

Weekly News from SS&SJ, Earl Shilton, and St Mary's, Elmeſthorpe

Services this coming Sunday, 3rd August:

- 9.15am – All-age worship at St Mary's
- 10.45am – All-age worship at SS&SJ
- 6.30pm – Prayers to End the Day on Facebook

The Bible reading for our morning services will be 1 Corinthians 12 v 12-27 (p933 of the pew Bibles).

Mix & Mingle – 5th August, 10.00am – Breakfast and crazy golf. Please sign up in church.

Sing for Worship – Saturday 9th August, 11.00 for 11.15 start at SS&SJ. All are welcome to come and learn some new songs.

Lay ministry and vocations – if you are interested in exploring lay ministry and vocations opportunities within the diocese, please come along to the next Deanery Synod meeting on 9th September, 7.30pm at Sheepy: All Saints, Church Lane, CV9 3QS. Refreshments will be available from 7.00pm. For more information, contact Revd. Kim Ford on kim@thebeaconhinckley.org.

Cleaning at St Mary's – If you would be interested in helping with some occasional light cleaning at St Mary's, please speak to one of the churchwardens.

Taking the next step in your 'Journey in Faith' – The Journey in Faith course is run by the Diocese of Leicester. It is a course that gives time and space to grow in confidence in your faith and deepen your relationship with God. Topics include 'How to study the Bible', 'The history and culture of the biblical world' and 'The Trinity'. It could be a one-off course for you or lead to some form of lay ministry. See the information sheet at the back of church or email liz.rawlings@leicestercofe.org for more information.

Prayers to start the day take place at 9am on Mondays at St Simon and St Jude's and Tuesdays and Thursdays at St Mary's, as well as on Facebook on Wednesday. The prayers in church last half-an-hour and are a wonderful opportunity to pray for our churches, communities and the wider world, so do come and join us.

Minster Communities – Following the discussions between churches to the proposed minster community boundaries in our area, some churches have raised questions and proposed alternative grouping suggestions. After taking time to reflect on this feedback, the Diocesan team are hosting a Zoom session where they will present the responses and outline a proposed way forward. This session will take place on **Wednesday 13th August at 7.30pm**. Following the session, they will share a recording and supporting documents for your PCC to review and discuss further. The Zoom session is open to anyone from our churches. There will be time for questions, but no decisions or votes will be taken during the session. The purpose is to share information so that PCCs and churches can have informed conversations. Please contact the church office for the Zoom link if you would like to attend.

Elmeſthorpe Friends Food and Flowers Initiative will be holding their next coffee morning on Saturday 30th August, 10.00am - 11.30am at Elmeſthorpe Village Hall, raising money for the church

and other charities. Theme: Seaside Special! Bring something special from the beach. Dress for the beach if you like!! Donations always welcome for local food banks.

At the coffee morning the **St Mary's Subscription Draw** will take place. The results of our latest draw: first prize £40 number 34, second prize £25 number 71, third prize £15 number 17, fourth prize £10 number 14, fifth prize £10 number 60.

A date for your diary - Sunday 21st September – St Mary's are holding an outdoor service in the churchyard at 4pm followed by an afternoon tea – all are welcome! There will be no service at 9.15am.

Please pray:

- that food, water and other essential supplies will safely get to all who need it in Gaza.
- for rest and refreshment for all who are on holiday, whether at home or away.

Contacting us –

- For general church enquiries please contact Beth Evans in the Church Office on 01455 843961 or parishchurch@gmx.co.uk .
- For pastoral matters or if you need to speak to a church minister, please contact Martin Castle on 07759 002660.

Prayer for the week:

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Bible verse of the month to learn:

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5 v 17