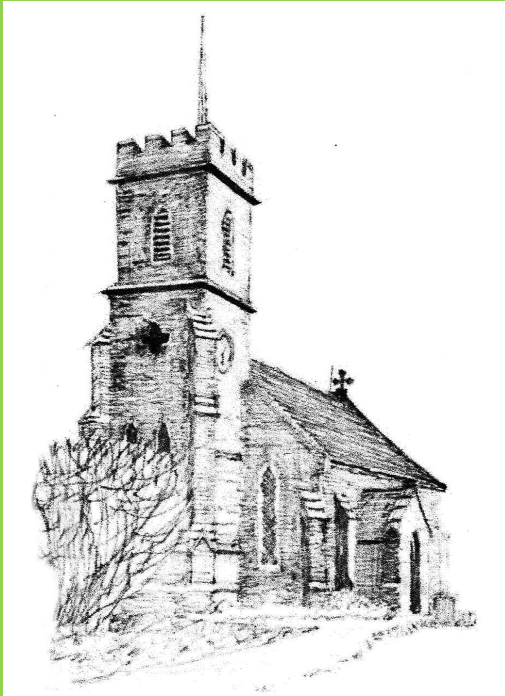


**ST. PHILIP AND ST. JAMES CHURCH
GROBY
PARISH MAGAZINE**



**Building the body of Christ, equipping the
Church for mission**



May 2026



Grave Concern

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The Benefice of Groby & Ratby

May 2026

Testimonies of Simple Men

Eddie Askew¹, whom many will remember as a Christian poet and artist, recounts the time when he and his wife visited a small country church.

The church was one of those with one minister to cover seven churches. On this particular Sunday the service was being taken by an old man who showed in his face the many years he had worked outside on the farm. He wasn't a polished speaker. In fact his sermon was anything but. No glib phrases. No smooth storytelling. He was just an elderly man who loved the Lord. He talked quietly and intimately, with flashes of humour as he talked about his faith and his life.

Eddie writes that he reminded him of the first disciples, men, just like him. No formal education, no sophistication, just honest, straight-forward men.

It reminded me of a couple of similar men Ann and I had met over the years (lots of years!) who, in their plain and simple way, had helped change the world, like the first disciples.

The first, Len, a dumper truck driver at the local gravel pits, was a man of no education. But one evening he

came to talk to our young people. These youngsters were a mixed bunch, most of whom hadn't experience of what the church called 'good behaviour' and weren't about to pretend to listen to this old man.

Yet, Len was unabashed and gave his simple testimony. He got to a point when he said, simply, "It's good to know the Lord." And the room full of young people fell silent as they digested the import of what they had just heard.

The second, called Sam, worked in town as a sock knitter on Komet machines. He, and his wife Philippa, had a deep faith which stood out. They were highly respected.

On one occasion, Sam told a story about when he was a young man – "only saved a fortnight", he said simply, when he was asked to be a Sunday school teacher. He admits he hadn't a clue how to do it and the class he had was very unruly! He persisted and over the years he started to get the hang of it, but never comfortable, he said. He thought he had been a failure, and that he had achieved nothing. This was before the second world war.

During the war, a young British airman was shot down in France and was in a shell crater, dying. A young American soldier found him and comforted him as best he could, but, before he died, the airman made him promise to contact a man called Sam in Leicester, and simply tell him “he was right”. Sam was a lovely Christian man and was never a failure. It’s just that sometimes we don’t know what effect we can have through a simple testimony.

In his letter to the Corinthian Church, St Paul reminds us that not many of us are wise or influential. But God chose the foolish to shame the wise.

As Eddie Askew wrote: “God’s wisdom clothes us with a dignity that many can’t see, but which is there, nevertheless. A dignity that doesn’t depend on accent or education, but springs unbidden out of devotion. Something to treasure when we see it”.

Something we see, maybe, in a Len or a Sam, and we thank God for it.

