#### The Parish of Basford - St. Mark's

Our vision is... "To become a vibrant, outgoing, giving Church"

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk



# Welcome!

Here for the first time? Relax. We hope that you feel at home among us. The person who greeted you will answer any practical questions you might have. There are some 'first time visitor' cards with useful pointers to help you get the most from this service and the church's facilities.

We also now have a card machine at the back of the church, should you wish to use your card to make a donation, or if it is a family service use the QR code on the screen.

### **Our Regular Pattern of Worship**

Sundays:

10.00am (3rd Sunday) Family Worship (Other Sundays) Traditional Holy Communion

Wednesday:

10.30am Holy Communion [BCP]

## 26th October 2025

- Bible Sunday -

Today's Lectionary readings are Isaiah 45:22-end, Romans 15:1-6, and Luke 4:16-24.

Welcome: A very warm welcome back to Fr Graham this morning, who will be leading us through our worship.

**The Lion:** The November Lion is now available both at the back of church and on-line. Please do take a look at a copy.

Christmas Fayre: In preparation for our Christmas fayre on 22nd November we are looking for donations of Christmas decorations. Christmas themed items. bottles of alcohol and giftware, homemade cakes, biscuits and confectionery; also help with running stalls. If you can help with any of these please speak to Diane.

Christmas Hamper: We are beginning to put together our fundraising Christmas hamper. If you are willing to donate any Christmas food, drinks or Christmas treats please let Diane have them.

Heating: Our two industrial boilers guzzle gas and it may surprise you to know that they both need to be on for at least 4 hours before there is any noticeable heat at pew level. It may also surprise you to read that our average gas bill in Summer is around £30 per month, but in winter it averages at around £580 per month. For that reason, we have so far refrained from putting the heating on but are very conscious it is starting to feel colder in Church, and we are monitoring the temperatures each week. The difficulty is that our expenditure is currently exceeding our income, and that is before the heating goes on and the gas bill goes up by over £500 a month. Of course, we do want to make the Church as warm and inviting as possible, but hopefully this helps explain our dilemma.....can you help plug the gap?

Ceramic City Choir and North Staffs Symphony Orchestra: Will bring Gilbert & Sullivan's wit and whimsy to life on 1st November at 7.30pm at the Kings Hall, Stoke. The centrepiece of the evening is "Trial by Jury," a brilliant and hilarious operetta that playfully mocks the British legal system. For more information and tickets please speak to Mike.

#### Celebrations:

(Please let me know if someone is celebrating in November)

Happy Birthday to Heather Jones on 10th, Ken Roberts and Beryl Silvester on 14th. 19th Sofia Sgarito- Goodwin on 19th and Gaynor Price 23rd. We hope you all have a wonderful day.