

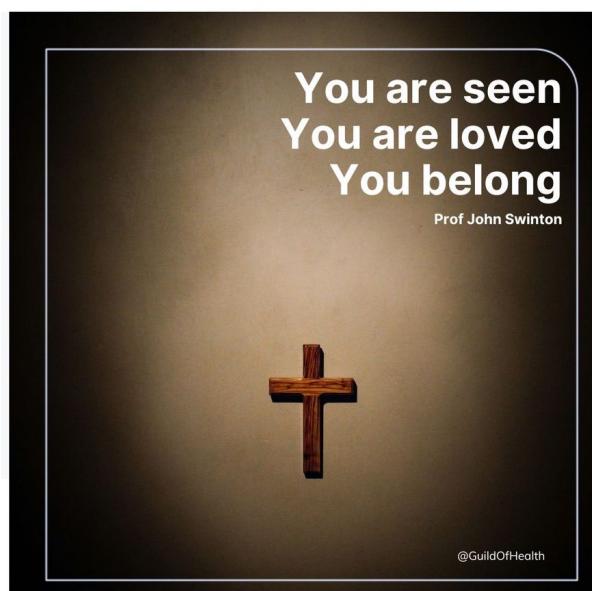


## "God LOVES you. God DELIGHTS in you."

President Trump was an easy target for my masthead last week, as he proved in a New York Times interview; *"I don't need international law"*. Perhaps in my previous newsletter I should have pursued the idea of MAGI... MAGA...

Of course, that wordplay won't wash, because Trump (like Herod) would not bow down, prostrate himself. The word for 'homage/ honour/ worship' is *proskuneo*, literally involving actions like kissing, bowing, kneeling & touching the ground. But the outward activity reflects an inward submission & **love**. So it is that Psalm 2 ends; *"Kiss the Son"*, the son of the One enthroned in heaven. The One who laughs & scoffs at the nations & kings & rulers who rage against the Lord and against his anointed.

No wonder then, as I'm reading '*Tales of a Country Parish*', that I discover the author Colin Heber-Percy refer to Jesus' description of his Father's kingdom as a mustard seed, or yeast, or



a pearl merchant, or a fishing net. *"We shouldn't underestimate the extent to which Jesus sees his parables of the kingdom as funny, ludicrous... His disciples knew all too well the Trumpian definition of 'kingdom'; they had Herod, after all, and Rome"*.

In their Christmas sermons, appealing for just measures to end the invasion of their country, both the Greek Catholic Primate & the Primate of the independent Ukrainian Orthodox Church referenced Herod. *"Let the modern creators of history stand on the right side, protecting human life from modern-day Herods... / In our time, we see how followers of 'Russian World' teachings are becoming like Herods and other hypocrites..."*

Such words come from lived experience that I cannot comprehend. Yet even at a protected distance, I hear their heart's cry.

> Herod = kingdom; war; destruction; theft; killing.  
> Jesus = kin-dom; peace; flourishing; gift; life.

Jesus takes on flesh & enters into the mess & muddle of our humanity. Through his Nativity – think angels & shepherds. Through his Epiphany – think wisemen & gifts. Through his 'Washing' – think crowds & a dove. If Christmas is **incarnation**, and Epiphany is **revelation**, then Baptism is **relation**. The voice from heaven is one of **love**.

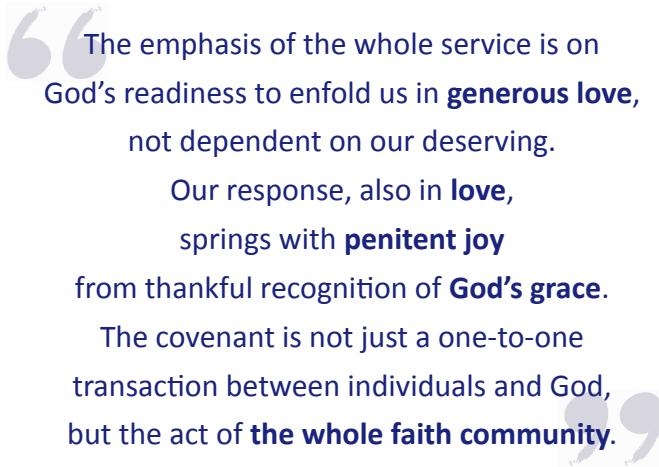
Each January, our Administrator's round robin captures shared life here in South West Farnham cluster. It celebrates God; faith; **love**; ministry. Concluding, *"May we all be supported by the love of God, which he has for each & every one of us, as we strive to be church here and in the ever-changing world around us."* The love of God – for his Son... for us... *"This is my child, whom I love. In them I delight."* rev'd david.

