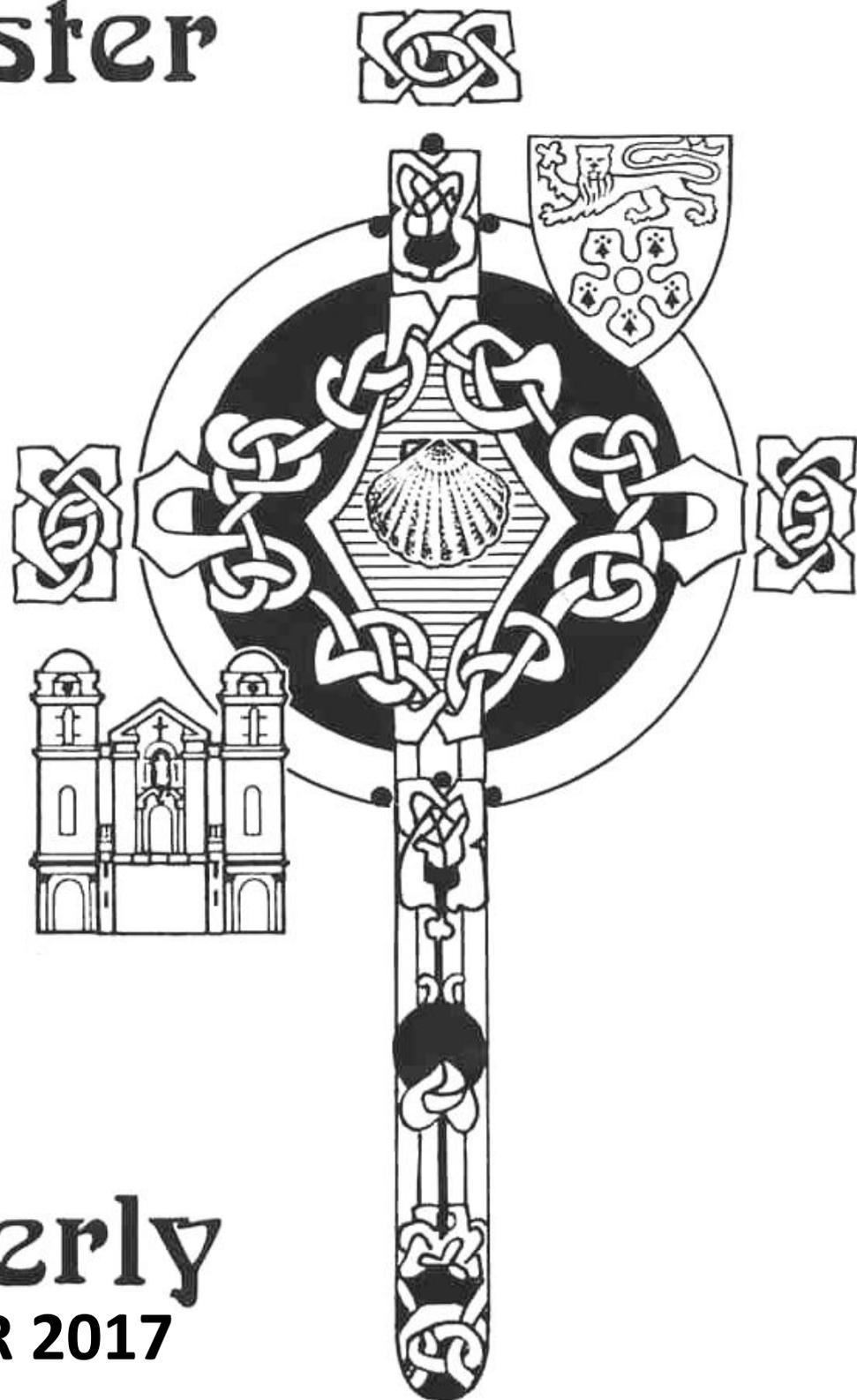


# St. JAMES the GREATER Leicester



**Quarterly**  
SUMMER 2017

**Internet site:** [www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk](http://www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk)  
**Church Office email address:** [office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk](mailto:office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk)

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**8.30 am Holy Communion    10.30 am Sung Eucharist**  
**6.30 pm Choral Evensong & Sermon**

### **A CHILDREN'S SUNDAY CLUB**

in the Church Hall in school term time starting off in church at **10.30 am**

### **MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION**

**10.15 am Thursdays**

**See Calendar for variations and details of services on saints' days**

## **MINISTRY TEAM**

**St James the Greater is currently in interregnum.**

**If you wish to enquire about baptisms, weddings, funerals or any other matter, please call 0116 254 2111.**

**The Church Office is open weekdays from 9.30-12.30, there is an emergency number on the answerphone outside of these times.**

### **Associate Non-Stipendiary Priest**

Revd Jane Sharp  
0116 270 6002

### **Honorary Associate Priests**

Revd David Clark BA  
0116 255 8988

Very Revd Dr Derek Hole Hon LLD Hon DLitt  
0116 270 9988

### **Readers**

Mr David Brunning MA  
0116 241 8742

Dr Angela Jagger BA PhD  
0116 271 9185

Mr John Raven MA  
0116 270 7591

### **Pastoral Assistant**

Miss Vicky Roe B.Phil.Ed MA  
0116 255 2108

### **Sacristan**

Mrs Janet Burton  
0751 035 3097

YOUR QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTOR IS:

..... Tel .....

## In this Summer 2017 issue ...

SERVICE TIMES & MINISTRY TEAM .....	see inside cover
A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH WARDENS.....	4
WORD FROM WORCESTER .....	5
LIFE IN 216 LONDON ROAD .....	6
AFTER THE MANCHESTER BOMBING .....	8
MISSION THROUGH MUSIC .....	12
CALENDAR OF SERVICES & EVENTS .....	see centre pages
MEET JAINS IN LEICESTER .....	17
LENTEN INSPIRATION .....	19
FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREATER .....	21
ELECTION RESULTS .....	22
MAUNDY SERVICE .....	23
EVINGTON FOOTPATH CONSERVATION AREA SOCIETY .....	26
COMMEMORATIVE FLOWERS .....	27
WHAT'S ON & WHO'S WHO .....	see back cover

Copy for the Autumn 2017 edition of the *Quarterly*  
should reach the Church Office **by Tuesday 25 July 2017**

***We welcome articles from everybody!***

*Where possible please include at least one photo and please try to  
ensure it will fit on one or two full pages.*

please send attachments on email to: [office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk](mailto:office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk)

# A message from the Church Wardens

The last few weeks have been busy and important ones in the life of St James the Greater. After months of meetings, drafts and re-drafts of the Parish Profile and much other work we now know that our new Incumbent is to be Reverend Andrew Quigley. Andrew introduces himself below and so we will simply extend a warm welcome to him and his family.



It will be a few months before Andrew joins us and in the meantime it will be business as usual at St. James. Please pray for Andrew and his family as they wait to join our community. As we are grateful for his appointment, we hope in turn that Andrew will feel that his choice of St James is the right one. We hope that you will all enjoy the summer months that lie ahead and refresh ourselves as we prepare to support Andrew in his new ministry.

Keith Vaughan and Julia Walker

I am very excited to be coming to St James as Vicar – only the third one in my lifetime! Some of you may remember me from 16 years ago when my wife, Andrea, and I were regular worshippers at St James. At the time I was teaching Religion and Philosophy at Beauchamp College, where one Anna Richerby was among my students. Prior to that I had read Theology at New College Oxford.



Whilst at St James I was formally received into the Church of England (having been Roman Catholic) and went off to Nottingham for ordination training. My curacy was at St Catherine's Burbage, and for nearly ten years I have looked after two churches within the Harborough Anglican Team.

Since our time at St James my wife and I have been joined by our son, Anselm. We enjoy travel to Italy, particularly Venice, and were in fact familiar with the Basilica di Santa Maria Assunta on Torcello before setting foot in St James. I am a keen birdwatcher, cyclist, and – increasingly – runner. As I write this I am days away from my first marathon. I am also the Diocesan Environment Officer, and in my spare time (!) have been trying to progress a doctorate in the environmental theology of JRR Tolkien.

I very much look forward to joining you as soon as practicable, and you are in my prayers as the interregnum continues.

# Word from Worcester

Glynn & Sue Richerby write ...