*I turn to you.
And here I see
No show of strength
Coercing me to faith.
Rather a quiet patience,
Loving me to surrender.
Your weakness strengthened
By a core of love,
Resilient as life.
Lord, if it’s the weak you want,
The foolish,
Then I’m the one.*

*Blessings,
Keith Wignall*

¹ Eddie Askew, *Facing the Storm, The Leprosy Mission International, 1989*



Services and Events in May

Although our underlying pattern of worship continues it is Christian Aid week this month, so as we always do, there will be joint services in both villages. This year in Groby we will be joining our friends at the URC on 10th May with an inter-generational service – let us enjoy being all ages worshipping together. In Ratby we will join our Methodist friends on 10th May to mark the start of CA Week and then on 17th May the Methodists will be coming to join us as we finish CA Week. Come and join us as we celebrate our unity of faith and purpose in the Gospel!

As many of you know I am going on Sabbatical (more on that elsewhere) and so the last services I will be taking for a few months will be on 24th May – so do come along as I will miss being with you. But it is perhaps fitting to be doing this on Pentecost when the Spirit of God came upon so many to be sent out to proclaim the Gospel – and I hope and pray everyone will be inspired to continue to tell the good news, as it is a calling for us all, not just me!

If you struggle to make it to church in person for whatever reason, why not give our lovely Telephone Church a go, every Sunday at 11.15am (call 0333 0164 757; room number 10336316#; pin 1920#). And let me know if you'd like to join in and I'll drop you round our simple order of service and a hymn book!

During the week we continue to have morning prayer every Monday at 9am in Ratby. As ever 9.30am Wednesday Communion in Groby will be every week. Our online Compline continues every Tuesday at 9pm (<https://www.facebook.com/StPandStJ>).

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

SUNDAY TELEPHONE SERVICES - MAY

DATE	GROBY/RATBY
3rd	11.15am Telephone Church (JH)
10th	11.15am Telephone Church (RD)
17th	11.15am Telephone Church (KW)
24th	11.15am Telephone Church (EB)
31st	11.15am Telephone Church (JH)

ON-LINE SERVICES - MAY

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 *SUNDAY SERVICES - MAY*

DATE	GROBY	RATBY
3rd 5th Sunday of Easter	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)	
	9.30pm All Age Service (Team)	10.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	6.00pm Holy Communion (EB)	
10th 6th Sunday of Easter		8.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	9.30am CA Service at URC (Paul E)	10.00am CA Service at Methodist (Rev Jimi)
	6.00pm Evensong (RD)	
17th 7th Sunday of Easter	8.00am Holy Communion (EB)	
	9.30am Morning Worship (RS)	10.00am CA Week Service, Ratby (EB)
24th Pentecost		8.00am Holy Communion (EB)
	9.30am Holy Communion (EB)	10.00am Morning Worship (JH/AK)
	6.00pm Evensong (EB)	
31st Trinity Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (Sue Willetts)	
	10.00am Joint Café Church at Ratby (AC/Team)	

MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES May 2026

GROBY	6th	13th	20th	27th
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May Diary

1st	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
2nd	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm 2.00 - 5.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC Book Sale at Tyler's (see p 17)
3rd	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 10.00 - 3.00pm 11.15am 6.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Groby All Age Worship at Groby Holy Communion at Ratby Book Sale at Tyler's (see p 17) Telephone Church Holy Communion at Groby Taizé Service at Markfield Methodist Church
4th	Mon	9.00am 11.00 - 4.00pm 7.30pm	Morning Prayer at Ratby Book Sale at Tyler's (see p 17) Julian Meeting: <i>Sharing Silence</i> at Groby Library
5th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 12.00pm 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Church Women's Guild lunch at the Bull's Head Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
6th	Wed	10.30 - 12.30pm	Bereavement Journey at Ratby Church
7th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
8th	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
9th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
10th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.15am 5.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Ratby CA Week service at Groby URC CA Week service at Ratby Methodist Church Telephone Church Magnificat rehearsal before Evensong Evensong at Groby
11th	Mon	9.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer at Ratby PCC
12th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Online Night Prayer
13th	Wed	9.30am 10.30 - 12.30pm 12.00pm	Holy Communion at Groby Bereavement Journey at Ratby Library Ratby Band concert at Ratby Church
14th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall

15th	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
16th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
17th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.15am	Holy Communion at Groby Morning Worship at Groby Joint CA Week service at Ratby Telephone Church
18th	Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Ratby
19th	Tues	9.15 - 10.30am 3.15 - 4.30pm 9.00pm	Tots & Toddlers at Ratby Church Kids Konnect at Ratby Church Online Night Prayer
20th	Wed	9.30am 10.30 - 12.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Bereavement Journey at Ratby Library
21st	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
22nd	Fri	9.30 - 11.00am 7.30 - 9.00pm	CTG CatCh at Groby URC Rock Solid at URC Groby
23rd	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC <i>Magazine Deadline</i>
24th	Sun	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion at Ratby Holy Communion at Groby Morning Worship at Ratby Crossfire at Groby Village Hall Telephone Church Evensong at Groby
25th	Mon	9.00am	<i>Schools half term</i> Morning Prayer at Ratby
26th	Tues	9.00pm	Online Night Prayer
27th	Wed	9.30am 10.30 - 12.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Bereavement Journey at Ratby Library
28th	Thurs	10.30 - 12.00pm	CTG Fair Cuppa at Groby Village Hall
29th	Fri		
30th	Sat	10.00 - 12.00pm	Groby Tasters hosted at Groby URC
31st	Sun	8.00am 10.00am 11.15am 12.30pm	Holy Communion at Groby Joint Café Church at Ratby Telephone Church Ratby Lunch Club

Rector's Ramblings

I suspect I have mentioned it enough for many of you to realise that I am going on Sabbatical, and, as I am taking a little holiday either side of that time, I will be away from 25th May to 6th September inclusive. Don't worry, I have arranged cover for services while I am away and we have wonderful folk in both parishes who will make sure everything continues in my absence!

What is a Sabbatical and perhaps you're wondering why we clergy get such a long time away? Well first what it is! It is a gift from the bishop, usually granted around about every 10 years, and is a time for rest, renewal and reflection away from regular parish duties. But secondly, why such an apparently long period away? Quite simply it is designed to prevent us clergy from burning out and ensuring our long-term ministerial health. Ministry is not a job, but a calling, and so our living and our ministry are integrally linked and loving you all so much takes its toll. I have become aware, as I prepare for this time, just how much I need it – I will be honest and admit I am struggling to do all I want to, because I am just so very tired and drained.

That said, it has been poignant for me in Open the Book running up to Easter to be speaking the following words as Jesus at the last supper:

'I have to go away tomorrow, and I will miss you very much'

It has felt strangely real to be saying those words as I know the time for my being away from you all comes closer. Because I will miss seeing everyone regularly – because I love you all. But fortunately, like Jesus, I will be coming back (and even more fortunately for me, I'm just going on Sabbatical, not being crucified and then rising from the dead!)

What will I actually be doing during my Sabbatical? Well, the other thing a Sabbatical provides us with is the opportunity to do something for ourselves, connected with our ministry, that we never otherwise find the time for. I will have time of just rest and family time, but my project over my sabbatical is to do little research project on science, sexuality and scripture. As a research scientist turned priest, I am looking forward to combining my scientific understandings with my theological ones in an area that remains so contentious in the church. It will be an interesting intellectual journey, elements of which

you may have already heard me preach or speak about.

But practically speaking, this means I will spend some time away and some time still at home. So, you may still see me and wonder what you should do! You can still talk to me – you don't have to cross the street and avoid me just because I'm on a Sabbatical break from ministry. But talk to me about the usual things of life and don't tell me about what is going on in church – the good or the bad. And I won't answer any phone calls, messages or emails and there will be no exceptions, as for the Sabbatical to work and do what it needs to for me, my head needs to be able to leave parish ministry aside fully for this season. All this is so that, I hope and pray, I come back refreshed and ready to tackle together with you all that God is asking of us. Even while I am away, I will still be praying for you all – that is simply woven into my very DNA – and I hope you will pray for me in turn.

God bless you all.

