

**In our prayers this week...**

Please pray for all who are unwell including Norman Baird, Andrew Barker, Steph Eastwell, June Leek, Julie Marshall, Ivy McElroy, Margaret Metcalfe, Irene Robinson, Beryl Smith, Tim Wakefield and Barbara Walsh.

Please pray for those grieving the loss of Eileen Boyce, Jean Dennison, Elizabeth Harris and Martin Seabrook.

Please pray for all those affected by the recent floods.

**Foodbank Trolley**

Many thanks to all who contribute to the Foodbank trolley. During the winter weather we are now keeping the trolley inside the church.

**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)



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



- ♦ 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

# in church today

**Church Contacts**  
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**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 12th January 2025-** The Baptism of Christ

**Readings:** Acts 8: 14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**Services this Weekend**

Covenant Service at the Methodist Chapel  
10.30am

Morning Worship at Barkestone 10.30am

**Dates for your Diary**

Monday 13th Jan St Mary's PCC 7.00pm

Tuesday 14th Jan St John's PCC 7.00pm

Wednesday 15th Jan Funeral of Eileen Boyce  
10.30  
Sing for Joy 2.00pm

Friday 17th Jan Funeral of Liz Harris 3.30

Sunday 19th Jan Morning Worship St Mary's  
Morning Worship Muston

Monday 21st Jan Churches Together 7.00pm



## This Week's Readings

### Acts 8:14-17

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

### Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

### To Pray

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as  
your Son:  
may we recognise him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your  
beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our saviour.  
Amen

Collect for the Baptism of Christ



### Flood Damage

On behalf of St Mary's PCC and all the church family, we would like to express our thanks to all the volunteers who came to help clear the church wall which was knocked down during the recent floods.

### Wednesday Morning Prayer

The next Morning Prayer at St Mary's will be on Wednesday 15th January at 9.00am.

### Nota Bene Singers

The first Friends of St Mary's event for the new year will be a concert by the Nota Bene Singers who come from all over the country. They will be performing at St Mary's on Sunday 2nd March at 5.00pm and the concert will be followed by a buffet supper. Tickets available soon.

### Sunday Supplement

Every other Sunday evening at 5pm - live worship by Zoom: fresh, interactive and spontaneous. Meet up with people you know from around our churches or make their acquaintance for the first time.

### Save the Date

The next wreathmaking workshop for Easter will be held on the morning of Saturday 12th April. Please contact Lisa or the church office to book a place.



### Wild Worship

The next Wild Worship will be Prayers around the Churchyard to be held on Saturday 8th February from 10.30-11.30.

### Giving

A total of £920 was raised for the charity Crisis from the choir's carol singing and our Christmas services at St Mary's. In addition £200 was sent to The Children's Society from the Christingle Service and £86 to The Alzheimer's Society from the primary school Christmas service.

### Lent Course

A Lent course is currently being planned which will be on Monday evenings commencing Monday 10th March until Monday 14th April. This will take place in someone's home. Please contact the church office if you would like to join this home group.