

# St. Philip & St. James Church

## Ratby Parish Church Magazine

### October 2025



*St. Philip & St. James Church, Ratby*

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

## **OCTOBER WORSHIP FROM THE BENEFICE OF GROBY AND RATBY**

Please see inside the magazine for details of services and events for October - 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.

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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  
07545 909868

# The Benefice

October 2025  
of Groby and Ratby

## ***Autumn, Harvest and Generosity Week***



Autumn is well and truly with us now. The summer heat has faded, youngsters are back in school, the deer are roaming around Bradgate searching for acorns and the squashes and pumpkins are ready on the allotment. In church the Harvest festivals are underway. There are numerous school harvests that need attending by our ministry team alongside those held in church.

At Harvest time we think about all that we have to be thankful for and living in this country our list is endless. There's the wonderful water board who despite the dry year still provide fresh clean drinking water at the turn of the tap; or the NHS providing care when we need it without having to prove we can pay for it; there are schools that teach our children, grandchildren or even great grandchildren free of charge and don't forget those dustbin lorries that prowl the streets in our village every Monday. The list goes on. We have so much to be thankful for in this country.

But harvest is not just about saying thank you to God, but also about what God wants us to do with the things he has given us. Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York, points out that *"Our faith starts with the most generous gift of all – God's gift to us of life itself and new life and new hope in Jesus Christ. What we*

*'generosity' is just our response to these great gifts... This is what Generosity Week is all about."* In our benefice we are thinking about Generosity during the first 2 weeks of October.

Jesus talked about what it meant to give generously. In the Bible, there is a story about how Jesus was standing outside the Temple with his friends, watching people come and give money...

Many rich people donated large sums to the Temple. Then a poor widow came and put in two coins that weren't worth very much. Jesus told his friends that her contribution, even though it was less money, was worth more than what all the rich people gave. They could afford to give large amounts, but she gave almost all she had to live on. For her, it was like giving everything Luke 21:1 - 4

Not everyone has a lot of money to spare. Jesus' story about the poor widow is a reminder that how much we give is less important than our attitude about giving. Money isn't the only thing to give either. We can give to God, and each other, in three ways: our time, our talents, and our treasure (money).

## ***Time***

There are lots of ways we can spend time helping others, whether with our young people or helping with Fair Cuppa, whether at Groby Sings or at Tasters. Generosity also matters to the people we love. Small rituals of spending time together within families are important – going for a walk, praying together at bedtime, listening to what was good and bad about each day – are ways of being generous to each other. Also, who among our friends and family might need us to spend special time with them? Is there someone who's lonely or sad? How can we help them?

## ***Talent***

We all have talents whether as accountant, baker or carpenter. Whatever it is, that talent could be used to help others. Tasters need another regular baker just once a month. If you're good at making people feel welcome, maybe you can help by being one of the welcomers and sides people occasionally. Sunday school need a regular person who will sit in just to listen, and I am sure we all have a talent to sit!

## ***Treasure***

Harvest is a time when we can reassess how much we can give to the church. As gift aid secretary I am always amazed by the generosity that is seen in this benefice, and I thank all of you who prayfully think about your giving to your church. However, I also realise it is easy to set up direct debits and then forget about them. The last few years inflation rates have increased our bills and our giving hasn't kept pace with them. So consider this a gentle reminder to look at your giving, does it need to increase?

Many of us wish we could give more but cannot currently afford to. A legacy is a no risk way of giving because it doesn't take effect until after death. Some of us may find ourselves in the situation where the next generation is no longer relying on us for financial support. In those cases I would like to encourage you to think about including a bequest to St Philip and St James church whether Groby or Ratby in your Will. If you would like to explore this further please speak to any of the ministry team and they will support you in this.

To pass on a legacy is to pass on the faith of the church and the faith that is within us. We have received a treasured place from previous generations, and are responsible for handing it on to the next. The church, like the world it serves, is not just for us now – we are given the privilege of being responsible for a sacred place where God has been found, and which we then hand on to others.

