



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 3rd May, 2020

My dear Friends

I hope that you are managing well during these strange days. I miss you very much and look forward to the day when we can be together, face-to-face, again.

As well as the public-facing work we're doing with funerals, services online or over the phone, and pastoral care, there's also a lot going on behind the scenes to care for our church grounds and buildings and to keep governance matters ticking over:

- Helen and Andy Smith are regularly checking the interior of church
- John and Lesley Dennis are regularly checking the exterior of church
- Susan Boardman Weston and Don Crombie are keeping the gardens looking beautiful
- Elaine Shaw has created a compost bin for us
- Jill Chapman and Julie Starkey are keeping our noticeboards refreshed
- Sharn Stinson, our Heritage Officer, is back at work and has created lots of lovely activities, especially for children, via our website and Facebook page
- the Standing Committee, PCC, the worship leaders and the choir are all meeting on Zoom, the

video conferencing platform and

- we've even started to think about Christmas!

Because of the social distancing that has been put in place, we have been given dispensation to hold our Annual Parochial Church Meeting later than usual - up to 31 October. The Past Cases Review into safeguarding matters (a review that every parish in the Church of England must complete) has also been pushed back to mid-July.

The Diocese of Leicester have been generous, not only with giving us more time for these important matters, but also financially, too, by waiving all funeral fees normally payable during this Covid-19 pandemic. This is hugely appreciated by bereaved families and something that makes me very proud to represent our Diocese.

In sum, the life of our church, the work of church, goes on.

In all this that we are doing, I would welcome your feedback. Are there things you'd like us to be doing, or doing differently? Are there gaps in our provision or in our planning? Do let me know.

Above all, do let me know how you are. You're in my thoughts and prayers.

With love

Mary

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The bereaved:

Please pray for the family and friends of Trevor Nall, and anyone known to you who is bereaved.

Please pray for all families for whom the funerals of their loved ones have taken place during this difficult time, including:

- ◆ Sheelagh Judge
- ◆ Roy Hodges
- ◆ Mykola Kuzyszyn
- ◆ Hazel Farmer
- ◆ David Robert Smith
- ◆ Dorothy Wragg
- ◆ Marie Bowman
- ◆ Bill Woodward
- ◆ Olive Pointon

And for the families awaiting the funerals of loved ones:

- ◆ Sheila Wood 4th May

The sick, disabled or housebound:

Pray for ...

- ◆ Tia Rose Brownlow
- ◆ Val Dawson
- ◆ Margaret Stalker
- ◆ Carole Youles

...& others known to you

In love, we remember those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, and pray for their families and friends:

- ◆ Lucy Baker
- ◆ Sylvia Mavis Grainger
- ◆ David George Jeffery
- ◆ Harold Pass
- ◆ John Winfield Drury
- ◆ Ada Elizabeth Evans
- ◆ Eleanor May Partridge
- ◆ Hugh Duncan Hanford

SERVICES PATTERN

- **Every morning**
except Wednesday and Sunday
- Prayer for the Day -
Facebook at around **8am**
- **Every evening**
- Night Prayer -
live on Facebook at **9pm**
- **Every Wednesday**
- Communion -
live on Facebook at **10am**
- **Every Sunday**
- Communion -
live on Facebook at 10.30am

All on-line services can be seen retrospectively on the St Helen's website, along with snippets of news, all Revd Mary's weekly letters, and the monthly parish magazine - <https://www.sthelensashby.net/>

NOTICES

VE Day 75

Although communal events marking VE Day 75 have had to be cancelled, of course, there are still lots of ways to mark this occasion:

- ◆ Why not make some Great British Bunting as suggested by BBC Make a Difference. String it up outside your house and turn the town red, white and blue.

- ◆ Why not have a picnic in your front garden under your bunting on VE Day 75 - Friday 8th May? You could have spam sandwiches for a 1940's feel - or not!

- ◆ Why not end your picnic with a toast at 3pm? The suggested words are 'To those who gave so much – we thank you'.

- ◆ And why not join the service on Sunday 10th May on Facebook Live at 10.30am to mark VE Day 75, and to think about our own responses to war, and our own responsibility in securing and keeping peace.

Free Dial-in Worship Phone Line

The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus.

Daily Hope is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044, and offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. Please spread the word.

Photos

Julie Starkey is gathering photos to create a gallery of photos of past celebrations that St Helen's has taken part in on our website. She already has photos of the opening of the Community Heritage Centre, the Heritage Project winning awards, Remembrance Sunday, the special evening remembrance event by the Tower in 2018, the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations, and the Team Harvest party. If anyone has photos of other celebrations, please share them with Julie.

May's Parish Magazine is now available on the website.

Heritage

On the Heritage Facebook page - www.facebook.com/sthelensheritage/ there are for ideas for National Gardening week, and information on how to create 'Great British Bunting' for VE Day celebrations. A template for bunting is under 'Craft activities' on the Heritage page of the St Helen's website.

Ashby Foodbank is currently running short of tinned veg (not baked beans) tinned rice pudding and jam. Staples like tinned hot meat are always welcome, and snacks and treats. If you would like to donate food and toiletries to Ashby Foodbank there are boxes in the porches of both Holy Trinity Church and the Congregational Church. Also, the Ashby Co-ops have collection points.

The foodbanks at Ashby and Measham will be closed on Friday 8th May due to the bank holiday.

Christian Aid

Christian Aid has launched a [Coronavirus Appeal](#) to help limit the impact of Covid19 on the communities they work with. Click on the link to find out more.

Contact Details

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◆ Buildings Team:	sthelensbuildings@gmail	
◆ St Helen's website:	https://www.sthelensashby.net/	
◆ Flagstaff Team website:	www.flagstaff.org.uk	
◆ Facebook:	St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch	
◆ Twitter:	@sthelensashby	

◆ St Helen's Prayer Chain requests:

Judith Lewis on 01530 564204
or email jchjcl@gmail.com

◆ Notice Sheet Prayer requests:

To Jill Chapman at the virtual parish office
on 07725 519453