



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 25th October, 2020

Dear Friends

This weekend - Sunday at 7.30am to be precise - I am working with Wendy Freer and others to pre-record our service for Remembrance Sunday (see below for further details)

Because of that, perhaps, I have old war songs running around my head - and sometimes I'm singing them out loud (poor Freya!).

One of these is the rather jaunty 'Wish me luck as you wave me goodbye!' (And with those few words, I have given the entire Flagstaff Family a new ear-worm. You're welcome!)

These words seem apposite as we prepare to say goodbye to Stewart for a time as he goes on secondment to another parish for three months. The details of this should be finalised this week and we look forward to him sharing the news with us when he can.

Going on secondment will be a great learning experience for Stewart: he can apply what he's learnt here, explore a new context, and develop his leadership skills further. We will, I know, be praying for him and for Zoe and Joanna too, of course.

To pray for Stewart and his family is the greatest gift we can give them at this time - that, and giving them space to fully engage with their new context and to immerse themselves there.

Because they'll still be living in Ashby this will be a challenge for them, but we can make it a little easier by not drawing them back into our life together here. This will mean us understanding that Stewart will not, for a time, be able to attend to our pastoral needs - something that he is so gifted at doing - and that we shouldn't seek to contact him on these or other church matters. This doesn't mean that Stewart and Zoe won't continue to pray for us - I know they will - but that their support will be, for a time, spiritual and at a distance rather than pastoral and face-to-face.

How much we will miss them! But we will look forward to welcoming them back amongst us in February and benefiting from Stewart's experience.

So - please pray for Stewart and his family, and please, when the time comes, give them space for this new adventure and look forward to their return.

With love

Revd Mary

◆ **St Helen's Prayer Chain:**

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

◆ **Notice Sheet Prayer requests:**

Jill Chapman on 07725 519453
or sthelensashby@gmail.com

NOTICES

Flagstaff Family Facebook page

A reminder to encourage you to 'like' the Flagstaff Family Facebook page, as we will soon be starting to live-stream our services there, and upload our videos there, rather than to the separate church pages. This is to make our offer feel more inclusive of the whole team.

I hope this won't feel too onerous too you. If you've 'liked' one of more of the village pages, then the process for liking the Flagstaff Family page is just the same, and you'll access the content in just the same way.

Thank you.

Revd Mary

St Helen's APCM

You are warmly invited to come along to the St Helen's APCM this coming Tuesday 29th at 7.30pm. If you would like to join online, you'll need the Zoom link from me or, if you'd prefer to join us in the building, please email Jill at sthelensashby@gmail.com to reserve a seat.

I will look forward to welcoming you, as we look back at 2019, at the first extraordinary ten months of this year, and into our shared future with God.

Revd Mary

St Helen's Gift Day: 1st Nov 2020

Read Revd Mary's letter to all at St Helen's via this link

<https://www.sthelensashby.net/PublicHer/File.aspx?ID=266761> or ask Jill Chapman for a printed copy

A Time to Remember: Sunday 1st November, 6.30pm online

Every year, on the first Sunday in November, we gather to remember those who have died; to listen as their names are read out, to light a candle - a kind of physical prayer - and to recall, once again, the hope we have through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Usually, we'd gather in our church buildings to do this. This year, it is simply not possible to seat safely everyone who would like to come. For this reason, we have decided to welcome those who would like to come to the service *online only*. This means that the choir and the service leaders will be in St Helen's, but everyone else will join together from their own homes. This seemed the most inclusive way to offer this service, and we have already written to those bereaved this year to invite them to join them in this way.

So - please do join us on the **Flagstaff Family Facebook page** just before 6.30pm. You might like to have a candle to light at home at the same time as we light candles in church.

Revd Mary

Pastoral Principles for Living Well Together

Principles still to come -
28th Oct Pay attention to power

Email revmarygregory@aol.co.uk for the Zoom link.

Parish Admin leave

Jill Chapman will be on leave next week Tuesday to Thursday, but will be at work on Friday 30th. Bookings for Holy Communion on 28th, if not already booked with Jill, need to be organised with Revd Mary.

Remembrance Sunday: a new way of remembering

For weeks now, we have been working with the town and parish councils to try and work out how to remember safely this Remembrance Sunday.

Because of the rising rate of Covid-19 infections both locally and nationally, and at the strong request of NW Leicestershire District Council, we are not now holding any outdoor acts of remembrance.

Instead, we are pre-recording a film for Remembrance Sunday this weekend, which will then be posted to the **Flagstaff Family Facebook page**, and to the **Ashby Town Council Facebook page** at around 10.45am, so that the film's two-minute silence coincides with 11.00am.

