

In our prayers this week...

Please pray for all who are unwell including Andrew Barker, Stewart Colledge, Deborah Cosgriff, Beryl Fentem, Michael Howett, June Leek, Barbara Walsh and Julia West.

Please pray for those grieving the loss of Andy Morley and Dorothy Plowright.

Please pray for all those affected by the earthquakes in Venezuela.

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

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 - 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)
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

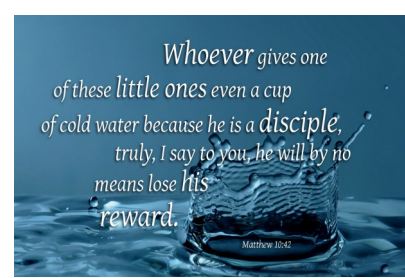
Paper copy

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 28th June 2026- Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Romans 6: 12-23, Matthew 10: 40-42

Services this Sunday

Outdoor Summer Praise 10.30 St Mary's led by Kathie Lyndsell and Lisa Smith followed by a Parish Picnic



Dates for your Diary

- Sat 27th June Summer Village Fete 12.00-4.00pm
- Tue 30th June Muston PCC 7.00pm
- Sun 5th July Holy Communion St Mary's led by Revd. Monica Judson and Revd. Peter Sutton
- Tue 7th July Tea and Cakes 2.30pm
- Sat 25th July Helix Ensemble 7.30pm



This week's Worship and Reflection



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” Romans 15:13

JOY is a small word that contains a lot – especially Christian joy, which is about so much more than happiness when things are going well. As each one of us knows, our lives are not always lived in the ‘good times’ and we don’t always feel

joyful. So what does the Bible tell us about joy?

The Bible mentions joy over 400 times (if you also include ‘rejoice’ – which has joy in it!) That’s how important it is! Firstly, it’s good to remember that Christian joy comes from God – it’s one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), produced by God’s work in us. So Christian joy is not about what’s going on around us, but a response within us to God’s gifts of love and forgiveness.

In other words, when we believe in God and follow Jesus, we are filled with the Holy Spirit, who busies away helping us understand the truly amazing grace God has given us – that we are His children, part of His family: forgiven, loved and free!

Now that’s not to say we ignore what’s going on around us. Taking the example of the Psalmists, we pour out our hearts to God about what worries or distresses us and He listens. And there are plenty of characters in the Bible who felt utter joylessness at times – Job (Job 3:11), or David (Psalm 55:6-8). We can feel this way too – Christian faith is no stranger to suffering.

But secondly, and what is special about Christian joy (rather than the worldly kind), is that it remains steady through the storms of life because it stems from God’s love for us, which never changes despite what our life may look like. To experience Christian joy then, we focus on God and what He has done for us – and we can do that in the company and fellowship of our Christian sisters and brothers, as we will do this Sunday in our outdoor (hopefully) Summer Praise Service!

Do come along if you can, 10.30am this Sunday, 28th June at St Mary’s, Bottesford – and bring a picnic lunch. We will find together the joy of praising our Lord in thankfulness for His love. And my prayer for us all this week is the apostle Paul’s prayer from Romans 15:13 - *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.* Amen!

Lisa Smith

To Pray

*Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our
wayward world: draw us into
harmony with your will, that we
may find all things restored in him,
our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen*

*Collect for the fourth Sunday after
Trinity*



Barkestone Barbecue

You are invited to
Barkestone Church Village
Barbecue on Saturday

18th July from 5.00pm-10.00pm at
The Manor, Plungar Lane,
Barkestone. This is a cash event.
Adults £10, Children £5 to include
food, raffle, music and bar. All pro-
ceeds to the church restoration.

Thanks

Ruth Morris would like to thank
everyone for their prayers during her
recent illness. She has now made a
good recovery.

Safeguarding Survey

The diocese and cathedral will soon
be taking part in a safeguarding audit
and they would like people across
the diocese to take part through an
online survey. There are posters up
in church containing a QR code or
you can access the survey on Leices-
ter.anglican.org/safeguarding/audit
The survey closes on the 8th August.

Deanery Events

You are invited to the following
Deanery events: On Sunday 12th July
from 7.00pm, there will be a Desert
Island Discs themed social event at
St Remigius Church Long Clawson.
Light refreshments will be served.
On Saturday 12th October at St

Mary’s Melton, there will be a dean-
ery service to celebrate the diocesan
centenary followed by afternoon
tea.

Confirmation

This year’s confirmation service will
take place on Sunday 6th September
at 10.30 at Hose Church. If you are
interested in preparing for confirma-
tion, please speak to a member of
the ministry team. There is also a
preparation course being run in
Harby. Details are on the notice-
board in the porch.

Helix Ensemble

Tickets are now available for the
next Friends concert, the highly ac-
claimed Helix Ensemble, on Saturday
25th July at 7.30pm.

Chairs

Free to a good home. We have a
number of surplus plastic chairs in
church if anyone would like some or
knows an organisation which could
use them.

Bottesford Community Hub

The Hub would be grateful to anyone
who could spare 15 minutes on a
Saturday either at 8.45 and/or 11.45
to help get the stock out and put it
away.

Diocesan Centenary Worship Gathering

On Sunday September 13th, Leicester
Diocese will be celebrating their cen-
tenary with the Archbishop of
Canterbury, the Most Revd Dame
Sarah Mullally. Everyone is welcome
to attend. Tickets are free and can
be booked through Eventbrite. More
details can be found at [https://
www.leicester.anglican.org/news/
diomail/](https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/diomail/)