



NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DEANERY NEWS

04 WINTER 2024

Welcome to the Advent and Christmas edition of our Deanery News

I have happy childhood memories with my family making the Christmas cake, we all had to give it a stir, we weren't to beat the mixture quickly, but slowly stir in a figure of eight folding in all the ingredients and air. We'd also have a baking morning, filling the tins with festive treats ready for the Christmas season and on Christmas eve, we'd have an afternoon in the kitchen, everyone preparing the vegetables, making the stuffing, and dressing the turkey. Christmas carols would be playing, Mum and Dad praising our every effort and as children we loved it when all the washing up was done, as a simple little party in the kitchen would ensue. All little family traditions that we'd take time to do and be together and then excitedly waiting to reap some beautiful tasty results.

Advent is a time of preparation, both spiritually and practically. The art of preparing is a beautiful thing but so often the busyness disrupts the creative process of preparing. Rush and hurry, and our long "To-Do Lists" can make us cut corners, so that we can complete so many more tasks. Then burn out Christmas Day! Cultivating a slowness in our preparations stimulates our inner reflective thinking and creative thought process and allows us to be fully present to the moment with our hearts full of Joy on Christmas day.

As a child I loved singing this verse from 'In the Bleak mid-Winter'.

"What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man
I would do my part;
yet what can I give him –
give my heart."

This last verse still moves me. Just like the stirring of the Christmas cake mixture, let us enfold the gift of Christmas into our hearts. Whatever our situation: enough money to pay our bills or not; working or retired; living with others or alone; bereaved; with plans for a way forward or not; security, directly affected by war, trauma, grief or poverty or watching it on T.V., we all have ups and downs. During Advent we bring to God ourselves, our spiritual gifts, our time, our life experience... and our hearts. Christmas brings hope.

So, amongst all the busyness, Advent is a time to slow down and savour the season. I'll finish with the poem Pacemaker by Andree Heaton ~

*Learn to sit still,
Watch fire glowing.
Instead of dashing
Seeing, knowing.*

*Shut the noise out,
Hear wind blowing.
Instead of rushing
Breathing, flowing.*

*Stand in one place,
Feel pace slowing.
Instead of racing
Being, growing.*

May you have a Blessed Advent and a Happy, Blessed Christmas! *The Revd Laura Jackson*

NOTICES

DEANERY SYNOD

Synod will next meet on Tuesday, 3rd December at St John's Donisthorpe. If you have any questions, please speak to your representatives before that date.

LAITY MEETINGS

We will be taking a break now until Spring 2025. Many thanks to the churches who have hosted this year and thank you to all those who came along to the meetings. If your church would like to host in the future, then please do get in touch with Noreen, Jean or Avril.

Regular Meetings

Saturday Foodbank – every Saturday 10-12 noon at St Stephen's Woodville.

Christ Church Coalville – Church Hall Tuesdays 2pm – 4pm – Caring Café – a quiet, peaceful environment. Bring friends and make new ones.

St Helens Church & Heritage Centre Ashby Fridays 2pm – 4pm – Warm Hearted Space – tea and cakes, soup, games and play area for young children.

St Andrews Thringstone Thursdays 10am-12 noon – Open Church – coffee, cake & chat



THE 6PM GATHERING

AN INFORMAL EVENING OF
WORSHIP, TEACHING AND PRAYER

6PM, NOVEMBER 24TH
THEN ON FOURTH SUNDAYS FROM JAN 2025

HOSTED BY ST DAVID'S CHURCH, BROOM LEYS
OPEN TO ALL

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

ST DAVID'S CHURCH,
MEADOW LANE,
COALVILLE LE67 4RL



Ashby Youth For Christ's Christmas Crackerteria

07.12.2024
10:00 - 14:30

Ashby Baptist Church

Hot food & drinks
Soup
Cake
Snacks

Special collaboration with Make Do, Mend and Create: Learn, develop and practice your sewing and textile skills. Make a festive thing.

Ho ho ho yes!

