

In our prayers this week...

Please pray for all who are unwell including Pauline Baird, Andrew Barker, Ian Beech, Deborah Cosgriff, Jim Farley, Peggy Girdlestone, June Leek, Ivy McElroy, Margaret Metcalfe, Ruth Morris, Mike Saunders, Tim Wakefield and Barbara Walsh.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Please pray for those grieving the loss of Kenneth Pacey.

Please pray for the worldwide Catholic Church mourning the loss of the Pope.

APCM

On May 19th, St Mary's will be holding the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. We are looking for volunteers to become church wardens and new members of the PCC. If you think you might be interested in either role, please speak to Pamela in the office or one of the ministry team.

Friends AGM

The Friends of St Mary's AGM will be held on Tuesday 6th May at St Mary's from 7.00pm. Please come along to hear about the projects supported by Friends.

Thursday Prayers

An invitation to 15 minutes of peace and quiet at our prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 9.00pm on Zoom <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/89035344573?pwd=MmpXYotzWUhmZlhrYkpHVTBvYlZBdzog>

Meeting ID: 890 3534 4573 Passcode: 870177

Monthly Services in the East Vale at 10.30am

2nd Sunday St Peter & St Paul Barkestone

3rd Sunday St John's Muston

Regular Events

Tuesdays	Little Angels 9.30-12pm (term time)
Wednesdays	Morning Prayer 9.00am
	Community Hub 9.30-12.00
	Bellringing 7.30pm
	Sing for Joy 2.00 third Wednesday of the month
Thursdays	Choir Practice 7.30pm
Fridays	Coffee Morning Old School, Muston 10-12
Saturdays	Community Hub 9.30-12.0

Are you new to St Mary's Church? Would you like to receive a copy of In Church Today on a regular basis? If so, please write your details here and hand this to the Welcomer by the door.

Name..... Phone.....

Address.....

Email.....

I would like to receive a copy of In Church Today. Email

Paper copy

I would like one of the ministry team to contact me.

(Please tick as appropriate)



- ♦ St. Peter and St. Paul's Barkestone ♦ St. Mary the Virgin Bottesford
- ♦ St. John the Baptist's Muston ♦ St. Peter's Redmile ♦ St. Helen's Plungar

Church Contacts

Reverend Monica

Judson

Growing Faith Minister

07903005304

revdmonica@gmail.com

Lisa Smith

07415144640

lisa.smith1970@yahoo.co.uk

John Bartlett

07831 650769

john@jbeng.co.uk

Administrator for

Bottesford & Muston:

Pamela Kearsley

01949 842859

stmbottesford@gmail.com

Website & Facebook for St. Mary's

www.stmarysbottesford.co.uk

Facebook:

St Mary the Virgin Bottesford

Contact details for each church can be found at:

www.achurchnearyou.com

(followed by the church name.)

in church today

Sunday 27th April 2025- Second Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 5:27-32, John 20: 19-31

Services this Week Holy Communion at St Mary's led by Archdeacon Richard Worsfold

Dates for your Diary

Wed 30th April Funeral of Ken Pacey 1.30pm

Sunday 4th May Holy Communion St Mary's

Tuesday 6th May Tea and Cakes for VE Day 2.00pm
Friends of St Mary's AGM 6.30pm

Thursday 8th May VE Day Service 7.00pm St Mary's

Monday 12th May Churches Together 7.00

Saturday 17th May Elvis Gospel Singer



This Week's Worship and Reflection



Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." John 20:21

Have you ever been given a job to do that you felt you simply weren't up to? In this week's gospel reading (John 20:19-31) we find Jesus' disciples in a locked room. The risen Jesus appears to them, showing them His hands and His side, and they were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. In His next breath, Jesus gives His disciples a seemingly impossible job, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven. If you retain anyone's sins, they are retained" (v.23). "As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you" (v.20).

How would you feel about Jesus's job offer? Are you up to it? I don't know anyone who would feel ready for that! However, Jesus thinks His disciples can do it – indeed He is commanding them, not asking them! Of course it would be God forgiving sins, *through* them, as they go out into the world to implement all that Jesus has achieved in defeating death and beginning a work of new creation.

So how are these disciples, still reeling from Jesus' death and resurrection, to undertake all that Jesus is asking? Indeed, how are any of us, who seek to follow Jesus, to do what He asks of us?

Vitally, Jesus says, "Receive the holy spirit" (v.22) – the spirit which is the Father's special gift to His people. This is the holy helper, the 'secret ingredient' that helps all disciples, all followers of Jesus, including you and me, to answer God's call on our lives with a 'yes' – knowing that we do for God not in our own strength, but in faith and trust that God is with us, giving us everything we need to do the job we have been given. That doesn't mean we won't doubt, or struggle, or fail sometimes, but it does mean we always have God alongside us and within, nudging us back on track!

So, in this Easter season, I wonder what job God is giving each one of us to do? However we hear God's call, I pray we will trust in God's spirit as He helps us do our part in taking the wondrous love of God out into our families, friendships, churches, workplaces and communities. I wish you all a Happy Easter!

Lisa Smith

Easter Thank You!

A huge THANK YOU to all those of us who helped in any way with our Holy Week and Easter activities and services. This is a season that requires a huge team effort for worship, mission and ministry - inviting more of our community to come and see that the Lord is good. So thank you!

To Pray

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked
no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of
others and walk the joyful road
of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.
Amen
Collect for the second Sunday of
Easter

Gospel Elvis

The Friends of St Mary's next concert will be Elvis Gospel Singer (Nick Pacey) on Saturday 17th May at 7.30pm. American themed refreshments will be served. Tickets are priced £15 (£12 for members of Friends) and available from the church office, Linda Simmons 07958 716765 or Eventbrite.

VE Day Commemorations St Mary's

The Tuesday Teas on May 6th will start at the earlier time of 2.00pm and will include a wartime sing-a-long. On Thursday 8th at 7.00pm, there will be a service to commemorate VE Day followed by the ringing of the bells at 8.00pm. The walk to the beacon will commence at 8.00pm with the beacon lighting at 8.40pm.

Deborah Davies conducting the Come and Sing on Good Friday



Easter wreaths from the wreath making workshop.



Preparing to light the new Paschal Candle at the Service of Light



Churches Together Walk of Witness on Good Friday



Sunday Supplement

27th April 5.00pm

Meeting ID: 9267932410

Password: 098305