



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 20th June 2021

Tuesday 14th

Dear Friends

I am writing my letter early this week, as I'm getting ready to go to London tomorrow to lead the pre-ordination retreat, and Jill is preparing for her surgery on Thursday. I know that you will join me in praying for her.

I am also writing my letter on the morning-after-the-announcement-before, the Prime Minister's statement that social-distancing will remain in place for a further four weeks. Please pray for the government who have such a complex and difficult leadership task at the moment.

Whatever we make of the announcement personally - and, of course, views will differ - we will want to hold particular groups in our prayers: wedding couples who have already moved their weddings several times and are now wondering whether to do so again; musicians who are aching to live out their passion to the full once again; the hospitality trade for whom this further delay might be critical, even fatal.

In church, too, we have to continue with our careful consideration of one another. We have to continue to socially distance, to sanitise our hands and wear masks. As things stand as I write, we still cannot sing indoors as a congregation. This is so hard for us. It may be that we

consider holding more services outside - when the weather and the WiFi signal permits - so that we can share in the fullness of our worship together.

As ever, our priorities will be those of our Coronavirus Charter that I preached fourteen months ago: to protect the most vulnerable, to be honest about how we feel, and to frame our feelings with faith.

God bless you - and please be assured, as ever, of my love and prayers for you.

Revd Mary

NOTICES & NEWS

Collection for the Betts family

This collection closes this Sunday, 20th June. Please put any contributions through Mary's letterbox (marked 'The Betts Family') before then, or bring your gift to church on Sunday.

Jill's post-op recovery

Please join me in praying for Jill as she has surgery to replace her hip. During her absence from work, Revd Mary will monitor her inbox and will manage the bookings for church services. Please be patient, as Mary won't always be able to respond as promptly as Jill does.

From Canon David Edwards

I would just like to say thank you to everyone who has been so kind after the death of my wife Suzanne. At the start of 2021 we were looking forward to the ending of lockdowns, seeing our families and getting back to normal, especially getting out the camping equipment. Sadly, it wasn't to be and after she was diagnosed with cancer in March, which turned out to be an aggressive form, the decline was shockingly rapid. We are all coming to terms with her loss, she was a special person, and I am particularly sad that our granddaughter Carys will grow up without her.

The funeral is to be at St. Helen's Church in Ashby de la Zouch at 11.00 am on Friday 25th June. Numbers are limited by the Covid rules but if anyone would like to be present, please contact me on 07530114169 or 01530 412604 or axuw41@talktalk.net.

Revd Mary adds: *there may not be space in church for everyone who would like to attend. For this reason, David and I have agreed that the service will be streamed to the St Helen's Facebook page (but not, at his request, available there to watch later) and that people would be welcome to stand in the churchyard to pay their respects to Suzanne.*

Visitation service: 21st June

Each year, churchwardens from the deanery gather together to make their declarations for their term of office. At this 'Visitation Service', the Archdeacon thanks churchwardens for their service and preaches to inspire and encourage them for all that lies ahead. This year, St Helen's is hosting this service on the evening of June 21st. Because of social distancing, this service won't be open to anyone other than wardens and their 'plus one' guest. Nonetheless, please remember in your prayers, from St Helen's, Shan Dyer and Judith Lewis; from Holy Trinity, Noreen Mewes; from Coleorton, Steve de Looze; from Isley Walton, Lesley Beecroft; from Staunton Harold, Julia and Alan Peters, and from Worthington, Michael Miles and Christina Walmsley.

Isolation Creation

We are very excited about the forthcoming exhibition we are hosting in church - a collection of some of the things that our community has made during lock-down. There are some wonderful submissions!

The exhibition will run on the weekends

· June 26th & 27th

· July 3rd & 4th

· July 10th & 11th

10-4 on Saturdays

12-4 on Sundays

Eileen Coombs is recruiting stewards for these days - we'd love it if you could offer an hour or two to help!

Please note that because of the value of these exhibits, church cannot be left unlocked and unattended in the weeks that the exhibition is on.

Growing Faith

As we consider the important structural changes in the Diocese we might want to pause and consider the heart of the matter – growing faith. I draw your attention to two opportunities for people to do just that.

◆ Everyday Spirituality – spiritual habits for everyday life

Tuesday 29th June 7-8pm on Zoom or

Saturday 3rd July 10.00-11.30 at St Peter's Church, Copt Oak, LE67 9QB
I enclose a flyer to pass on to anyone you think might be interested or post on church news sheets

◆ Journey on Faith Course
Starting October

This course continues to be fruitful in growing faith and generating vocations. Details can be found on the website and I can provide additional information

with blessings

Liz Rawlings

Discipleship and Vocations Enabler

Mobile: 0794 7533739

Giving

You can make donations to the work of St Helen's via our website

<https://www.sthelensashby.net/Groups/327469/Giving.aspx>

Services

Sunday 20th:

◆ 10.30am Holy Communion at St Helen's, and live-streamed to the Flagstaff Family of Churches Facebook page

◆ 4.00pm Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Staunton Harold

Wednesday:

◆ 10.00am Holy Communion at St Helen's, and live-streamed to the Flagstaff Family of Churches Facebook page

Next Sunday (27th):

◆ 10.30am Holy Communion at St Helen's, and live-streamed to the Flagstaff Family of Churches Facebook page

◆ 4.00pm Holy Communion at Breedon

To attend any of the Sunday services in the buildings, please

email sthelensashby@gmail.com

(Wednesdays no longer require booking)

PRAYER

The sick, disabled or housebound:

Pray for ...

◆ Peggy Adams

...& others known to you

The bereaved

◆ Pray especially for the family, friends and loved ones of Suzanne Edwards, whose funeral is this Friday.

◆ & 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:

◆ George Leonard Watson

◆ Doreen Frances Brown

◆ Gwynneth Eileen Richards

◆ Freda Mary Stanley

◆ Kathleen Parker

Contact Details

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◆ St Helen's website:
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◆ Facebook:
-The Flagstaff Family of Churches
-St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch

◆ Twitter: @sthelensashby