# St. Philip & St. James Church

# Ratby Parish Church Magazing

## September 2025



St. Philip & St. James Church, Ratby

Ratby Parish Church is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our community.

#### SEPTEMBER WORSHIP FROM THE BENEFICE OF GROBY AND RATBY

Please see inside the magazine for details of services and events for September - you're also welcome to join us for our 11.15am Telephone Church every Sunday if getting to church is difficult - do get in touch (Rev'd Ed's contact details are in this magazine) and we'll drop you an order of service and a hymn book to help you join in! Or do join our weekday services, in person at 9am on Mondays for Morning Prayer in Ratby and 9.30am on Wednesdays for Communion in Groby Or do use your own or online resources (our online Compline services also continue every Tuesday at 9pm via Facebook) for your personal worship at home.

Do keep an eye on the magazine, our notice boards and our Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/StPandStJ) and webpages (https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/19-074B/) for details of what is going on.

Requests for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Communions Call:

Parish Office: Telephone: 0116 239 3768



#### **SAFEGUARDING**

At Ratby Parish Church we are committed to ensuring the care and safety of all.

If you have any concerns please contact our Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Joan Hawkins 0116 482 6721

# Benefice September 2025 Groby and Ratby

# Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

As we welcome the month of September, we find ourselves in a season of gentle change. The air begins to cool, the days slowly shorten, and nature prepares for its autumn rhythm. These visible signs of transition remind us that our spiritual lives also move in seasons times of growth, stillness, renewal, and deeper surrender to God's will.

September can be a beautiful opportunity for spiritual reset. The busyness of summer is behind us, and before the full rush of the year's end arrives, we are offered a space to slow down and reflect. What has God been teaching you in recent months? Where do you sense Him calling you to grow deeper?

In Colossians 2:6-7, Paul writes: "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith... and overflowing with thankfulness."

This is our invitation for the season to continue in Christ, being rooted and strengthened. Our spiritual roots grow deeper not in hurried days but in quiet moments of trust, prayer, and obedience.



As a church, September is also a time to re-engage. Ministries resume, children return to school, and new opportunities arise for fellowship, learning, and service. I encourage each of you to consider where God may be inviting you to participate—whether in a Bible study, a prayer group, outreach efforts, or simply offering encouragement to someone who needs it.

Let's also be a people of gratitude. The blessings of God surround us every day in the beauty of creation, in the gift of community, and in the faithful presence of Jesus among us. May we not miss these blessings in our pursuit of what's next.

I pray that this month will be marked by renewed hope, strengthened faith, and joyful obedience in your walk with the Lord. As always, know that you are loved, prayed for, and cherished as part of this family of faith.

> With every blessing in Christ. Revd Riffat Zamurad (Assistant Curate)

# 1

#### Bhangra and Biryani – 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2025





She not only cooked it she served it as well!

Well, what a night. Our hope that we'd get at least 20 people coming, and we end up with close to 60 with the extras that turned up, many from Reverend Riffat's family. We had a brilliant meal, courtesy of Rev Riffat and her family. It was amazing not only biryani, but sweet rice, a dip, salad and of course, Samosas.



Just a small pot of Biryani



The Dancers and the usual suspects

Our wonderful dancers came from the Diocese. Michael is the IWC Enabler and Ephraim is part of the Minister communities team. In the next few months Michael and Shoba will be travelling to Tanzania to undertake some missionary work. They brought items that could be sold to raise money for this work and the kids had a lesson on where Tanzania actually is.



Riffat's wonderful family

Would we do this again? Of course. Unfortunately, next time it won't be Riffat's wonderful cooking as we'd need to get outside caterers. Look out for the adverts. We hope to see everyone

soon. The one takeaway, or should I say that's two takeaways from the evening? Actually, it's for more than two. Everybody had a great time. It

brought our community together, people met people they've never met before. We had people in church who have never actually been into our church. And it was simply wonderful to get together as church and a community to share food, friendship and even to dance – with special thanks to Michael and Ephraim for teaching the basic moves we needed to join in and let our hair down!



