Thurcaston with Cropston and Anstey

Heart & Soul

of our community

November 2026



All Saints' Church
Thurcaston

St Mary's Church
Anstey

Anstey, Cropston, Thurcaston - KEY CONTACTS

Rector	Rev Matthew Gough	07754 961 997
		revgough@gmail.com
Associate Ministers	Ian Dutton	0116 221 3786
	Clare Gough	claregough@yahoo.co.uk

All Saints' Church, Thurcaston with Cropston

Church Warden	Vacant	
Church Admin	Jane Westby	0116 235 2226
		mowestby@virginmedia.com
Organist & Choir Master	David Evans	07733 243 383
PCC Secretary	Douglas Gilmour	0116 236 2503
PCC Treasurer	Felicity Wigg	fliss.wigg@hotmail.co.uk
Captain of Bellringers	Peter Hunt	0116 235 9601
Harrison Room bookings	Jane Lacey	harrisonroomsbookings@gmail.com

St Mary's Church, Anstey

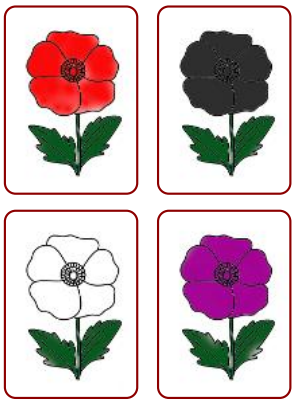
Church Warden	Marian Driver	0116 348 1587
PCC Secretary	Pat Henderson	0116 221 5981
PCC Treasurer & Stewardship Secretary	Janet Collins	07749 655 618 (*Txt messages only)*
Verger	Paula Hayward	0116 367 8563 or 07584 254 729
Bellringers	Marion Pegge	07971 170 471
Pastoral Assistant	Helen Nightingale	ansteypastoralcare@gmail.com
Music	Harvey Nightingale	
Church Room bookings		Stmaryschurchrooms@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: **@asthurcastonwc @stmarysanstey**

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 8 November will see the annual Remembrance Sunday Service at All Saint's Church, Thurcaston at 10am, followed by the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial Cross.

A time to reflect on the past, learn for the present, and hope for the future.



All Saints' and St Mary's exist for the whole community - not just people who go to church on Sundays!

Get in touch with the Rector or Church Wardens (contact details on left) if you'd like to discuss baptisms or weddings, or Holy Communion for anyone who's unable to attend church. Alternatively, visit our websites for further information about events, activities, services:

All Saints' Thurcaston with Cropston

St Mary's Anstey

stmarysandallsaints.co.uk

Content deadline for December's Heart & Soul: Friday 20 November.

heartandsoulnews@gmail.com

Useful Addresses

All Saints' Church / **Harrison Room**,
Anstey Lane, Thurcaston LE7 7JA.

Anstey Library, Paper Mill Close, Anstey LE7 7AU.

Cropston Evangelical Free Church (**CEFC**),
Station Road, Cropston LE7 7HD.

Jubilee Hall, Stadon Road, Anstey LE7 7AY.

Methodist Church, Cropston Road, Anstey LE4 7BP.

St Mary's Church / Church Rooms,
Church Lane, Anstey LE7 7AF.

Thurcaston Memorial Hall, Anstey Lane, Thurcaston LE7 7JA.

7 Up & God

"Give me a child until he is 7 and I will show you the man" - the Jesuit saying which has been presented alongside the body of people growing up with us since 1964 when they first appeared on our tv screens aged 7.

I first came across the wonderful 7-Up ITV documentary at school in 1986 where we caught up with the children aged 28. Now it is over as the group are now aged 70 and they felt it the appropriate time to stop with three of the participants having died, including the original creator and director Michael Apted.

I would encourage anyone to access ITV Catch Up on the internet or smart TV to connect with this profound and deeply moving series.

What started out as Michael Apted's vision to contrast social class, wealth and opportunities in late 20th Century Britain evolved into something more powerful and engaging than political or social commentary.

Whilst it was true that the children from the most privileged families had more opportunities, the greatest happiness and character of each of the participants shone through.

Some of the loneliest and painfully sad children at 7, whether from boarding school or care homes, were alone and estranged from families. It was emotional seeing them find happiness through building families, belonging and purpose.

One of the most tumultuous lives was Neil, a bright, bubbly and engaging child who at 21 sadly became homeless and was clearly unravelling: isolated in poverty and very mentally unwell at 35.

Then by the time the series caught up with him at 42 he had found God and was serving as a reader in his local church, and then enjoyed stability and meaning through his faith and community activism.

7 -up teaches us so much about humanity and the resilience of the human capacity to flourish despite setbacks and hardships.

It moves us beyond the lens of socio-economic factors and offers recovery, redemption and hope.

It offers the gospel message that no matter how far we stray, fail or struggle, there is always an open door and invitation to know a God who walks alongside in our suffering and our joys.

From 7-Up to 70 Up, the Jesuit saying is worth challenging. Our circumstance transcends material comfort and prosperity.

Wherever we find ourselves in life, where there is love, there is life - and look carefully, God may be there holding out a hand too.

Rev Matthew

Harvest Festival

I was pleased to attend the Harvest assembly at Latimer Primary School recently and talk to the children about the Food bank in Anstey. I was able to thank them for all their gifts and to explain how useful their donations would be.

At the Harvest Festival service at St Mary's, we gave thanks for the donations from the congregation and also from the Little Gems nursery based in Church rooms.

All the donations were taken over to the Soar Valley Community Food Project based in Mountsorrel Baptist Church. This is where food parcels are made up to satisfy the eight village food banks in Leicestershire.

After our Harvest All Age service at St Mary's we sat down in Church Rooms and enjoyed a wonderful shared Harvest Lunch.

Many thanks to Anstey Town Charity, Anstey Parish Council, our volunteers and the wonderful individuals who regularly bring donations to the food bank to help those in need.

Marian



Many thanks to Jane L, Jenny, Angela, Rosemary and the Bells team as well as to Dave Hadden and his Garden Club friends for the beautiful decoration of the Church.



It has not been an easy year for farmers or gardeners and many crops have either failed or been very much reduced in quantity. However, this did not deter those who put together a wonderful display of flowers, fruit and vegetables.

Richard Hill School then came for their service and added to the array of goodies destined for the Soar Valley Food Bank, with fresh produce going to the Carpenter's Arms in Loughborough. Thank you everyone for all your hard work.

