

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

Services this coming Sunday, 15th February:

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

The Bible reading for our morning services will Matthew 4 v 18-25 (p785 of the pew Bibles).

Ash Wednesday – There will be a service of Holy Communion on Wednesday 18th February, 7.30pm at SS&SJ Church. All are welcome to attend.

Mix & Mingle - Friday 20th February, 12.00pm for lunch at The Longshoot. Please sign up in church by 15th February to reserve your table. Why not bring a friend?

Sunday Club - Join Catherine and Siobhan in SS&SJ Church Hall on Sunday 22nd February, 10.30am – 12 noon, for games, craft, Bible-teaching and fun! All children welcome. Do ask for more information!!

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. If you would be willing to read on behalf of St Mary's, please contact Beth in the church office. The reader would also need to attend the rehearsal on Thursday 5th March at 7.30pm.

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.

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).

Going the Distance - 22nd April, 7.30pm at One Church, Leicester, LE3 5AG. This event is an opportunity for couples to explore simple and effective ways to strengthen their relationship and stay intentional about choosing each other when life crowds in. There will be plenty of humour involved and it is suitable for couples at any stage of their relationship. For more information, go to cff.org.uk/goingthedistance .

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> .

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. **N.B. Prayers to start the day will not take place on 16th or 18th February.**

Please pray:

- that SS&SJ will, with God's guidance, be able to discern the right person to be appointed to the children, young people and families worker post, and that there will be a strong field of candidates.
- for teachers and children that they will be able to get rest during half-term week and return to school refreshed; for patience for parents and carers with young children.

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:

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Bible verse of the month to learn:

'I can do all things through him who strengthens me'.
Philippians 4 v 13.

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:

