

In our prayers this week...

Please pray for all who are unwell including Norman Baird, Andrew Barker, Eileen Boyce, Sally Hillcote, June Leek, Julie Marshall, Ivy McElroy, Margaret Metcalfe, Irene Robinson, Beryl Smith and Tim Wakefield.

Please pray for those grieving the loss of Peter Holmes, Jean Moulds, Roger Smith and Pat Smith.

Please pray for victims of abuse by the church and for those who failed to expose the perpetrators.

Wreath making

The next session of wreath-making is on Saturday 7th December, 9-12. Please book your place with Lisa Smith or via Pamela in the church office.

To Kenya with Love

We have received new updates about our two sponsored children, Baraka and Bernhard. Please see the display board for details.

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



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

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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 17th November 2024-

Readings: Ephesians 5:8-13, Mark 13:1-8

Services this Weekend

Morning Worship 10.30 St Mary's led by Tonya Pacey and Pamela Kearsley

Morning Worship 10.30 St John's, Muston led by Graham and Kathie Lyndsell

Dates for your Diary

- Monday 18th Nov St Mary's PCC 7.00pm
- Wednesday 20th Nov Sing for Joy 2.00pm
- Friday 22nd Nov Memorial Service for Jean Moulds 2.30pm St Helen's Muston Christmas Quiz 7.00
- Saturday 23rd Nov St Mary's Christmas Fair
- Sunday 24th Nov Morning Worship St Mary's 10.00-2.00
- Tuesday 26th Nov PCSO 'drop-in' 1.00-3.00pm St John's PCC 7.00pm
- Saturday 30th Nov Melismata Concert 7.00pm
- Tuesday 3rd Dec Tea and Cakes 2.30pm
- 6th-8th December Friends Christmas Tree Festival



This Week's Worship and Reflection

Safeguarding Sunday

Safeguarding Sunday is an awareness campaign instigated by the Christian charity Thirtyone:eight who handle all our DBS checks. It provides an opportunity for churches to show that they take their safeguarding responsibilities seriously and to remind everyone how they can help to develop a safe and welcoming culture in church. In the light of recent events in the media, Safeguarding Sunday has arrived at an opportune time. Anyone reading the accounts of the abuse perpetrated by John Smyth over nearly five decades will no doubt be appalled. It was compounded by the culture of silence and the failure to hold him to account by church leaders.

Historically the Church of England does not have a good record on protecting the vulnerable so it is imperative that as a church we resolve to get things right from now on.

The Church of England has five National Safeguarding Standards which are culture, prevention, managing risk, responding to victims and training and support. In our group of churches all church leaders and members of PCCs are DBS checked and required to take part in regular safeguarding training. We have a safeguarding coordinator (me) and an independent person (Lisa Smith)

But the bottom line is that safeguarding is everyone's job. It is at the heart of our Christian faith. As Paul says in his letter to the Ephesians, 'Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them'. Abuse persists in a culture of secrecy. Protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message. Jesus gave us a commandment 'to love one another. As I have loved, so you must love one another'. We therefore pray for all victims of abuse and we pray that those in authority will act appropriately when abuse is reported to them.

Pamela Kearsley

To Pray

*Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be
healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
Collect for the second Sunday be-
fore Advent*

Sing for Joy

During the winter months, Sing for Joy will start at the earlier time of 2.00pm. The next meeting is on Wednesday 20th November.

St Mary's Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair on Saturday 23rd November at St Mary's 10.00-2.00 is fast approaching. Please can you donate bottles, raffle prizes, tombola and chocolate and sign up to make a cake on the list at the back of church. If you would like to volunteer to help on a stall, please speak to Pamela in the office.

Christmas Quiz Night

Muston PCC are holding another of their popular Quiz Nights, this time with a Christmas theme. The date is Friday 22nd November 7.00 for 7.30pm at the Old School. There is a licensed bar and cash prizes.

Melismata Concert

A concert by local choral group Melismata will take place at St Mary's on Saturday 30th November at 7.00pm. The concert, entitled Salve Regina, will feature sacred music of golden age Spain. Admission is free with donations welcome.

Christmas Tree Festival

FOSM are hosting a Christmas Tree festival from 6th-8th December. There will be a Preview Evening on Friday 6th from 6.30. This will include a light supper and refreshments and tickets costing £10 need to be pre-booked either with the church office or Linda Simmons 07958716765. If you are able to help serve refreshments on Saturday 7th December, please sign the sheet at the back of church.

Children's Activity Morning

On Saturday 14th December between 10am and 11.30am we are running a Children's Advent Activity morning. To be able to make this happen we need a group of volunteers that will welcome families, offer refreshments and support children in making the activities. If you feel you could offer your time to this, we would be very grateful of your input. If you would like to know more an information meeting about the session will be held on Monday 25th November at 7pm in St Mary's church.

An Evening with Zebra Express

This live music event will take place on 14th December 7.30pm at the village hall. The group are kindly donating the proceeds to St Mary's in memory of Frances Stapleton. Tickets priced £18 including food are available from village outlets.

Police Personal and Home Security Drop In

The PCSO will be hosting a drop in session at St Mary's on Tuesday 26th November from 1.00-3.00pm. Judith would welcome some help serving refreshments.