



Martin's message

Over the last year or so, I've been able to meet up with my cousins who I haven't seen for some years. Living in different parts of the country with varying commitments to work and family it's been good to re-connect now we are a little older!

We talk about our grandparents and the things we did together when we were younger. As we get older, we can see family likenesses and interests that have passed through the generations. I even met some 'second' cousins (we share a set of great-grandparents) for the first time earlier this year and we talked about our shared history, while in some cases still sharing a common surname.

Having said all that, what I most appreciate about my cousins is simply who they are. They are all different, unique individuals. It is very hard to describe someone. Using the words 'kind', 'fun' or 'lively', could describe a whole number of people. What I love about them is deeper than that – it is the essence of who they are, which we might say is their 'soul'.

The things we have in common with other people can give us a shared identity, whether it be family ties or where we are from, through to the football team we support. When we meet people for the first time we try to find these connections. On the flip side, we can also use differences in identity to divide, often with tragic consequences.



SAINTS *alive*

The Christian faith declares that we are made in the image of God. We are more than a random set of genes. And this is good news, because this is the overarching truth which unites us in our differences. Jesus lived and was crucified to reunite all things to God in whose image we are made (See Colossians 1 v 15-20).

So, next time you meet someone for the first time, who will you see? Someone who is similar or different from you? Or will you go further and see the essence of who they are; someone who, like you, is made in the very image of God?

God bless,

Martin Castle – Priest-in-charge

Memorial Service

Sunday 1st November, 4.00pm
at St Simon & St Jude's Church, Earl Shilton



You are warmly invited to our annual memorial service. The service will give you an opportunity to remember and give thanks for the loved ones you have lost and to light a candle in their memory, should you so wish. It is also an opportunity to acknowledge grief and to receive God's peace and comfort.

Tea and coffee are provided after the service should you be able to stay.



St Simon & St Jude's Church, Almey's Lane, Earl Shilton, LE9 7DA.
01455 843961 parishchurch@gmx.co.uk
www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Simon-St-Jude-Earl-Shilton

NOVEMBER SERVICES

Sunday 1st November -All Saints Day

9.15am – All-age Worship at St Mary's
 10.45am – All-age Worship at SS&SJ followed by a short service of Holy Communion
 4.00pm - Memorial Service at SS&SJ

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday

9.15am –Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance at St Mary's
 10.15am – Remembrance Service at Earl Shilton Methodist Church
 10.50am – Act of Remembrance and Service at Earl Shilton War Memorial

There will be no morning service at SS&SJ

6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on Facebook

Sunday 15th November

9.15am – Morning Worship at St Mary's
 10.45am – Morning Worship at SS&SJ
 6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on Facebook

Sunday 22nd November – Safeguarding Sunday

9.15am – Holy Communion at St Mary's
 10.00am – Sunday Club with breakfast in SS&SJ Parish Hall
 10.45am – Holy Communion at SS&SJ
 6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on Facebook

Sunday 29th November – Advent Sunday

9.15am –Holy Communion at St Mary's
 10.45am –Holy Communion at SS&SJ
 6.00pm - Churches Together united Advent Service at LBC Earl Shilton, Mill Lane.

Prayers to start the day at 9am as follows:

Monday – St Simon and St Jude's
 Tuesday & Thursday – St Mary's
 Wednesday – Facebook

Please check the church website for any alterations



Saturday November 7th, 4.30pm - 7pm

Games in the Parish Hall with fish and chip supper and raffle.

Please sign up in church.



St. Mary's Subscription Club

LUCKY NUMBERS

Lucky membership numbers and prize monies drawn at the September event:

1st **136** (£40), 2nd **75** (£25), 3rd **76** (£15),
 4th **172** (£10) & 5th **5** (£10)

Elmesthorpe Village Hall EFFFFI Coffee

Morning 10.00 – 11.30am

Saturday 31st October 2026

Hallow'een Theme!!

Fancy dress encouraged!

Soup and savouries for refreshments!

