

Three Churches Newsletter

February 2018

St John Baptist, Hugglescote
St Christopher's, Ellistown
St Mary's, Snibston



ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent is early this year – it begins on 14th February which is also Valentine's day! The ashes of repentance and human frailty alongside the hearts and candy of Valentine's Day. An interesting mix.

But there is a link. The link of love and sacrifice. St Valentine was a Christian priest in the time of the Roman Emperor Claudius. Under Claudius the young soldiers of the Roman army were forbidden to marry as it was considered that they were less whole hearted in their service if they had families to worry about. Yet the Christian Church supported marriage and Valentine secretly conducted marriage ceremonies. He was imprisoned and martyred for doing so.

During Lent we consider another example of love and sacrifice. The example of Jesus – he showed his love for us in 'opening wide his arms for us on the cross' as it says in our liturgy. The ashes remind us of our failings – all of which are overcome by Christ's love.

This year there will be an Ash Wednesday service at 10.30am at St John's and 7.30pm at St Christopher's. Come along and receive the ashes – and a heart too!

KEEPING LENT

This year there will be no churches Together Lent Course! Instead we will run a Lent discussion group in the parish. We are going to look at the creeds. The word creed comes from the Latin word Credo meaning 'I believe'. The creeds are the statement of faith we use every Sunday in our worship. This Lent we are going to think about why we say what we say in the creeds and what those wonderful expressions such as 'Very God of Very God' really mean.

We will meet on Monday evenings at St Christopher's in café style in the church. Please come along if you can and make this a lively discussion and a time of reflection.

We are going to use the Pilgrim booklets. This is good material which the Explore group has used in the past. Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like a booklet.

We will be sharing an Agape Meal with Hugglescote Churches Together during Holy Week when we can talk and pray.

LENT LUNCH

We are also going to hold a Lent Lunch at St John's. The proceeds will go to The Children's Society. We have not supported them to the same extent since we have not held the pantomime. This will be a chance to give. Please look out for further details.

TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday February 18th at 10.30am at St. John's
A Joint Service for the whole parish
followed by lunch and children's activities.

Visiting Speaker: The Venerable Clare Wood,
Archdeacon of Loughborough

This parish of Hugglescote with Donington, Ellistown and Snibston was formed in February 2008. I came to the parish at the end of that year in December 2008 and a large part of my ministry here has been in uniting the parish together, in particular the governance of the parish through the PCC and the finances of the parish.

There are three very different churches all with something different to bring to the parish and with different ministries to their communities. Yet we are one. The cooperation, the support and the way we work together is actually brilliant. It is a reflection of the Kingdom of God and tells of God's Spirit at work among us. Welcome, service, pastoral care and outreach to our communities are what we are about – and we are going to celebrate!

The service time will be different for everyone wherever you worship – but please come and join in – this is a day for buy in. An affirmation of who we are. We are going to undertake an art project based on a Jesse tree to reflect our unity. More details on the separate sheet.



Diary for February 2018

Thurs. 1st Feb.
9:30 am Holy Communion at St. Christopher's
12:15 pm Funeral of Isabel Robinson at St. John's
3:00 pm After School Clubs at St. Christopher's
7:30 pm St. Christopher's Project Meeting at St. Christopher's

Sunday 4th February 2nd Sunday before Lent
8:00 am Holy Communion at St. John's
9:30 am Family Service at St. John's
3:00 pm Messy Church at St. Christopher's

Thurs. 8th Feb.
3:00 pm After School Clubs at St. Christopher's
7:30 pm Mission Partnership Meeting

Sunday 11th February Sunday next before Lent
8:30 am Holy Communion at St. Mary's
9:30 am Parish Communion at St. John's
11:15 am Parish Communion at St. Christopher's

Mon. 12th Feb.
7:30 pm Lent Discussion 1

Shrove 13th Feb.
Tuesday 2:00 pm Mothers' Union in the Broughton Lounge
7:30 pm Churches Together Pancake Party at The Oasis Café

Ash 14th Feb.
Weds. 10:30 am Imposition of Ashes at St. John's
7:30 pm Imposition of Ashes at St. Christopher's

Thurs. 15th Feb.
9:30 am Holy Communion & Coffee Morning at St. Christopher's
3:00 pm After School Clubs at St. Christopher's

Sat. 17th Feb.
3:00 pm Ellistown Community Cinema at St. Christopher's

Sunday 18th February 1st Sunday of Lent
10:30 am
Special Joint Service with the new Archdeacon of Loughborough to celebrate the 10th anniversary of our United Parish at St. John's

12.30pm followed by lunch and activities for families and children

Mon. 19th Feb.
10:00 am Open the Book Rehearsal at St. John's
7:30 pm Lent Discussion 2

Tue 20th Feb
10.00am Data Protection working Group. Rectory

Weds. 21st Feb.
9:00 am Open the Book Assembly at Ellistown School
10:30 am Open the Book Assembly at Hugglescote School

Sunday 25th February 2nd Sunday of Lent
8:00 am Holy Communion at St. John's
9:30 am Parish Communion at St. John's
11:15 am Parish Communion at St. Christopher's
3:00 pm Holy Baptism at St. John's
6:30 pm Jacob's Ladder at Hugglescote Social Club

Mon. 26th Feb.
7:30 pm Lent Discussion 3

Tues. 27th Feb.
7:30 pm P.C.C. Meeting at St Christopher's

Weds. 28th Feb.
10:30 am Holy Communion at St. John's
2:00 pm Ellistown Afternoon Social Group at St. Christopher's

ADVANCE NOTICES

Saturday 3rd March Lent Lunch 12.00 at St. John's

Saturday 17th March St. John's Spring Fair at Hugglescote Community Centre times T.B.A.

Saturday 23rd June St. John's Summer Fair times T.B.A.

Every month we note down the weddings, baptisms and funerals that have taken place in this parish.

Please pray for the wedding couples, the baptism families and those who are grieving.

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS at St. John's

21st Jan. George Austin White age 2 years

FUNERALS and INTERMENT OF ASHES

Funeral at St. John's & Loughborough Crematorium

15th Jan. Ralph Williamson 90 years old

At St. John's and Hugglescote Cemetery

25th Jan. Aubrey Hollingsworth 77 years old

At St. Christopher's and Hugglescote Cemetery

26th Jan. Maureen Sharpe 78 years old

At St. John's and Ibstock Cemetery

30th Jan. Simon Walter Smith 46 years old