

## SERVICES

### Sunday 7th September

9.15am St John's Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Trinity Family Worship  
11.00am St Mary's Holy Communion  
11.15am St Leonard's Family Worship  
5.00pm Holy Trinity Evensong

### Sunday 14th September

9.15am St John's Morning Prayer  
9.45am Holy Trinity Holy Communion  
11.00am St Mary's Morning Prayer  
11.15am St Leonard's Holy Communion

### Sunday 21st September

9.15am St John's Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Trinity Holy Communion  
11.00am St Mary's Holy Communion  
11.15am St Leonard's Holy Communion  
5.00pm Holy Trinity BCP Holy Communion

### Sunday 28th September

9.15am St John's Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Trinity Holy Communion  
11.00am St Mary's Holy Communion  
11.15am St Leonard's Holy Communion

Our Team Rector, Revd Jo  
writes....

### Out of despair, God's blessings appear...

Like many people, at the end of this hot dry summer, I look at my garden and despair at the brown grass, drooping plants and soil that's as hard as concrete. And yet, it's not all doom and gloom! My apple trees are producing their best ever crop, we've enjoyed a plentiful supply of French beans and my courgette plants are belatedly becoming productive. In the midst of despair, there are blessings to be found!

I've noticed this too in our churches recently. St Mary's has been struggling with a leaking roof for some time and the wardens are well practised in placing buckets in the right places when rain is expected. With little money in the bank and a repair bill of around £10K, it could be easy to despair – and yet God's blessings have been found through the successful application for a diocesan grant and some good fundraising. The roof is now being repaired and the buckets can be put away.



Holy Trinity's congregation have recently been mourning Chris Short, a member of the congregation and local firefighter who died in an accident on holiday with his young family. On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>, we opened the church for anyone who wanted to come and light a candle to remember him. Around 280 people dropped in coming from near and far, along with a fire engine. In the midst of despair, God's blessings of peace and love were tangibly present in a profound way.

You may know by now that I find the Psalms a great source of inspiration. Again and again, we are reminded that when the psalmist despaired, he called out to God for help, and was reminded that God, who is always faithful, would rescue him and bless him. This is true for each one of us – that however much we despair God will not abandon us and will come to our aid, bringing blessings.

In the early autumn, we will be addressing one of the areas of our shared church life that is a concern – our finances. Over the last couple of years, church councils have been working hard to reduce their church's expenditure, eg reducing the costs of heating and lighting, bulk buying supplies, receiving additional support from the diocese towards ministry costs (Common Fund payments). We have also looked at ways of increasing our income, which largely comes from the financial donations of the congregations and visitors to our buildings at baptisms, etc, and we have been very thankful for people's generosity. However, finances are still a concern.

Some of our churches are just breaking even, but have little capacity to deal with any unexpected urgent expenditure or to support new missional activities, while others are finding that their monthly income does not cover paying the bills (utilities, running costs, Common Fund)..

On October 5<sup>th</sup> at our Harvest Service, we will be launching an appeal asking everyone to consider whether they could increase their giving to church, along with information about the different ways of giving. In future newsletters, we will also be including some simple tips on other ways in which you can help us to improve our finances. It could be easy to despair, but we do have a faithful God who blesses us – so this autumn I invite you to pray for God to bless our financial situation, as well as to pray about how you could be part of God's blessing to our churches.



### Easy ways to increase giving to Church



If you donate supplies for church (tea, coffee, biscuits, cleaning materials, candles, etc), did you know that the church could benefit more if the cost is under £30? If you give the receipt to your church treasurer, they will reimburse you for the cost. If you choose to donate this money back by putting it in the collection plate, we can claim back 25% of the amount from the government through the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. If you want to donate a larger item that costs over £30, as long as you are a tax payer, you can do the same. Just claim the expense from your treasurer, and talk to them about the best way to donate the money back to church. An easy way to increase the church's income with no cost to you!

### Holy Trinity, Dawley welcome 'The Cosford Military Wives Choir' on

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>  
September at  
7.00pm. Tickets £10  
to include a glass of  
fizz! Available on  
the door or phone  
07812 151384 or 01952 596106 or 07794 586214 to  
book ahead.



**Holy Trinity 'All Friends Together'** All are welcome to come along for 'Cooking with Jeni' on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm and get a taste of traditional South Indian Cookery.

### September 2025

Fri 12th St Mary: Quiz Night with nibbles and tipples (see notice for details)

Sat 13th Holy Trinity: Cleaning morning, and open for Ride and Stride visitors:

10am -12 noon

Sat 13th St Mary: Open for Ride and Stride visitors: 10am - 2pm

Sat 20th: Holy Trinity: Messy Church 10am - 12 noon

Sat 20th St Leonard: Afternoon Tea 2.00pm (see notice for details)

Wed 24th Holy Trinity: All Friends Together 2.00pm 'Cooking with Jeni'

Sat 27th: Holy Trinity: Cosford Military Wives Choir 7.00pm (see notice for details)



**Baptisms in August:** "May they shine as a light in the world to the glory of God" Jayden-James, Alfie, Ameliah and Harvey Brownhill; Taegan Rutter; Ruby and Darcy Parfitt; Benjamin Holl; Keira Wynn

**Weddings in August:** "Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts and a crown upon their heads"

Daniella Garrett and Gabriel De-Gare Pitt

**Funerals/burial of ashes in August:** "May they rest in peace and rise in glory" Pamela Richardson; Catherine Amphlett;

Dawnalee Gayle, Jean Onions, Sidney Simmons, Raymond Corbett, Terrence Vaughan, Arthur Barrett, Ann Martin

### Weekly Activities in the Parish

**Holy Trinity** Wednesdays: Trinity Tots 9.30 - 11.00

Thursdays: Trinity Tots 9.30 - 11.00,

For more information please contact Glenis [07513 202282](tel:07513202282)

### St Leonard's

**Mondays:** 11.00 - 12.00 Drop in food bank - for people struggling financially or who want to reduce food waste

**Wednesdays:** 10.00 - 10.45am Exercise to Music sessions. Cost = £3 For more information, contact Jo on 01952 416370



### Ride and Stride - Shropshire Historic Churches Trust Saturday 13th September

Churches around the county will be opening their doors, so it's a good opportunity to visit them this day - more details here: [www.ridestride.org/counties/shropshire](http://www.ridestride.org/counties/shropshire) St Mary's will be open from 10.00am to 2.00pm and Holy Trinity from 10.00am - 12.00noon. Do drop in if you'd like to take a closer look at the buildings!

### Quiz night with Nibbles and Tipples at St Mary's, Ketley

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm.  
Bring a team or come alone and join one. Please let Mary know if you intend to come 01952 613653  
[richmjs@icloud.com](mailto:richmjs@icloud.com)



Our next Messy Church will be at Holy Trinity church on  
**Saturday 20th September from 10am - 12noon**

All families are welcome to join us as we come together to explore faith through creative activities, sharing a meal, and celebrating God.

### St Leonard's Afternoon Tea

20th September 2025 at 2.00pm.  
£5.00 for adults, £2.50 for children  
Please contact Lorraine Granger for more information and tickets (07805 841824)



**Contact:** Revd Prebendary Jo Farnworth (Team Rector)  
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