Rev'd Ed

Activities for children and families in our Benefice in May



Fri 1st	9.30am	Catch	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 1st	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Sun 3rd	7.30pm	All Age Worship	Groby Church	Families
Tues 5th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 5th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 8th	9.30am	Catch	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 8th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Sun 10th	10.30am	Crossfire	Groby Village Hall	Secondary
Tues 12th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 12th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 15th	9.30am	Catch	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 15th	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Tues 19th	9.15am	Tots & Toddlers	Ratby Church	under 5s
Tues 19th	3.15pm	Kids Konnect	Ratby Church	Primary
Fri 22nd	9.30am	Catch	URC Groby	under 5s
Fri 22nd	7.30pm	Rock Solid	URC Groby	Age 10 to 15
Sun 24th	10.30am	Crossfire	Groby Village Hall	Secondary
Mon 25th		Schools Half Term		



Christian Aid Week ~ 10-16 May 2026

**Where hardship means hunger...
urban farmers can grow hope.**

Update!

A huge thank you to everyone who has already agreed to deliver envelopes, put up a poster, be a drop off point or litter pick this Christian Aid Week! You are all heroes. We do still need more people to step up and go out!

Can you deliver a batch of envelopes? Groby is very easy to deliver, with few front gates or steps to navigate.

A maximum of 45 minutes is all it takes to deliver a road/roads.

Speak to Chris Davies if you can help.

At time of writing, we have 8 people signed up to do litter picking. More needed! This activity may seem unrelated to Christian Aid, but it is a good way to be visible in the village during the week while doing a worthwhile service for our local community.

Our efforts will be promoted via Spotlight and Facebook reminding people to donate via their red envelopes or on-line.

Litter picking equipment including waste bags, pickers and Hi-Viz can be provided. Just an hour of your time will make a difference.

Nearer the time we will have 7-day devotionals available.

Please pray for the success of Christian Aid Week both locally and nationally.

Finally – please donate if you can. Every gift, act and prayer counts and can help someone like Fridah to grow food, protect their children from hunger, and nurture hope.



Fridah with her grandson, Quillan, outside their house in Dagoretti, Nairobi.

(David Macharia/Christian Aid)

£5 could buy the seeds that kickstart a family's nutritious vegetable garden.

£10 could pay for the pair of chickens that produce fertiliser for an urban farmer.

£15 could purchase the hand tools that mean an urban farmer can tend their crops.

£30 could buy the trio of cone garden planters that host hundreds of plants in a tiny city space.

Online donations can be made to the Churches Together in Groby Christian Aid Week 2026 page:

'When I harvest what I've planted, it makes me happy. Urban farming has changed my life.' Fridah.

Thank You,
Chris, Mary and Trevor.

Taizé Prayer

with songs and silence

inspired by the international
monastic community of Taizé, France



3rd May
14th June

At 6pm Trinity Methodist Church
Main St, Markfield LE67 9UU

For more information: Karen 07739 555015

karensilverwood@googlemail.com www.taize.fr/en

GIFT AID

As Gift Aid secretary, I would like to say thank you for your generous donations throughout the last year. They are really appreciated and without your support the church could not reach out to as many people as we do.

Gift Aid, the percentage the government gives for each donation, this year earned us a huge £8000. However, it has been some time since we renewed the gift aid forms. Recently there has been many comments in the news about the fact that many more folks are now paying tax due to the tax thresholds not rising. Maybe this affects you?

If you pay tax, please can you fill in a gift aid form so we can continue to receive the extra 25% from the government on all your donations. If you no longer pay tax, please do let me know and I will update my records. Even if you primarily give using the parish giving scheme it is still helpful to have a gift aid form as you generous folks sometimes pop a little extra in! A huge thank you to those of you who thought the church would appreciate your winter fuel payment, it has certainly helped with our gas bills.

The loose giving and cash gifts have also had gift aid reclaimed on them through the small donations scheme, with £1820.12 being received from HMRC.

Any completed forms can be sent to the parish office or brought to church. Finally a huge thank you on behalf of the ministry team as your generosity is vital in allowing us to continue in the work within the parish.

Ruth Scott
Associate Minister

Charity Gift Aid Declaration – multiple donation

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to:

Name of Charity St Philip and St James Church Groby

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

My Details

Title _____ First name or initial(s) _____

Surname _____

Full Home address _____

Postcode _____ Date _____

Please notify the charity if you:

want to cancel this declaration

change your name or home address

no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Return to church or the Parish Office Church Rooms
Church Lane, Ratby, Leicester LE6 0JF

CHURCH WOMEN'S GUILD - MAY REPORT

Hello Everyone. .