Sparked by a suggestion from one of the coffee morning regulars for a charity to support, EFFFFI invited a guest speaker to their September gathering and learned about a good cause few, if any, were aware of – **East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme.**

Dr Matthew Woods from EMICS gave a very informative talk & insight into the work they do.

Organiser Jenny Orton said: "He said it was 'essentially air ambulance without the helicopter'. We were all overawed by the scope of the service and the dedication and commitment to performing such vital work on a voluntary basis. We were also overwhelmed by the amount of equipment, its cost and potential, so precisely stored within the response vehicle which we were privileged to view during the visit."

Dr Wood said most call-outs were for road traffic collisions or heart problems and added that he had been to Elmesthorpe 4 or 5 times.

Jenny added: "We all came away with new thoughts and appreciation in our minds for those who dedicate their lives to helping others."

If you wish to get in touch please contact the church office:

Parish Church Office at St Simon & St Jude Church Hall, High Street. Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. LE9 7DH 01455 843961
parishchurch@gmx.co.uk

If you would like to contact our church minister his contact details are as follows:

Rev'd.Martin Castle- Priest-in-charge
 07759 002660
revdmartincastle@gmx.com



NEW WALKS

A series of new walks is due to be announced this month by the Diocese of Leicester to mark its centenary this year.

The plans for the walks – which may or may not include ones in this area – were revealed at a worship gathering in the city attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Dame Sarah Mullally, who said the occasion was an “absolute joy”.

In her address Dame Sarah said the phrase “Do not be afraid” was mentioned 365 times, one for every day of the year, in the Bible but she believed in the reading from Hebrews “The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid”. She added that this did not mean there would not be difficulties but with this as a guide there was hope regardless of what life brought.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

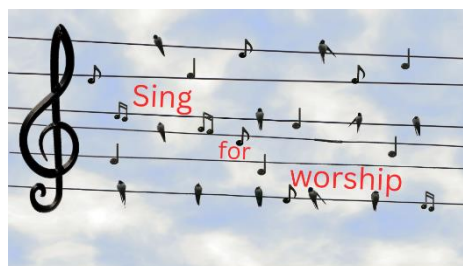
Toy Appeal Service
Sunday 22nd November,
10.45 at SS&SJ.

If you are able, please bring donations of **new** (*not pre-loved*) toys, gifts and books for ages 0-16 years for the *Hinckley and Bosworth Christmas Toy Appeal* on this date when Lynne Sharpe will be with us to talk about the appeal. Everyone is welcome to come along, whether you are able to donate or not. There will also be a collection bin in church.

Thank you.

. . . and looking ahead to Christmas

- **The Christingle services will take place on Sunday 13th December and the Carol Services on Sunday 20th December.**



Join us for fellowship and singing in SS&SJ Church on the following Saturdays:

- **November 7th**
- **November 21st**
- **December 5th**
- **December 19th.**

Everyone welcome!
11am for an 11.15am start.

OLD CONTEMPTIBLE POEM

Here to mark Remembrance Day is a poem, “Old Contemptible”, by Joe Bartley, a former police officer who retired to live in Earl Shilton in the 1970s.

“Quite an old man now – gaunt and grey,
Slowly but proudly he wends his way,
Shuffling – limping in his gait,
On to the memorial to stand and wait.
So many years now, he has stood,
On Remembrance Day, when he could,
For there he recalls those days of yore,
When he and his friends went to war.
He reads again those names etched there,
Removes his hat and stands head bare,
To honour those he knew so well,
Who fought at his side in that muddled Hell.
There he stands and wonders why,
All these his friends had to die,
The blood red poppies nod to him,
He lives – he only lost a limb,
The flags, the medals in bright array,
Would they know him – as he is today,
They died young - as he was then,
Will they know him when they meet again?
Those familiar names, lettered in gold,
Unlike him they will never grow old,
Ypres, Arras, so many places,
So many names – so many faces,
And so each year his vigil ends,
To honour these, his comrades, friends,
Then slowly, sadly he makes his way,
Waiting, waiting, the Last Post to play.”

Keep up-to-date with our events by checking our websites or Facebook pages:



www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Simon-St-Jude-Earl-Shilton



www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Mary-Elmesthorpe