If you would like to continue thinking about generosity, and how it enables us to serve our communities, I encourage you to look at the Generosity Week's Connected Disciples resource. You can find the resource here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/generosity-week>

*Ruth Scott*

*Associate Minister for Groby and Ratby*

## ***Services and Events in September***

Mostly our usual pattern will continue and don't forget about our lovely evening services on Sundays at 6pm on Groby. Notably for the evensong 12th October we will have a rehearsal of the Magnificat (sung version) with Paul at 5pm followed by tea and cake before the service at 6pm, where we will try singing it in the service. Anyone who would like to join in with the rehearsal is more than welcome!!! We are aiming to work to a sung evensong at least monthly.

One big thing to note though this month is that Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October will be a bit different! This will be a special joint service at Ratby at the different time of **11am** with lunch afterwards (this will be a Ploughman's at a cost of £4 ). This is both a Harvest Celebration, where we hope to raise money for Christian Aid, but will also be our Leaving Service for Rev'd Riffat Zamurad, our curate who goes on to pastures new (see elsewhere in the magazine for details). Do join us for the service (lunch tickets are sold out) – all are welcome. Don't worry, we will be doing harvest in Groby too – that will be at 9.30am on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October. See in the magazine about donations for food as we support the work of Braunstone Foodshare, as well as holding stocks in church for any people we know are in urgent need locally.

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 is one more special service this month – in Groby on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm will be our Service of Loving Remembrance for those we have loved and lost. There will be an equivalent service in Ratby the following month (3pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November). All welcome and do let us know if there are names of those you would like us to remember which we will read out during the service.

## **Rector's Ramblings**

I am indebted to the person who shared on Facebook their sermon for Holy Cross Day, which we celebrated on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September, on which I base this rambling as I reflect on what I see around the country and the questions and comments I have heard. For, ironically, the cross has been everywhere of late. Painted on zebra crossings and mini roundabouts, hung from houses and carried in streets by thousands upon thousands in demonstrations organised by particular people who we call the far-right. This cross is of course the cross on the national flag of England, the cross of St George, but alongside this wooden crosses have been carried in demonstrations. All this to appropriate the cross as a symbol of power and sadly, in the current climate, thereby to inflame racial tensions and create division.

But for me this is to misuse and misunderstand the cross. Some of you may remember me using, a number of years ago, the poem 'High and Lifted Up', by Studdart Kennedy, one of my favourites to which the Facebook sermon also alluded. It is a good reminder of the real meaning of the cross when we look towards the end of the poem:

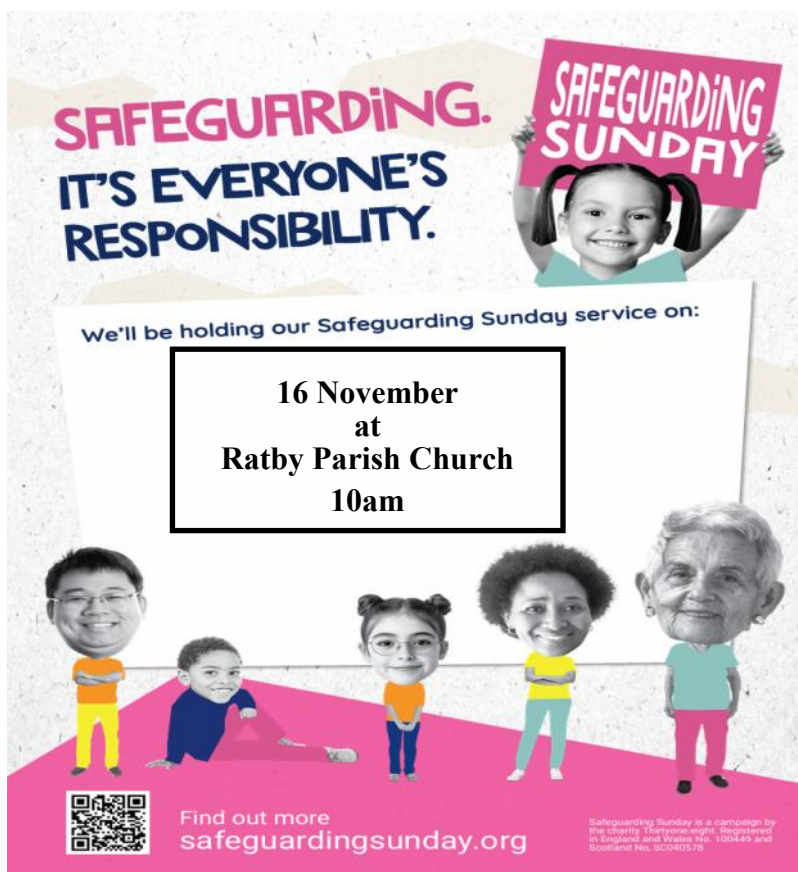
*God, the God I love and worship, reigns in sorrow on the Tree,  
Broken, bleeding, but unconquered, very God of God to me.  
All that showy pomp of splendour, all that sheen of angel wings,  
Was but borrowed from the baubles that surround our earthly kings.  
Thought is weak and speech is weaker, and the vision that He sees  
Strikes with dumbness any preacher, brings him humbly to his knees.  
But the word that Thou hast spoken borrows nought from kings and  
thrones,  
Vain to rack a royal palace for the echo of Thy tones.  
In a manger, in a cottage, in an honest workman's shed,  
In the homes of humble peasants, and the simple lives they led,  
In the life of one an outcast and a vagabond on earth,  
In the common things He valued, and proclaimed of priceless worth,  
And above all in the horror of the cruel death He died,  
Thou hast bid us seek Thy glory, in a criminal crucified.  
And we find it - for Thy glory is the glory of Love's loss,  
And Thou hast no other splendour but the splendour of the Cross.  
For in Christ I see the martyrs and the beauty of their pain,  
And in Him I hear the promise that my dead shall rise again.  
High and lifted up, I see Him on the eternal Calvary,  
And two pierced hands are stretching east and west o'er land and  
sea.*

*On my knees I fall and worship that great Cross that shines above,  
For the very God of Heaven is not Power, but Power of Love.*

This is the cross we as Christians need to reappropriate. As Paul puts it in 1 Corinthians 1:18 'the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God' – and the power of God is in Christ crucified for love of us all. This cross is not one of power or exclusion. This is the cross of sacrifice and love. Let us remind everyone that *'the very God of Heaven is not Power, but Power of Love'* and seek always to conquer hatred with Love that we may be the truly Christian country we are proud of.

*God bless you all*

*Ed*



A poster for Safeguarding Sunday. At the top, a young girl with pigtails holds a pink sign that says "SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY". To the left, the text "SAFEGUARDING. IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY." is written in pink and blue. Below this, a white box contains the text "16 November at Ratby Parish Church 10am". At the bottom, five diverse people (three children and two adults) are standing on a pink path. A QR code is in the bottom left, and the website "safeguardingsunday.org" is in the bottom center. Small text in the bottom right states: "Safeguarding Sunday is a campaign by the charity Thirtynineeight. Registered in England and Wales No. 100449 and Scotland No. SC040578".

**SAFEGUARDING.  
IT'S EVERYONE'S  
RESPONSIBILITY.**

**SAFEGUARDING  
SUNDAY**

We'll be holding our Safeguarding Sunday service on:

**16 November  
at  
Ratby Parish Church  
10am**

Find out more  
[safeguardingsunday.org](https://safeguardingsunday.org)

Safeguarding Sunday is a campaign by the charity Thirtynineeight. Registered in England and Wales No. 100449 and Scotland No. SC040578

## RATBY PARISH CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

<b><u>Rector</u></b> Rev'd. Dr. Ed Bampton	<b>0116 239 6520</b>	<b>revdredbampton@outlook.com</b>
<b><u>Curate</u></b> Rev'd Riffat Zamurad	<b>07902 422216</b>	<b>revdriffatzamurad@gmail.com</b>
<b><u>Associate Minister</u></b> Joan Hawkins	<b>07545 909868</b>	<b>jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk</b>
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<b><u>Church Warden</u></b> Vacant		
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## **Ratby Churchyard – Thank You and Next Churchyard Day Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm**