At the end of the night we were still standing, just!

Photos from Michael and permission has been granted to reproduce them.

Angie Cain

#### Services and Events in September

Our alternating 8am communions (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in Groby, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays in Ratby) and then a 9.30am (in Groby) or 10am (in Ratby) service every week, alternating between communion and morning worship will continue – a 'normal' month, with no 'special' services, although worshipping God is always special of course.

Never forget all our other regular services will continue – our lovely Telephone Church, every Sunday at 11.15am (call 0333 0164 757; room number 10336316#; pin 1920#) and during the week we continue to have morning prayer every Monday at 9am in Ratby and 9.30am Wednesday Communion in Groby every week. Our online Compline will be every Tuesday at 9pm (https://www.facebook.com/StPandStJ).

There are lots of events coming up as well so do come and join in:

**10**<sup>th</sup> **Sept** from 11.30am Daytime Ratby Band Concert in Ratby Church with soup and roll available.

13<sup>th</sup> Sept 10am-4pm (or 6pm in Groby) Ride and Stride, with the Scarecrow Festival in Groby, also running on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept.

**29**<sup>th</sup> **Sept** 9.30am-3.30pm Quiet Day in Ratby Church And all our regular activities will restart with the new term – details of these and other things all in the magazine!

God bless you all. Prayers, as ever, Rev'd Ed



#### Rehearsals at Groby Club from 3rd Sept

Weds Afternoon Choir 1.30-3pm (Creche area available)

Children's Choir 3.40-4.40pm (for children 7 years and over)

Weds Evening Choir 7.30-9pm

Performances Sat 29th and Sun 30th Nov

#### Rector's Ramblings

I was wondering what I might write about in my Ramblings this month and as ever, God gifts the inspiration in those unexpected ways. So Hayley called me a few moments ago, not for the usual reason, to ask a question about any of the myriad of things that come into the office, but simply to tell me with exuberant joy that she had managed to persuade the printer to print the Holiday Club booklets exactly the way we wanted them. She simply wanted to share her moment of joy in achieving a task that she had been thinking about and trying to work out how to do. It might not seem like much (except perhaps to those familiar with trying to persuade printers to do what you tell them to!), but I could hear the delight in Hayley's voice and it was so lovely that she wanted to share that moment of joy and it lit up my heart too.

How good are we are counting our blessings and celebrating the little things in life – and importantly in sharing them? Sharing them not for the pat on the back or for self-aggrandisement, but simply so that happiness is shared to lighten up the lives of others too. We are often quicker to share the troubles of life (and that is good and right to do – for we share them in our mutual love and support of one another), but we must learn to share our joys even more than perhaps we do. Remember that Jesus 'came that they may have life, and have it abundantly' (John 10:10) and in sharing our moments of delight and blessings we remind everyone of the God who in Jesus came to bring us that abundant life, both now in in the eternal life to come.

God calls us to be community, with Him and with one another and that we do best in sharing our joys and indeed our sorrows too. As Romans 12:15 reminds us to "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn", so our response to those who share the things of life with us is clear – to be alongside and share in them. In this we 'build up our common life' and become the community of love and peace God intends us to be – one which I hope and pray is one others would see and wish to be a part of.

Oh, and well done Hayley – I know all too well the battles we can have with printers! I share in your joy!

God bless you all. Ed



# THE RATBY **DAYTIME BRASS BAND**

**Brass Band Concert** 

**Conductor Ian Bartram** 

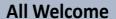
St Philip and St James Church, Church Lane, Ratby, LE6 0JF

