

Notices for Sunday 4th October

Harvest

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Harvest in the Barn – Sunday 4th October, 10am at Home Farm

Bring your family for a service in the barn, followed by an autumnal walk through the walled garden to St Mary's for refreshments! Parking is available at Home Farm (Woodhouse Lane, LE11 3YG) and do remember to bring a chair and a warm blanket! A collection will be taken for the Tearfund Harvest Appeal and donations of non-perishable food items are most welcome, these will be taken and donated to Project 5000. Please see the [poster](#) for further information.

Harvest Communion – Sunday 4th October at 6pm

Everyone is welcome to join our traditional Harvest Celebration with Communion. There will be extra hymns as part of our praise and worship, so we hope everyone will be in good voice! Donations of non-perishable food items are welcome for Project 5000 and money can be given to Tearfund, either in cash, with the card reader in church or using the link in the notice below

OTHER SERVICES & EVENTS

Growing Rite, Every Thursday at 10am, Ronald West Court

Our Growing Rite group would LOVE to welcome new mums, grandparents and carers to our Thursday morning meetings. We have friendly sessions with chat, songs, stories and craft activities plus biscuits and drinks... and sometimes cakes! Come and join us and advertise to any families you know.

Woodland Working Group – Saturday 3rd October at 1.30-4pm

Please be aware that we have a booking in the Chapter House so kindly arrive quietly and bring your own drinks.

Everyone is welcome to join the Woodland Group in helping to maintain our lovely church site. We don't just work in the woodland! There are also gardening and tidying jobs, sweeping the paths and keeping the memorial garden in good order. Please come along and help out if you are able. No particular skills are needed, but enthusiasm and a good pair of strong gloves come in useful, particularly for tackling the brambles! Come anytime between 1.30-4pm.

Woodland Worship - Saturday 3rd October at 4pm

Please be aware that we have a booking in the Chapter House so kindly arrive quietly and bring your own drinks.

Come and engage in the beauty of God's creation! Woodland worship is a relaxed, liturgy-based service which takes place every 1st Saturday of the month. Centred around the fire pit, the service focuses on God, creation and reflects on our impact on the world. Everyone is welcome.

Harvest Service at Badger Court – Monday 5th October at 11am **(new)**

Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate Harvest at Ronald West Court last week. Please pray for the team as we visit Badger Court this Monday, and you are come along and join us!

Messy Church Goes Wild – Saturday 10th October, 4-5:30pm at Nanpantan Scout Hut (new)

SPECIAL REQUEST: If you can crochet or knit a simple heart shape, no bigger than 5cm, would you be kind enough to make a few for Messy Church and leave them at the back of church for us?

We're thinking about stewardship of resources, treasure in heaven and noticing opportunities to give to others - these hearts will be left as gifts so that people know they're loved! There will be a treasure trail and a variety of activities and crafts, including our Lego Challenge table. Dinner will be hot dogs and chips and we'll be making strawberries dipped in chocolate for pudding.

Midweek Communion and Lunch – Wednesday 14th October at 12pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for a short service of communion followed by an optional simple but delicious soup lunch. This is a great chance to worship and get to know others within a small and friendly group. Please invite friends and think if there is anyone who might welcome a lift.

Bishop Martyn at St Mary's – Sunday 18th October at 10am

Bishop Martyn will be joining us for worship on Sunday 18th October and preaching as part of our new sermon series 'Called: Your Part in God's Story'. Please join us if you are able, to worship together and to hear something of Bishop Martyn's story. Because of the Bishop's visit, as well as Rev Jenny's licensing service at 7.30pm, we will cancel our 6pm service and invite everyone to join us for a combined service at 10am.

Welcome to Rev Jenny Ridge – Sunday 18th October 7.30pm Shepshed

Join us as we give a warm welcome to Rev Jenny Ridge who will be joining us as Oversight Minister for the Beacon in the Forest Minster Community, and the resident incumbent at St Botolph's and Oaks-in-Charnwood. Her licensing service will be held at St Botolph's on 18th October at 7.30pm which we hope many will be able to attend. Please keep Jenny and her family in your prayers.

We are hoping to form a joint choir from across the Minster Community to sing at this service. If you would like to join, or for more information, contact triciabreen@shepshedandoaks.co.uk

OTHER NOTICES

Giving thanks and sharing the blessing this Harvest!

So many of us will acknowledge just how blessed we are. We probably have enough to eat every day. We aren't reliant on our patch of vegetables in the garden to survive, even if we do enjoy the produce!