Jane



From the registers

Funeral

Friday 2 October
Elsie Liepins of Anstey at Gilroes Crematorium

Wedding

Saturday 24 October
Annie Hollis and Alee Alvarez of Thurcaston at All Saints' Church

November Readings

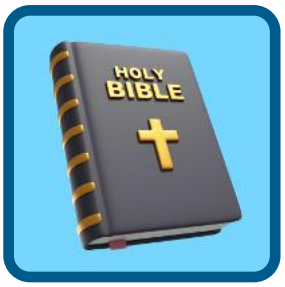
Sunday 1 November
All Saints Day, Gold
Revelation 7, 9-end
Matthew 5, 1-12

Sunday 8 November
Remembrance, Red
Micah 4, 1-5
John 15, 9-17

Sunday 15 November
Safeguarding Sunday, 2nd before Advent
Zephaniah 1.7, 12-18
Matthew 25, 14-30

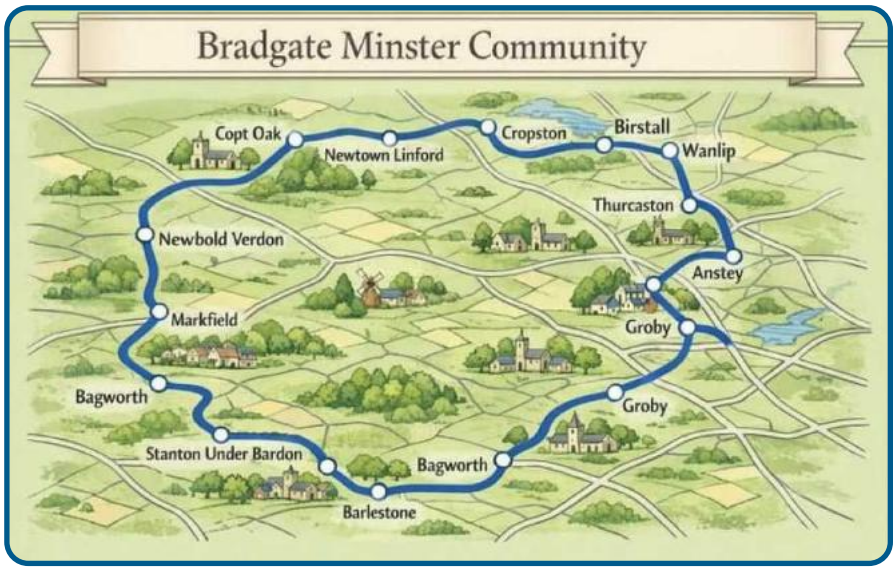
Sunday 22 November
Christ the King, Red
Ezekiel 34, 11-16; 20-24
Matthew 25, 31-46

Sunday 29 November
Advent 1, Purple Year B
Isaiah 64, 1-9
Mark 13, 24-37





Minster Communities



As we move closer to formalising our Bradgate Minister Community, I hope that you may take the opportunity to visit the different parishes possibly on a Sunday morning for worship or take a meander round the respective village.

The attached graphic is cute but, as with lots of AI generation, riddled with errors. Can you spot duplicate villages? Also, missing is Ratby, Kirby Mallory and Thornton.

We have set up a new Facebook Group which has the above image, so search for 'Bradgate Minster Community' and join as we try to build common ground.

Several parishes have not fully engaged and some people have put their hand in the sand.

Sadly in this scenario, a vacuum is created and filled with sterile suspicions about finances and pessimism.

None of us control the future in terms of money. Prospects fluctuate. In a climate of cutting clergy numbers, the Diocese has just announced funding of ten new posts.

Circumstances change, but what is more interesting and creative than financial scarcity are the relationships and people whom we will meet and work across the different parishes.

We have enjoyed welcoming visitors from Groby, Wanlip and Birstall to our parishes and I am sure you will receive a welcome if you reciprocate.

We need to build more exchanges with the outer parishes such as Birstall and Newbold Verdon. If you fancy a change, please do report back.

We have much to learn from each other as we share good practice, skills and faith.

I hope that you may catch the enthusiasm for this venture and enjoy the inherent mission field to be ploughed together, from new estates, to schools to lunch clubs, music and youth groups-as church, we are best when we are open, trusting and bold.

Rev Matthew

Little Big Band at All Saints'



Over the recent years All Saints' Church has hosted many musical concerts which are always well attended and enjoyed. This autumn it was the turn of a new act to play at All Saints' for the first time – the Little Big Band which is led by Eileen Molesworth, who many of you will know from the music groups at both All Saints' and St Mary's.

The Little Big Band has been going for many years, it plays regularly at local church halls and care homes and always raised money for Action for Children, a charity which supports over half a million children, young people and their families in the UK every year.

The nine members of the band were delighted to have the opportunity to play at the All Saints' Autumn Concert this year and the audience were able to sing-a-long to classics by the Beatles, Dolly Parton and John Denver, amongst others.

The total amount raised on the night was £580 and the proceeds will be split 50-50 between All Saints' Church and Action for Children.