The film will be shot in Ashby and in the villages to make this a truly Flagstaff Family act of remembrance. We are so grateful to Wendy Freer of Pudding Bag Productions for supporting us with this.

So that we can join with our town and villages in this online event, there will be no service at St Helen's that morning. There will be a 4.00pm service of said Communion that afternoon, streamed live to Facebook. Revd Mary

Thank you from Alison Gregory

As I return home to Melbourne this weekend, after staying with Mary for seven months, I'd like to say farewell and thank you for your welcome, your friendship, your prayers and support. It's been a privilege to be part of the Flagstaff Family at this time.

Alison Gregory

The Revd Rob Marsh

I am delighted to say that the Revd Rob Marsh, currently Associate Minister in the Benefice of Desford and Kirkby Muxloe, will be joining us in the Flagstaff Family of Churches for three months from 12th November. Rob will support us in our existing ministry, but will also work with us to develop and enhance our offer, not least to children and young people. Rob brings with him a wealth of ministerial experience and we look forward to learning from him and benefitting from his leadership. Rob's introduction to himself is below
Revd Mary

Hi All,

I am looking forward to joining the Flagstaff team to assist Mary and the rest of the team. I will be with you until mid-February and hope to meet as many of you as possible, in these difficult times.

A little about me though, so you know what you are getting.

I did a period of time at St. Helen's with Brian before my ordination to experience different styles of worship, then whilst a curate at Whitwick, I spent time with John at Breedon and Worthington as I learnt about and took weddings.

More recently, I have been at Kirby Muxloe and Desford as associate minister. I am actively involved in the children's work, pastoral work and funerals, along with regular mid-week and Sunday services.

I have been working with Dr. Sandra Miller and the national Life Events team on funerals and also on the on-line system for recording all occasional offices called "Life Events Diary".

Things to avoid: (especially if you are short of time)

Never ask me about my work in TV and who I have met through it
 Don't ask me for my opinion on food – I love to cook everything from sausages to Chinese banquet.
 I have a love of nature and this comes through in my preferred style of spirituality, have been with a youth trip to the Taize community in France and also to our link diocese in India.
 I have a widely varied choice of music and reading books and also love to get out for a walk with my cameras photographing landscapes and wildlife. I have been lucky enough to photograph wolves, otters, woodpeckers, kingfishers and more.
 Revd Rob

PRAYER

The Sick

Pray for those who are sick, disabled or housebound.

The bereaved

Pray especially for the families and friends of anyone known to you who is recently bereaved, and for all families for whom the funerals of their loved ones have taken place during this difficult time.

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

- ◆ John Glenyon Casson
- ◆ Janet Maureen Buxton
- ◆ Arthur Henry Drabble
- ◆ Frederick Walter Drabble
- ◆ Margaret Ann Barton
- ◆ Sapphire Helenor Hanford
- ◆ Ronald Geoffrey David Wheatley
- ◆ Elizabeth Hampson (Betty)
- ◆ Florrie Mabel Wright
- ◆ Malcolm FMT Ashley
- ◆ Henry Peter Robson Hamlin
- ◆ Charles Edmund Jones

Services

◆ Sunday 25th October

- 10.30am
Holy Communion at St Helens & live on St Helen's Facebook
- Holy Communion at Breedon 4.00pm

◆ Wednesday 28th October

- 10am
Holy Communion at St Helen's & live on St Helen's Facebook

◆ Sunday 1st November

- 10.30am
All-Age worship (not in church)
Live on St Helen's Facebook
- 4.00pm
Holy Communion at Isley Walton
- 6.30pm
A Time To Remember (All Souls) (not in church)
Live on **Flagstaff** Facebook

◆ Wednesday 4th November

- 10am
Holy Communion at St Helen's & live on St Helen's Facebook

Jill Chapman will take bookings for services on
sthelensashby@gmail.com

Night Prayer/Compline

Lectionary readings for next week are:

- Sun 25th: Ecclesiastes 11,12
OR 2 Timothy 2.1-7
- Mon 26th: 2 Chronicles 33.1-13
OR John 15.1-11
- Tues 27th: 2 Chronicles 34.1-18
OR John 15.12-17
- Wed 28th: Jeremiah 3.11-18
OR Jude 1-4, 17-end
- Thurs 29th: 2 Chronicles 35.1-19
OR John 16.1-15
- Fri 30th:
2 Chronicles 35.20—36.10
OR John 16.16-22
- Sat 31st: Isaiah 40.27-end
OR Revelation 19.6-10