



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 23rd February 2025

2nd Sunday Before Lent

COLLECT	READINGS
Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.	Revelation 4 Luke 8 vv 22-25

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 23rd February

10:30am Holy Communion at St Helen's, including focus on Hoveraid

3:30pm Messy Church at St Helen's Community Heritage Centre

Monday 24th February

7:30pm Pilgrim Group *

Tuesday 25th February

2:30pm Friends, Fellowship and Faith*

Wednesday 26th February

10:30am Holy Communion at St Helen's

Thursday 27th February

10:00am Café Church at St Matthew's, Worthington

Friday 28th February

2-4pm Warm Hearted Space in the Community Heritage Centre

Saturday 1st March

9:30 am Morning Prayer in Hastings Chapel

Sunday 2nd March

8:30am Holy Communion at Staunton Harold

10:30am Holy Communion at Breedon

3:30pm All Age Worship at St Helen's

6:00pm Choral Evensong at St Helen's including the first talk of our Lent series 'Apprentice to Jesus'. We are following the book 'Practicing the Way' by John Mark Comer.

Wednesday 5 March

Ash Wednesday

10.30am Holy Communion

7.30pm Holy Communion

Both services will include the imposition of ashes for those who would like that.

* Contact the Parish Office for location

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY, 10:30AM
Focus on Hoveraid

In our service on 23rd February we will focussing on Hoveraid, one of the charities which we donated to in 2024. The CEO of Hoveraid, John Greaves, will be preaching and, after the service, he will show some video footage of their work and give more information over a bring and share lunch (starting about 12 noon) in the Heritage Centre. The lunch will be organised by the Social Committee but please put the date in your diaries. Further information about Hoveraid can be found at <https://uk.hoveraid.org>

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY, 12:00PM
Bring and Share Lunch

There will be a Bring and Share Lunch on Sunday 23rd February following the above Service at St Helen's. If you would like to contribute an item for the lunch, please speak to Alison Andrews or Shân Dyer to sign up, or alternatively email the parish office.

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY, 4:00PM
Rooted Prayer and Praise

You are invited to join St Edwards Church, Castle Donington for "Rooted", our monthly worship and prayer gathering inspired by Psalm 52:8-9. Rooted in these verses, our gathering seeks to bring us together to meet God in worship and wait on Him in prayer. We come together with the purpose of grounding ourselves in God's unfailing love and faithfulness, flourishing as a community of believers. The details of our monthly gatherings are as follows:

Date: Every fourth Sunday of the month

Time: 4:00 PM

Venue: St Edward's Church Hall, St Anne's Lane, DE74 2JH

For any questions or further details, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at curate@cdlh-churches.org

Note – If you would like a lift to this event in Castle Donnington please contact Chris Lewis on 07828 463368.

Tuesday 25th February, 7:30PM
Heritage Talk

The next Heritage Talk will be taking place on Tuesday 25th February at 7.30pm in the Community Heritage Centre. Peter Liddle will be speaking on 'Roman Villas and Peasant Farms'.

2nd MARCH, 3:30PM

All Age Worship

At All Age Worship on Sunday March 2nd (3.30 p.m.) we'll begin to turn our thoughts to Lent (which begins a few days later), and to recognise (and remember) that we, like Jesus, will be tested at different points in our life. Andy Smith is leading the service and would like everyone who is coming along to think of a Bible verse that has proved to be a source of strength and comfort in difficult times. You'll be invited to share them at the service – by writing them down - or as much as you can remember!

Andy would also like to hear from anyone who has a story about how God showed his love and comfort to them in challenging times, and would be willing to share the story with the congregation at the service.

If you'd like to do this, please email him on andy.xrn@outlook.com

CARD FOR MARY GREGORY

Our former Team Rector Mary Gregory will be consecrated as Bishop of Reading on the 27th February at Canterbury Cathedral. There will be a card available at the back of church on Sunday if anyone would like to sign and add their wishes. Please contact Liz Smith if you need a different time for signing.

NEW HYMN BOOKS

We now have new hymn books! As many of our old ones were beginning to get rather tatty and worn, last year PCC took the decision to replace them with new books, Anglican Hymns Old and New. These include both traditional hymns and a range of more contemporary ones, many of which we already use, but printed on slips of paper. PCC have also suggested that members of the congregation might like to choose to dedicate a book to the memory of a loved one or sponsor one as a gift. This would be acknowledged by putting a personalised book plate in each sponsored book. The books cost £10 each. If you would like to sponsor a book, please would you email the parish office, stating whether it is a gift or given in memory of someone and then donate to church funds through the plate or wall safe, through the Sum-Up machine or via bank transfer – please would you let either Judith or Catalina know if you have donated, so that we can separate the donations out from general giving.

ELECTRICAL WORK IN CHURCH

The final phase of the electrical work in the church will start on 24th February. The electricians will be replacing the failing wiring in the

chancel. The height of the roof means open as normal during the week though we do ask you to avoid the chancel for safety reasons. We will be roping off the work areas. If you have any questions about this work please get in touch with Simon Starkey.

ELECTORAL ROLL

It's soon time to renew St Helen's Electoral Roll ! It might not sound very exciting, but it's an important thing we need to do as a church. To ensure the contents remain substantially correct, every sixth year, a new ER is created from scratch, and all potential members need to re-apply to have their name added to the new roll.

The Electoral Roll is literally a register of people who are able to elect other people in the church. Being on the church ER means that you can vote on many relevant issues at the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

If you are already coming regularly to St Helen's and participating in the life of the church, that would be a very good reason to be on the ER. The ER also gives us an idea of the size of our congregation which is important in this time of change to become part of a Minster Community.

To be on the ER, you must be 16years old or over, be baptised, and either live in the parish or have attended St Helen's regularly for at least 6 months.

Joining the ER can be a way of confirming your commitment to the St Helen's community and to our vision and generally supporting the Flagstaff Family

of Churches. It also allows you to take part in the life of the wider Church of England, at, Deanery, Diocese, and even at National levels, if you are interested. Of course, we will keep your information secure in line with UKGDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) regulations. 2025 is the year when a new ER will be created. Please give this issue serious thought when applications start at the beginning of February and make sure you have a say in things that matters to you, to the church and to our life together.

Applications for enrolment on the St Helen's Electoral Roll can be obtained from the church office or at the Welcome Desk and completed forms returned to the office letter box. It can also be done electronically to sthelensashby@gmail.com

Thank you. Eileen Coombs (ER Officer)

GIVING

You can make donations to the work of St Helen's through the Collectin card reader at the back of church any time. Alternatively, donations can be made via the open plate at the back of church after our Sunday services, the wall safe at the back of church or via our website: <https://www.sthelensashby.net/Groups/327469/Giving.aspx>

In addition, regular donations can be made through the Parish Giving Scheme. Further information can be found at www.parishgiving.org.uk.

Deadline for next week's Notice Sheet: **10pm Tuesday** evening, sent to noticesheet@sthelensashby.net