All Saints' 200 Club - September winners

200
All Saints 200 Club
Thurcaston

1st **John Fennell**
2nd **Diana Green**
3rd **Maggie Preston**

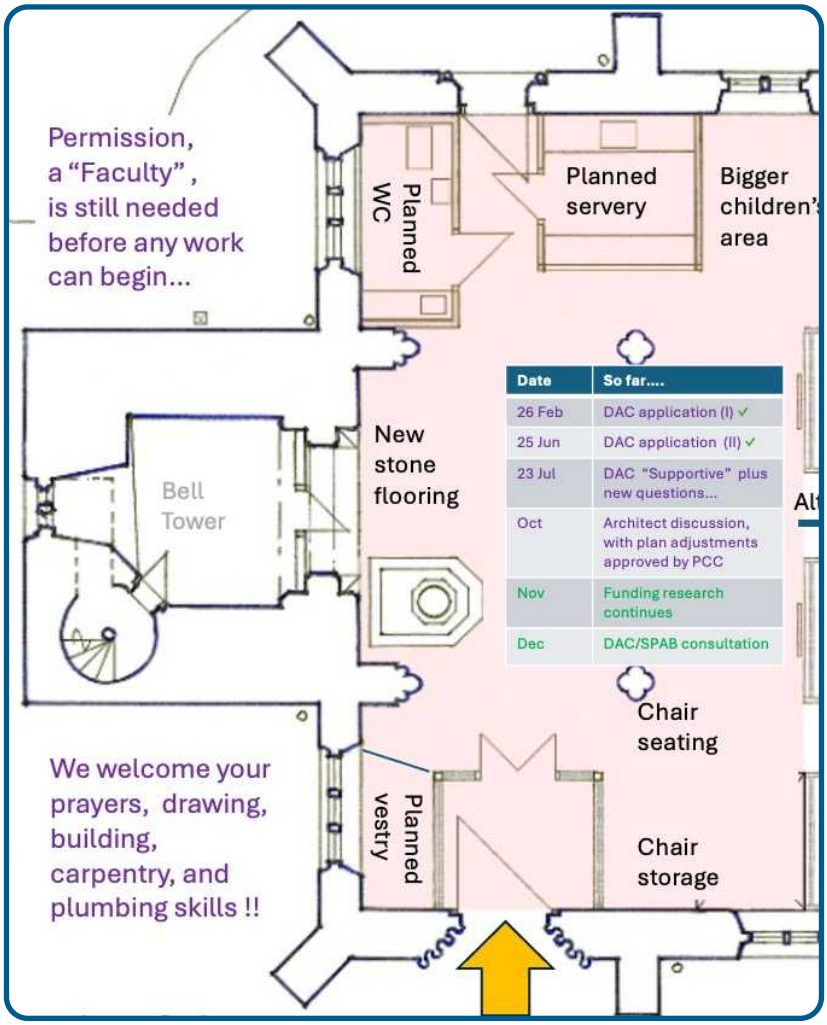
It's never too late to join. Call Jane Westby for details: 0116 235 2226 or email: mowestby@virginmedia.com

St Mary's building update

The community needs an accessible and flexible church building that preserves its heritage, while also being a useful, accessible, popular and sustainable building.

However, we need a Faculty (the Chancellor at the Diocese's permission to change things) before we can proceed further. This process is managed by the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) who pre-approve applications.

A Faculty is applied for through a Statement of Significance (what we are impacting which might need protecting), and a Statement of Need (how and why we feel the need to make changes). See attached image of proposed changes.



Both of these statements (available on request) have been submitted to the DAC twice this year, in February and June, and each time they've improved our case for the Faculty approval.

Before a Faculty is granted by the Chancellor we also have to respond to questions raised by a variety of regulatory bodies such as:

- Historic England
- Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB)
- Victorian Society

Furthermore, we also need funding, and to make matters more challenging, some of it is required before we can even start work.

Examples are professional fees, and some funding sources require the aforementioned Faculty before we can apply.

How you can help

If you have any experience of fund raising, carpentry, plumbing, building, drawing, illustration, or any other aspect of church development projects, please contact Ged Moss on 07471 081 859 gedgmoss@aol.com

Local cinema

Anstey

Enjoy a friendly, relaxing hour or two with good company in Anstey Community Library every Wednesday afternoon at 2pm. Films are shown on a new large screen TV with surround sound.

Entrance price is just £3, which includes cake and a drink. Films are chosen on a weekly basis, so we're unable to provide details in advance - visit the website ansteylibrary.com or pop into the library for further information.

Thurcaston

Friday 11 November: 'H is for Hawk' (running time 114 minutes).

Our November biographical film is a true story, starring Brendan Gleeson and Claire Foy who give truly authentic performances. In the aftermath of her father's death, a grieving daughter, Helen, adopts and trains a northern goshawk called Mabel. This is a deeply human and inspiring drama: an intimate journey of resilience and healing, set in the rich, yet peaceful, fenlands of England.

Friday 11 December: 'Scrooged' (running time 101 minutes).

Our December film is a Christmas fantasy comedy starring Bill Murray. It's a modern adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic, 'A Christmas Carol'. Frank, as a cold-hearted TV producer, is entirely consumed with making an extravagant live broadcast, with the intention of spreading exaggerated information to scare people. This mean and ruthless TV executive is haunted three times by ghosts. Finally, we see Frank learn and understand many lessons on the true meaning of Christmas.

Thurcaston and Cropston Parish Council will be showing these two films in Thurcaston Memorial Hall, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6, which includes a lucky prize draw and wine or fruit juice during the interval.

You can pay for your tickets at the door, if there are any left, or buy in advance from Diana (0116 2362 619), Sylvia (0116 2352 873) or the Parish Office (0116 2367 626).

Thurcaston & Cropston Gardening Club

"Mares-tail or Field Horse tail... I'm sure you have some in your garden somewhere, after all it's been on the planet for 400 million years, predating the dinosaurs. There are three ways of removing it: beat it with a cane to break its shiny coating and then use weedkiller (not recommended); be persistent, pull it out every time you see a shoot (not recommended unless you have two years to spare); or MOVE HOUSE!"

This was the delightful introduction to Samantha Hopes' 'Plants with Stories' talk at our October meeting. She regaled us with lots of stories, looking at plants in history, plant hunters' favourites, record breakers, edibles, and poisonous plants.

Her talk looked at some of the most ancient plants, like Gingko Biloba 270 million years on the planet and so adapted to pollution that specimens survived Hiroshima.

Her plant hunter selection included some of the most famous Victorian explorers, many like Reginald John Farrar 1880 -1920, who travelled to China, Tibet and Burma hunting specimens, dying aged 40 searching for rhododendrons. Or Henry Wilson 1876 -1930 searching for the Lilium Regale by collecting 6,000 bulbs.

Record breakers included the wisteria as the largest blossoming plant, the Australian underwater ribbon weed, the largest single plant covering 77 square miles, and the coastal redwood at 116 metres tall and living for thousands of years.

In the 1620's tulips bulbs sold for huge sums, and now some rare snowdrops demand high prices – 'Golden Tears' selling for £1,850.

Finally, Samantha warned us about the poisonous specimens of aconite or monkshood, and the delightful edibles… Dahlia tubers anyone?

Before moving into horticulture, working at some of the country's most prestigious gardens including RHS Wisley, Great Dixter, and Ashwood Nursery, Samantha was a geologist. She told us that she enjoys giving groups talks as it gives her the opportunity to combine both her areas of expertise; geology and her love of plants.

The Gardening Club meets in the Thurcaston and Cropston Memorial Hall. New members are made most welcome. Membership is £15 for the year (pro rota) or £3 per meeting.

