

In our prayers this week...

Please pray for all who are unwell including Andrew Barker, Ian Beech, Deborah Cosgriff, June Leek, Ivy McElroy, Margaret Metcalfe, Ruth Morris and Barbara Walsh.

Please pray for those grieving the loss of David Allington and Nora Parkin.

A prayer for Christian Unity

Heavenly Father, you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ to continue his work of reconciliation and reveal you to the world: forgive us the sins which tear us apart; give us the courage to overcome our fears and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will; 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.

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=MmpXYotzWUhmZIhrYkpHVTBVY1ZBdzog>

Meeting ID: 890 3534 4573 Passcode: 870177

Bottesford Community Hub and Charity Shop

Come and join us on a Wednesday and Saturday morning 9.30-12 noon for tea and cake, plus pick up a bargain. A very popular venue to meet friends old and new. Can you spare us a few hours once or twice a month? Come and join our friendly team of Volunteers. Contact Linda - lspsencer631@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

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| 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 9.30-12.00 |

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.....



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

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.adchurchnearyou.com
(followed by the church name.)



Sunday 18th January 2026- Second Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42
Services this Sunday

Morning Worship at St Mary's 10.30 led by Lisa Smith

Morning Worship at Muston 10.30 led by Peter and Krista Daniel

Dates for your Diary

Monday 19th Jan Churches Together 7.00

Tuesday 20th Jan Service for Christian Unity Methodist Chapel 10.00

Wed 21st Jan Sing for Joy 2.00pm

Friday 23rd Jan Muston Quiz Night 7.00

Sunday 25th Jan Morning Worship at St Mary's 10.30 led by Graham and Kathie

Monday 26th Jan FOSM meeting



This week's Worship and Reflection



“Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, ‘What are you seeking?’ They said, ‘Rabbi, where are you staying?’ ‘Come,’ he replied, ‘and you will see.’” John 1:38-39a

The season of Epiphany that we're in, is all about seeing. Seeing Jesus for who He really is – our Saviour, redeemer and friend. Seeing signs of Jesus' presence in our lives and being thankful. And seeing how we can invite others to also 'come and see' what it means to know and love Jesus. Our gospel reading from John, chapter 1, verses 35-42 opens with John the Baptist telling his own disciples about Jesus so that they turn and follow Him. And having believed, the first thing one of them (Andrew) does is tell his brother Simon so that he believes too. Jesus himself utters the invitation, to these first of his disciples, but also to you and me, to 'come and see' who He is and what He is doing.

A new year is often a time of reflection, on the year just gone and also what lies ahead. The ideal time then to ponder, and answer for ourselves, the questions posed by this season of Epiphany:

What are YOU seeking? Do we see Jesus as our Saviour, redeemer and friend? Do we see signs of His presence in our lives and know what He has done for us? And do we tell others that we have met Jesus and invite them to also 'come and see'?

There is choice in these questions and also a challenge. When we have found the Jesus we seek, or we have been found by Him, then it is our turn to use the gifts He has given us to tell the story of God's hope-filled and redeeming grace that has touched our lives. In telling our story, we invite others, in turn, to 'come and see' this Jesus and be loved.

In this new year, we will sing God's song together, that same never-ending song of hope and grace and peace, so that everyone might hear it.

Lisa Smith

To Pray

*Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory,
hidden through past ages
and made known through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Collect for the second Sunday of Epiphany

Salvation Army

As previously reported, all the money raised at Christmas services and the singing at The Rutland Arms was donated to The Salvation Army. We have received a lovely letter from them telling us that the £1000 we raised puts us in the top 5 fundraising efforts this Christmas!

Buildings Officer

St Mary's PCC is delighted to appoint Annie Hart as buildings officer. Annie will oversee the various projects to keep our beautiful church in good order. We look forward to working with Annie in the future.

Week of Christian Unity

Next week is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Methodists are holding a service on Tuesday 20th January at 10.00 to mark this. All welcome.

St Mary's Spire

On the 22nd and 23rd January, weather permitting, a structural engineer and steeplejacks will be inspecting the crack at the top of the spire to investigate its root cause from which a plan of action can be prepared.



Watch out for the ladders and pray for good weather!

Muston Quiz Night

The next Muston Quiz Night will be held on Friday 23rd January at The Old School Muston, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Teams of up to 6 members, £2 per person. There will be a bar, tea and coffee and cake.

Muston Coffee Morning

Muston coffee mornings are back up and running every Friday morning from 10.00 until 12.00. Come for refreshment and good company.

Melton Bible Course

Melton Mowbray Team Parish is running the new edition of The Bible Course and you are invited to join us on Monday evenings at St Mary's Melton at 7.30pm. The course begins on 16th February until 27th April. For more information contact the team rector on maryebarr17@gmail.com

Friends of St Mary's

The Friends 2026 programme is nearing completion. The highlights include:

Saturday 7th March: Radcliffe-on-Trent Male Voice Choir

Saturday 9th May: Kelly's Heroes (Irish music and song)

Saturday 28th June: St Mary's Summer Village Fair

Saturday 25th July: Helix Ensemble (award winning chamber orchestra)

Saturday 5th/Sunday 6th December: Christmas Tree Festival

In addition the Friends are planning their usual Quiz Nights, dates to be announced. Further information about the above events will be announced nearer the time.