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September



# **Free Admission**

including a cup of soup and roll





Doors open at 11.30am and concert begins at 12.30-1.30pm

**Voluntary donations welcome** 



#### **RATBY PARISH CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS**

Rector Rev'd. Dr. Ed Bampton	0116 239 6520	revdredbampton@outlook.com
<u>Curate</u> Rev'd Riffat Zamurad	07902 422216	revdriffatzamurad@gmail.com
Associate Minister Joan Hawkins	07545 909868	jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk
<u>Associate Minister</u> Keith Wignall	0116 286 1306	kwignall420@gmail.com
<u>Church Warden</u> Vacant		
<u>Churchyard Liaison</u> Stuart Tyler	07966 441639	Stuart_t58@hotmail.com
<u>Treasurer</u> Mandy Waldram	07876 408773	mjwaldram15@yahoo.com
Bell Captain Anthony Haywood	0116 239 5546	
<u>Church Flowers</u> Brenda Willis	0116 2390010	dh_bwillis@btinternet.com
<u>Church Cleaning</u> Joan Hawkins	07545 909868	jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk
Church Rooms Treasurer Pam Pollard	0116 238 8271	
<u>Church Rooms Bookings</u> Chris Boothby	07306 390543 0116 2912796	chris.boothby@hinckley- bosworth.gov.uk
<u>Church Magazine Editor</u> Rev'd Dr Ed Bampton	0116 239 6520	revdredbampton@outlook.com
Church Administrator Hayley Moore	0116 239 3768	office@bradgatechurches.org.uk

Faith is the capacity to trust God while not being able to make sense out of everything. – *James Kok* 



#### SUNDAY TELEPHONE SERVICES - SEPTEMBER

DATE	GROBY/RATBY	
7th	11.15am Telephone Church (KW)	
14th	11.15am Telephone Church (RS)	
21st	11.15am Telephone Church (JH)	
28th	11.15am Telephone Church (RZ)	



#### **ON-LINE SERVICES - SEPTEMBER**

#### REGULAR WEEKDAY ONLINE SERVICES

At **9pm Tuesday -** night prayer

<u>NATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES ON-LINE</u>
There are usually national church services being streamed on Sundays that can be accessed via:

https://www.facebook.com/thechurchofengland

and if that is not possible there is Sunday worship on Radio 4.

#### **GROBY/RATBY IN-CHURCH SERVICES - SEPTEMBER**

DATE	GROBY	RATBY		
	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)			
<b>7th</b> 12th Sunday after Trinity	9.30pm All Age Service (Team/EB)	10.00am Holy Communion (RZ)		
,	6.00pm Holy Communion (RZ)			
14th		8.00am Holy Communion (RZ)		
13th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion (EB)	10.00am Morning Worship (RZ)		
uresi iiiiiie,	6.00pm Evensong (RS)			
21st	8.00am Holy Communion (RZ)			
14th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Morning Worship (RZ)	10.00am Holy Communion (EB)		
2016		8.00am Holy Communion (EB)		
28th 15th Sunday	9.30am Holy Communion (RZ)	10.00am Morning Worship (EB)		
after Trinitý	6.00pm Evensong (EB)			

MIDWEE	K COMMUNIO	N SERV	ICES Se	ptembe	r 2025
GROBY	Wed 9.30am	3rd	10th	17th	24th

# September Diary

1st	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
0 1	т	7.30pm	Julian Meeting: Sharing Silence Groby Library
2nd	Tues	9.00pm	Online Night Prayer
3rd	Wed	9.30am 12.00pm 1.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Men's Meet Up at Stamford Arms, Groby 'Groby Sings' Rehearsals begin at Groby Club
4th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
5th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
6th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Coffee Morning, Ratby Church Rooms
7th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Groby All Age Service at Groby Holy Communion at Ratby Telephone Church Holy Communion at Groby
8th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
9th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
10tth	Wed	9.30am 11.30am 2.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Ratby Day Band Concert Women's Guild meeting
11th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm 7.30-9.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall Deanery Synod in Ratby Church
12th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 2.00pm 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Over 60s Cinema at Ratby Church Rock Solid at URC Groby
13th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 4.00pm 10.00 - 4.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Ride and Stride visitors to Groby and Ratby Scarecrow Festival in Groby
14th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 10.00 - 4.00pm 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Ratby Holy Communion at Groby Morning Worship at Ratby Scarecrow Festival in Groby Telephone Church Evensong at Groby