For more information, contact:

Dave Haddon 0116 235 9758
david.haddon22@gmail.com

Richard Elks 0116 236 8313
cropston161@hotmail.co.uk

Forthcoming Club events:

Wed 11 November: Colour in the Winter Garden (Alison Levey)

Thurcaston and Cropston Local History Society

It is nearly 40 years since the Kegworth Air Disaster, when a British Midland passenger plane missed its approach to East Midlands Airport and crashed onto the M1. That is surely long enough to give a historical perspective and at our October meeting we were taken through the event and its aftermath by Alan Parker, who was the Chief Ambulance Officer in charge of the operation.

On Sunday 8 January 1989 Alan received a call that a plane was approaching the airport with an engine on fire. He made his way to the Service's control room in Narborough and it quickly became clear that this was a major incident. It seems that the captain had shut down the wrong engine so that when he attempted his emergency landing, the plane lost all power. It caught the near embankment with its tail before running up the far embankment and breaking into three pieces. Though a fuel tank ruptured, amazingly it did not catch fire, nor was anyone hurt on the motorway.

A plan was in place for the possibility of a crash at East Midlands Airport but it assumed the damaged plane would be on the airfield and casualties would be taken to the terminal for assessment.

Instead, Alan made the decision to evacuate casualties directly to hospitals in Nottingham and Derby. The first of the 75 ambulances reached Derby Royal Infirmary just 40 minutes after the crash.

The RAF sent three helicopters, which were used to ferry other casualties to Leicester Royal Infirmary. Firefighters and medics entered the wrecked plane at great personal risk, and chains of police and motorists conveyed them on stretchers to the ground. Mines rescue teams provided lighting, AA patrolmen dug steps in the embankment, and the Salvation Army gave support to victims.

Alan showed us video recorded at the noisy and crowded scene but at the time his only communication with the site was via telephone. Sadly 39 people died in the crash but remarkably 82 survived, albeit with injuries of varying severity. Analysis of the many fractures resulted in a better brace position being adopted to avoid damage to flailing limbs in the event of a crash. If a similar event were to occur today, there would be improved sensors on the aircraft, better medical equipment to treat survivors at the scene and better communications with the control room. The talk stirred many memories of the disaster among our members and visitors, whether they remember hearing the sirens, or were more directly involved through their work with medical or social services or with local councils.

For something completely different to end this year's programme, on Tuesday 17 November we will hold a short AGM, followed by a talk from Bishop Peter Fox about the history of magic – with demonstrations! Visitors are always welcome. The fee is £4.

thurcastoncropstonhistory.org.uk

Art Classes

with Liz Dowding Artist

Thursday evenings 6-8pm
November 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

Do you have a picture or photo that you really want to try and paint for yourself?

Bring along your own reference and receive full tuition as to how to recreate it from sketch to painting, most equipment supplied.

Places limited to 10, ensuring tuition time for all

Cost - £40.00 for all four or £12 per week

All Saints' Church, Thurcaston with Cropston, Anstey Lane, LE7 7JA

Liz Dowding
Tel. 07885 729549
lizdowdingartist@gmail.com
Facebook - Liz Dowding Artist
Instagram liz_dowding_artist

Tales from the Churchyard



As you come into the churchyard from Bradgate Road steps, there is a broken gravestone lying face down, on the left-hand side of the path.

Many people pass by every day, not realising that this is the grave of a man who was very influential in Anstey's history.

It is the grave of Albion Albert Chard, the first headmaster of Anstey Bradgate Road Board School (born 17 December 1843 in Wells, Somerset, died 1885 aged 42)

In 1861, Albion was at Worcester College as a 'student in training for the profession of an elementary teacher.' In 1865 he married Julia Robbins from Devon, who in 1861 was working as an unqualified assistant teacher at the Cathedral School in Wells and this is probably how they met.

They married in Hammersmith where Albion was a schoolmaster and by 1871 Albion, Julia and their daughter Lilian had moved to Tansley in Derbyshire so that Albion could take up another teaching role.

Living with them was Albion's sister Emma, also a teacher. Emma never married and lived with Albion's family all her life, continuing to do so even after her brother's death.

In 1874 Albion was appointed headmaster of the brand new Bradgate Road Board School in Anstey. His sister Emma was appointed as an assistant teacher. Albion received a salary of £110 per year and Emma £65.

Although Julia wasn't qualified, she was needed to teach at the school as there were so many children wanting places.

Julia, Emma and children Lilian, Effie and Minnie moved to 15 Albion Street; the street that had been named in Albion's honour. Emma continued to teach at the school.

In 1890, Julia, who was known as 'Widow Chard' set up a private school at the back of the house.

Children paid 1/- a week to attend, meaning only the rich would have been able to afford to attend. It closed about 1904.

The family moved from Anstey to Leicester at the beginning of the 20th century and the three daughters all became teachers and remained unmarried.



Miss Chard the Headmistress and her Infants class at the Bradgate Road School - Circa 1906

Courtesy of Irene Hurst
Anstey Millennium Collection No.4[illegible]

Celebrating #ChristmasinAnstey with local schools, groups & businesses showing off their best designs



Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday December 5th 10am-6pm

St Mary's Anstey Parish Church

Singing in the Trees with Latimer School Choir 4pm

All Welcome Free Admission

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 1

9.15am Breakfast at All Saints' Church

9.30am Morning Praise (All Saints' Church)

10.30am Refreshments (St Mary's Church)

11am Holy Communion (St Mary's Church)

11am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

6.30pm Taize Service (St Mary's Church)

6.30pm Patronal festival Choral Evensong (All Saints' Church)

Monday 2

11am Bible Study (CEFC)

1.15pm RVS Dementia Cafe (Jubilee Hall)

Tuesday 3

10am Food Bank (Church Rooms)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

Wednesday 4

9.30am Communions (St Mary's Church)

2pm Wednesday Film Show (Anstey Library)

2pm Wednesday Hub (Harrison Room)

Thursday 5

6pm Art Classes with Liz Dowding (Harrison Room)

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

Friday 6

9.15am Coffee Morning (Church Rooms)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

Sunday 8

9.30am Roll call (St Mary's Church)

10am Remembrance Service (All Saints' Church)

10.40am Parade from St Mary's Church to War Memorial

11am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

Monday 9

2.15pm Monday Club (CEFC)

Tuesday 10

10am Food Bank (Church Rooms)

10.30am Anstey Musical Memory Box (Jubilee Hall)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

Wednesday 11

9.30am Communions (St Mary's Church)