Run by Ashby Youth For Christ to help Moldova Youth For Christ and their work with children at risk.



ST. DAVID'S CHURCH
GREENHILL ROAD
COALVILLE
LE67 9RL

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
10.00 AM - 1.00 PM

LOTS OF STALLS INCLUDING...

HOME-MADE CAKES • REFRESHMENTS • RAFFLE
TOY STALL • CHRISTMAS GIFTS • 3 TOMBOLAS
GAMES • HOTDOGS • AND MANY MORE...

VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTO!

CAROLS by Candlelight

Friday 6th December 7pm

Carols by Candlelight, Staunton Harold Church.

The beautiful Staunton Harold Church will be candlelit for a service of carols and readings on Friday 6 December, 7pm. Rev'd Canon David Newman (former Archdeacon of Loughborough and Warden of Launde Abbey) will preach and music led by the choir of St Helen's Church, Ashby. A collection will be taken in aid of Bright Hope the NW Leicestershire charity providing support to individuals with life limiting conditions. Seasonal refreshments will be served afterwards. Parking in Lion Court car park. Everyone welcome, wrap up warm. Enquiries: 07964 263432.

Christmas Tree Festival

There is a Christmas Tree Festival being held in Swebstone Church on Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December and the following weekend Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December from 10.30am until 4.30 pm. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served.

In addition we have the Big Switch On on Advent Sunday 1st December, when you can enjoy free mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies before the Switch On at 5pm. There will be a couple of carols for you to sing, a countdown to the Switch On and hopefully the stars will be lit up and the bells will ring. Please wrap up warm as you will be outside for the actual Switch On.

chorus theatre
imagine - create - experience

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

By Charles Dickens
Adapted, Directed, and Performed by Andrew McWilliam

Sunday 15th December
St Michael & All Angels Church, Ravenstone
4.00pm
Tickets: Adults £8 / Children £2 (under 2s free)
Book online via www.tinyurl.com/anxmascarol



ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGEL'S

Christmas ECO FAIR

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER, 2024
10AM - 2PM

Free Entry
Sustainable Gifts
Hand crafted presents
Supporting Local businesses
Home made cakes and tasty treats
and much more!

Children's Society

Let's come together to celebrate Christingle

Christingle is a great way for communities everywhere to get together this Christmas to catch up, make some special memories, and have fun.

Come and join us!

Holy Rood Church
Packington
Sunday 1st December
at 4PM
Our speaker is
Vernon Bayliss
from
Ashby Youth for Christ
Refreshments served after the service
by the school PSA

Scan the QR code to find out more.



St. John Baptist Church, Hugglescote

Saturday 30th November
11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Hugglescote Community Centre

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Admission £1

A great place to pick up some lovely gifts incl.

Jewellery - Greetings Cards
Seasonal wreaths
Crochet toys & Accessories
Wooden gifts -Resin decorations

Plus many prizes to be won
Lots of Christmas music
Tea/Coffee and Cakes
Ploughman's lunches with cake - only £10

Soup, Pudding and a Glass of Wine

New Years Day

11.30am - 2pm

A short service of poems and prayers starting at 11.30am
Lunch being served from 12 Noon.



Join us in Church for both or just the meal.

You are welcome to either turn up on the day or to book a place please phone,
Anne 01530414621 or
Lesley 01530413309

Holy Rood Church
Packington

Donations welcome towards the upkeep of the Church.

