



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

## Notices for 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

Well it is another month, we meet on Sunday at 10:30 with Andy and a quiet communion led by myself later at 4pm.

On Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of March is the World Day of Prayer (WDP). The theme of this year caught my attention - 'Build on Strong Foundations' this of course immediately put the old Sunday School chorus of the 'the wise man built his house upon the rock' into my head!!

That song is an adaption of Matthew 7.24-27 where Jesus tells the parable of the wise and the foolish builders.

Foundations are important, when I lived in Scotland I learned a little about building retaining walls from a dear friend, who said something like; 'the more the wall will go up, the deeper you have to dig down first.' we must have shifted tonnes of earth building this wall over some weeks but it was finally finished and still stands today, sadly my friend died 10 years ago of a heart attack aged 46.

As we dug we often talked about that bible passage and how important it is as Christians to keep building on the rock of Christ.

I know over the past year many of you have had foundation shaking experiences on top of all the upheaval

that we are all experiencing.

That is often why it is so important to tend the roots or foundations of our faith.

Lent is always an apt time to examine ourselves and see where we are building in life and check the foundations are right. This of course goes for us all as individuals but also as churches, God's gathered people. I don't mean that we need to go looking at the foundations of our buildings, but to check that our hopes for the future are aligned to God's desires for His church.

One of the ways we can be sure of our foundations is through prayer. Prayer is a vital part of growing our relationship with God. It is also a way of upholding those around us who are facing tough times. I know many of you are great for praying with and for others and let me encourage that, it is so uplifting for people to know that they are being prayed for, even if they can't quite pray about things themselves.

Prayer is uniting, it brings us together, together with God and one another, so as we keep battling on together, let us also keep praying and building on the solid foundations of our Lord Jesus.

God bless  
Stewart

## NOTICES

### Church 'out of bounds'

A reminder that there will be no access at all to church from 8<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March whilst some asbestos is removed. If you are a key holder and need anything from church, please do so before 7<sup>th</sup> March.

### Men's Breakfast

The next is on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 9:00am by ZOOM. We will welcome our guest speaker Vernon Bayliss who will be talking on 'Adventurous: Ashby Youth For Christ outdoors and active.'  
April's meeting is scheduled for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> when Martin Vaughan is returning to give a follow-on talk 'Further wildlife photography adventures around Ashby'  
May's meeting is on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>, and Dean O'shea is giving a talk 'Dean's journey'

### Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup>: 6.30pm - pandemic anniversary service

A quiet reflective service, as we look back over the last year. This will be streamed live to the Flagstaff Family of Churches Facebook page.

### Church of England by 'phone

For the Church of England's 24 hour free telephone line (for music, prayers, and worship services) ring **0800 804 8044**

### Saturday prayers on 6<sup>th</sup> March

The Zoom link for Saturday prayers is a different link for this week only-  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85302413391?pwd=Qkg3V2JhSFQlQmJPOVRXYkpMaDI4QT09>

## Contact Details

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## PRAYER

### The Sick

Pray for those who are sick, disabled or housebound.

### The bereaved

Pray especially for the families and friends of anyone known to you who is recently bereaved, and for all families for whom the funerals of their loved ones have taken place during the pandemic.

### In love, we remember those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, praying for their families & friends:

- ◆ Lynda Carla Richards
- ◆ Harold Langrish
- ◆ Ella Watson
- ◆ Frederick Charles Avins
- ◆ Bernard Shaw
- ◆ Evelyn Coleman
- ◆ John Henry Perry
- ◆ William Edwin Richards