2pm Wednesday Film Show (Anstey Library)

2pm Wednesday Hub (Harrison Room)

7.45pm Thurcaston and Cropston Gardening Club (Memorial Hall)

Thursday 12

6pm Art Classes with Liz Dowding (Harrison Room)

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

Friday 13

9.15am Coffee Morning (Church Room)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

Sunday 15

9.30am Prayer Book Communion (All Saints' Church)

10.30am Refreshments (St Mary's Church)

11am Holy Communion (St Mary's Church)

11am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

8pm Compline Night Prayer (All Saints' Church)

Monday 16

11am Prayer Meeting (CEFC)

1.15pm RVS Dementia Cafe (Jubilee Hall)

Tuesday 17

10am Food Bank (Church Rooms)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

7.30pm Thurcaston & Cropston Local History Society (Memorial Hall)

Wednesday 18

9.30am Communions (St Mary's Church)

12.30pm Newtown Linford Ladies' Lunch Club (page 22)

2pm Wednesday Film Show (Anstey Library)

2pm Wednesday Hub (Harrison Room)

7pm Anstey Local History Society (Jubilee Hall)

Thursday 19

6pm Art Classes with Liz Dowding (Harrison Room)

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

7pm Anstey Local History Society (Jubilee Hall)

Friday 20

9.15am Coffee Morning (Church Room)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

Sunday 22

9.30am Holy Communion (All Saints' Church)

10.30am Refreshments (St Mary's Church)

11am Fresh Morning Praise (St Mary's Church)

11am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

Tuesday 24

10am Food Bank (Church Rooms)

10.30am Anstey Musical Memory Box (Jubilee Hall)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

Wednesday 25

9.30am Communions (St Mary's Church)

2pm Wednesday Film Show (Anstey Library)

2pm Wednesday Hub (Harrison Room)

Thursday 26

6pm Art Classes with Liz Dowding (Harrison Room)

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

Friday 27

9.15am Coffee Morning (Church Room)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

2pm Tea & Crafts (Church Rooms)

Saturday 28

2pm Winter Fair (All Saints' Church)

Sunday 29

10.30am Refreshments (St Mary's Church)

11am Joint Benefice Choral Eucharist (St Mary's Church)

11am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

November Services - All Saints' Thurcaston

Sunday 1st

9.15am	Breakfast
9.30am	Morning Praise
6.30pm	Patronal festival Choral Evensong

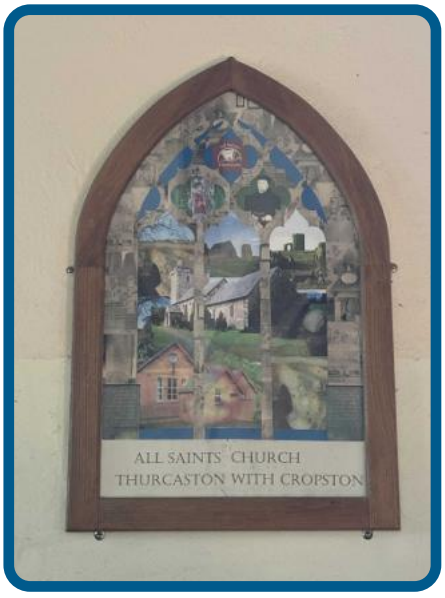


Sunday 8th

10am	Remembrance Service

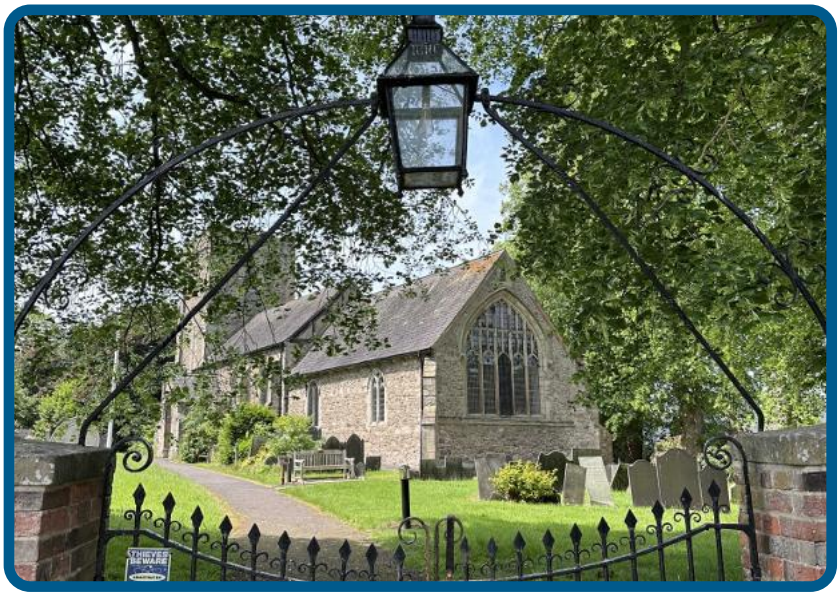
Sunday 15th

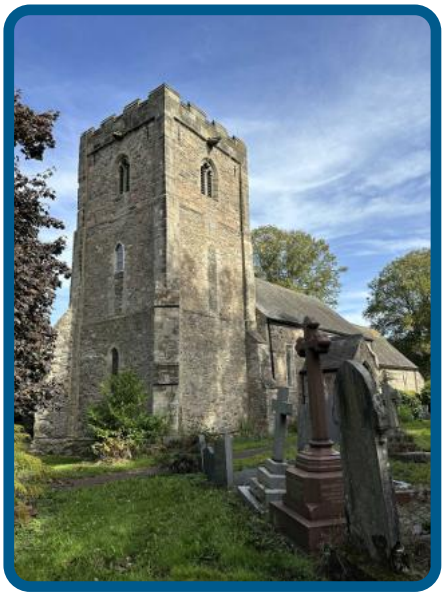
9.30am	Prayer Book Communion
8pm	Compline Night Prayer



