



in church today

- ♦ 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

07903 005304

revdmonica@gmail.com

Reverend Mike Chaldecott

(Curate)

revmike1985@gmail.com

Reverend Chris Judson

(Curate)

07576 847948

revd.chrisj@gmail.com

Lisa Smith

07415 144640

lisa.smith1970@yahoo.co.uk

John Bartlett

07831 650769

john@jbeng.co.uk

Canon Judith Wells

01949 842804

judithwells@hotmail.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.)

Sunday 4th October 2026 - Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Isaiah 5: 1 - 7; Matthew 21: 33 - end

Services this Sunday

Morning Worship 10.30 St Mary's led by Paul Taylor and Tonya Pacey (**Please note that this month's Communion service will be held on Sunday 11th Oct led by Rev Peter Sutton**)

Dates for your Diary:

Sat 3rd Oct Rev Mike Chaldecott ordination as Priest (Leicester Cathedral at 3.00pm)

Sun 4th Oct Chris Judson ordination as Deacon (Leicester Cathedral at 10.30am)

Tues 6th Oct Tea and cakes 2.30pm

Sun 11th Oct **Communion led by Rev Peter Sutton 10.30am**

Morning Worship, Barkestone 10.30am

Choral Evensong at St Mary's, Melton Mowbray with Bishop Martyn 4.00pm

Mon 12th Oct St Mary's PCC 7.00pm

Sun 1st Nov Communion led by Rev Mike Chaldecott 10.30am
Service of Memories 3.00pm

Sat 14th Nov Autumn Reflections at Dove Hospice 10am to 4pm

Sat 28th Nov Christmas Fair at St Mary's



This week's Worship and Reflection

We continue in the season of Creation and this week we are reflecting on the metaphor of the vineyard. In the Bible, there are many references to vineyards. Noah planted a vineyard once the flood had receded, Naboth's vineyard is featured in 1 Kings when King Ahab wrongfully seized a piece of family land adjacent to his palace and which he wanted so that he could grow vegetables.

In the book of the prophet Isaiah, God compares Israel and Judah with a well-tended vineyard that produced wild, sour grapes instead of righteousness and justice. You can tell that He is not pleased with the way things have turned out.

In the New Testament, Jesus refers to vines and vineyards on several occasions. For example, we find in John 15, Jesus calls Himself the "true vine" whilst His Father is the "vine dresser". His teaching is that believers need to abide in Him to bear spiritual fruit.

A further metaphor using the vineyard as its theme is the importance of inheritance in the Jewish tradition. In Naboth's case, he pleads that his vineyard belonged to his family, it was to be passed on to future generations. This is important for us too. I have a number of items in our home that are what you might call family. These range from small objects like napkin rings to larger pieces of furniture. My hope is that they will be passed on to children and grandchildren.

In this season of Creation, inheritance also plays a part. We may feel that we own our house and garden but what was there before we took possession? Was it a field or somebody's home? Either way, we have inherited the land and all that it is capable of producing, be it flowers, fruit or vegetables. In the case of vineyards it takes at least 3 years from planting before bunches of grapes are produced. So not only are we being taught about inheritance in the metaphor of the vineyard, but we are also being taught patience.

Paul Taylor

To Pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.
Collect for the eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

TOGETHER WITH CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday 11th October at 4.00pm in St Mary's Church, Melton Mowbray.

A joint service with Leicester Cathedral Choir and the Choir of St Mary's - marking the centenary of the Diocese of Leicester. Bishop Martyn will be the preacher and will also commission the Ven Dr Peter Hooper as Assistant Area Dean.

All are welcome - we hope you can come to this gathering, as we join in with the diocesan celebration, and also welcome Peter Hooper back to the deanery.

Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes

'Operation Christmas Child' is a hands-on way for you to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, personal care items, school supplies, and fun gifts. Peter Brooks will be building the shoeboxes for collection at St Mary's from 1st October onwards, and the **deadline for returning them is 1st November.**

Please think about donating, and if possible include one or two extra special items you know a child will love such as a doll, cuddly toy or deflated football with pump. All items are welcome as we can fill extra boxes with any spare gifts.

Service of Memories – 1st Nov at 3.00pm

This special service is a chance to recall and give thanks for the lives of those that we still love and remember. It will be held on Sunday 1st November at 3.00pm, led by Lisa. Tea and cakes will be served following the service.

If you would like a loved one to be remembered please contact the Parish Office on 01949 842859 or stmbottesford@gmail.com.

'AUTUMN REFLECTIONS'

A Quiet Day in Framland Deanery on Saturday 14th November 10am - 4pm at Dove Cottage Day Hospice, Stathern
£10 per person to include refreshments and buffet lunch. Booking forms from Judith Wells: judithwells@hotmail.co.uk 01949 842804

Christmas Fair – Sat 28th Nov 10am - 2pm – admission free!

Come along and enjoy seasonal refreshments, children's activities, stalls and games – and, of course, Santa's Grotto!

We have local arts, crafts and produce on offer, and the Primary School choir will be performing.

Join us for some early Christmas shopping and an opportunity to help raise funds for our beautiful church.

Good news on roofing and lighting

The PCC and Fabric team have been working hard to apply for permission to carry out some essential repairs to the roof as we have had some serious leaks during recent rainfall (yes, there has been enough rain to find a way in!)

We have also been waiting longer than we would wish for Faculty approval from the Chancellor to start our replacement lighting project. That has finally come through and we aim to start the work in early November so that it is complete by the time our Christmas activities start.

Grant funding for projects like these is difficult to find, and so any donations you may be able to make to support the work would be much appreciated. This could be by a one-off donation for a specific project, or perhaps by regular giving via membership of the Friends of St Mary's. The Parish Giving Scheme is also a simple way to give regularly within your budget.

If you would like to find out more about regular or occasional giving, please contact the Parish Office or any member of the PCC or Friends committee in the first instance.

If you could give a little of your time and expertise to help manage projects like these, we would also love to hear from you!

In our prayers this week...

Please pray for all who are unwell including Andrew Barker, Geoff Campion, Jim Farley, Beryl Fentem, Michael Howett, Pamela Kearsley, June Leek, Win Lockey, Barbara Walsh and Julia West.

Please pray for those grieving the loss of Sylvia Adlington, Deborah Cosgriff, John Holmes and Michael Kirkland.

Heavenly Father, be with all in need, comforting them and all who care for them. Amen

Thursday Prayers

An invitation to 15 minutes of peace and quiet at our prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 9.00pm on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89035344573?pwd=MmpXYotzWUhmZlhrYkpHVTBVYlZBdz09>

Meeting ID: 890 3534 4573 Passcode: 870177

Bottesford Community Hub and Charity Shop

Come and meet friends old and new on a Wednesday and Saturday morning 9.30-12 noon for tea or coffee and cake, plus pick up a bargain. Can you spare us a few hours once or twice a month to join our friendly team of Volunteers? Donated cakes would also be very welcome. Contact Linda -

lspencer631@gmail.com

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)
	Bereavement Group 2.30pm third Tuesday of the month
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

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

Address.....

Email.....

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

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

(Please tick as appropriate)