



## Notices for 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

### FORTHCOMING SERVICES

#### This Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> March:

- 8:30 am Morning Prayer at Staunton Harold
- 10:30am Service of the Word at St Helen's, livestreamed to the Flagstaff Family of Churches Facebook page.
- 10:30am Holy Communion at Breedon

#### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

- 7:30pm Team Talk in St Helen's Heritage Centre

#### Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March:

- 10.30am No service this Wednesday

#### Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March:

- 9:30 am Prayer in Hastings Chapel

#### Next Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March:

[Mothering Sunday]

- 10:30am Holy Communion at St Helen's, including Junior Choir. [No after-church refreshments owing to previous booking of Heritage Centre]
- 3:30pm Messy Church in St Helen's Church

#### Readings for 20.3.22:

Isaiah 55 vs1-9; Luke 13 vs 1-9

#### Collect for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent:

Eternal God, give us insight  
to discern your will for us,  
to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection we are  
promised  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### TEAM TALK 2022

You are warmly invited to Team Talk 2022, either in person or on Zoom. During Tuesdays in Lent, we will be having a gathering in one of our buildings and (at the same time) have a gathering on Zoom. You are welcome to come along to one session or all of them.

The sessions will be led by service leaders from across the Flagstaff Family of Churches and we will be using the Diocese of Leicester course, Everyday Faith. You can read more about the course at:

[team-talk-materials.flagstaff.org.uk](https://team-talk-materials.flagstaff.org.uk)

**If you would like to attend by Zoom, please register for the course at**

[team-talk-registration.flagstaff.org.uk](https://team-talk-registration.flagstaff.org.uk)

indicating which sessions you would like to attend. You will then receive an email with the zoom link. If you have any questions, please email Rev Tim Phillips using [tim@flagstaff.org.uk](mailto:tim@flagstaff.org.uk)

Each session opens at 19:15 for a 19:30 start on Tuesdays in Lent. The sessions finish at 21:00. If attending in person, please take a lateral flow test and bring a mask.

Tuesday 22.3.22 – St Helen's Heritage Centre

Tuesday 29.3.22 – Holy Trinity Church Hall

Tuesday 5.4.22 – St Matthew's Worthington

## REVIEW OF COVID RESTRICTIONS IN CHURCH

Following a meeting after last Sunday's service and people being invited to send emails with their views on this, PCC discussed on Tuesday how we should respond to the changing national Covid legislation and recommendations. The Church of England is largely leaving it to individual parishes to make their own decisions.

The clear mood of the meeting was that we should make changes gradually, although both the people at the meeting and people who have contributed their thoughts show that there are a range of views within our congregation.

PCC felt it was appropriate to make changes gradually and concluded the following:

- Choir stalls to return to their original positions. Our choir are very keen to do this, as it makes it easier for them to sing together. The congregation will, however, miss being able to see their smiling faces. We anticipate doing this in the next 2-3 weeks.
- We then need to review how we use the remaining space at the front of the nave and how we set that up for live-streaming of services.
- We hope to re-introduce choir and ministers' processions at the beginning and end of the services.
- Live-streaming of services will continue as at present, with readings, sermon and intercessions being led from the front of church.
- We agreed to continue celebrating the Peace by waving and smiling, as at present.
- We will continue to set aside areas of church for people who prefer both to wear masks and to be socially distant from those who are not masked.

- We are postponing, at present, a return to using the alter in the chancel. We recognise that this will disappoint a number of people. This will be reviewed at our next PCC meeting when we have had time to review how we use the space in church after the choir stalls are restored to their usual positions.

Our reasons for this are as follows:

- we need to consider where we can offer Communion to those who cannot manage the chancel steps – our Lady Chapel cannot be used at present because our insurers are concerned about the safety of the light fitting.
- we need to consider how celebrating Communion at the alter in the chancel will fit with our live-streaming of services
- Celebrating Communion in both kinds – most people appear to feel uncomfortable with the thought of returning at present to a shared cup. The possibility of intinction [dipping the wafer into the wine] will be discussed with our regular clergy.
- We reviewed advice on hand sanitising. The rationale for sanitising both before and after receiving Communion is because of risks of contaminating one's hands from the exterior of a mask while removing it and replacing it. There is, therefore, no need for those not wearing masks to repeatedly sanitise their hands at this point in the service, although people may prefer to do so.

We will continue to review these recommendations, which may need to change if there is another surge in Covid or if we have a service with an unusually large congregation. Please talk to the Wardens or any PCC member if you have any questions.

## **Christian Aid Week 2022:**

**May 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>**

Once again at St Helen's we are supporting Christian Aid and hope that people will be as generous as they have been in previous years. As before there will be two ways of donating. Firstly, we will be setting up an e-envelope for people to donate online and emailing the link to everyone on St Helen's mailing list. This has been very successful in previous years and as a church, we have raised considerable amounts.

We will also be organising the usual house to house collections as well and we are hoping that our collectors from previous years will be willing to help out again this year. However, it would be good if we had some new collectors especially from the new houses around Ashby. The task has become much easier in recent years because although it still involves delivering envelopes to each house in your 'patch', we now ask people who wish to donate to return the sealed envelope containing their donation to a specified point –usually your letterbox or the parish office! In this way we do not have to disturb those who do not wish to donate and those who do, can do so at their own convenience.

If you are able to help with this year's collection please contact Shân Dyer on 07368615406 or at [shandashby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shandashby@hotmail.co.uk).

## **Save the dates:**

The Entertainment and Activity Team have been busy planning events for this coming year. Here are some upcoming dates for your diary and requests for help. If you are able to help with either event, please contact a member of the team: Jill Chapman, Liz Smith, Alison Cross, Caroline Essex or Helen Smith.

### **Sat 14th May 7.30-9.15pm**

Theatre production "Remembrance" in St Helen's church as part of Ashby Arts Festival. Help needed with serving interval refreshments and clearing up afterwards.

### **Mon 30th May 9am-12pm**

Self-guided children's nature trails in church and churchyard, plant sale, refreshments and ice-creams! We need help manning the event and donations of plants will be gratefully received so please start potting on. Please contact Alison Cross on 07766 232414 or email [across3355@gmail.com](mailto:across3355@gmail.com) if you are able to donate plants.

## **FOR PRAYER:**

Please continue to pray for the family and friends of David Wileman and Joy Brown who died recently.

Please pray for those known to you who are ill, including Jenny Hedges, Peggy Adams and Teresa Shorthouse.

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

Ethel Williams; Gordon Henry Hackett  
Edward Austin Jervis;  
Vera Mary Gilkes; Arthur Garratt  
Kay Frances Waring  
Lawrence Frederick Dennis

**PRAYER FOR UKRAINE:**

God of peace and justice,  
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.  
We pray for peace and the laying down of  
weapons.  
We pray for all those who fear for  
tomorrow,  
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near  
to them.  
We pray for those with power over war or  
peace,  
for wisdom, discernment and compassion  
to guide their decisions.  
Above all, we pray for all your precious  
children, at-risk and in fear, that you would  
hold and protect them.  
We pray in the name of Jesus,  
the Prince of Peace. Amen.

**GIVING:**

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

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St Helen's website  
[www.sthelensashby.net](http://www.sthelensashby.net)

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Facebook: The Flagstaff Family of  
Churches for live-streamed services; also  
St Helen's Church Ashby de la Zouch

Instagram: sthelenschurchandheritage

Twitter: @sthelensashby