Can I again just say a huge thank you to everyone who came to our first community Churchyard Day in August and helped to make it look so much better – one reminder picture to show the impact of just some of your amazing work.:

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



We had such fun and it made such a difference that we are doing this again on **Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm**. All welcome of all ages – there are more than enough jobs for everyone of every age! Just come along to church whatever time you have free and do bring tools if you can, but there will be some available if you haven't got your own. Light refreshments available through the day in church!

Thank you and God bless you all.

Ed

The following announcement was made by the Leicester Diocese on Monday 8th September:

*We are pleased to announce the appointment of The Revd Riffat Zamurad, currently Curate in the Groby and Ratby Benefice, as Vicar in the Humberstone and Thurnby Lodge Benefice. Riffat's licensing date will be announced in due course.*

Though we are sorry to lose Riffat, we give our best wishes for a happy and successful new appointment

## ***SUNDAY TELEPHONE SERVICES - OCTOBER***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>GROBY/RATBY</b>
<b>5th</b>	<b>No telephone church</b>
<b>12th</b>	11.15am Telephone Church (RS)
<b>19th</b>	11.15am Telephone Church (JH)
<b>26th</b>	11.15am Telephone Church (EB)



## ***ON-LINE SERVICES - OCTOBER***

### ***REGULAR WEEKDAY ONLINE SERVICES***

At **9pm Tuesday** - night prayer

### ***NATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES ON-LINE***

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 - OCTOBER*

DATE	GROBY	RATBY
<b>5th</b> 16th Sunday after Trinity	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)	
	11am Special Harvest Service at Ratby (EB/RZ)	11.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	6.00pm Holy Communion (EB)	
<b>12th</b> 17th Sunday after Trinity		8.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	9.30am Holy Communion (EB)	10.00am Morning Worship (RD/AC)
	6.00pm Evensong (RS)	
<b>19th</b> 18th Sunday after Trinity	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)	
	9.30am Morning Worship (RD/AC)	10.00am Holy Communion (EB)
<b>26th</b> 19th Sunday after Trinity		8.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	9.30am Holy Communion (EB)	10.00am Morning Worship (RD)
	3.00pm Service of Loving Remembrance (EB)	



MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES October 2025						
<b>GROBY</b>	Wed 9.30am	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th

## October Diary

1st	Wed	9.30am 12.00pm 1.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Men's Meet Up at Stamford Arms Preschool Harvest Service at Ratby
2nd	Thurs	10.30 - 2.00pm 5.30pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall Installation of Richard Trethewey at the Cathedral
3rd	Fri	9.00am 9.30 - 11.00am	Ratby School Harvest Service at Ratby CTG CatCh at Groby URC
4th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Coffee Morning, Ratby Church Rooms
5th	Sun	<b>8.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b> <b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Holy Communion at Groby</b> <b>Harvest Service at Ratby</b> <b>Holy Communion at Groby</b>
6th	Mon	9.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer at Ratby Julian Meeting: <i>Sharing Silence</i> at Groby Library
7th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
8th	Wed	9.30am 2.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Women's Guild meeting
9th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
10th	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
11th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
12th	Sun	<b>8.00am</b> <b>9.30am</b> <b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b> <b>11.15am</b> <b>6.00pm</b> <b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Holy Communion at Ratby</b> <b>Holy Communion at Groby (Harvest)</b> <b>Morning Worship at Ratby</b> <b>Crossfire at the Village Hall</b> <b>Telephone Church</b> <b>Evensong at Groby</b> <b>Taizé Service at Markfield Methodist Church</b>
13th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
14th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer

15th	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
16th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
17th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
18th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 12.00pm 2.00 - 4.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Coffee Morning, Ratby Church Rooms Open Church at Groby
19th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.15am	<b>Holy Communion at Groby</b> <b>Morning Worship at Groby</b> <b>Holy Communion at Ratby</b> <b>Telephone Church</b>
20th	Mon	9.00am	<b><i>Schools half term</i></b> Morning Prayer at Ratby
21st	Tues	9.00pm	Online Night Prayer
22nd	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
23rd	Thurs	10.30 - 2.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
24th	Fri		
25th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
26th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 11.15am 12.30pm 3.00pm	<b>Holy Communion at Ratby</b> <b>Holy Communion at Groby</b> <b>Morning Worship at Ratby</b> <b>Crossfire at the Village Hall</b> <b>Telephone Church</b> <b>Lunch Club at Ratby</b> <b>Service of Loving Remembrance at Groby</b>
27th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
28th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
29th	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
30th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
31st	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby

## ***Congratulations to Rev'd Riffat Zamurad***

It is always a bittersweet moment for any training incumbent when all that training you try to instil into your hapless curate comes to fruition and they get their first post-curacy post. And that is just what has happened as we congratulate Riffat on being appointed as Vicar of Humberstone and Thurnby Lodge.



As you may have noted elsewhere in the magazine, Riffat's final service with us will be on 5<sup>th</sup> October, a joint service at the different time of 11am as we also celebrate Harvest Festival – made extra special by having the wonderful 'Little Big Band' helping us in leading the music. This will be followed by a Ploughman's Lunch afterwards and all are welcome, though lunch tickets are now sold out. The money we raise will support both Christian Aid and Action for Children. Any food donations will go to the Braunstone Food-share project – see poster opposite!

The date of Riffat's licensing is Wednesday 3rd December at 7pm at St Mary's in Humberstone and I know all will be welcome to that service in her new benefice.

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

**Come and join us for a**  
**HARVEST OF HOPE**  
**FAMILY SERVICE**  
**AND/OR LUNCH AFTERWARDS**  
**at**  
**Ratby Church**  
**Church Lane, LE6 0JF**  
**Do join us for our Harvest Celebration**  
**Our service will be accompanied by**  
**members of the Little Big Band**

**LUNCH Tickets SOLD OUT**

Proceeds for this event will go towards  
Christian Aid Harvest appeal



## Harvest Festival Donations

Braunstone Foodshare are currently in need of the following items...

- Rice pudding / custard
- Tins: potatoes, meat, sweetcorn, fruit, soup
- Coffee / tea
- Sugar
- UHT milk
- Biscuits
- Cooking sauces
- Cereal
- Cooking oil
- Juice / squash

*Please give all donations from both churches to Joan Hawkins (07545 909868) who will arrange delivery to Braunstone Foodshare.*

*Thankyou*

✉ [support@b-inspired.org.uk](mailto:support@b-inspired.org.uk)

☎ 0116 279 5020



## Riffat's Recipe

### Palak Paneer (Pakistani Style)

#### **Ingredients:**

##### **For the Spinach (Palak):**

500g spinach (palak), washed and chopped  
1 green chili (adjust to taste)  
2 cloves garlic  
Water (for blanching)

##### **For the Gravy:**

2–3 tbsp oil or ghee  
1 medium onion, finely chopped  
2 tomatoes, finely chopped  
1–2 green chilies (slit or chopped)  
1 tbsp ginger garlic paste  
½ tsp cumin seeds  
½ tsp coriander powder  
½ tsp red chili powder (adjust to taste)  
¼ tsp turmeric  
Salt to taste  
¼ tsp garam masala (optional)

##### **Paneer:**

200–250g paneer (cubed; you can fry them lightly if preferred)

**Optional:** 2–3 tbsp cream or 1 tbsp yogurt (for richness), Fresh coriander for garnish



#### **Instructions:**

Blanch the Spinach:

Boil water in a pot, add spinach leaves and 1 green chili.

Blanch for 2–3 minutes until wilted, then strain and immediately transfer to cold water (to retain green colour).

Blend into a smooth puree with 2 cloves of garlic. Set aside.

