



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 2nd March 2025

Sunday Before Lent

COLLECT	READINGS
Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.	Exodus 3 vv 1-6 Luke 9 vv 1-6

THE WEEK AHEAD

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.

Tuesday 4th March

7:00pm Consultation meeting about the church building in the Heritage Centre

Wednesday 5th March

Ash Wednesday

10.30am Holy Communion at St Helen's

2:00pm We are in Stitches at the Community Heritage Centre

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Helen's (Both Communion services will include the imposition of ashes for those who would like that.)

Thursday 6th March

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

Friday 7th March

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

Saturday 8th March

9:30 am Morning Prayer in Hastings Chapel

Sunday 9th March

10:30am Holy Communion at St Helen's, including Stepping Stones

12:00pm Consultation meeting about the church building in the Heritage Centre

6:00pm Holy Communion at Isley Walton including the second talk of the Lent series 'Be with Jesus'.

SUNDAY 2nd MARCH, 3:30PM

All Age Worship

At All Age Worship this Sunday we'll be turning 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

WEDNESDAY 5th MARCH, 2-4PM

We are in stitches, stitch and chat group.

On the 1st Wednesday of each month from 2-4pm in the Heritage Centre we hold our "We are in Stitches" stitch and chat group. There is expert advice available within the group for sewing and woolly projects! Come and enjoy a cuppa and chat. All are welcome.

SATURDAY 8th MARCH, 8:00AM

Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Breakfast is at 8:00am on Saturday 8th March 2025 at Ashby Wetherspools followed by a talk at the Methodist Church Hall to be given by Martin Cooper on "The Air Ambulance" who will be accompanied by his

MASCOT MARTY MEERKAT. This should be an interesting talk on a very worthwhile and challenging service.

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.

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