_GB)

**Editor:** Tim, our Tim Beadle, posted something on Facebook which made me really giggle, it was all about "St Faithful which is a fictional parish, imagined by a real-life parish priest", Canon Tom Kennar. This is from the same author. Although Mrs Harding sounds a stickler for etiquette she has a good point occasionally, and I'm going to aim, when I'm going home after church, to feel "slightly unsettled, slightly comforted, and unexpectedly grateful," AND if I smell of prayer, then I know it's been good!!

Check on <https://hatfieldstlawrencechurch.com/2026/02/19/marchs-magazine>

*My sermon today comes  
from Apps chapter 1,  
beginning at verse 15...*



This was a possible cover this month, from Parish Pump who provide cartoons and some articles.

If this was a picture of you, what would you be rejoicing about, what would you be suffering, what would your on-going prayer be?

# Too late to vote!

There was a competition to vote for England's favourite stained glass window but we're too late now, I'm sorry, it would have been nice if we'd all voted 100 times each for Sheffield! But if you look online at <https://englishcathedrals.co.uk/latest-news/englands-favourite-stained-glass-window-vote-here/> you can see all the windows represented, what a variety! And our Millennium window sits well alongside the great windows.

Sheffield  
Cathedral

Designed by  
Christopher  
Webb  
(1886–1966),  
Chapel of the  
Holy Spirit,  
window 7 × 4 m.

Go and have a  
look next time  
you're in  
Sheffield!





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 1st March **LENT 2**

10:00 Choral Communion

16:00 Café Church

Sunday 8th March **LENT 3**

10:00 Choral Communion

Sunday 15th March **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

10:00 Choral Communion

16:00 Café Church

18:30 Worship Service

Sunday 22nd March **LENT 5**

8:30 BCP and Breakfast

10:00 Choral Communion



Sunday 29th March **PALM SUNDAY**

10:00 Choral Communion with a dramatic reading of the Passion, and we meet on the Barn field to start the procession into church, with the donkeys!



This is the QR (quick response) code for St Lawrence Church, There is also a card reader in church for easy payments towards the mission and ministry of our beautiful church, and there is a facility for gift-aiding there too.