Toy Service

With Pop up Nativity

Holy Rood Church
8th December 10am

Dress AS your favourite NATIVITY
Character and Come along to meet our Donkey from Phoenix Children's Foundation



New Toys and Gift Wrap will be accepted for the Marlene Reid Centre

COALVILLE MALE VOICE CHOIR

INVITE YOU TO A Festive Concert

ALONGSIDE THE BOUNDARY SINGERS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH 2024 AT 7.30PM

Venue: St John the Baptist Church
12 Grange Road, Hugglescote LE67 2BQ

TICKETS £8.00 AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR
OR PLEASE CALL 07976 813035
UNDER 14'S FREE
EMAIL: PR@COALVILLEMVC.CO.UK

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1190513



Festive Events in the Deanery

Saturday 30th November 10am - 1pm Christmas Fair at St David's Broom Leys

Saturday 30th November 1pm - 3pm Christmas Fair at St Stephen's Woodville. All proceeds to be split between St Stephen's Restoration Fund and the Parish Gift

Saturday 30th November 11am - 3pm Christmas Craft Fair at St John's Hugglescote

Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December 10.30am - 4.30pm Christmas Tree Festival at Sweystone Church and same times the following weekend, **Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December** with "Big Switch On" at 5pm on Sunday 8th

Sunday 1st December 4pm Christingle Service at Holy Rood Church Packington

Monday 2nd December 7.30pm Advent Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church Ashby-de-la-Zouch with speaker Revd Graham Heath. Coffee/tea and mince pies will be served. There will be an opportunity if you wish to leave a donation for Newland House Cheshire Home

Wednesday 4th December 7.30pm Bardon Quarry Annual Christmas Carols and songs with Croft Silver Band at St Peters Bardon. A great way to start off the festive season

Friday 6th December 7pm Carols by Candlelight at Staunton Harold Church. The Revd Canon David Newman will preach with music led by the choir of St Helens Ashby. Seasonal refreshments will be served afterwards

Saturday 7th December 10am - 2.30pm AYFC Christmas Crackerteria at Ashby Baptist Church

Saturday 7th December 10am - 2pm Christmas Eco Fair at St Michael & All Angels Ravenstone

Saturday 7th December 7.30pm Festive Concert with Coalville Male Voice Choir at St John's Hugglescote. Tickets on the door £8.00, under 14s free

Sunday 8th December 10am Nativity Service at Holy Rood Church Packington. New toys and gift wrap will be accepted for the Marlene Reid Centre

Thursday 12th & 19th December 10am - 11.30am Cafe Church at St Matthews Worthington

Sunday 15th December 3pm - 4pm Christingle Service at St Matthews Worthington with refreshments from 4.30pm

Sunday 15th December 4pm "A Christmas Carol" adapted, directed and performed by Andrew McWilliam at St Michael & All Angels Ravenstone. Adults £8.00 children £2.00 (under 2s free)

Sunday 22nd December 10.30am - 11.30am Service of Communion and Carols at St Matthews Worthington. Refreshments served until 12 noon

Tuesday 24th December 3pm - 4pm Christmas Carols around the Trees at St Matthews Worthington. Refreshments served until 4.30pm

Sunday 29th December 10.30am - 11.45am United Flagstaff Family of Churches service of Communion at St Matthews Worthington. Refreshments served until 12.15pm.

New Years Day Wednesday 1st January 2025 11.30am - 2pm A short service of poems and prayers followed by lunch at Holy Rood Church Packington



Prayer

Written by Mr Norman Turner, Deanery Synod Member

Heavenly Father,

As the world around us moves from crisis to crisis and daily pressures build up upon us,

Give us strength to take time to see the glory of creation, the wonders of nature, and the joys of fellowship.

To remember at Christmas the birth of your promise to be our protector and guide, and enjoy sharing this with everyone we meet.

Heavenly father thank you for being you!

Amen



Contact Us

The Revd Canon Gill Pinnington,
Area Dean:
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Avril Roberts, Deanery Secretary:
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THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has sent in content, written welcomes and prayers and supported the first year of the newsletter. I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Edition 05 will be out end of March 2025.

Avril




Bereavement Support Group

2025
Fridays 1.30-3.30pm

- 24th January
- 21st February
- 28th March
- 25th April
- 23rd May
- 27th June

The Oasis, 67 Central Road, Hugglescote, LE67 2FJ

We offer a safe and comforting environment for anyone who has experienced bereavement and anyone who wants to join us is welcome.

Enquiries Tel Oasis Café 01530 456864 or Sue 07985 110592