Sunday 22nd

9.30am	Holy Communion

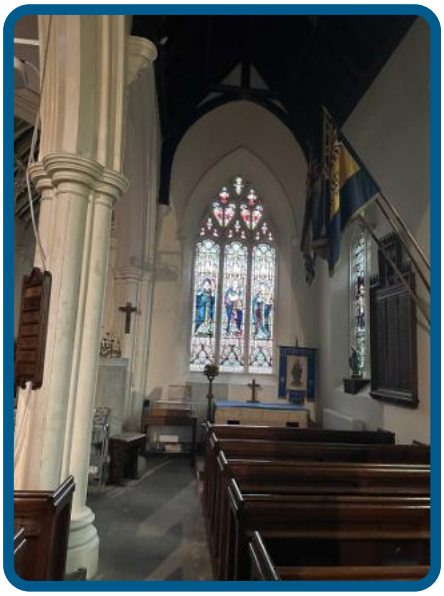




November Services - St Mary's Anstey

Sunday 1st

10.30am	Refreshments
11am	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Taize Service



Sunday 8th

9.30am	Roll call
10.40am	Parade from St Mary's Church to War Memorial

Sunday 15th

10.30am	Refreshments
11am	Holy Communion



Sunday 22nd

10.30am	Refreshments
11am	Fresh Morning Praise

Sunday 29th

10.30am	Refreshments
11am	Joint Benefice Choral Eucharist



Every Wednesday

9.30am	Communions



Advent / Christmas events

November

Saturday 28th 10am-1pm. Winter Fair (All Saints')

Sunday 29th 11am. Joint Choral Eucharistic Service (St Mary's)

December

Saturday 5th 10am-2pm. St Mary's Advent Fair (St Mary's)

Saturday 5th 10am-6pm. Christmas Tree Festival (St Mary's)

Sunday 6th 9.30am. Morning Praise (All Saints')

Sunday 6th 11am. Holy Communion (St Mary's)

Sunday 6th 2pm. Simply Singing in the Trees

Tuesday 8th 3-8pm. Light A Candle (All Saints')

Thursday 10th 3-8pm. Light A Candle (St Mary's)

Sunday 13th 9.30am Holy Communion (All Saints')

Sunday 13th 11am. All Age Dress Up Nativity (St Mary's)

Sunday 13th 6.30pm. Carol Service (St Mary's)

Wednesday 16th 2-4pm. Hub Christmas Celebration with School Choir

Wednesday 16th 6pm. Anstey Residential Homes Carol Singing

Saturday 19th 10am. Carol Singing (Nook Anstey)

Sunday 20th 9.30. Prayer Book Communion (All Saints')

Sunday 20th 11am. Holy Communion (St Mary's)

Sunday 20th 4pm. Christingle & Crib (St Mary's)

Sunday 20th 6.30pm. Lessons & Carols (All Saints')

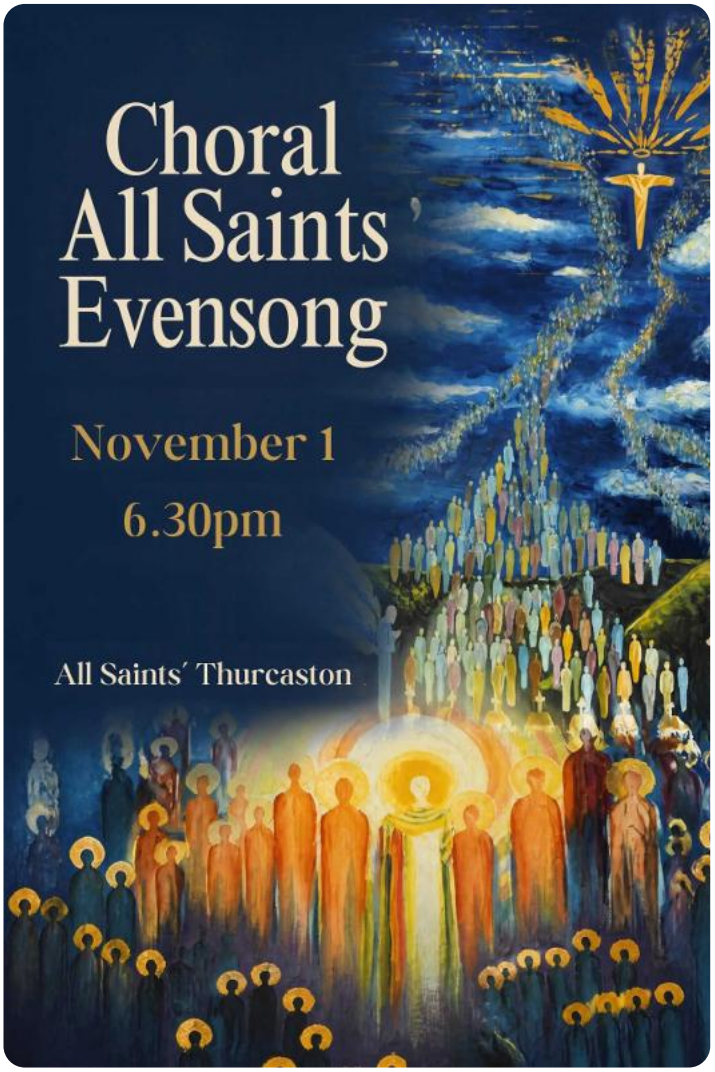
Christmas Eve 4pm. Crib & Christingle (All Saints')

Christmas Eve,11pm. Midnight Mass (St Mary's)

Christmas Day 10am. All Saints' Church

Christmas Day 10am. Anstey Methodist Church

Sunday 27th 10am. Glenfield Bradgate Service







Newtown Linford Choral Society

COME AND SING FOR FUN

Music provided, no experience necessary

2-5pm

Sunday, 15th November

Village Hall, Newtown Linford

£10 at the door

Refreshments included

Interested? Contact:

sueford30@hotmail.com

or Peter 01530 243822



Newtown Linford Ladies' Lunch Club

We want to invite you to join us for lunch. Perhaps you are new to the area, or have recently lost your husband, partner or close friend. Or maybe you have been unwell, housebound or lost confidence following an accident or a fall. Or perhaps, you are just looking for a new interest.

Our Lunch Club members meet on the third Wednesday of the month at Lingdale Golf Club (12.30pm) on Joe Moores Lane, near Woodhouse Eaves (LE12 8TF). Members come from many of the surrounding villages

The meal is always excellent; our members are welcoming and friendly; there's free parking outside and there's a bar! After lunch, we invite interesting people to speak on various topics to entertain us. You can visit us three times as a guest, before deciding if you want to become a permanent member. Call Sylvia on 0116 235 2873 or Pauline on 07480 628 418 for more information.

Sylvia Cole (Chair)

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Coffee Morning - St Mary's Church Rooms

Every Friday from 9.15 am

Everyone welcome



Choral History

Back in 1972, David Evans, Organist at All Saints' was approached by the vicar of St Mary's, Barkby to bring together some singers to assist the church in raising money at a flower festival.

