



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 9th May 2021

A question all curates who are coming towards the end of their first 3 years of ordained ministry are often asked is: "Do you know where you are going?" It's a good question, and certainly one which I think can have wider implications, firstly as individuals in our faith: Where are we going? As a local church, family of churches, diocese, national church and wider Anglican Communion: Where are we going?

It is very rare that we begin a journey by just setting of, without having a destination and probably a route in mind. However on journeys we can experience unexpected challenges, diversions and other setbacks.

So where are we going? The diocese of Leicester is going on a journey of discernment, conversations are being had and further encouraged in which we are invited to pray and discuss the options for Shaped By God Together. Although the final destination has not been decided there are milestones that have been set and it is a journey that churches are encouraged to make together. So please do continue to pray for this and do consider adding your voice to the conversations. As a family of churches we are thinking of ways to host conversations and listen to your thoughts before feeding back to the diocese.

As you know for different reasons some of the people we have journeyed with have taken different paths and are missed greatly. However, we also have different people joining our journey and this Sunday we are delighted to have Rev Margaret preside at our 10:30 Communion and Carol is due to preach. Then in the afternoon St Mary's Coleorton will reopen for those who can make that journey to the building. We may make small steps, but small steps are what makes a journey.

Of course, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus discovered, we do not journey alone, the Risen Christ has promised to never leave us or forsake us, my goodness isn't this such a relief to remember and keep remembering, Jesus is with us, so wherever we are going, we do not go alone.

God bless

Stewart

NOTICES & NEWS

Saturday morning prayers

On Zoom each Saturday morning from 9.30am for about an hour: Bible reading, prayers and supporting one another. Do join us. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81719457635?pwd=RnlzZjNMa1JHYzRTU29KaWVUaFd5UT09>

Meeting ID: 817 1945 7635
Passcode: 779612

Sunday 9th: shout out for many hands (to make light work) **TODAY**

After the 10.30am service we intend to begin to clear out the Hastings Chapel which has become a temporary storage area.

If you are able to lift and carry something relatively heavy, please help by carrying one of our crib figures from the Hastings Chapel into the Heritage Centre garden sheds.

Living in Love and Faith: the sequel

Session 1 starts this week:

12th May: The ordination of women: synodical processes and Biblical texts

Dates for the other 3 sessions are:

2nd June: Old Testament texts that refer to homosexuality: how to read them

23rd June: New Testament texts that refer to homosexuality: how to read them

10th July: Living in Love and Faith: our responses

The Zoom link will work for every session.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85306253948?pwd=eTR3MjdjRFd6M1EzNG9oZWUrZU2UT09>

Meeting ID: 853 0625 3948
Passcode: 061559

Pre-reading will be sent out in advance of each session. Please let Revd Mary know if you'd like to join in.

Worship this week

◆ Sunday 9th:

-10.30am Holy Communion at St Helen's, Ashby, and live-streamed;

-4.00pm Holy Communion at St Mary's, Coleorton

◆ Wednesday 12th

-10.00am Holy Communion at St Helen's Ashby and live-streamed

◆ Ascension Day: 13th May

-7.30pm at St Helen's, and live-streamed

We are no longer taking bookings for Wednesdays, but will ask people to sign in on the day.

To book for Sunday services, and Ascension Day please

email sthelensashby@gmail.com

Please include your phone number, even if you have booked previously, as it is a time-saver for Jill to not have to look them up or request them.

Holy Communion at Staunton Harold

Staunton Harold's building work is progressing well, but sadly the building will not be ready to host a service on the 16th of May as hoped.

Giving

You can make donations to the work of St Helen's via our website - <https://www.sthelensashby.net/Groups/327469/Giving.aspx>

Christian Aid Week May 2021

To read more about this year's Christian Aid week, go to this month's parish magazine on the What's On page of the St Helen's website. This includes further information about How to donate, including via our St Helen's e-envelope <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/sthelensashby.net>

An opportunity to serve as treasurer for St Helen's

After a period of very faithful, hard-working service, John Backman is standing down as treasurer at the APCM on 18th May. We are therefore looking to recruit a successor to him. The person who volunteers to join us for this work will be part of a small, supportive Standing Committee and on the PCC. Particular members of the PCC are ready to support the treasurer as invited.

For the full core skills and tasks of a treasurer see last week's notices sheet.

Please think and pray about whether this role could be you, or someone you know. If you think of someone else who might do this well, please approach them and encourage them to speak to John Backman, our existing treasurer (01283 761385), to Revd Stewart or to Revd Mary.

Verger vacancy

Revd Mary and the churchwardens are seeking to appoint a new verger. The role description is circulated with last week's notices sheet.

We are hoping to appoint a new verger by the middle of June, and would like to invite expressions of interest for the role by the end of May. If you would like to be considered, please email Mary simply stating why you would like to be considered for the role and what you skills and qualities you might bring to it. Mary and the churchwardens will then have a conversation with all those who have expressed an interest and prayerfully consider who God is calling to this very special role. If you have any questions at all, please speak to Mary, or to Valerie or Val.

PRAYER

Our treasurer and vergers vacancies

Please pray for the right person to be identified for each of these roles.

The Sick

Pray for those who are sick, disabled or housebound.

The bereaved

Pray especially for anyone known to you who is recently bereaved.

Pray for all families for whom the funerals of their loved ones have taken place during the pandemic.

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

- ◆ Kathleen Betty Evans
- ◆ Barbara Whitlock
- ◆ Paul Verrill Cooper
- ◆ Elsie May Avins

Contact Details

- ◆ Revd Canon Mary Gregory:
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- ◆ St Helen's website:
<https://www.sthelensashby.net/>
- ◆ Facebook:
-The Flagstaff Family of Churches
-St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch