

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

Services this coming Sunday, 1st March:

- 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 Luke 4 v 1-15 (p835 of the pew Bibles).

During our Sunday services in Lent we are going to be looking at some of the names that have been given to Jesus to describe the meaning of his death on the cross and what he achieved for us. If you would like to explore these further, why not join a cell group, even just for Lent?

All-age worship at SS&SJ – If you or your child are interested in taking part at our all-age services at SS&SJ, please send your contact details to Beth in the church office (even if you have been involved before as we are revising our contact list).

MAFIA quiz - The next MAFIA quiz, (that's *Men And Faith In Action*) will be on the Wednesday 4th March. Yes, that's Wednesday 4th March (normally it's on a Thursday)! We will be competing as a team together doing the in-house quiz. We will be meeting at 6pm if you want a meal; the quiz starts at 8pm.

World Day of Prayer - Friday 6th March at 6.30pm at St Peter and St Paul Church, Melton Street, Earl Shilton. All are welcome to attend this united service.

PCC meeting – There will be a meeting of St Simon & St Jude PCC (Church Council) on 16th March 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: Revd. Martin Castle, Rob Allen, Barbara Bowley, Shaun Cobb, David Hall, Mitch Irving, Catherine Leach, Elizabeth Nteogwuija, Jean Styles, Robert Styles and Laura Ward.

Hinckley Area Food Bank Lent Appeals – Are you able to give up 40p per day for 40 days and donate the money to food bank to help people in need? Are you able to donate some chocolate or Easter eggs to spread a bit of joy this Easter? Please see the posters in church for more information.

The Great Tommy Sleep Out - Every night, thousands of veterans right here in the UK are facing the harsh reality of sleeping rough. This March, Poppy Watsham is taking part in The Great Tommy Sleep Out, swapping the comfort of her bed for sleeping under the stars with just a sleeping bag to keep her warm, to raise money for Royal British Veterans Enterprise (RBVE), helping provide safe homes, mental health support, employment opportunities, and a community of veterans who support each other. If you would like to sponsor Poppy, please go to <https://socialsync.app/fundraiser/cr-ox8jzw0pd64zw> .

Please pray:

- for our all-age worship services, that we learn together and get excited about what it means to follow Jesus.
- for Bishop Martyn and Bishop Saju in their leadership of the Diocese.

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:

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of
Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible verse of the month to learn:

'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions'. Luke 12 v 15