15th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
16th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
17th	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
18th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
19th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
20th	Sat	9.00am-1.00pm 10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 12.00pm	Church Officers Training at St Andrew's LFE Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Coffee Morning, Ratby Church Rooms
21st	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Groby Morning Worship at Groby Holy Communion at Ratby Telephone Church Taizé Service at Markfield Methodist Church
22nd	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
23rd	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
24th	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
25th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
26th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
27th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
28th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.15am 12.30pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Ratby Holy Communion at Groby Morning Worship at Ratby Telephone Church Sunday Lunch Club at Ratby Evensong at Groby
29th	Mon	9.00am 9.30 - 3.30pm	Morning Prayer at Ratby Quiet day in Ratby church (see P19)
30th	Tues	9.15 - 10,30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer

#### How to get your 10,000 steps in in one day?



We had a great day – meet our team who cleared most of our churchyard. On a warm (but not too hot) Summer day in August, a group of our parishioners and a few from outside the village, but who were born here, came to mow, strim, weed and everything else you can think of in our churchyard.



Bags of rubbish, [or should I say garden waste?] were piled up ready for our contractor to take them away. They must have walked miles between them. Whether they were pushing a wheelbarrow, mowing the edges or strimming the long grass or weeding some of our graves...





Ed clearing the north porch pathway. Who knew it was so wide!

Here are some "before, during and after" photographs of the churchyard and of our lovely team that came to help. I had the easy job, all I needed to do was make teas, coffees and soft drinks for everybody. Oh and provide biscuits and cake [thank you to 1 of our lovely volunteers for the donation of a homemade cake]. We are hopefully going to do this again in the Autumn then maybe three times each year from next year – Spring, Summer & Autumn. So look out for our next Advert. Come



and join us for a healthy active time in the churchyard.



How much grass?



Val the bin lady!



Leanne the bag lady!

# Before After



David pruning the trees.

Photos of before and after courtesy of Colin Hearne. Photo permissions granted by the clear up team.

Angie Cain and Val Pears

# Curate's Cuisine Pakistani Palak Chicken Recipe (Spinach Chicken Curry)

**Ingredients**: For the Chicken Curry:

Chicken – 750 grams (bone-in pieces preferred)

Spinach (Palak) – 500 grams (washed and finely chopped or blended)

Onions - 2 medium, finely sliced

Tomatoes - 2 medium, chopped or blended

Garlic paste - 1 tablespoon

Ginger paste - 1 tablespoon

Green chillies – 2 (optional, adjust to taste)

Yogurt –  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup (whisked)

Cumin seeds – 1 teaspoon

Red chili powder - 1 teaspoon (adjust to taste)

Turmeric powder - 1/2 teaspoon

Coriander powder - 1½ teaspoons

Garam masala powder – ½ teaspoon

Salt - to taste

Oil - ½ cup (you can reduce if preferred)

#### **Optional for Garnish:**

Lemon juice – 1 tablespoon

Fresh coriander – chopped

Ginger - julienned

#### **Instructions**: Prepare the Spinach:

Boil spinach for 2–3 minutes until wilted, then blend into a smooth paste OR finely chop and set aside. (Tip: For a deeper flavour, sauté spinach briefly instead of boiling to retain nutrients.)

#### Cook the Chicken:

In a heavy-bottomed pot , heat oil.

Add cumin seeds and let them sizzle for a few seconds.

Add sliced onions and sauté until golden brown.

Add ginger and garlic paste. Cook for 1–2 minutes until the raw smell disappears.

Add chicken pieces and cook on high heat until the chicken changes colour and starts to brown slightly.

Add Spices and Tomatoes:

Add salt, red chili powder, turmeric, and coriander powder.

Mix well and cook for a minute.

Add chopped or blended tomatoes. Cook until the oil starts to separate from the masala and tomatoes are fully softened.