# JANUARY Services

SUN 11<sup>th</sup> : Epiphany 1

## 1030 | Covenant Service | Frisby CHAPEL

Recommiring to God and to one another.

The emphasis of the whole service is on God's readiness to enfold us in **generous love**, not dependent on our deserving. Our response, also in **love**, springs with **penitent joy** from thankful recognition of **God's grace**. The covenant is not just a one-to-one transaction between individuals and God, but the act of **the whole faith community**.

SUN 18<sup>th</sup> : Epiphany 2

## 1030 | Contemp'y Communion | Ragdale

Inclusive Church liturgy with 'justice' focus.

SUN 25<sup>th</sup> : Epiphany 3

## 1030 | Faith in Nature | Hoby CHAPEL

Engaging with God's heart for this planet.

## 1500 | Evening Prayer | Kirby Bellars

Traditional language interspersed with hymns.

## WEDNESDAY Activity

### 0930 | Alternating Pattern | Frisby CHURCH

1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> = Communion

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> = Morning Prayer

3<sup>rd</sup> = Healing Communion

### 1430 | New Life Group | ROTHERBY

Bible... Prayer... Life... Care...

contact : elizabeth.smith255@btinternet.com

# FEBRUARY Services

SUN 1<sup>st</sup> : Candlemas

## 0830 | BCP Communion | Hoby

Simple, traditional language service.

## 1030 | Worship Service | Rotherby

Informal style with some interaction.

**SUN 8<sup>th</sup> : Epiphany 5**

## 1030 | Contemp'y Communion | Ragdale

Inclusive Church liturgy with 'justice' focus.

SUN 15<sup>th</sup> : Transfiguration

## 1030 | Creative Church | Frisby CHAPEL

Round table worship, discussion, singing & prayer.

**WED 18<sup>th</sup> : ASH WEDNESDAY**

## 0930 | Communion w. Ashing | Frisby ST. T

**SUN 22<sup>nd</sup> : Lent 1**

## 1030 | Faith in Nature | Hoby ALL SAINTS

Engaging with God's heart for this planet.

## 1500 | Evening Prayer | Kirby Bellars

Traditional language interspersed with hymns.

## **'Farewell'**

Sheila CURREN / Brian FOSTER / John BILLINGS  
(Frisby)

## **'Union'**

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October

Elliott BROWN & Hannah TISDELL (Brooksbys)

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Gregory CLAYTON-CLANN & Rachel READ (Br)

## **'Welcome'**

22<sup>nd</sup> February ... Alice NADOLSKI (Gaddesby)

1<sup>st</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> March ... Sophie CUFF (Frisby)



Diocese of **Leicester**  
Board of Education

**“Transforming the lives of children and young people through effective, distinctive, rooted and inclusive education.”**

Leicester DBE believes that it makes its own, unique and distinct, contribution to the work of the wider diocese and the national Church.

First of all, they predominantly serve our family of Church schools and aspire for them to contribute positively and effectively to the ‘healthily plural educational system’ by offering a distinctively Christian ethos. This, of course, must be delivered alongside academic rigour and excellence.

They also believe that our schools can and many already do, echo the marks of mission seen in **‘Shaped by God.’** Our schools can be places of **transformation, inspiration, celebration and welcome.**



~ Growing with Hope ~  
~ Serving with Compassion ~  
~ Transforming with Humility ~  
~ enabling children to flourish & succeed ~

High quality education with an impressive record of academic achievement.

A caring, nurturing, family environment.

Close links with the local community including other schools, church and Frisby Pre-School.

Many opportunities for sport, music and extra-curricular activities.

## And Finally...

**Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch**

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 Blue Bell (Hoby)**

So I sat with a couple on their own, Tina & Geoff. I discovered their grandson attended Birch Wood Special School. That he died age 14 & would have turned 18 last month. That the school named their new hydrotherapy pool after him. Which my daughter Rose uses on a weekly basis. So I sat... talked... listened... cried...

ELLIS,  
My sunshine,  
“Your life was a blessing.  
Your memory a treasure.  
You are loved beyond words,  
and missed beyond measure.”  
Always and Forever.

XXX

**No question this week. Just silence. And love.**



# ADVENT? NEW YEAR?

A time to remember Jesus' birth & anticipate his second coming.

Looking FORWARD by looking BACK to the 4 Advent themes.



6-6.30pm on Mon 12<sup>th</sup> or 10.45-11.15 on Wed 14<sup>th</sup> or 7.15-7.45am on Fri 19<sup>th</sup>

~ Bible Project video ~ Conversation & Reflection ~ Silence & Prayer ~

=> to ground us & to grow us <=

Join Zoom Meeting | Meeting ID : 844 2990 6409 | Passcode : NewYear

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84429906409?pwd=Bj0OW8uimNQa5WMNA4P2EI82T25VT1.1>