ON TUESDAY 5th MAY 2026 we have arranged to go out for LUNCH AT THE BULLS HEAD, 12ish. .?

TUESDAY 5th JUNE 2026: to be arranged.

(Further information contact Annette fowler 2873169)



FAIR CUPPA



FAIR CUPPA ROTA—MAY	
7th	Sandra & Hilary
14th	Elizabeth & Janet
21st	Peter & Enid
28th	Connie & Beryl

Thursdays at
Groby Village Hall
10.30 to 12.00 noon

Please come along for a chat and a cuppa!

For further information contact Elizabeth Jarvis 0116 431 9990

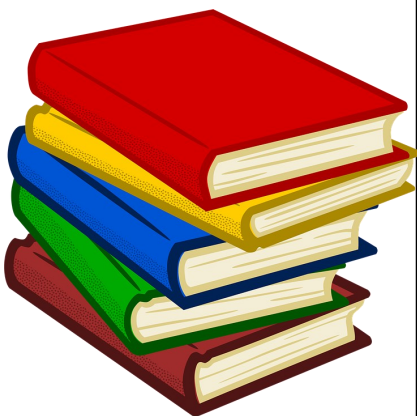
Polar Explorers Holiday Club – Half Term Highlights

Our Polar Explorers holiday club blasted through February half term with two action-packed days of drama, crafts, and Arctic adventure. The children threw themselves into the drama sessions, bringing our icy storyline to life with confidence, creativity, and plenty of flair.

Craft time was just as lively, with snowy scenes and winter creations filling the room. The artwork they produced was fantastic — and proudly taken home to show off. And of course, Hugo the Polar Bear stole the show. He added that extra bit of magic the children absolutely loved.

Huge thanks to everyone involved. It was brilliant to see so much laughter, learning, and imagination all in one place.

Our next holiday club is Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th August at Ratby Church & Church rooms.



Alan & Gill Tyler invite you to a

SECOND HAND BOOK SALE and Afternoon Tea

(In support of National Trust & St Philip & St James Church, Groby)

At 21 Highfield Road, Groby LE6 0GU

On

***Saturday 2nd May 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
& Sunday 3rd May 10.00am to 3.00 pm
& Monday 4th May 11.00am to 4.00 pm***

Tel: 0116 222 9133

or (mobile) 0777 175 4159



Join us to practise
singing the Magnificat
and eat cake

EVENSONG **Rehearsal**

Time: 5pm

Place: St Philip and St James Church, Groby

Dates: March 22nd

April 26th, May 10th

Rector's Recipes – Kedgeree

Looking through the various recipes I have given you, I was surprised to realise I have never given you my kedgeree recipe – it is something I have eaten since a child and learned to make from my own mother. I do a very simple one, but there are then plenty of flavour variations you can try (and which I have over the years, but with fussy folk in my family, I stick to the basic one at the moment!)

Ingredients:

- 475g smoked haddock (I usually use frozen)
- 2 bay leaves
- 4 free range eggs
- 200g basmati rice
- ½ tsp turmeric
- 1 tsp ground cardamon
- 50g butter
- Salt and pepper

Optional extras:

- ½ lemon – juice only
- 1 tbsp medium curry powder
- 3tbsp chopped fresh flat leaf parsley

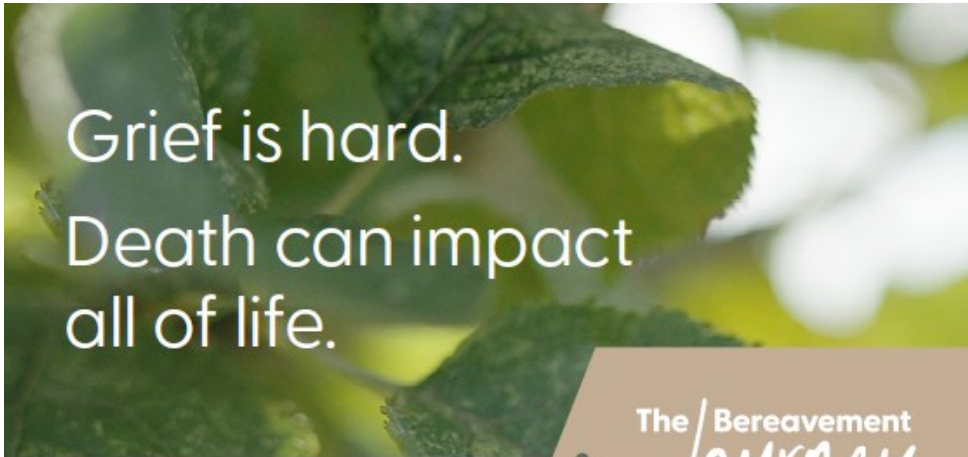
Method :

1. Cook the fish in boiling water with the bay leaves for 10-15 minutes (for frozen – 8-10 mins if using fresh) until it is just done and flakes easily. Remove the skin.
2. Hard boil the eggs (put into cold water, bring to the boil and then cook for 8 minutes). Drain in a sieve under cold running water and, when cool enough to handle, peel them carefully and set aside.
3. Cook the rice very gently for 10-12 minutes in salted water with the turmeric and cardamon until cooked – drain and excess water and return to the pan.
4. Flake the fish into chunky pieces and add these to the pan.
5. Roughly chop the eggs and add to the pan.
6. Add the butter and stir all together over a gentle heat for 1-2 minutes. Serve and enjoy or see below for additions.....

If you want to add additional flavours, stir in the lemon juice, curry powder and parsley and cook over a low heat for a further 3 minutes, stirring to stop it catching on the bottom of the pan. Now you can serve and enjoy this version! Also, if you prefer it, you can omit the curry powder – the additional lemony flavour alone is lovely along with the parsley (and if you hate parsley, you can skip that too!)



Rev'd Ed



Grief is hard.
Death can impact
all of life.

The Bereavement
Journey
a place to talk

7 Sessions of films
and discussion
for anyone bereaved anytime

Topics include:

- Attachment, separation and loss
- The pain and responses of grief
- Anger and guilt
- Coping with others' reactions
- Delayed and suppressed grief
- Adjusting to change
- Moving forward healthily
- Faith questions – a Christian perspective (optional)

To find out more visit:
thebereavementjourney.org

Running soon:

For Senior Citizens only
wednesday 22/4/26
to
wednesday 3/6/26

10-30am to 12-30pm
Venue RATBY LIBRARY
62.Main Street Ratby LE6 0LL

For further details
Please contact Joan Hawkins
tel.: 07545909868

*Please note that on **6th May and 3rd June**
the meetings will be in **Ratby church***

14.06.26

£10

UKULELE CUPPA & CAKE AFTERNOON



SUNDAY 14TH JUNE
2PM-4.30PM
GROBY URC CHURCH
CHAPEL HILL, GROBY, LE6 0FE

With guest entertainment from
Leicester's Bold Ukulele group

Tickets from Jane Hinds: 07530957022. All proceeds go to Take Heart Leicester

CHARITY EVENT

I can't believe that I mentioned last time that we were suffering a heat wave: experiencing a cold front this weekend.. wearing socks! Sorting out donated clothing, I am reminded just how Blessed I am. We are going to launch a Sock Drive for May.

And trust for quantity and quality.

We have been driving round town in torrential rain to give out breakfasts. The men and women are in different places than usual, finding protection from stormy weather. There's been another change in their 'homes'. Two long term out-of-the-way locations cannot be used any more because the sites are being levelled for development. Another popular place was the stretch of pavement opposite the Police Station. Guys called it Tree Street. One couple lived at 3, Tree street: under the third tree. Men and women of all ages slept there with a sense of protection. One man cleaned the police cars, the station gave out hot water etc. Then all were moved on. A lean-to of card board and material had been there over 10 years, the couple occupying it sweeping and cleaning the area. It made me cry to see the washing up bowl and belongings put into shopping trolleys. Living with integrity and maybe a little dignity on the streets dismantled. The other 20 or so were made to pack up bedding and leave. We couldn't find all of them.

Then, and I am deliberately being controversial, on the Saturday, the road was blocked. Cars lined the nearby roads; visible police presence. Then the TV cameras arrived. We were in town that day and asked a friendly Security man what was going on. (he used to stay with us on The Plein when we gave out picnic-style breakfasts pre-Covid). It was a Provincial Funeral of a High profiled citizen. And everything looked clean and tidy outside the Church opposite the Police Station.

THNX.... WE LOVE U TANNIE PAKEI

We found this message written on a polystyrene cup in the 'washing up' crate

It was a happy breakfast time Thursday even though there were far more people attending. 90 people, maybe more.
Praise The Lord: all had something to eat.
We bought extra from a local shop open early and others shared theirs. We often feel a little shell-shocked or overwhelmed when it is so busy. And then there's all the clean up.
This sweet message (see previous page) was a lovely blessing, an encouragement.

Thank you and please continue your prayers for us;
Hannah-Rachel will be in Glenfield soon and will catch up with folk. Jane and Paul are being wonderful. Hannah is having a great trip, being ambassador at a family wedding in May. She can fill you in, The Lord is Faithful indeed, indeed!

XXXX Steve, Val, Ruth and Jean XXXX



*R*ATBY
co-operative
BRASS BAND



THE RATBY DAYTIME BRASS BAND

Brass Band Concert
Conductor Kevin Holdgate

**Ratby St Philip &
St James Church**

Church Lane, Ratby
LE6 0JF

**Wednesday
13th May 2026
Concert at 12 noon**

**Free Admission
Soup & Roll**

**Raffle and
retiring collection towards
Church & Band Funds**

CHURCH REGISTERS

WEDDINGS

Ratby

14 February ~ Philip Hall & Eleanor Wingett

Groby

None



BAPTISMS

Ratby

None

Groby

18 January ~ Theo Clarke

18 January ~ Sienna Wilson

15 February ~ Teddy Hopewell



We welcome them into the church family

FUNERALS

Ratby

4 December ~ David Moore

Groby

22 January ~ Stuart Johnson

16 February ~ Veronica Brudenell



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.

If you would like to support the work of the church but find yourself with no cash. Please use the QR code below to go directly to our giving site.





FLOWERS May		
	Altar	Memorial Vase
3rd	Liz Emmerson	
10th		
17th	Hayley	
24th		
31st		

Church Cleaning May

26 Apr - 9 May	Gillian & Matthew
10 May - 23 May	Gill & Alan
24 May - 6 Jun	Chris D, Julie & Sandra

June Magazine Deadline Saturday **23rd May**

Please send all items to
spandjmagazine@googlemail.com

Items for the
weekly news sheet
to:
office@bradgatechurches.org.uk

Parish Office hours:
9.30 - 11.30, Mon to Fri

PARISH OFFICE

Hayley Moore
0116 239 3768
office@bradgatechurches.org.uk



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reflections and prayers

Do you receive the magazine on a regular basis?

If not and you would like to have a copy each month, please contact a member of the clergy or one of the church wardens.

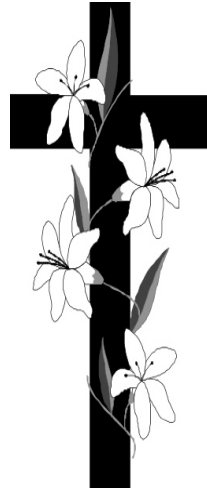
You will find their details on the contact list overleaf.

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Gift Aid Secretary	Ruth Scott	232 1175	
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Organist & Choir	Paul Cox	07850 960172	
Sunday School	Mike Matthews	287 6179	
Women's Guild	Annette Fowler	287 3169	
Flowers	Ruth Scott	232 1175	
News sheet	Hayley Moore	239 3768	
Verger Emeritus	Marjorie Thomas	287 0330	
	Owen Lawrence	01530 243179	
Magazine	C Davies / J Newnham	231 2070 / 287 7871	
Website	www.achurchnearyou.com		
Magazine email address	stpandjmagazine@googlemail.com		
Parish Office	239 3768	office@bradgatechurches.org.uk	



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