

St. Philip & St. James Church

Ratby Parish Church Magazine

November 2025



St. Philip & St. James Church, Ratby

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

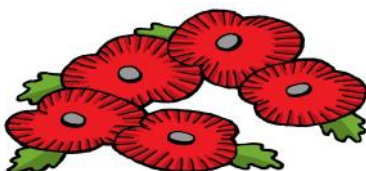
NOVEMBER WORSHIP FROM THE BENEFICE OF GROBY AND RATBY

Please see inside the magazine for details of services and events for November - 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
07545 909868

The Benefice of Groby and Ratby

November 2025

I am sure we all know well what Jesus said when he summarised all the law and the prophets in those immortal words:

“Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” ³¹The second is this, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’

(Mark 12:29-31, but also Matthew 22:37-40, Luke 10:27)

In this Jesus draws on the law as summarised in Deuteronomy (6:5 and 10:12) and Leviticus (19:18) and as I am sure we remember in Luke’s version we are then told the story of the Good Samaritan to help us understand anyone and everyone is our neighbour.

You have heard me say it before, and I am sure you will again, but this central tenet of our faith reminds me that Safeguarding is thus at the core of our faith. Oh no, I hear you cry, not Safeguarding. Do we have to bang on about that again? We’ve got it haven’t we? And we’re Christians aren’t we and we know everyone and so we don’t have anything to worry about do we?



I hope you don’t think like that and realise that the church is far from the idyllic vision of the Kingdom of God we wish it really was. We just need to remember the heinous crimes of Bishop Peter Ball, John Smyth or more recently Michael Pilavachi of Soul Survivor, to name just a handful, to know that the church is as imperfect as any institution. Indeed I sometimes wonder if the church might be particularly a target, precisely because those with the evil intentions of abuse will target us for the perception of our ‘niceness’ (for want of another word) and moreover because Satan wages a spiritual war against and us as the Church who stands against him where else would he direct his evil?

And so this is why Safeguarding to me is even more important. The reason it is currently on my mind is because I am in the process of starting my Safeguarding Leadership training, which I renew every 3 years (as do our amazing Parish Safeguarding Officers Joan Hawkins in Ratby and Fiona Brooks in Groby and others in positions of leadership too).

As part of this we look at ourselves and our churches to identify where we need to change and improve – and we can always strive to do better. I think the biggest thing we need to do is to create a culture of Safeguarding – a journey I believe we are on, but cultural change takes time. The reason I say this is because as part of my preparation for the leadership training was the following question:

'If your church were a perfect example of a healthy culture, what would you see, hear, feel and experience as a member?

What would you hope it would be like?

Dream dreams. Don't be limited to how things currently are but think about what you would like it to be like. You could think about previous experiences, good or bad to help.'

I wonder what your answer would be? Here is a snapshot of some of what I had to say:

See

- An open and honest leadership that feels approachable, will listen and act on what they hear in love and mutual respect and that is always held accountable – and expects to be.
- People of all ages, ethnicities, vulnerabilities and backgrounds worshipping together and forming a community in which every member is valued for who they are.
- Everyone able to participate in worship or volunteering and using their gifts and everyone celebrating with one another the sharing of one another's gifts.
- A growing church where those on the 'outside' look in and see something they want to explore and become a part of.

Hear

- People would feel safe and able to have honest and open conversations about their struggles as well as sharing joys we can celebrate together.
- Worship and preaching that is inclusive and places God at the centre, rooting all things in love.
- Words of encouragement and grace spoken to one another – but also words of challenge as freely given where needed.
- Stories shared of the impact of God in people's lives and the transformation that comes through knowing Jesus Christ.
- The sound of children and everyone accepting and joyful about their presence as part of the church.

Feel/Experience

- Everyone to feel welcomed and valued for who they are.
- Supported by those in leadership and throughout the congregation, especially when things are difficult and feeling able to share the problems in life.
- Able to challenge difficult behaviours, knowing action will be taken in love and humility and that your voice is heard and respected.

- Joy at being part of a loving community of faith that supports one another in good times and bad.
- The Gospel lived out in each and every person's life each day.