#### Add Yogurt and Cook:

Lower the heat and add whisked yogurt slowly, stirring continuously to avoid curdling.

Cook for another 5–7 minutes until the chicken is almost done.

Add Spinach, Stir in the blended or chopped spinach.

Cook uncovered on medium heat for 10–15 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the oil rises to the top and the spinach is fully cooked and blended with the chicken . Finish with Garam Masala.

Sprinkle garam masala and sliced green chillies (if using).

Cover and simmer on low heat for another 5 minutes.

#### To Serve:

Garnish with julienned ginger, fresh coriander, or a squeeze of lemon juice. Serve hot with naan, roti, or basmati rice.

#### Tips:

You can use frozen spinach if fresh is unavailable, but fresh gives better flavour.

For a richer taste, add a tablespoon of cream or butter at the end. Bone-in chicken adds more flavour, but boneless can be used for quicker cooking.

\*Rev'd Riffat\*



#### Saturday 13th September

Do you enjoy a walk or a cycle ride combined with visiting a nearby church, or even one further afield, maybe one that will be part of our minster community in the future? Maybe Anstey, Thurcaston, Birstall or Wanlip. Or further afield to Thornton, Bagworth and Stanton. This is an opportunity to raise funds for both our church and for Leicestershire Historic churches (from which we have received grants in the past)

Registration forms are now in church together with an opportunity to sponsor those taking part.

# Activities for children and families in our Benefice in September



Fri 5th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s	
Fri 5th	7.30pm	Rock Solid URC Groby Ag		Age 10 to 15	
Sun 7th	9.30am	All Age Service	StP&J Groby	Families	
Tues 9th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s	
Tues 9th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary	
Fri 12th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s	
Fri 12th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15	
Tues 16th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s	
Tues 16th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary	
Fri 19th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s	
Fri 19th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15	
Tues 23rd	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s	
Tues 23rd	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary	
Fri 26th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s	
Fri 26th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15	
Tues 30th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s	
Tues 30th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary	

# **Sunday Lunch Club**





We would welcome volunteers to help us serve lunch to our guests If you can help, please contact Joan Hawkins (Associate Minister at Ratby Parish Church)

Telephone: 07545 909868 Email: <u>jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk</u>

The next lunch will be on:

28th September 2025

## Quiet Day at Ratby Church Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 9:30 am - 3pm

(with the option to join Morning Prayer at 9am)

<u>Theme: The Kingdom of God</u>

Jesus said that he was sent to share the good news of the Kingdom of God, and that the Kingdom of God is at hand.

We will spend the day pondering some questions:

What is the Kingdom of God?

Where can we find the Kingdom of God?

How are we a part of the Kingdom of God?

There will be short times of teaching; time for individual reflection and time to share. There will be prompts and activities to help you in the quiet.

A Quiet day is a chance to take time out of the hustle and bustle of the world and focus on God. With all that is going on in the world at the moment, and the changes that will be happening in our churches, this feels like a good time to take time out and focus on God.

You will need to bring your own lunch, and we are requesting a donation of £5 to help cover costs. There will be teas, coffee and biscuits available throughout the day. I would suggest that you also bring a journal or notebook to capture your thoughts and feelings.

We will finish the day by sharing communion together. Book your place by signing up at church or emailing Ruth Mwenya: bananpemba@yahoo.co.uk

And use the same address to ask any questions!

#### Holiday at Home: Enriching Activities for Seniors at Ratby Church

#### Creating Joy, Connection, and Meaningful Memories

As the world turns ever faster and the pace of daily life accelerates, the value of community and cherished traditions becomes ever more profound. For many seniors, the idea of a holiday may seem a distant memory or an impractical notion, yet it is precisely this group that deserves the magic, warmth, and communal spirit of a holiday most. At Ratby Church, the "Holiday at Home" programme has blossomed into a beacon of togetherness, designed specifically to bring holiday cheer, creativity, and kinship into the lives of older adults - without the need for travel.

