



St Helen's Church

Faith, Love, Community

Notices for 7th December 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

COLLECT	READINGS
Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.	Malachi 3 vv 1-4 Luke 3 vv 1-6

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 7th December

8:30am Holy Communion at Staunton
Harold
10:30am Holy Communion at Breedon
3:30pm Christingle at St Helen's
6.30pm Evensong at St Helen's

Tuesday 9th December

2:30pm Friends, Fellowship and Faith*
7pm Meeting re Minster
Communities, Heritage Centre

Wednesday 10th December

10.30am Holy Communion at Prior Park

Thursday 11th December

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

Friday 12th December

2-4pm Warm Hearted Space in the
Community Heritage Centre
7pm Carol Service at Isley Walton

Saturday 13th December

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

Sunday 14th December

10:30am Holy Communion at St Helen's
No service at Isley Walton

* Please contact the Parish Office for
location

St Helen's Events

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.

SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER

Volunteers for Christingle

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

SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER

Making the Christingles - 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 9th DECEMBER, 7:00PM

Meeting re Minster Communities

Please see the attached leaflet from Martin Vaughan regarding a meeting in the Heritage Centre. Please do come to this important meeting to prepare for the meeting with the Bishop in January.

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.

THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER, 6.30pm

Carol Singing round Breedon

A group of us will be singing carols around Breedon, starting and ending at Pete and Chrissie Hyland's home. We would love a few from St Helen's to join us. Please speak to Pete if you are able to come.

SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER

Please note there will be no morning service at St Helen's. Please do come and join in one of the services at our village churches as they would love to see you. There will be 8.30am Communion at Staunton Harold and 10.30am Communion at Coleorton. The Carol Service at St Helen's is that evening.

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.

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

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER, 7pm

ASHBY STRINGS CONCERT

Tickets available on the door: £10

A fun concert at St Helen's of Christmas carols and other Christmas music with the St Helen's Choir and conducted by Peter Rose.

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:

- Reuse Christmas decorations from previous years, and avoid buying Christmas crackers which contain plastic items.
- Instead of plastic decorations, try fabric bunting or use natural items - pinecones, dried fruit and fresh foliage.
- If choosing to have a real Christmas tree, look for FSC-certified or organic / locally grown.

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)

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.

Diamond Wedding Celebration on 16 September

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

Do you have a notice that you would like including in the notice sheet?

If you would like to include a notice in the weekly notice sheet, please email the content for the notice, and the dates that you would like it to be included for, by **10pm each Tuesday** evening to: noticesheet@sthelensashby.net
Thank you.