Now prepare the Masala:

Heat oil or ghee in a pan. Add cumin seeds and let them sizzle.

Add chopped onions and sauté until golden brown.

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

Add tomatoes, green chilies, salt, and powdered spices (red chili, coriander powder, turmeric). Cook until oil separates and masala is well-cooked.



Add Spinach Puree:

Add the blended spinach to the cooked masala.

Mix well and simmer for 5–7 minutes on medium heat. Add a splash of water if needed.

Add cream or yogurt at this stage for a richer taste (optional).

Add Paneer:

Add paneer cubes and let them simmer in the spinach for 5 minutes.

Sprinkle garam masala and stir gently.

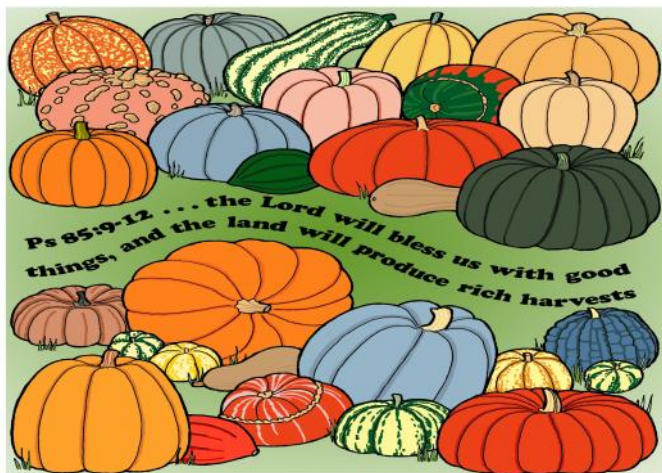
Final Touch:

Garnish with fresh coriander or a drizzle of cream. Serve hot with naan, roti, or jeera rice.

**Tips:** You can lightly fry the paneer in oil or ghee for a firmer texture.

This is the twelfth recipe that Riffat has written for our magazine, but because she has taken a new post, it is also sadly the last. She has added two pudding recipes for November and December.

For future months , maybe one of the magazine readers would like to submit something, not necessarily a recipe, but perhaps a piece of local history, or a local walk, something that our readers might find interesting?



## Activities for children and families in our Benefice in October



Fri 3rd	9.30am	Catch	URC Groby	under 5s
Tues 7th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 7th	3.15pm	Kids Kconnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 10th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 10th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Sun 12th	10.30am	Crossfire	Groby Village Hall	Secondary
Tues 14th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 14th	3.15pm	Kids Kconnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 17th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 17th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
		<b><i>Schools Half Term</i></b>		
Sun 26th	10.30am	Crossfire	Groby Village Hall	Secondary
Tues 28th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 28th	3.15pm	Kids Kconnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 31st	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 31st	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15

The fruit of the Spirit is not push, drive, climb, grasp or  
trample.... Life is more than a climb to the top of the heap.

– Richard J Foster



## ***Ride and Stride 2025***

Can I say a huge thank you to everyone who supported Ride and Stride this year. Thank you to all those who rode and strides. Thank you to all those who opened up our churches to welcome visitors. And thank you to all of you for sponsoring our riders and welcomers.

Despite a cold, with wonderful support from Paul Cox I managed 22.78 miles on an occasionally damp afternoon. Together we visited Ratby, Desford, Peckleton, Kirkby Mallory, Newbold Verdon, Barlestone (both the Baptist Chapel and the Parish Church), Thornton and Groby - and met lots of lovely people and had some great conversations. Thanks to all we met for wonderful hospitality. Paul had already been out and about in the morning, so he covered over 50 miles in total and managed to visit all the churches in our prospective Minster Community, a brilliant feat!



If you still want to sponsor us, as we raise money for both our own churches and also the Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust (from whom both our churches have received grants towards repairs), then there is box in Ratby or a pot in Groby where you can still make donations. I'll let you all know the final totals when I put it all together in October.