I know this is written in the context of Safeguarding, but I hope we might feel that this (and I am sure many other things besides – I don't want to fill the whole magazine!) is simply a vision of Church reflecting the values of the Kingdom of God. And being part of God's Kingdom means every member matters and everyone takes responsibility as part of the Body of Christ – and that includes responsibility in Safeguarding. And if everyone knows we take this seriously and will raise concerns and tackle issues, then we create a culture where abuse cannot take root. And raising concerns is an act of love – not only for the one we might worry is being abused, but also for the one who may be at risk of perpetrating abuse, for it gives the opportunity for repentance, forgiveness and renewal. So please, please remember to raise any worries you might have to me, Joan, Fiona or any trusted member of our church leadership who will pass it on appropriately, using our training to act in the best ways possible. We often have more information than you may be aware of and so it is when we all work together that we protect and love one another the best.

So I hope now when we mention Safeguarding there will be no groaning, but rather a recognition that this is simply an outworking of our Christian faith and lives, loving one another, as God loves us, always seeking to keep us safe 'as a hen gathers her brood under her wings' (Matthew 23:37). So when we come round to November 16th which is Safeguarding Sunday, I hope you will enjoy remembering that love for one another is at the centre of our worship and faith, as I pray it always is.

Love and prayers, always.

Ed



Services and Events in November

Our regular worship pattern will continue in November, but of course November includes Remembrance Sunday which this year is Sunday 9th November. In Ratby the main part of the service will be held in church starting at 10am with a parade to church from Dane Hill setting off at around 9.40am. After the service in church we will then parade down from church to the village memorial for the Act of Remembrance at 11am. In a similar vein, there will be a service in Groby church at 10am and then everyone is welcome to process to the Groby Club for the Act of Remembrance at 11am.

There will also be a Service of Loving Remembrance for all those whose funerals we have done more recently in Ratby, but open to all who would like to come and remember their loved ones. This will be at 3.00pm on Sunday 3rd November at Ratby church this year (the equivalent service at Groby was on Sunday 26th October). With this service happening, note there will be no service in Groby that evening and evening Communion will instead be on 9th November at 6pm in Groby. And as we had fun doing this in October, for Evensong on 23rd November we will again 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!!!

Our regular 11.15am Telephone Church will continue every Sunday except Remembrance Sunday (call 0333 0164 757; room number 10336316#; pin 1920#). And as I say each month, do encourage others to join us, especially those who might struggle to come to church physically – it really is a lovely service and fellowship.

Weekday services, 9am Monday Morning Prayer in Ratby, Tuesday online Compline at 9pm (see our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPandStJ>) and Wednesday Communion at 9.30am (with healing prayer on the third Wednesdays) will continue – you are always welcome to come join in! And if ever you would like home communion, simply ask me and I or one of the team would be delighted to come and share worship in this way with you.

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



Quiet Day at Ratby Church

On a Monday in late September, about a dozen people from our congregation and beyond spent a 'Quiet Day' in Ratby Church on the theme of 'The kingdom of God'.

The day was led by Ruth Mwenya. She gave three short talks – two in the morning and one in the afternoon – in which she shared with us her thoughts on different aspects of the kingdom of God.

After each of the talks, we had about an hour to use as we wished – sitting or walking, in the church, in silence or quiet conversation, in contemplation or doing a written or creative activity. Ratby Church can feel cavernous after the relative intimacy of Groby Church, but for a Quiet Day it was ideal, with lots of space for everyone to spread out and do their own thing undisturbed by anyone else.

In the middle of the day, we ate our packed lunches together. And the day ended in mid-afternoon with a eucharist led by Rev. Ed Bampton.

So what is the kingdom of God? Ruth reminded us of some of the things that Jesus said about it: *The kingdom of God is within you ... The kingdom of God is like yeast that is worked into dough to make bread ... The kingdom of God is like an acorn that grows into a huge oak tree ...* Here, slightly paraphrased, are some of the thoughts of those who came to the Quiet Day:

The kingdom of God is like a slippery fish that if held too tightly will slip out of your hands.

The kingdom of God is like a buddleia bush that grows in unexpected places – on wasteland, on verges.

The kingdom of God is like a ball of wool, which when knitted by skilled hands, produces something that gives joy.

The kingdom of God is when people smile and say hello to people of all walks of life.

The kingdom of God is the care of creation.

The kingdom of God is a place of peace, joy, freedom, hope.

The kingdom of God is warm, welcoming, inviting.