#### The Vision of "Holiday at Home"

In my role firstly as Pastoral Assistant at Ratby Church I recognised a need within the local community: many seniors, whether due to mobility challenges, health concerns, bereavement or personal preference, sometimes find it difficult to embark on traditional holidays. In response, the church pioneered a series of "Holiday at Home" activities - transforming its hall into a festive retreat, alive with laughter and companionship. This article explores the range of activities on offer, their impact on wellbeing, and the cherished experience they create.

#### **Welcoming Atmosphere: Setting the Scene**

Each "Holiday at Home" session at Ratby Church begins with a warm welcome. We greet attendees with open arms and a friendly cup of tea or coffee.

**Crafting Memories** 

One of the popular aspects of the programme is its arts and crafts workshops. Seniors are invited to try their hand at a variety of creative activities:

- Card Making: Using colourful papers, stamps, and embellishments, participants create beautiful cards for friends and family. This not only stimulates creativity but also strengthens social bonds, as cards are often exchanged within the group.
- Watercolour Painting: Guided by a local.
- Dried flower arrangements for the church

The focus is not on perfection, but on the joy of creation and the sense of accomplishment that follows.

#### **Music and Movement**

Music is a universal language, and at Ratby Church, it is celebrated in many forms. Holiday at Home activities have included singalongs of classic favourites and sometimes even a visit from a singing teacher who has always managed to get a lovely sound from the group. We have had a visiting ukulele group.

We always include gentle chair-based exercises set to music. These sessions encourage both physical movement and emotional connection, often stirring fond recollections and laughter.

#### **Games and Entertainment**

Recreation and laughter are vital components of wellbeing:

- Bingo: Always a crowd-pleaser with our own resident bingo queen Pamela, bingo sessions offer gentle excitement and the chance to win small, thoughtful prizes.
- Quizzes: Themed around holidays, local history, or general knowledge, quizzes encourage friendly competition and spark lively conversation.
- Silly games are always a favourite and create much laughter
- Quizzes are always popular and definitely bring out the competitive spirit in everyone
- Board Games: Traditional favourites like Scrabble, dominoes, and Ludo are set out, as well as the ever popular jigsaw puzzles

No holiday is complete without the pleasure of good food shared in good company. At Ratby Church, "Holiday at Home" events always feature delicious meals, prepared by Joan and her volunteers.

Afternoon Tea Party: For our special end of week celebration we finish with a film and the a truly delicious afternoon tea tables are adorned with, scones, sandwiches, and an array of delicious cakes. The ritual of afternoon tea fosters conversation and connection.

Dietary needs and preferences are carefully considered, ensuring everyone feels nourished and included.

#### Bus trip

The highlight of our week is taking a coach of seniors for a day out, funded by year-round fundraising. This year, with support from the Co-operative community fund, we organized a trip to Denby Pottery Village and a steam train ride through Derbyshire, including a fish and chips lunch for everyone.



#### **Building Community: Lasting Impact**

Perhaps the greatest achievement of Ratby Church's' "Holiday at Home" programme is the sense of community it fosters. Friendships blossom, isolation diminishes and participants report improved mood and resilience. Volunteers gain as much as they give, discovering new perspectives and deep connections with those they serve.

Stories abound of attendees who, hesitant at first, have found purpose and joy through their involvement. One participant shared, "It's not just about the activities - it's about being together, sharing stories, and feeling remembered."

This year's holiday at home was on a smaller scale unfortunately, but the 2 days we did manage were as usual well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. As the "Holiday at Home" initiative continues to flourish, it stands as a testament to the power of creativity, kindness, and the simple joys of coming together. For the seniors of Ratby and beyond, the holiday spirit is alive - not in distant places, but right at home. My sincere thanks this year go to Anne, Paul, Pamela and Joan and of course the person who is always by my side and is my rock, my husband Tony.

