



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 6th June 2021

Flagstaff goes al fresco!

This Sunday we are worshiping outside! - at 10.30am for the All-Age Service at St Helen's, and at 6.00pm for Choral Evensong at Isley Walton.

Being outside, we can enjoy God's creation, and the congregation can join in with all the singing! We are VERY excited!

Please be assured that if you can't join us in person, the 10.30am service will be available online as normal, on the Flagstaff Family of Churches Facebook page.

For our 10.30am service, please just bring yourself, bring a friend, bring your dog - all welcome!

For our 6.00pm service, please **bring a chair**, yourself and a friend or three!

Dear Friends

I wanted to share with you what the next couple of weeks have in store for me, and to ask for your prayers at a time of real privilege and responsibility.

From Wednesday 16th-Saturday 19th June, I will be leading the pre-ordination retreat for those being ordained priest in the Diocese of London, and on Saturday 19th June will also be preaching at two ordination services.

In preparation for this, I have set aside Monday to Friday this coming week (7th-11th) to prepare the five retreat addresses I will give and to begin thinking about the ordination service sermons.

To make space for this creative, reflective, prayerful process, I have kept next week's diary clear of all other commitments. This is vital if I

am to offer the ordinands something of depth as they prepare for this next step on their vocational journey. (I will, of course, still be available for emergencies.)

Please pray for me - that the Holy Spirit would guide me to offering thoughts that might be sustaining of these ordinands in their priestly ministry, and please pray for them as they prepare to get ordained.

You might wonder, in such a busy life as mine, why I have agreed to take on the leadership of this retreat (Actually, I was wondering that yesterday in slight panic!) The truth is that having the opportunity to think in a sustained, creative way is life-giving to me - as well, I pray, as life-giving to those to whom I speak - a way of stepping away from the minute-by-minute press of immediate tasks, and taking a longer, wider, richer view. As

Christians, as Christian leaders, we are called to this deep reflection, this rich spiritual engagement. The real wonder, the real concern, is not when we carve out time to do this, but when we *fail* to carve out time to do this.

What moment for deeper thinking, wider perspective-taking might you create? Might you be richer for it - even if it means setting aside the insistent for a time? And, on your return from those places of reflection - how might your approach to the insistent be transformed, how might you be renewed for it?

Much love

Revd Mary

NOTICES & NEWS

Collection for the Betts family

We are looking forward to giving the Betts family a gift to mark their time with us in the Flagstaff Family, and to thank them for all they have been amongst us. To contribute to the gift, please post your contribution through the Rectory door marked 'The Betts Family' or bring it to any of our services in the Flagstaff Family to be passed on to Revd Mary. Please can we invite contributions by Sunday 20th June? Many thanks.

Isolation Creation - help needed

St Helen's are hosting an exhibition of the things people have made during lockdown. We'll be receiving exhibits on 21st June, and putting them up on 24th and 25th June. Then, during the exhibition on 26th & 27th June, 3rd, 4th, 10th, & 11th July we'll need stewards to welcome people into church.

If you can help, please contact Revd Mary or Sharn Stinson (on sthelensheritage@gmail.com).

Isolation Creation: An exhibition

During the last 14 months our lives may have been restricted but our creativity has been let loose! On

· June 26th & 27th

· July 3rd & 4th

· July 10th & 11th

come & see what's been sewn, carved, photographed, filmed, drawn, découpage, painted, written, woven, moulded, papier-maché, knitted, patch-worked, macramé, mosaiced or crocheted during lock-down!

Thank you!

Thank you so much to all of those who came to our meeting on Tuesday about the 'Shaped by God Together' process of diocesan reorganisation, or who sent their reflections in writing in advance of the meeting. It was so good to see so many engaging in these discussions. Thank you for your support.

This month's Parish Magazine

The June edition is available on line but also, after over a year away, **hard copies are available in church.**

Nature Workshops

Hospice Hope are running a series of (Covid-secure) nature workshops in collaboration with Wild Minds and the National Forest. These are free for anyone living with a health condition in North West Leicestershire. If you aren't sure whether someone might be suitable ring 07591952027. Also being offered is travel cost reimbursement of up to £5. Workshops will be held at Feanedock near Moira on June 19th, July 17th and August 11th.

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

The next **Men's Breakfast** is

◆ 9:00am on Saturday 12th June
when Michael Phillips will be talking
about "Military Re-enactment"

The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88927184672?pwd=Nm1wWTc1QTQvUmlOSFF3TS9lVlpiZz09>

Zoom Room ID: 889 2718 4672

Password: 1840

Little Fishes re-opening

We are very excited to be planning for Little Fishes to re-open from Monday 7th June at the usual time of 9.30-11.30 in St Helen's Community Heritage Centre.

Full guidance can be found in this month's parish magazine, now available on the website.

https://www.sthensashby.net/Groups/339405/Parish_Magazine.aspx

PRAYER

The sick, disabled or housebound:

Pray for ...

- ◆ Peggy Adams
- ◆ Suzanne Edwards
- ...& others known to you

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 Mary Bower
- ◆ John Aston Randall
- ◆ Gerald William Parker
- ◆ Alfred Henry Croxton
- ◆ Colin Henry Veitch
- ◆ Hilda May Hines

Contact Details

- ◆ Revd Canon Mary Gregory:
revmarygregory@aol.co.uk
01530 564372
- ◆ Revd Stewart Betts
stewart@flagstaff.org.uk
07919 890094
- ◆ Parish Office: Jill Chapman
sthelensashby@gmail.com
07725 519453
- ◆ Heritage:
sthelensheritage@gmail.com
07435 564236
- ◆ Lettings:
sthelenslettings@gmail.com
- ◆ St Helen's website:
<https://www.sthelensashby.net/>
- ◆ Facebook:
-The Flagstaff Family of Churches
-St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch
- ◆ Twitter: @sthelensashby