

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

Services this coming Sunday, 5th April, Easter Day:

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

The Bible reading for our morning services will be Matthew 28 v 1-10 (p811 of the pew Bibles).

Services on Sunday 12th April:

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

The Bible readings for our morning services will be 1 Peter 1 v 3-12 (p985 of the pew Bibles) and John 20 v 19-31 (p883 of the pew Bibles). There will be no prayers to end the day on Facebook.

Induction service – Phil Evans' induction service will be on Sunday 19th April at 4pm at LBC Earl Shilton (the Baptist church). We are all invited and food and refreshments will be served afterwards. It would be great if as many of us as possible could attend to support Phil and Beth and LBC. Please pray for them as they begin this new stage of ministry.

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

Elmesthorpe Friends Food and Flowers Initiative will be holding their next coffee morning on Saturday 25th April, 10.00am - 11.30am at Elmesthorpe Village Hall, raising money for the church and other charities. Theme: celebrating Shakespeare's birthday. Bring your favourite poem. All Welcome!

At the coffee morning the **St Mary's Subscription Draw** will take place. The results of our latest draw: first prize £40 number 153, second prize £25 number 185, third prize £15 number 54, fourth prize £10 number 154, fifth prize £10 number 2.

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. There will be no prayers to start the day 6th – 13th April.**

Please pray:

- that we may witness to the death of our Lord Jesus Christ through Holy Week, and especially the walk of witness and service on Good Friday, and that we may lift our voices in praise on Easter Sunday.
- for the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, that the war will soon end and that there will be a lasting understanding between people and nations leading to long term justice and peace.

Contacting us –

- For general church enquiries please contact Beth Evans in the Church Office on 01455 843961 or parishchurch@gmx.co.uk . The church office is closed until 13th April.
- For pastoral matters or if you need to speak to a church minister,
 - before 6th April - please contact Martin Castle on 07759 002660.
 - from 6th to 14th April – please contact David Jennings on 01455 698805 or on 07710 205582.

Prayer for the week:

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Bible verse of the month to learn:

'Through Jesus, God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.' Colossians 1 v 20