The kingdom of God is where everyone is seen as a valued individual.

The kingdom of God is an extension of the good that is on earth and much more.

The Quiet Day was a welcome chance to set aside everyday life for a few hours and spend time with likeminded people in thinking about what life could and should be like. Thank you, Ruth, for giving up your time to plan and prepare the day and for leading it so gently and sensitively.

Cliff Ashby

RATBY PARISH CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

<u>Rector</u> Rev'd. Dr. Ed Bampton	0116 239 6520	revdredbampton@outlook.com
<u>Curate</u> Rev'd Riffat Zamurad	07902 422216	revdriffatzamurad@gmail.com
<u>Associate Minister</u> 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
<u>Bell Captain</u> Anthony Haywood	0116 239 5546	
<u>Church Flowers</u> Brenda Willis	0116 2390010	dh_bwillis@btinternet.com
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Church Clock – why has time stood still in Ratby?

A few weeks ago Simon Michlmayr (S. Michlmayr & Co. Ltd.) came to service the church clock. He and Alan went up to the clock chamber to inspect all of the operational parts.

Alan looks after the clock, winding it every week [assisted by Colin when he's on holiday] and generally checking all is well. Alan took the job over from Geoff Root who had been doing it for over 50 years!

The clock had been gaining approximately 15 seconds a week (Wow ... is that all for a clock that is over 100 years old!?).

During his close inspection Simon found a large amount of wear to the bearings within the escapement mechanism and was quite surprised it had been keeping such good time given this wear.

The work required on the parts was beyond what could be undertaken on site so the mechanism was dismantled and the hands set at 12 on all 3 faces.

The worn parts have been taken back to the workshop in Norwich and will be repaired or new ones made then re-fitted in a few weeks.



Article prepared by Valerie Pears with help from Alan Whitmee

SUNDAY TELEPHONE SERVICES - NOVEMBER

DATE	GROBY/RATBY
2nd	11.15am Telephone Church (RD)
9th	NO Telephone Church
16th	11.15am Telephone Church (KW)
23rd	11.15am Telephone Church (EB)
30th	11.15am Telephone Church (JH)



SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER

ON-LINE SERVICES - NOVEMBER

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 - NOVEMBER*

DATE	GROBY	RATBY
2nd 20th Sunday after Trinity	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)	
	9.30pm All Age Service (Team)	10.00am Holy Communion (EB)
		3.00pm Service of Loving Remembrance (EB)
9th Remembrance Sunday		8.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	10.00am Remembrance Service (RS)	10.00am Remembrance Service (EB)
	6.00pm Holy Communion (EB)	
16th Safeguarding Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)	
	9.30am Morning Worship (RD/RS)	10.00am Holy Communion (EB/JH)
23rd Christ the King		8.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	9.30am Holy Communion (EB)	10.00am Morning Worship (AC)
	6.00pm Evensong (EB)	
30th 1st Sunday of Advent	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)	
		10.00am Joint Café Church (EB/AC)

MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES November 2025

GROBY	Wed 9.30am	5th	12th	19th	26th
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November Diary

1st	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 12.00pm	Grobby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Coffee Morning, Ratby Church Rooms
2nd	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 12.00pm 3.00pm	Holy Communion at Groby All Age Worship at Groby Holy Communion at Ratby Baptism of Luna at Ratby Service of Loving Remembrance at Ratby
3rd	Mon	9.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer at Ratby Julian Meeting: <i>Sharing Silence</i> at Groby Library
4th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
5th	Wed	9.30am 12.00pm 2.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Men's Meet Up at Stamford Arms, Groby Women's Guild meeting
6th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
7th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
8th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Grobby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
9th	Sun	8.00am 10.00am 10.00am 6.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Ratby Remembrance Service at Groby Remembrance Service at Ratby Holy Communion at Groby Taizé Service at Markfield Methodist Church
10th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
11th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
12th	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
13th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
14th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 2.00pm 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby Over 60s Cinema at Ratby Church
15th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 12.00pm	Grobby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Coffee Morning, Ratby Church Rooms

