

Message from Rev Daniel (abridged)

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ. I write to share news which I know will be received with a mixture of joy and sadness. Following sustained prayer and careful discernment, I have accepted an appointment as The Incumbent of St George with St Gabriel, Stockport, in the Diocese of Chester.

I want you to hear this directly from me: this decision has not been made quickly or lightly. Over time, through prayer, conversation, and testing, there has come a quiet but steady clarity that God is calling me back into parish ministry — into the settled, sacramental, pastoral, and missionary life of a priest among a particular people in a particular place. I trust that the Lord, who is faithful, is leading both this deanery and the parish I go to serve into His good purposes.

At the same time, I want to say plainly that leaving Oldham and Ashton will not be easy. These six years have been a profound gift. It has been a privilege to serve as your Full-Time Strategic Area Dean: to walk alongside clergy and lay leaders, to share in the life of our churches and schools, and to witness the faithfulness of God in communities of great complexity and hope. I thank God for you — for your courage, resilience, generosity, and steadfast witness.

I give thanks to my clergy colleagues, our churchwardens, PCC members, lay leaders, to those serving in schools, to our safeguarding officers and teams, to our civic community, and ecumenical partners. I carry deep gratitude for all that we have shared together: the strengthening of mission communities, the careful work of appointments and transitions, the embedding of safeguarding culture, and the shared commitment to justice, inclusion, and faithful presence.

I warmly invite you to:

Sunday 17 May at 3.00pm - Farewell Service on at St Mary's, Haughton Green.

Tuesday 21st July 2026, 7.00 pm - Licensing Service in Stockport, led by Bishop Mark Tanner

Be assured of my continued prayers for you all. It has been a deep privilege to serve Christ among you.

*Please forward any items to be included in the pew sheets by Wednesday to Barbara Ballantyne
pewsheetstjohn@gmail.com
07855 502697*

St John the Baptist Hey



Receiving & Sharing the Love of God Everyday

Sunday 26th April 2026

The Fourth Sunday after Easter

8.00am - Holy Communion

9.15 am - Holy Communion

Readings & Hymns

Proclamation	711	The head that once was crowned with thorns
First Reading		Acts 2.42–end
Second Reading		1 Peter 2.19–end
Gradual	340	I will sing the wondrous story
Intercession		<i>O Lord hear my prayer</i>
Gospel Reading		John 10.1–10
Offertory	752	Thine forever! God of love
Communion	45	As we are gathered (sing twice)
Communion	355	In heavenly love abiding
Final	273	Great is thy faithfulness

What do I do at Communion?

If you receive Holy Communion at any Christian Church, you are welcome to receive it here. If not, please come forward to receive God's blessing, keeping your head bowed. If you are unable to come forward, please speak to a warden and Communion will be brought to you.

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Post Communion

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please take this pew sheet home to guide you in your bible study, aid your prayers and remind you of forthcoming events.

Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Services This Week

Wednesday 29th April

10am - Holy Communion



Our Prayers are asked for:

The World

For the leaders of the nations, that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice & truth. We pray for peace & the laying down of weapons in Ukraine. We pray for restraint on all sides in the violence in Israel, Gaza, Iran, Sudan, Yemen & the Middle East.

The Church

Our Bishops David, Mark & Matthew. Archdeacon Karen and visiting clergy. All those who work in the background to provide a welcoming Church here at St John's. We pray for our Area Dean Daniel, his wife Judith and Benedict their dog as they move on to St George with St Gabriel, Stockport

The Community of the Parish

Staff & Pupils at Hey with Zion Primary School, Springhead Primary & Junior School. The staff and pupils at Laugh'n'Learn Nursery. The staff & residents of Oakdene and Millfield Care Homes. The streets of our Parish – the residents of St Johns Court.

We pray for Isaac Patrick Lockett coming for baptism next week, and his family and friends.

The Sick

Tim Hurdus, Angie Reed, Jean Stonall, Hazel Gee, Freda and Terence Davies and anyone close to our own hearts.

Church Contact Details

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Polite Notice

Can we please ask everyone to give your feet an extra long wipe as you come in on wet days.

Notices

APCCM

Sunday 31st May 11am in Church.

This is a legal meeting where post holders are elected. This year we require a Church Ward and some PCC members. Please consider joining and having an active role in the direction and development of our worshipping community. Have a chat (with no strings attached) if you are interested. Nominations at the back of church.

Fund Raising

As you will have noticed the urgent work to repair the dry rot has started. This may lead to a few temporary changes over the next few weeks but we will keep you all informed.

There is a totaliser at the back of church to follow our journey to the **£20,000** needed to fund the work.

Our current total is **£5,129.67**

This is from fundraising, generous personal donations and claiming back tax through the Gift Aid scheme.

As you can see we have a bit more to do!

Heartfelt thanks for recent donations - £529.67 from Councillor Kenyon towards the dry rot and the £1091 from OMBC towards the defibrillator.

Please consider what you could do to help.

From completing the Gift Aid form; to maximise the donations you already make; to organising or helping with some extra events. The Laugh'n'Learn nursery raised an amazing £500 doing bunny hops.

If you are interested in making a donation or organising a coffee morning; Fashion Show; Race night or something similar; please speak to Kirsten, Steve Reed or a member of the PCC.

Thank you for your support.