

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

### **Services this coming Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February:**

- 9.15am – Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 10.45am – Holy Communion at SS&SJ

The Bible readings for our morning services will Romans 5 v 12-19 (p917 of the pew Bibles) and Matthew 4 v 1-11 (p785 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?

**Sunday Club** - Join Catherine and Siobhan in SS&SJ Church Hall on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm at St Peter and St Paul Church, Melton Street, Earl Shilton. All are welcome to attend this united service.

**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](http://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.

### **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.
- for the safety and protection of all individuals and communities affected by the cyclone in Madagascar; for strength for those involved in recovery and support, and for Mercy Ship's partners, patients and crew in the area.

### **Prayer for the week:**

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love 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.*

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