16th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.15am	Holy Communion at Groby Morning Worship at Groby Holy Communion at Ratby Telephone Church
17th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
18th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
19th	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
20th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
21st	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
22nd	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
23rd	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 11.15am 12.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Ratby Holy Communion at Groby Morning Worship at Ratby Crossfire at the Village Hall Telephone Church Baptism of Finley at Ratby Evensong at Groby
24th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
25th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
26th	Wed	9.30am	Holy Communion at Groby
27th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
28th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
29th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 10.00 - 2.00pm 10.00am 7.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Christmas Bazaar at Ratby Snowman Festival at Ratby Groby Sings concert at English Martyrs School
30th	Sun	8.00am 10.00am 10.00am 11.15am 3.00pm	Holy Communion at Groby Joint Café Church at Ratby Snowman Festival at Ratby Telephone Church Groby Sings concert, English Martyrs School

Ratby Snowman Festival

Ratby's Snowman Festival will take place on Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th November. The Snowman Festival is a fantastic community event where the residents of Ratby can get creative and come up with some brilliant displays; these can be made of anything (there is no snow required!) all you need to do is build a snowman scene in your front garden or design a snowman themed window display.

Due to the kindness of the wonderful businesses in Ratby there are some amazing prizes on offer in each of the categories for the best displays. There will be prizes for:

***Best in Snow;
Best Children's Snowman;
Best Street;
Best Window Display;
Best Business/Organisation
Snowman***

Now is the time to register to get your snowman or display on the map and have the chance to win one of the brilliant prizes. The cost to enter is only £5 .

For everyone from the village and surrounding area over the weekend, maps of all of the displays will be available from the Church on Saturday at the Christmas Bazaar and from the Library on the Sunday at its very own Snowman Festival event; 10am-3pm on each day. (Maps are £2)

Prior to the event and over the weekend there will be Snowman festival raffle tickets available to buy; with the chance to win some other fantastic prizes donated again by our wonderful local businesses.

The Snowman Festival is a joint event organised on behalf of Ratby Parish church and Ratby Community Library to raise vital funds for these important village organisations.

A vertical poster for the Ratby Village's Fourth Annual Snowman Festival. The background is dark blue with white snowflakes and a string of colorful triangular bunting at the top. The text is in various fonts, including a large, elegant script for 'Snowman Festival'. A QR code is on the right side. At the bottom, there is a circular inset showing a glass snowman kit and logos for Ratby Library & Community Group and Ratby Parish Church.

Ratby Village's Fourth Annual
Snowman Festival
29th & 30th November 2025
Open for Entries NOW!

Scan the QR code to enter or visit
<https://form.jotform.com/240202317023033>

Entries cost £5
Deadline for Entries is Fri 21st Nov.

COMING SOON!
DIY Glass Snowman
Kits to make at
home*
£10ea
Available to
purchase at Ratby
Library from 1st Nov.
*Full instructions given
including where to return for
kiln firing etc.

 Ratby Library
& Community Group

 Ratby Parish Church

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

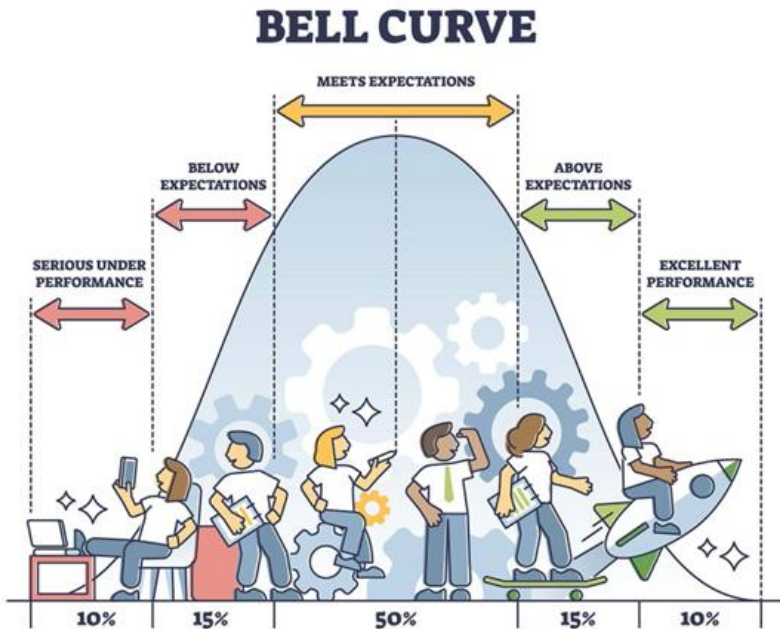


Snowman Trail Maps
available in Church
Rooms & Library

Proceeds will go to the Christian Aid Appeal
and the work of our church

Rector's Ramblings

As a society we have so many expectations of one another. We talk all about what is 'normal' and expect everyone to fit into our own framework of 'normal'. As the father of a neurodiverse child I have been reflecting on what is 'normal' and expectations that arise from this, as well as drawing on my scientific background in my thinking. And I have come to the conclusion, as have many before me, I am sure, that there is no such thing as normal! As a scientist I know that we look at much data in terms of bell curves of distribution:



We then, as in this example, draw lines down them to decide what fits into 'normal' (in this example 'meets expectations'), what is a bit above or below normal and then what we consider 'out of the ordinary' (under or excellent performance in this example). But all this is arbitrary, depending on where we decide to draw the lines and is simply a reflection on a comparison with others and where the majority fit. And notice how, in the example I've given, these come with value judgements, whatever they may be.

But, the thing is, we are all different in so many different ways, a huge conglomeration of different bell curves for the myriad of things we try to measure from height to 'intelligence' (however we try to define that one!) and all of us will fall in a multitude of different places. And trying to unpick that is frankly impossible and, when we really stop and think about it, rather pointless. Especially when we reframe our lens and try to think in God's way. Right at the beginning when God created, 'he saw it was good' (Genesis 1 verses 10, 12, 18, 21, 25 and 31). More than this God loves us for who we are, for he created us, knit us together in our mother's womb (Ps 139:13) and we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Ps 139:14). When we stop comparing ourselves with others, trying to fit one another into different perspectives of normal and instead look at one another as God does, children to be loved, I believe we are set free. This to me is what it means to be truly inclusive – not to note one trait above others because it seems outside of a perception of normal that we need to make allowances for, but rather that we recognise that we are all a hotchpotch of different characteristics and we love one another for all them, just as God does. In that we strive to create a place where all can thrive because we simply do what God call us to do, 'to love our neighbour as ourselves'. And don't forget in this is the reminder to love ourselves in all our personal technicolour peculiarities as well. God loves you for who you are, so do remember to love what God has made in you as well as everyone else.

God bless you all in all your wonderful God-given diversity!



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

***The concerts will be held at
English Martyrs School***

29th November at 7pm

&

30th November at 3pm

Activities for children and families in our Benefice in November



Sun 2nd	9.30am	All Age Worship	Groby Church	Families
Tues 4th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 4th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 7th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 7th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Tues 11th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 11th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 14th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 14th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Tues 18th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 18th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 21st	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 21st	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Crossfire	Groby Village Hall	Secondary
Tues 25th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 25th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 28th	9.30am	CatCh	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 28th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15

“Optimism is a huge asset. We can always use more of it. But optimism isn’t a belief that things will automatically get better; it’s a conviction that we can make things better.”

Melinda French Gates

CHURCH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

Ratby

12 October ~ Florence-Arabella Veli

Grobby

None



We welcome her into the church family

WEDDINGS

Ratby

None

Grobby

None



FUNERALS

Ratby

27 August ~ Joyce D'Amore

25 September ~ Bill Smith

Grobby

15 August ~ John Evans

4 September ~ John Thornton

11 September ~ Philip Boot

30 September ~ Patricia Gilliver

2 October ~ Barrie Ingall



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.

Help our woodlands

If you've been admiring the glories of autumn, and have any time to spare, why not consider volunteering to help the Woodland Trust, the UK's leading woodland conservation charity?

The Trust looks after more than 1,000 woods and groups of woods. The Trust also campaigns to protect and save more ancient woodland from destructive development. It always needs volunteers to help in a wide variety of ways. For details, visit: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk>

Shahi Tukray (Royal Bread Pudding - Pakistani Style)

Ingredients:

For the Bread Base: 6 slices of white bread (preferably a day old)

Ghee or oil for frying, For the Rabri (milk base):

1 litre full-fat milk, ½ cup sugar (adjust to taste)

¼ tsp cardamom powder, A pinch of saffron (optional, but highly recommended)

2 tbsp condensed milk (optional, for extra richness), 2 tbsp chopped almonds and pistachios, 1 tbsp rose water or kewra water (optional)

Garnish: More chopped nuts or dried rose petals

Instructions:

Prepare the Bread: cut the crusts off the bread slices and cut into halves or quarters (triangles or squares).