This harvest would you consider sharing your blessing with the two charities we are supporting this year?

Project 5000 in Loughborough: a volunteer-led community initiative that provides hot meals and food parcels to people in need. You can help by bringing along the following items: pot noodles, cereal bars, small biscuit bars (KitKat, Penguin etc), long life milk, cereals, tinned goods.

Tearfund who "follow Jesus where the need is greatest." [You can support their Harvest appeal here](#)

Restoration of St Mary's Roll of Honour

Huge thanks to those who have donated so far. The roll of honour has now be sent off to the conservators to be restored. If you are still considering donating to the restoration, a donations page has been set up on ChurchSuite which can be accessed via this [link](#), there is a donation link on the website, and cash gifts can be given to Ian or Katherine.

Students arriving at Longcliffe House

This week Dave delivered 30+ bags of goodies along with a welcome card to Longcliffe House for the students who have begun arriving this week. Please pray for them as they begin to settle into their new accommodation and studies at the university.

Woodland work – tree felling costs

Sadly many of our trees are suffering in the drought and we are having to have several felled in order to keep our woodland users safe. The cost for this will be around £12,000 which we are going to have to draw from our investment funds. We would be very grateful to hear from anyone who might be willing to contribute towards the cost of this. In the meantime, can we remind you that there is a loose branch in the sycamore behind the chapter house so we would ask everyone to keep out of the garden area until we have been able to have that removed.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Shepshed Community Open Day – Saturday 3rd October 10am-2pm at St Botolph's

The Community Open Day aims to bring together local clubs, groups, charities and organisations in one welcoming space in order to help local residents discover activities, support and volunteering opportunities whilst finding ways to get involved in their community and strengthen connections. Refreshments will be available to purchase in the church throughout the event; we will be serving bacon cobs and sausage cobs, with vegetarian options available, from 12.00–1.30pm. Click [here](#) to see the poster or take a look at our [facebook event](#)

The Listening Journey Course – Saturday 10th October 10am-3.30pm St Mary's

This day offers a foundational course which is very useful for anyone involved in pastoral care or listening to others – so it's relevant to everyone really! Adele has done one of their courses and would highly recommend them. This day is offered to anyone interested, but may also be a first step towards becoming a voluntary professional listener with Charnwood Listeners. For further information and to book a place please email listeningmatters.uk@gmail.com or visit their website: www.listeningmatters.uk/courses If finance is a barrier to you joining (it costs £40) please speak to Adele as we may be able to offer funding.

Trinity Festival – Friday 9th-Sunday 11th October at Holy Trinity Barrow

With a Youth Concert on Friday, the Festival Chamber Group on the Saturday and an Arts and Crafts show on the Sunday, there is plenty on offer to come and enjoy. Please see the attached [poster](#) for more details of events on offer at Barrow Trinity Festival. Tickets, all £10 and under, are available at the door or online at www.barrowtrinityfestival.com.

Emmanuel Church Lunchtime Concert – Thursday 15th October from 12pm at Emmanuel Loughborough

The opening concert of the 2026-2027 season will take place on Thursday 15th October and will be given by the Meridian Wind Quintet (flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn, bassoon). These are second and third year students from the Royal Academy of Music, London, and the programme includes the Wind Quintet by William Mathias and Gade's Tango Fantasia. This promises to be a scintillating start to the season.

The concert starts at 12:45 and soup and roll lunches are served from 12:00. Admission is free but we rely on your generous donations to enable us to continue to present these high-class concerts. We look forward to seeing you there. For further information phone 01509 261773 or see www.facebook.com/emmanuelconcerts

Friends of Launde Abbey Updates

Information about the Launde Abbey Programme of retreats, quiet days and concerts for 2026 can be found here: <http://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/events>
Click [here](#) for the current newsletter.

ADVOCATE SLOT

Our charity for October is SOAR

The SOAR Project is a Christian organisation that exists to take the good news of Jesus to the children, young people and families of North Leicestershire. www.soarproject.org.uk

We pray for:

- God's increased provision and blessings upon the work of SOAR
- New doors to open in local schools and continued favour with those who we work with
- Deepening relationships and partnerships with local churches
- For the many households that have received a Luke's gospel through the door to door in our Gospel outreach, we pray for open hearts
- Chris and local youth leaders as they seek to engage with secondary schools. Pray for unity amongst the team, for vision and open doors.
- The growing support of SOAR that we might see this work expand to more communities and schools reaching children, young people and families with the Good News of Jesus.