David duly obliged, arranging a quartet. The same year David was asked to provide further help for their carol service, given their limited musical resources.

Thus, the Leicester Tudor Church Music Consort was born and in the original line up of just four choristers were two people who have sung at many services over the years at All Saints', Janet Tipton from Cropston, who joined Thurcaston Choir in 1969, and the late Dr Stephen Booth from Thurmaston.

David directed the group initially, as the choir toured around the county giving recitals to raise funds for local churches. David stepped back in 1974 to allow Stephen to direct the group.

Fifty-four years on, the group is flourishing as a thirty strong chamber choir, now known as the Leicester Church Music Consort.

The choir has sung over two hundred services at England's glorious Cathedrals and Abbey churches, including Westminster Abbey, Canterbury, Durham, Winchester, Gloucester, Worcester and Norwich Cathedrals, York Minster and St George's Chapel, amongst others.

Since 2005 the choir has been directed by Paul Morley, who was the choir's organist for 21 years and has played for many special choral services at All Saints'.

Paul has many connections with Thurcaston, with both of his sons attending Richard Hill School, where he was also PTA Treasurer for many years and his late wife, Jayne taught at Richard Hill too.

The choir's most recent weekend Cathedral visit in August was to the iconic Christopher Wren masterpiece, St Paul's Cathedral, the scene of so many great occasions, including the state funerals of Admiral Lord Nelson, the Duke of Wellington and Sir Winston Churchill, as well as other royal occasions.

What a privilege to sing God's praises in that hallowed, magnificent building, with congregations in excess of five hundred for all three services, divine acoustics and an awe inspiring five manual organ accompaniment.

The local connection was maintained with Janet Tipton still singing with the choir, alongside Jane Westby, another former Richard Hill teacher Rachel Hames, and Paul's two sons Thomas and Benjamin Morley, alumni of Richard Hill School. From small acorns, mighty oaks do indeed grow.

Notes from the Monday Club

Mrs Jo Carter gave us a lively summary of the life of someone she had admired very much - Laura Ashley - and brought clothing and photographs to illustrate her talk.

Laura was born in 1925 in Wales at her grandma's tiny cottage. She did not have an easy life. Laura did not speak the language but loved Welsh hymns.

She loved Victorian and Edwardian clothing, and always used natural fabrics.

She met her future husband, Bernard, at a dance. He went off to war. Laura joined the Women's Royal Naval Service. Bernard proposed. She wanted children and accepted.

Laura began to work with handicrafts and patchwork for the WI. The V&A Museum inspired her. She created similar scarves to the one worn by Audrey Hepburn in 'Roman Holiday', which became very popular.

They took on more projects, including printing tea-towels for Harrods.

They met Terence Conran and got a contract for soft furnishings for the P&O Line, but were flooded.

Laura took the children to Wales, and launched a successful mail-order catalogue. They bought the old railway station at Carno, and employed many people.

In 1978 they owed the bank £300,000 …! Bernard got the tax bill down by buying a yacht. In 1981 the first Home catalogue was published.

At 60 Laura had a severe fall and died in 1985, but the empire which had humble beginnings at the kitchen table continues to change and thrive.

Monday Club meetings start at 2.15pm, on the second Monday of each month. Annual membership is £15, plus £2 entrance; or £4 for visitors.

New members and visitors are always welcome at Cropston Evangelical Free Church room meetings. Call 07709 201881 for further information.

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Fair

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HOMEMADE CAKES & JAMS, TOMBOLA & GAMES

QUALITY DONATIONS WELCOMED FRIDAY 27TH 5-7PM

PROCEEDS TO SALVATION ARMY & ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Winter Fair

In the past 16 years you have been truly amazing in your generosity, raising thousands of pounds for those who struggle and have a lonely life. Sadly, the need appears to be increasing with a hard winter predicted.

The Salvation Army are there for everyone in need; those who need support to get off the streets, the elderly who have no visitors, families fleeing domestic violence, and those who need help returning to the workplace.

Every penny goes towards those less fortunate. Donations of items for the table and cakes for sale are very welcome. We will be setting up on Friday evening from 5-7pm. If you can help or you have items to donate please contact Jane mowestby@virginmedia.com or Eleanor eleanorlj@aol.com

Anstey Food Bank

There is a food bank in Anstey Church Rooms every Tuesday from 10am until 11.30am. If you need a little help at this difficult time, come along on Tuesday for a chat.



You do not have to be referred, just provide us with your personal contact details and tell us a little bit about yourself. We offer refreshments and a bag of food to those in need. You will be assured of a warm welcome - and not just a 'bag of food'!

Thurcaston and Cropston Good Neighbours Scheme

We are a small team of local volunteers who provide support for anyone in Thurcaston or Cropston who needs help – this could be a lift to a medical appointment, a basic DIY job or someone to drop-in for an occasional cup of tea & chat. Please do call us with your requests for help. **Tel: 07435 265 397**

Calls from any potential volunteers (particularly drivers) also most welcome!

Ride & Stride fundraising update



Sisters Karen and Lorraine Turner have once again taken part in the annual Ride+Stride event which takes place every September.

They visited churches in Newtown Linford, Anstey, Thurcaston, Swithland, Rothley, Mountsorrel and Quorn – the whole journey undertaken on foot and took a full day to complete.

This year the total amount of sponsorship money they raised was £207 which is a fantastic total. This will be split equally between Historic Churches Leicestershire and All Saints, Thurcaston.

Many thanks to everyone who supported Karen and Lorraine, and also to those who helped out at the event by welcoming the visitors throughout the day at All Saints'.