Joan Hawkins Associate Minister

#### Sudoku for September

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

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## CHURCH REGISTERS

#### **BAPTISMS**

<u>Ratby</u> None **Groby** 

20th July ~ Orson McIntosh



#### WEDDINGS

<u>Ratby</u> None <u>Groby</u> None



#### FUNERALS

#### <u>Ratby</u>

16th May ~ Kieron Sloan

21st May ~ William Eaglesham

11th July ~ Robert Tate

14th July ~ Thomas Dorman 28th July ~ Veronica Miller 29th Jully ~ Eric Richardson



#### <u>Groby</u>

16th May ~ Michael Brewer 19th May ~ Goffrey Linthwaite 9th June ~ Judith Hemsill 23rd June ~ John Henson 21st July ~ Muriel Stanley 1st August ~ Julie Johnson

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends, and pray that they may find peace through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord.



# **Saturday Coffee Mornings Ratby Church Rooms**

6th September 9.30am - 1pm
in aid of Motor Neurone Charity
&
20th September 10am - 12pm





#### Flower Rota

7th September ~ Christine Dunmore
14th September ~ Lily Walton (BW)
21st September ~ Lily Walton (BW)
28th September ~ Harvest Team

5th October ~ Harvest Team
12th October ~ Sandra Slater
19th October ~ Sandra Slater
26th October ~ Tony Hawkins

## Cinema Club At Ratby Church on Fridays For the Over 60's at 2.00pm



#### Friday 12th September

Details of the films to be shown are available in church (our licence only allows us to advertise the film title in the church building) or for more information on the seniors film please contact

Joan Hawkins on Tel: 07545 909868

#### Groby and Ratby churches' prayer group

#### What is the prayer group?

It is a commitment by a group of people who pray for people in the Parishes and further afield as part of their own daily prayers. They do not meet regularly as a prayer group but they are linked, like a chain, to one another so that the needs for prayer can be passed on to all the members of the group.

#### Who are we?

We are a group of worshippers from Groby and Ratby who believe in the power of prayer. Our desire is to share in God's work of healing and renewing lives. All requests are in confidence and may be made anonymously. It is a great privilege and joy to see God work in people's lives and so gratifying when we hear that our prayers have been answered or that people being prayed for feel the power of the prayer.

#### Who can be prayed for?

Requests are received from anyone at all who feels in need of prayer, or who might have a relative, friend or person they are concerned about, or an issue that they wish to be remembered in prayer. Normally, but not in every circumstance, those being prayed for specifically should know about any request made on their behalf and be in agreement with it going forward.

If you would like us to pray for you or someone you know you can contact **Rev Ed tel:0116 2396520 or Joan Hawkins our Associate Minister** 07545909868 or email Joan at <a href="mailto:jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk">jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk</a>. **Remember all requests are strictly confidential** 

### **Ratby Parochial Church Council Officers**

The Parochial Church Council for the Ratby Parish are elected as follows. Please feel free to contact any of the members of the PCC if you have any questions or concerns about Ratby Church.

#### Ratby Church Warden

Vacant

# Representatives on Diocesan Synod Mrs. Angie Cain

# Representatives on Deanery Synod Mrs. Pamela Pollard & Dr. Claire Bampton

# <u>Parochial Church Council Elected Members</u>

Mrs. Anne Koscielska Miss. Valerie Pears Mr Harry Beason

#### **Associate Minister**





As far as Reg could tell, the burglar had disturbed nothing in the vestry



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

## Advertise

in the
Ratby Parish
Church Magazine

On 0116 239 0554

#### **Smile Lines**

Smart car



A clergy friend of mine bought a new car that sported an on-board computer. On Sunday morning he got into the car to drive to church, and the digital display lit up. Glancing at the readout, he chuckled at the announcement: "Time for service."



Ratby Church
Rooms
are Available For
Hire
Most Weekends!
Also Available Friday
evenings for one off
or regular hire!



**Parties** 







Keep Fit



Prices & Bookings

Call: Chris Boothby On: 07306 390543 or 0116 2912796



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www.tclegalservices.co.uk

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