



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 9th March 2025

First Sunday of Lent

COLLECT	READINGS
Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.	Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Luke 21: 1-4

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 9th March

- 10:30am Holy Communion at St Helen's
- 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'.

Tuesday 11th March

- 2:30pm Friends, Fellowship and Faith*

Wednesday 12th March

- 10.30am Holy Communion at Prior Park

Thursday 13th March

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

Friday 14th March

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

Saturday 15th March

- 9:30 am Morning Prayer in Hastings Chapel

Sunday 16th March

- 8:30am Holy Communion at Staunton Harold
- 10:30am Morning Worship at St Helen's
- 10:30am Holy Communion at Coleorton School
- 6:00pm Lent Service at Worthington including the second talk of the Lent series 'Become like Him'

* Contact the Parish Office for location

SATURDAY 8th MARCH, 8:00AM

Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Breakfast is at 8:00am on Saturday 8th March 2025 at Ashby Wetherspoons 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.

Spring cleaning – working parties

Community Heritage Centre:

Our caretaker and cleaner do a brilliant job of keeping the Heritage Centre in good order but their hours are very limited so there are jobs that never get done. So, we are planning to have two working party sessions to clear cobwebs, clean windows, dust interpretation panels and more to make our building fresh and welcoming. Please join us if you can – there will be lots to do – Saturday 22nd March from 9am to 12noon and Monday 24th March from 1pm to 5pm

Church:

Our dedicated team of church cleaners serve the church faithfully with their weekly cleaning, but it is a big building with lots to do. So, as we approach Easter, wedding season, the return of our Soirees and an exhibition in church we are planning to do some serious spring cleaning. Please join us if you can – there'll be lots to do – Saturday 29th March 10am to 1pm, Friday 4th April 2pm-4pm, and Saturday 5th April 10am to 1pm.

Even an hour or two of help will make a difference to our buildings so please come if you can. Thank you, Helen Smith

SATURDAY 3rd TO MONDAY 5th May

Save the date - Exhibition in church

We're excited to announce that the Crying in the Silicon Wilderness embroidery exhibition will be at St Helen's for the weekend of Saturday 3rd to Monday 5th May.

The designs have been inspiring our prayer station for the past few months so

it will be wonderful to have the original artwork on display, and to get to know the artist Rev Dr Romola Parish.

There will be lots going on over the weekend – a preview evening, creative workshop, exhibition tour with the artist, our Sunday Soiree, and a piano concert – more details of all this to follow. So please put the date in your diary and tell your friends about it.

We are also asking for volunteers to make the weekend run smoothly so if you can help with stewarding please contact Lyn Price; and if you can provide cakes or help the social committee to serve refreshments please contact Alison Andrews.

Looking forward to sharing a special weekend. Helen Smith

APCM: TUESDAY 1st APRIL

7pm in St Helen's Heritage Centre

As our APCM approaches, please prayerfully consider the possibility of whether you could stand for election as a member of PCC or as Church Warden. If you would like to know more about either of these roles, please speak to our Warden Judith, to Rev Sue or to anyone on PCC. Also a reminder that you can only stand for election to PCC and vote at the APCM if you are on the Electoral Roll.

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