

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

### **Services this coming Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> March:**

- 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 Exodus 12 v 1-13 (p51 of the pew Bibles) and John 1 v 29-34 (p862 of the pew Bibles).

Next week (Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March) we will be celebrating **Mothering Sunday** in our morning worship services – do join us.

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?

### **PCC meetings –**

- There will be a meeting of St Mary's PCC (Church Council) on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 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, Ann Loveday, Gill Newell and Di Tingay.
- There will be a meeting of St Simon & St Jude PCC (Church Council) on 16<sup>th</sup> 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 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> .

**Elmeſthorpe Friends Food and Flowers Initiative** will be holding their next coffee morning on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00am - 11.30am at Elmeſthorpe Village Hall, raising money for the church and other charities. Theme: "Early Easter Experience" - think chocolate, eat chocolate! Games and activities involving chocolate (other alternatives are available!)! All Welcome! Donations always welcome for local food banks.

At the coffee morning the **St Mary's Subscription Draw** will take place. The results of our latest draw: first prize £40 number 164, second prize £25 number 11, third prize £15 number 157, fourth prize £10 number 180, fifth prize £10 number 13.

**Easter bring-and-share tea** – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 3.30pm in SS&SJ Church Hall. There will be crafts for children and adults, music, poetry and a short reflection. Please sign up in church - closing date 29<sup>th</sup> March.

**SS&SJ Easter flowers** - If anyone one would like to donate towards the lilies which will be put on the altar for Easter in memory of a loved one, please see Barbara.

**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 appointment of a Children, Young People and Families Worker following the recent interview day.
- that the war in the Middle East will not escalate and that God will redeem the conflict to bring lasting peace, justice, trust and harmony to the region.

**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:**

Eternal God,  
give us insight  
to discern your will for us,  
to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection we are promised  
in 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*

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:

