

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

Services this coming Sunday, 11th January:

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

The Bible readings for our morning services will be Isaiah 42 v 1-9 (p584 of the pew Bibles) and Matthew 3 v 13-end (p784 of the pew Bibles).

Minster Communities Evening – NEW TIME!!! Wednesday 14th January 2025 at St John's in Hinckley, 7.30pm with refreshments available from 7.15pm. Everyone is invited to this next Minster Communities Evening where the Bishop of Leicester will be attending to answer questions about where we have got to, and how the Hinckley and Bosworth Parishes ('the blue area') go from here to form a minster community.

PCC meetings –

- There will be a meeting of St Mary's PCC (Church Council) on Tuesday 13th January 2026. If you have comments on the life of the church for the PCC please speak to one of the PCC members who are Martin Castle, Carol Brown, David Elliott, Nigel Jackson, Margaret Knight, Anne Loveday, Gill Newell and Di Tingay.
- There will be a meeting of St Simon & St Jude PCC (Church Council) on the 19th January 2026. If you have any comments on the life of the church for the PCC please speak to one of the PCC members who are: Martin Castle, Rob Allen, Barbara Bowley, Shaun Cobb, David Hall, Mitch Irving, Catherine Leach, Elizabeth Nteogwuija, Jean Styles, Robert Styles and Laura Ward.

United service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18th January, 10.30am. Every year Barwell and Earl Shilton Churches Together hold a united service to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The churches take it in turns to host the service and all churches attend. This year the service is being hosted at **St Mary's Church, Barwell**. It's a great opportunity to spend time together in worship, prayer and fellowship as a wider church family. **N.B. There will be NO services at St Mary's or SS&SJ on this day.** Do come and join us at St Mary's, Barwell, instead.

Sunday Club - Join Catherine and Siobhan in SS&SJ church hall on Sunday 25th January, 10.30am – 12 noon, for games, craft, Bible-teaching and fun! All children welcome. Do ask for more information!!

Elmeſthorpe Friends Food and Flowers Initiative will be holding their next coffee morning on Saturday 31st January, 10.00am - 11.30am at Elmeſthorpe Village Hall, raising money for the church and other charities. Theme: Burns Night Bingo! Wear something tartan! Donations always welcome for local food banks. For more information, please contact Richard Coleburne 846534 or Jenny Orton 840787.

At the coffee morning the ***St Mary's Subscription Draw*** will take place. Here are the results of the latest Saint Mary's Church Elmeſthorpe Subscription Club, held 20th December 2025: first prize £40 number 25, second prize £25 number 1, third prize £15 number 152, fourth prize £10 number 163, fifth prize £10 number 181.

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 the PCC meetings happening this week and next, that God will guide the plans and futures of the churches.

- for the Week of prayer for Christian Unity which starts on 18th January, that God will draw us closer together as an international family of sisters and brothers in Christ.

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:

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

Bible verse of the month to learn:

'When [the Wise Men] saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy'. Matthew 2 v 10

If you would like to donate to either of our churches, you can do so using these QR codes:

**St Simon &
St Jude's:**



St Mary's:

