



St Helen's Church

Faith, Love, Community

Notices for 30th November 2025 Advent Sunday

COLLECT

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 30th November

10:30am Team Service at **Holy Trinity, Ashby** with a speaker from Open Doors.

Please note - no service at St Helen's this morning

6.30pm Advent Carol Service at St Helen's

Monday 1st December

7:30pm Pilgrim Group *

Wednesday 3rd December

10.30am Holy Communion at St Helen's

2:00pm 'We're in Stitches' at the Community Heritage Centre

Thursday 4th December

10:00am Café Church at St Matthew's, Worthington

Friday 5th December

2-4pm Warm Hearted Space in the Community Heritage Centre

4.15pm Messy Church

Saturday 6th December

9:30 am Morning Prayer in Hastings Chapel, St Helen's

10am Making of Christingles in the Heritage Centre

Sunday 7th December

8:30am Holy Communion at Staunton Harold

10:30am Holy Communion at Breedon

3:30pm Christingle at St Helen's

6pm Evensong at St Helen's

* Please contact the Parish Office for location

St Helen's Events

SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER at 6:30pm **Advent Carol Service**

The Christmas season starts with our Advent Carol Service at St Helen's. This will be a service of reflections and Choral Music for advent. Refreshments will be served after the service.

SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER, 3:30PM **Christingle Service**

You are invited to join us at our Christingle Service. Please do invite any children and families you know to this lovely service.

Volunteers for Christingle – 7th December

Coffee servers needed. We currently need volunteers to serve coffee/refreshments after the Christingle service on 7th December. Please let Tim in the office know if you can help: parishoffice@sthelensashby.net

We also need help to make the Christingles. This will happen at **10am** on **Saturday 6 December** in the Heritage Centre. Please come along if you can.

TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER, 7PM **Meeting re Minster Communities**

Heritage Centre.

Please see the attached leaflet from Martin Vaughan.

TUESDAY 16th DECEMBER, 7:30PM **A CHRISTMAS CRACKER**

Join us at St Helen's for an Evening of secular Christmas readings with mince pies and mulled wine. Tickets on sale soon.

Christmas Services

Please see below details of our Christmas services.

Carol Services

Friday 5th, 7pm, Staunton Harold
Friday 12th, 7pm, Isley Walton
Saturday 20th, 5pm, Breedon
Sunday 21st, 3.30pm, Coleorton
Sunday 21st, 6.30pm, St Helen's

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services

24 December

2.30pm, Coleorton, Crib Service
4.30pm, St Helen's, Crib Service
11.30pm, St Helen's, Midnight Communion

25 December

10am, St Helen's, All Age communion
10am, Breedon, Morning Worship

St Helen's Notices

Christmas gifts for asylum seeker children please!

This year, we are again asking for donated gifts for children who are housed in Loughborough while their parents' claim for asylum is being processed.

Gifts to the value of no more than £10 would be much appreciated. This year, we would like new items only please and they do NOT need to be wrapped. A collection box will be provided in church. Your generosity last year was SO MUCH appreciated!!

Asylum seekers' children are housed and adequately fed, but parents are then

allocated £9:95 per week per child to cover all other essentials including shoes and clothes, so that doesn't allow much for 'treats'!

The breakdown of ages and genders is as follows:

Newborns: 11 (Male 5, Female 6)

Ages 1–6: 18 (M- 8, F- 10)

Ages 7–12: 6 (M- 3 , F- 3)

Ages 13–17: 10 (M-6 , F- 4)

Eco Initiative Group

Over the next few weeks, the Group will be sharing some ideas which we hope will give some tips for a more eco-friendly Christmas:

- Plan meals so that food isn't wasted, and make full use of the oven to save energy.
- Choose 'wonky' fruit and vegetables, or buy loose fruit and vegetables to cut down on packaging.

Code of Safer Working Practice

All volunteers who give of their time in any capacity in our church and community centre are asked to be familiar with the Church of England **Code of Safer Working Practice**

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-07/code-of-safer-working-practice-02.07.2021.pdf>

Please may I ask that you take some time to familiarise yourself with this code. Please let me know if you require a printed copy (a copy is available also in the welcome desk). Many thanks. Liz Smith, Parish Safeguarding Officer.

New Early-Morning Bible Group – All Welcome

Would you like to start the day with some gentle reflection, conversation, and prayer?

In the New Year, Andy Smith is hoping to start a small early-morning Bible group, meeting in the Heritage Centre, meeting once a week on Thursday mornings. The start time will depend on who is interested, it could be as early as 7.30 a.m. (in time for those heading off to work), or as late as 8.30 a.m. Each session will be approximately 45 minutes.

The aim is for a simple, friendly space where we read a short passage of Scripture together and share our thoughts — no prior knowledge needed, and no one will be put on the spot. This won't be a teaching session, just an opportunity to explore the Bible, listen to one another, and grow in faith.

If you might be interested, can you please let Andy know – in person, or email him on andy.xrn@outlook.com. All are warmly welcome.

SATURDAY 24th JANUARY, 7:00PM Burns Night Supper

Our annual Burns Night celebration will be taking place at the Community Heritage Centre. If you are able to assist in the making of food for the evening please speak to Shan Dyer or Alison Andrews. Tickets will be available in December.

Diamond Wedding Celebration on 16 November

What a wonderful and moving service it was to celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary, a day that we shall fondly remember for the rest of our lives.

This note is just to say a big thank you to everyone that made it possible and so rewarding. We are very grateful to Sue Field for suggesting, devising and conducting the addition to the communion service, to the catering team that arranged and served refreshments, to the makers of the super celebratory cake, to all of you that gave us congratulatory cards and messages, and for the tangible loving support of the congregation. With the help of God we shall try to live up to our vows. That is our resolve.

This is a good opportunity also to give our thanks to St Helen's for the welcome and lasting friendship we received 11 years ago when we moved to Ashby, friendship which expanded to great warmth and support when first one of us, then the other, contracted quite serious and lasting illness; that help has continued ever since.

We feel blessed to belong to the 'St Helen's family'. Thank you all!

Peter and Sally