Heat ghee/oil in a pan and shallow fry the bread pieces until golden brown and crisp. Set aside on paper towels.



Make the Rabri: In a heavy-bottom pan, bring milk to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer the milk until it reduces to about half. Stir frequently to avoid burning. Add sugar, cardamom powder, saffron (if using), and condensed milk. Mix well and cook for another 5–10 minutes. Add chopped nuts and rose/kewra water. Turn off the heat.

Assemble: Arrange fried bread slices in a deep serving dish. Pour the hot or warm milk mixture (rabri) over the bread evenly so all pieces soak well. Let it sit for at least 30–60 minutes so the flavours develop. You can serve it warm, at room temperature, or chilled.

Garnish: Top with more nuts, rose petals, or silver leaf for a festive look.

Tips: Use full-fat milk for authentic flavour. If you're short on time, you can use evaporated milk + condensed milk instead of boiling fresh milk. Want to make it extra special? Add a few drops of saffron soaked in warm milk or a splash of cream at the end.

Riffat left two pudding recipes for us to enjoy as Christmas approaches. This is the first one, and her last recipe will be shown in our December magazine

On Sunday October 19th, the **Ratby bellringers** dedicated two pieces of bellringing rung before the morning service, as a farewell compliment and with our very best wishes to Rev Riffat Zamurad as she departs to take up her new post at Humberstone.

The bellringing was 60 changes of Grandsire Doubles, and rounds and call changes on 8 bells, both very well rung.

The bellringers were: Anthony Haywood, Pamela Fisher, Lianne Brookes, Alan Whitmee, Valerie Pears and Colin Hearne with two of our friends from Kirby Muxloe Martin Green and Mark Pendery making us up to eight.

Anthony Hayward
Bell Captain



Ride+Stride 2025

Once again a huge thank you to everyone who sponsored us for Ride and Stride this year. And again a huge thank you to all those who opened up our churches to welcome visitors.

I've finally collected in all the money and the online donations are closed. Between our churches, we raised an amazing £409.50 (which will be even more once further Gift Aid has been added) and this will be shared between the Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust and our own churches in Ratby and Groby. Thank you all so much for your generosity.

Prayers and blessings to you all.
Rev'd Ed

Sudoku for November

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



The next lunch will be our Christmas meal
on:

Sunday 7th December

Joan Hawkins (Associate Minister at Ratby Parish Church)

Telephone: 07545 909868

Email: jvajhawkins@hotmail.co.uk



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Saturday Coffee Mornings

Ratby Church Rooms

10-12pm

1st and 15th November

&

29th November Christmas Bazaar



Flower Rota



<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>
<i>7th December</i>	<i>~ Brenda Willis</i>
<i>14th December</i>	<i>~ Christmas Team</i>
<i>21st December</i>	<i>~ Christmas Team</i>
<i>28th December</i>	<i>~ Sandra Slater</i>

Cinema Club

At Ratby Church on Fridays

For the Over 60's at 2.00pm



Friday 14th November

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. **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

Associate Minister

Mrs. Joan Hawkins





"Goodness! is it time for Christmas Fair organising, carol service planning and nativity play rehearsals already?!"



Advertise

in the
**Ratby Parish
Church Magazine**

Contact Val Pears
On
0116 239 0554

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Morning

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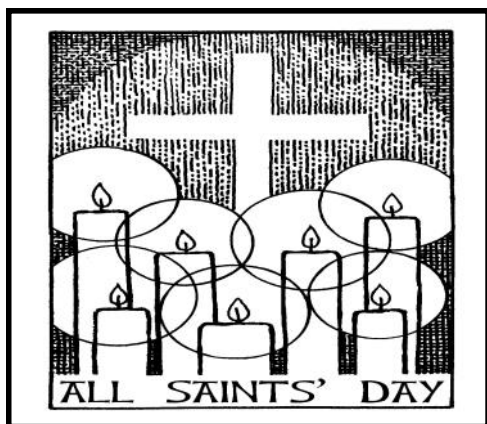
Please Contact
Mrs Christine Thomas
or Mrs Clare Cooper

Office: 08450 568571
Mobile: 07889 335743 or 07866 415251

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