

### In our prayers this week...

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

Please pray for humanitarian workers in the troubled parts of our world.

### Confirmation

Are you interested in being confirmed or want to find out more about what this means? If so, please speak to Lisa Smith. The Reverend John Barr, our Area Dean, has organised with Bishop Saju a confirmation Service on 26th October.

### 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](http://www.stmarysbottesford.co.uk)  
Facebook:  
St Mary the Virgin Bottesford  
Contact details for each church can be found at:  
[www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)  
(followed by the church name.)

### Sunday 13th April 2025- Palm Sunday

**Readings:** Philippians 2: 5-11, Luke 22:1-23

**Services this Week** Morning Worship led by Reverend Nick Baker at St Mary's  
Morning Worship at Barkestone

### Dates for your Diary

Saturday 12th April	Wreath making 9.00am
Monday 14th April	Lent Group 7.00pm
Tuesday 15th April	FOSM meeting 7.00pm
Wed 16th April	Sing for Joy 2.30pm
Thursday 17th April	Maundy Thursday Communion 7.30
Friday 18th April	Wild Worship 10.00 Walk of Witness 10.00 starting from the Methodist Church The Last Hour 2.00pm Karl Jenkins Mass for Peace 7.30pm St Mary's
Saturday 19th April	Service of Light 8.30pm
Easter Sunday	Holy Communion 10.30 Morning Worship at Muston 10.30am

N.B. There will be no newsletter next week.



## This Week's Worship and Reflection



**"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Luke 19:38 (Luke 19:28-40)**

I wonder if you have ever ridden a donkey? I have, once, aged about 4, on the beach at Scarborough. I was riding along, with all the other donkeys, being bumped about by the swaying of

the animal. When all of a sudden my donkey made a run for it, veering right and running straight into the sea, where I promptly slipped from my seat and splashed down into the waves. I wasn't hurt but it was a humbling experience.

On this Palm Sunday, we will walk from Fleming Bridge, led by the Choir, through the churchyard into Church, to mirror the journey Jesus made, up the Mount of Olives and down again into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey. Some of us will wave home-made palms, as the crowd did that welcomed Jesus like a King. And we will each receive a Palm Cross, folded from a palm leaf and blessed during the service; a reminder that the cross is a vital part of our faith journey. Do come along on Sunday morning if you are able.

On the face of it, this is a joyful day. The people of Jerusalem are welcoming their King, laying their cloaks on the ground before him, waving palm leaves and shouting 'Hosanna', which means 'save'. Jesus was the one the people had been waiting for, to save them from the Roman occupation and be their King of the Jews.

And yet there is a clue in this story that tells us Jesus was not going to be the kind of King the people were expecting. How many Kings ride into town on a donkey? A donkey is a humble 'beast of burden', a servant of its master, carrying a heavy load.

And yet, what better entrance is there for our Lord and Saviour, who came to yield to his Father's will, to bear our load of sin, and die and rise again that we might live. We know that in a few short days, the crowd's songs of praise become shouts of, 'crucify him'. I pray that on this Palm Sunday, we can sing hosanna with joy while also preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus, our Servant King.

*Lisa Smith*

### To Pray

*True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and  
love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross  
which is the path of glory. Amen*

*Collect for Palm Sunday*

### Service of Light

You are all invited to this very special service at 8.30pm on Easter Eve - the first service of Easter. We begin outside the porch, gathered around the Easter Fire, from which the new Paschal Candle is lit. The Church is in darkness and we process inside, led by this Light of Christ. We share this Light, it fills the Church and it fills us too. I encourage you to come along and be among the first to welcome the risen Christ!

### Wild Worship on Good Friday

Lisa Smith is seeking helpers for this event on 18th April, 10-11.30am - to serve refreshments / hot cross buns and support children making Easter crafts and gardens. Donations of packs of hot cross buns and cakes also welcome. Thank you!

### Cranmer Come and Sing

On Good Friday, the Cranmer Company of Singers will be hosting their annual Come and Sing which this year is in aid of the East Africa Hunger Appeal. They will be singing Karl Jenkins Mass for Peace. The rehearsal for singers starts at 4.30 (please book your place [heather@ng7.org.uk](mailto:heather@ng7.org.uk)) and if you would like to come and listen, the performance starts at 7.30pm.

### Grantham Foodbank Lent Appeal

During the 6 weeks of Lent Grantham Foodbank will hand out 9 tonnes of emergency food parcels. Please consider donating items from their shopping list instead of giving something up. Top 10 items: soup, baked beans, tinned curry, tinned mince, pasta sauce, tinned vegetables, pasta, tinned fruit, tinned fish and rice pudding. Donate in the trolley of St Mary's porch or the box in Queen Street.

### Muston Bingo

Muston PCC are holding another Bingo Night on Friday 11th April in the Old School. 7.00 for 7.30pm. There is a bar, refreshments and prizes.

### 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.

### Wreathmaking Workshop

Our next Easter wreath making workshop is fast approaching. It will be held on Saturday 12th April from 9.00-11.30am. Refreshments will be provided but please bring all your own materials: a floristry ring, foliage and flowers, ribbon, Easter themed decorations. Please speak to Lisa if you would like to attend.

### The Last Hour

Unfortunately our planned Passion Play for Good Friday cannot go ahead this year. Instead there will be a service of The Last Hour from 2.00pm at St Mary's.