*Bless you all.*  
*Ed*

## NEWS FROM....



This season's theme is ***Groby Sings a Menagerie*** which has given us plenty of scope to explore songs about 'birds and beasts'. There is something for everyone with some fun songs and lovely melodies, including numbers by Lennon & McCartney, the Carpenters, Flanders & Swann (those of a certain generation will surely remember *The Hippotamus* song?), Disney and even a little opera. I'm sure our audiences won't be able to help singing along at the end-of-season concerts at **English Martyrs School** on **29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November**. Tickets priced at **£6** will be on sale from the end of October.

Why not come along and share the enjoyment of singing together on Wednesdays (term time only) at The Groby Club?

**Adult singers:** 1.30-3.00pm **and/or** 7.30-9.00pm,

**Youth & Children's Choir** (7 years and over): 3.40-4.40pm.

Pre-school children are welcome in the afternoon in the care of their adult with a crèche area available.

No experience is needed and taking part in the concerts is purely optional (but fun!). Singers experiencing dementia or memory problems or those with any kind of disability are encouraged to come along together with their friends and carers. The Groby Club is very accessible with ramps and disabled toilet facilities. We also like to enjoy simple home-baked goodies in our break so contributions of cake or biscuits, sweet or savoury are very welcome, after all Groby Singers love to 'Sing, socialise and eat cake!'

Enquiries via our website

[www.grobysings.org](http://www.grobysings.org)

and check out our Facebook page too.

Groby Sings is a Registered Charity no. 1180490

St Philip & St James Church Rooms,  
Church Lane, Ratby Sat Nav LE6 0JF

# Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 29th November

10.00am - 2.00pm

Ratby Church Rooms

Tombola ~ Raffle ~ Refreshments ~ Cakes ~ Stalls



Santas Grotto  
In the Church Rooms



Snowman Trail Maps  
available in Church  
Rooms & Library

Proceeds will go to the Christian Famine Appeal  
and the work of our Church

## Sudoku for October

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

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### Sunday Lunch Club

Ratby Church Rooms from 12.30 pm



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: [jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk)

The next lunch will be on:

26 October 2025



# BLUE THURSDAYS



Starts  
25<sup>th</sup> Sept  
2pm-4pm



Have you been  
bereaved?



[stbartskm.org](http://stbartskm.org)

## About

Beginning in September, Blue Thursdays, a place to share, find comfort and connect with other people, whether you are recently bereaved or have been bereaved a while ago.

## Contact Us

Chris | 0116 2393642

Location: St Bart's Church Hall  
Every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday - 2pm to 4pm

## **Saturday Coffee Mornings**

**Ratby Church Rooms**

**10-12pm**

**4th & 18th October**



## **Flower Rota**



<i>5th October</i>	~ <i>Harvest Team</i>
<i>12th October</i>	~ <i>Sandra Slater</i>
<i>19th October</i>	~ <i>Sandra Slater</i>
<i>26th October</i>	~ <i>Tony Hawkins</i>

<i>2nd November</i>	~ <i>Tony Hawkins</i>
<i>9th November</i>	~ <i>Remembrance Team</i>
<i>16th November</i>	~ <i>Remembrance Team</i>
<i>23rd November</i>	~ <i>Joan Gordon</i>
<i>30th November</i>	~ <i>Joan Gordon</i>

## **Cinema Club**

**At Ratby Church on Fridays**

**For the Over 60's at 2.00pm**



**Friday 10 October**

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 [jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk). **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

### Parochial Church Council Elected Members

Mrs. Anne Koscielska Miss. Valerie Pears

Mr Harry Beason

### Associate Minister

Mrs. Joan Hawkins





*...if you have been affected by any  
of the issues raised in this sermon...*



## **Advertise**

in the  
**Ratby Parish  
Church Magazine**

Contact Val Pears  
On  
**0116 239 0554**

## **Smile Lines**



Dear Lord,

So far today, I am doing all right. I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, or cursed. I have not charged on my credit card or eaten any chocolate. However, I am going to get out of bed in a few minutes, and I will need a lot more help after that!

Amen.

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Email:  
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