



The Lion

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

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk

October & November 2026



Dear brothers and sisters

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.....”

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

As I initially began to write this letter to you all, I had just finished doing the reading rota for church for the next three months, and as always, was reminded of the many people who share their God given talents with us throughout the months, not only on the rotas but in church and in the community as well. However, for many if I asked them what talent they had, they would state that they hadn't got one. Yet as they quietly share their time and gifts with those they meet and help it is as clear as a shining light in the darkness that they do, and I thank each and every one for it.

God has created us to be His “body” here on earth following his calling in any way we can. In September, I celebrated sixteen years since my licensing as a Reader at Lichfield Cathedral. It was an amazing day that followed three years of training; followed by the sheer joy and excitement, but also with knocking knees the next day as I began my lay ministry here at St Marks church during Morning worship, robing

and preaching for the first time as a Reader. Over the past 16 years, it has been an absolute privilege to serve alongside you all, walking with you in faith, prayer, and service. This, in turn, has continued to deeply shape my own relationship with God. A relationship which He continues to mould and refine.

However, like many of us, it is easy to get too comfortable. Sometimes we behave a little like Jonah in the Old Testament: initially turning our backs on what God wants us to do because it feels too hard, closing our ears to His call, and letting a lack of confidence hold us back.

That has been me over the past two years. I have had this little voice nagging away, calling me to go further, but not being sure what to do. However, through prayer and endless discussions with various people but especially with Rev'd Pat who, as always, has been incredibly patient, I am now stepping into a new journey with you all. I have formally applied and been accepted to begin the Elizabeth Pathway, alongside the discernment process for ordained ministry in the Church of England.

Parish Administrator and Reader: Julie Atkins ☎ 07791144581 ✉ jouls1506@gmail.com

Clergy: Rev'd Pat Dunn ☎ 01782 846417. **Reader:** Janet Pazio ☎ 07594135691.

Churchwardens: Diane Downward ☎ 07907066780; Nick Atkins ☎ 07702635323.

Safeguarding Coordinator: Jill Potts-Ayres ☎ 07792 549356.

This journey over the next two years is not a solitary one; it is deeply rooted in the wider Church. And so, as I step into this period of interviews and diocesan discernment, I want to thank you for the ways you have already supported me. Your faith, questions, and companionship have been instrumental in helping me hear God's call.

I ask for your continued prayers in the coming months—not for a specific outcome, but that I may remain attentive to the Holy Spirit's guidance. If you have any questions or would simply like to chat, please do catch me after the service or reach out directly.

Blessings to you all,

Julie

Worship Services during October

4th	18th after Trinity	10.00am Service of the Word
7th	Wednesday	10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
11th	19th after Trinity	10.00am Holy Communion
14th	Wednesday	10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
18th	Harvest	10.00am All Age Worship +Bap
20th	Monday	1:00pm Funeral
21st	Wednesday	10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
24th	Saturday	12:00pm Wedding
25th	Last after Trinity	10.00am Holy Communion
28th	Wednesday	10.30am Service of the Word

Worship Services during November

1st	All Saints	10.00am Holy Communion
4th	Wednesday	10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
8th	Remembrance	10.00am Holy Communion
11th	Remembrance	10.30am Service of the Word
14th	2nd before Advent	10.00am All Age Worship
18th	Wednesday	10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
22nd	Christ the King	10.00am Holy Communion
25th	Wednesday	10.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
29th	First of Advent	10.00am Holy Communion

(Please check the website for up-to-date information)

Diary Dates for October

15th	Thursday	7:15pm	House group
19th	Monday	7:00pm	PCC meeting
22nd	Thursday	TBC	Vintage & Collectables
22nd	Thursday	7:15pm	House group
29th	Thursday	7:15pm	House group

November Dates

5th	Thursday	7:15pm	House group
12th	Thursday	7:15pm	House group
19th	Thursday	7:15pm	House group
21st	Saturday	10:00am	Quiet Day
26th	Thursday	7:15pm	House group

Early December Dates

5th	Saturday	4:30pm	Christmas meal
10th	Thursday	6:30pm	Carol Singing

House Group:

The House group meets on **Thursdays at 7:15pm** where we continue to look at the Acts of the Apostles. For more information, please speak to Janet.



Our Harvest Festival will take place on Sunday 18th October at 10:00am.

When we intend to double-up on our support for 'Open Door' especially on toilet rolls and coffee but please do see our list of other items and foods needed either online or at the back of church.

Advent Quiet Day:

Our Advent quiet day is now booked for **Saturday 21st November at St John's Church, Barlaston from 10am-4pm**. We would love you to join us for a time of reflection and prayers. If you are interested, please book a place with Janet. £15 each.

Christmas Parish Lunch:

This will take place on **Saturday 5th December, 4:00 for 4:30pm start**. Tickets are £15. Please see Diane/ Liz to put your names down.