

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

### ***Services this coming Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> September:***

- 10.45am – Morning Worship at SS&SJ
- 4.00pm – Open-Air Service at St Mary's followed by afternoon tea
- 6.30pm – Prayers to End the Day on Facebook

The Bible reading for our morning service will be Mark 5:21-43 (p816 of the pew Bibles) and for our afternoon service, Matthew 6:25-34 (p787 of the pew Bibles).

***Open-air service*** - St Mary's, Elmeſthorpe, this Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 4pm followed by an afternoon tea.

Just a reminder that this Sunday is our open-air service at St Mary's, taking place in the churchyard, followed by an afternoon tea. We hope that you can join us along with family and friends. The service will be suitable for all ages and will last about half-an-hour. Seating will be provided for those who need it. The afternoon tea will be served in the courtyard and the church. Hopefully, the sun will be shining but if the weather is poor, we will hold the service in the church. There will be no 9.15am service this Sunday.

***Elmeſthorpe Friends Food and Flowers Initiative*** will be holding their next coffee morning on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 10.00am - 11.30am at Elmeſthorpe Village Hall, raising money for the church and other charities. Theme: Nursery Rhyme Revival! Bring memories of your childhood favourite rhymes! Be prepared for silly games and activities! There will also be a special raffle as part of our support of Macmillan Cancer Research. Donations always welcome for local food banks.

At the coffee morning the ***St Mary's Subscription Draw*** will take place.

***SS&SJ Celebration Tea*** – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 4pm in SS&SJ Parish Hall to thank Barbara Bowley and David Hall for their time serving as churchwardens. Please sign up on the list in both churches or contact the church office if you would like to attend, as that will help with catering requirements.

***Sunday Club*** - Join Catherine and Siobhan in SS&SJ church hall on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 10.30am – 12 noon, for games, craft, Bible-teaching and fun! All children welcome. Do ask for more information!!

***SS&SJ School open dates*** - Does your child start school in 2026?

Please come and visit our school, see our EYFS classroom and meet our staff. Open Evening - Tuesday 30 September, 4.00pm-5.00pm; Open Morning - Wednesday 1 October, 10.00am-11.00am.

***Harvest Festival*** – Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October. If you can contribute, please bring harvest gifts to church on 5<sup>th</sup> October. At St Mary's, the gifts will be distributed to The Salvation Army, The Hinckley Area Food Bank and individuals locally. At SS&SJ, the gifts will be distributed to Lawrence House in Hinckley and others who live locally.

Please consider supporting the work of Christian Aid. At both churches, loose money on the collection plate/box, will be given to the work of Christian Aid. If you want to give online and/or find out more about their harvest appeal, please visit: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/harvest-appeal>

***Sing for Worship*** – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 11.00 for 11.15 start at SS&SJ. All are welcome to come and learn some new songs.

***Hall Management Team*** - Shaun Cobb has taken over from David Hall in overseeing the Parish Hall. Mitch Irving and Laura Ward have also stepped back from being on the Hall Committee. We are therefore in need of people to be part of a new Hall Management Team who will support Shaun in the following:

- Overseeing the management of the hall and highlighting issues to the PCC.
- Showing potential hirers round and approving requests.

- Seeking quotes for repairs and making sure those repairs are carried out.
- Reviewing hire fees for the PCC to approve annually.
- Ensuring up to date info on website.
- Advertising the Parish Hall.

If you could help then please speak to Shaun, Barbara Bowley (who for the moment is continuing on the team) or Martin.

***Ratby Daytime Band Concert in SS&SJ Church*** - Wednesday 15th October, 12.30pm start. Free entrance but donations will be received at the end. All monies raised will be split between the band and the church. A light lunch of soup and a roll will be served at 11.45am with light refreshments being served at the interval. Again, donations welcome.

***The Ark Café*** - Every Tuesday, 3pm to 4.30pm at Earl Shilton Methodist Church. Family friendly. A place to chat, relax and meet friends. Tea, coffee and refreshments served.

***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.

***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.

***Please pray:***

- For Shaun Cobb as he oversees the management of the Parish Hall.
- For the cell group leaders who lead the weekly fellowship groups – Glynis, Rose, Shaun, and Robert and Jean.
- That the Outdoor Service and afternoon tea on Sunday at St Mary's at 4pm will be joyful and that many will come along to it.

***Contacting us –***

- For general church enquiries please contact Beth Evans in the Church Office on 01455 843961 or [parishchurch@gmx.co.uk](mailto: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:***

Merciful God,  
your Son came to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross:  
may we trust in your mercy  
and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

***Bible verse of the month to learn:***

*'No temptation has seized you except what is common to everyone. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted he will also provide a way out so you can stand up under it.'* 1 Corinthians 10 v 13