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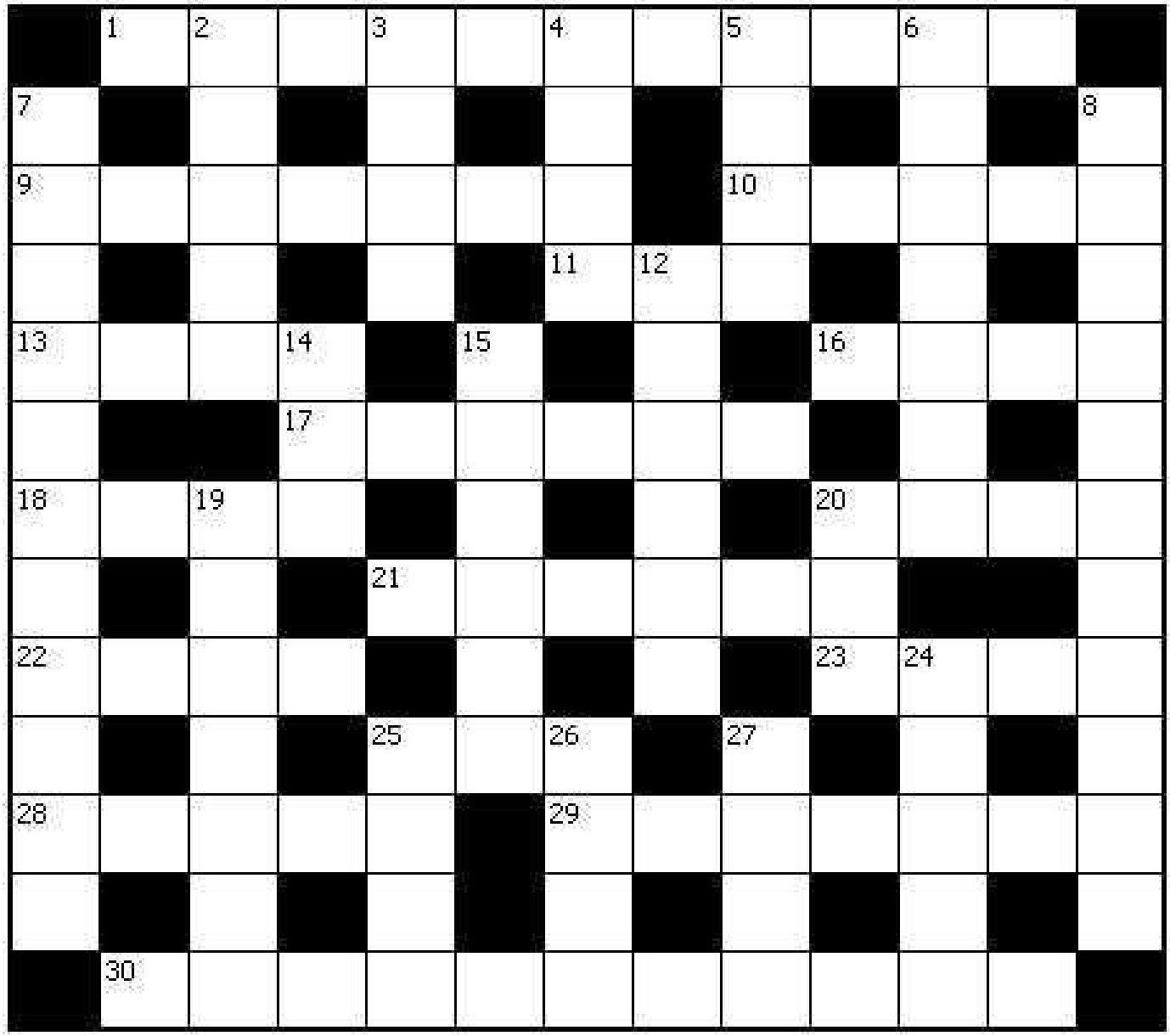
Email: bobzgas@gmail.com

Puzzle Corner (Sudoku)

6						2		4
			3				6	
	1			4				
		9				7	8	
		2	1		5	6		
	8	4				1		
				2			1	
	5				7			
4		8						3

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Puzzle Corner (Crossword)



Across

1 and 20 Down ‘Lord of all _, Lord of all _, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy’ (11,3)

9 Mosesí question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: ‘Why are you _ your fellow Hebrew?” [Exodus 2:13] (7)

10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline _ (2,3)

11 ‘At even _ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay’(3)

13 A descendant of Gad [Numbers 26:16] (4)

16 ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but _ for the gift my Father promised’ [Acts 1:4] (4)

17 Clambers [Jeremiah 48:44] (6)

18 Peter’s response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: ‘We must _God rather than men!’ [Acts 5:29] (4)

20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, _ Eareckson Tada (4)

21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)

22 ‘Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat _ _ ‘ [Matthew 13:2] (2,2)

23 Infectious tropical disease (4)

25 Tree (3)

28 ‘No fear of me should _ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you’ [Job 33:7] (5)

29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)

30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church’s calendar (11)

Down

2 ‘O Jerusalem _ how _I have longed to gather your children together’ [Matthew 23:37] (5)

3 Way out (4)

4 Exhort [Romans 12:1] (4)

5 Done [anag] (4)

6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)

7 Concerning the study of God (11)

8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)

12 Admonish [Matthew 16:22] (6)

14 Frozen (3)

15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)

19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)

20 See 1 Across

24 Behaved [Joshua 7:1] (5)

25 Time [anag] (4)

26 Lists choice of meals (4)

27 ‘For the wages of sin is death, but the _ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord’ [Romans 6:23] (4)

Puzzle Corner Solutions

■	H	O	P	E	F	U	L	N	E	S	S	■
T	■	F	■	X	■	R	■	O	■	O	■	W
H	I	T	T	I	N	G	■	D	U	P	R	E
E	■	E	■	T	■	E	R	E	■	R	■	S
O	Z	N	I	■	R	■	E	■	W	A	I	T
L	■	■	C	L	I	M	B	S	■	N	■	M
O	B	E	Y	■	T	■	U	■	J	O	N	I
G	■	P	■	C	U	C	K	O	O	■	■	N
I	N	I	T	■	A	■	E	■	Y	A	W	S
C	■	T	■	E	L	M	■	G	■	C	■	T
A	L	A	R	M	■	E	P	I	S	T	L	E
L	■	P	■	I	■	N	■	F	■	E	■	R
■	W	H	I	T	S	U	N	T	I	D	E	■

6	9	3	7	1	8	2	5	4
2	4	7	3	5	9	8	6	1
8	1	5	6	4	2	3	9	7
1	6	9	2	3	4	7	8	5
7	3	2	1	8	5	6	4	9
5	8	4	9	7	6	1	3	2
9	7	6	4	2	3	5	1	8
3	5	1	8	9	7	4	2	6
4	2	8	5	6	1	9	7	3



The Wednesday Hub for tea, coffee, cake and chat.

Harrison Room, All Saints' Church, Thurcaston every Wednesday, 2-4pm.

It's free to attend and all are welcome!





For further information please call Eleanor on the Good Neighbours phone number which is 07435 265397

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