

Notices for Sunday 10th August

Trinity 8 / Proper 14 Fruitfulness: Moulding Culture

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Summer Sundays: Communion at 11am

This week we continue our Fruitfulness series thinking how we might be an influence for good in moulding the culture around us. The readings are Acts 4:13-22 and Matthew 5:13-16. We will be sharing communion together and there will be a group for the children during the service. Please stay on for the picnic at the Lower Beacon afterwards if you are able – a good way to build a culture of friendship and welcome in the St Mary's community! (more info below)

OTHER SERVICES & EVENTS

Summer Sunday Picnics, Sunday August 10th after the service

Please bring a packed lunch and join us for an informal picnic after the service at the Lower Beacon. The car-park costs £2 for an hour and takes contactless payment, lifts can be sorted on the day. There is plenty of space to picnic and play so please invite friends. The weather forecast is looking good – you may want to bring a chair, hat and sunscreen although there are plenty of shady places to sit. (If the forecast changes we will stay at the Chapter House and enjoy some board games). Please come along if you can to enjoy some social time together.

Midweek Communion, Wednesday 13th August at 11.30am

Everyone is welcome to join us for a short service of communion followed by an optional simple but delicious soup lunch. This is a great chance to worship and get to know others within a small and friendly group. Please invite friends and think if there is anyone who might welcome a lift.

Growing Rite

Please pray and give thanks for our young families at Growing Rite, who are celebrating the Summer with a Teddy Bear's Picnic next Thursday.

OTHER NOTICES

Lucy, maternity leave and thank you!

Lucy, our Assistant Administrator, is starting her maternity leave next week. We are very grateful for all Lucy contributes to life here at St Mary's – we will miss her and wish her a wonderful first year with her new baby and family. Please pray for them all as they start this joyful new chapter together. Jasmine will be taking on Lucy's role as well as her own for the next few months until she goes on maternity leave herself. Please pray for Jasmine and for the recruitment process as we look for people to cover their roles.

Woodland Closure Update

Our woodland will remain closed until the end of August. Work has now started, with considerable progress being made, but we still need to wait for another visit from the arborist and for the council to confirm that our woods are safe to open to visitors again. Thank you all so much for your patience while this essential work is carried out, we look forward to re-opening the woodland as soon as we can. A reminder to please refrain from entering the woodland before and after services or at any time until we notify you that it is safe to do so.

Church Flowers

If you would like flowers displayed in church for any reason, we now have a sign-up sheet in the corridor. Pam and Lynda are willing to do arrangements to your requirements – flowers, plants, colours etc, or if you want to have a go yourself that's fine too! Please contact admin@stmaryincharnwood.org.uk to discuss requirements and payment for flowers.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ride+Stride Saturday 13 September.

Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust grant aids historic churches and chapels of all Christian denominations for repairs, restoration and some community facilities. The Trust's main fund raising is through the annual sponsored Ride+Stride event. Walkers and cyclists, for example, seek sponsors for the number of churches or chapels they visit on the event day. Should you wish to take part, the link to the Ride+Stride web site is <https://www.lhct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/> where the Sponsorship Form can be found and the List of Churches Taking Part will soon be available.

The money raised by each participant from St. Mary's is shared equally between St. Mary's and the Trust. Contact John Buckland at john.buckland3@ntlworld.com and he will process the monies collected. Note that the church will not be opening for Ride+Stride this year.

Friends of Launde Abbey Updates

You can [click here](#) to read the Launde Abbey Summer 2025 Newsletter, which contains updates on some of the developments at the abbey, and details of upcoming events you may be interested in attending.

More information about the Launde Abbey Programme of retreats, quiet days and concerts for 2025 can be found here: <https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/events/>

ADVOCATE SLOT

This month we are supporting **HoverAid**, a humanitarian charity based in the UK and the Netherlands. They use hovercraft to deliver aid to isolated communities in Madagascar.

Please pray and give thanks for:

- Please give thanks that, after several years of work, the new hovercraft, now named FAITH, is fully tested and deployed in Beroroha. Pray for its continued work in the area and guidance for the team there in its use.
- Give thanks that the MMSs (Madagascar Medical Safaris) and the Mobile Clinics are continuing their work well. Pray for the team in Antananarivo as they plan and organise future trips.
- Give thanks that Lovasoa, the 18-month-old boy who was seen on an MMS and subsequently evacuated to hospital with spinal problems too severe for treatment locally, is now out of hospital and doing well. He and his mother were supported by the Tana team using funds raised by HA donors, for which we are extremely grateful.
- Pray for good rest and recuperation for the teams that have worked so hard over the last few months.