



The Lion

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's, Basford

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk

August 2026



Greetings to all at St Marks.

'What's in a name'

At the age of 6 weeks, I was baptised Florence Patricia after my father's aunt. I have always disliked the name Florence and much prefer to be known as Patricia or Pat. I had 3 older brothers the eldest Peter who loved to aggravate me by calling me Flo!

On the 13th of August the Church of England commemorates in prayer a very important woman also named Florence; her surname Nightingale. Florence Nightingale is known as the heroic founder of modern nursing and social reformer.

At the age of 16 Florence felt that God was calling her to some great life work and was determined to be available at all costs to God's call to serve.

The following information is from an article I read on Florence Nightingale.

'While her parents were travelling in Italy in 1820 Florence was born hence her name. Her childhood was spent in Lee Hurst in

Derbyshire where she became a member of the Anglican Church.

As a young woman Florence had a strong sense of God's presence in her life and at the age of 24, she came to believe that her calling was to nurse the sick. In 1849 Florence set off to study nursing in the hospitals of Europe and on the 12th of May 1850 she wrote in her diary. 'Today I am 30 the age Christ began his Mission' 'No more childish things, no more love, no more marriage. Now Lord let me think only of Thy will; what Thou wills me to do.'

Later that same year Florence went to train in the hospitals of Alexandria in Egypt and following that she travelled to Kaiserwerth, Germany and worked at the Lutheran Deaconess Institute.

In 1851 she returned to England and was appointed Superintendent of the Hospital for Invalid Gentlewomen in London.

In 1854 war broke out in the Crimea. Florence contacted friends in high places and soon got permission to take 38 Nurses to serve at the Military Hospital at Scutari.

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In Turkey and later in Balaklava in the Crimea. These hospitals were dreadful places but with better nursing and better sanitation the mortality rate among the sick and wounded drastically decreased.

During the night Florence took to patrolling the hospital wards carrying a dim lamp. The legend of The Lady with the lamp was born. Following the Crimean war Florence returned to England determined to establish the first professional nurse training scheme in this country. She found a base at St Thomas Hospital, London, and through her efforts the stature of nursing gradually rose to become a respected medical profession.

Sadly, Florence had been working too long and too hard and soon her health broke down, and she became an invalid, but she was not forgotten and honours rolled in. In 1907 Florence became the first woman to receive the Order of Merit.

Florence died in London on the 13th of August 1910 aged 90 and was buried in St Margarets Churchyard East Wellow in Hampshire. Her tomb reads F.N 1820 - 1910.'

On my travels through Hampshire, I have seen this tomb. It's a very large tomb with the names of the family inscribed. If you walk around the back of the tomb, you can see the inscription F.N 1820-1910'

Blessings Revd Pat.

Worship Services during August

2 nd	9 th after Trinity	10.00am	Holy Communion
5 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9 th	10 th after Trinity	10.00am	Holy Communion
12 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
16 th	11 th after Trinity	10.00am	All Age Worship
19 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
23 rd	12 th after Trinity	10.00am	Holy Communion
26 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Service of the Word
30 th	13 th after Trinity	10.00am	Service of the Word

Diary Dates for August

5 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
8 th	Saturday	10:00am	Knit and Natter
12 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
19 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
26 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group

Early September Dates

2 nd	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
9 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
12 th	Saturday	TBC	Autumn Fayre
16 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
19 th	Saturday	2:00pm	Fashion Show

House Group:

The House group continues ***Wednesdays throughout August at 7:15pm.*** Where we will be looking at the Acts of the Apostles. For more information, please speak to Janet.

Knit and Natter:

Come and join us for a knit and natter on ***8th August at 10am*** where we will be making our poppies. Also, if you are not sure how to knit or crochet a poppy, we will have an amazing instructor on hand to help.