THE ACER TREE – among generous gifts showered on us on leaving St James the Greater – is in full, glorious red leaf. It will continue to thrive in its tub for the time being while the garden is being reordered. The garden is taking second place to getting our allotment well and truly underway.

Your selection of well-chosen tableware gifts from John Lewis come into their own when we entertain family and friends in our new home.

The major gift from the parish was of vouchers for use with the prestigious Macdonald Hotel Group – along with a large cheque to meet travel costs. This has been partly used at the splendid Randolph Hotel in Oxford – which featured in a number of Inspector Morse programmes. Our weekend stay there coincided with our niece taking part in a concert. We are looking forward to exchanging more of the vouchers for a stay at a lakeside hotel in the Lake District.

We continue to be very touched by many personal letters and cards we received in our last few weeks at St James and others sent on to us since. We look forward to compiling these into the large leather-bound album presented to us – to serve as a reminder of life together from 1993 until 2016. This will be a project for later in the year when the nights draw in.

Meanwhile, the lovely, comfy cushion embroidered with the St James logo is a constant reminder of you all when we relax in our conservatory.

It's a huge readjustment being away from Leicester and St James after so many years, but we are both enjoying the opportunity to enter into a third age of new freedoms and opportunities ...

Our thoughts and prayers are with you for the appointment process of your new Vicar. Whoever that is will be extremely fortunate.



# Life in 216 London Road

By Mike and April Rule

Glynn Richerby started his Winter 1998 letter in *The Quarterly* with the words “The Vicarage is a curious place to live”. April and I have been lucky enough to have our own experience of life in the Vicarage, as we have lived there over the past 3 months.

The process of selling a house and buying another is a stressful time. We found ourselves in the position of having sold our house with a buyer ready to move in straight away, but our sellers not being able to leave our future home until the end of March due to buying a new build. Not wanting to lose the sale of our house, we agreed to move out as soon as the legal process had taken its course and rent until we could move into our new house in Wigston. One evening whilst considering being between houses from mid-December to the end of March, I suggested to April that we ask the Diocese whether they would be willing to rent the Vicarage to us. We were so pleased when the Archdeacon and Julia and Keith as our Churchwardens gave us the green light and by December 19<sup>th</sup> we were residents of London Road.

The Vicarage is indeed a curious place. Although familiar to those who have been invited in by previous Vicars, the downstairs of the house merely scratches the surface. In total the house has 3 floors, 17 rooms, a beautiful, very well kept garden the length of the church and a cellar the area of the house. When we got the keys it really was a case of “where shall we explore next?” - I’m sure you can get to Narnia through the wardrobe! There is a real sense of history and grandeur in the Vicarage. I must do some further research on the house’s past to fully appreciate the life the building has seen over more than one hundred years. Each room has the high ceiling you would expect of such a stately building and no room is wanting for extra space, although it is clear that there is a need for refurbishment in some parts of the house. The first floor bedrooms have a glorious view over Victoria Park and we’ve spent many a moment looking out at the world and the diversity of Leicester’s people as



they walk, jog or drive by. It is clear that the vision of the church's architect has been realised as so many faces are drawn to the church building as people walk by – it really does 'arrest the attention of passers-by'. We were given warnings about potential visitors requesting the price of a cup of tea and to be cautious when opening the door, although this has proved not to be the reality. Derek Hole was our first visitor the day we moved in and we enjoyed a short reminisce and David Clark was the first to welcome us to the neighbourhood. In fact, our only unexpected visitor was a man from BT who greeted me with "good morning Reverend" – praise indeed!

Moving from the Leicestershire countryside, this would be our first and probably only experience of being city-dwellers. Having everything you need within easy walking distance and a bus stop outside your house is the true definition of city living for us. We've fully taken advantage of our wonderful city and its fine food, independent shops on Queens Road and Allendale Road and the city's nightlife – and we've increased the Old Horse's takings in the process. It's also improved our quality of life from what was a significant geographical separation from St James. It has allowed us to attend more services such as Compline and the 10.15 Thursday Communion during school holidays, plus joining 'Big Jimmy's' quiz team at the Old Horse on a Tuesday evening. Despite the noise of the traffic, the sport taking place on the park, the emergency services constantly hurtling up and down London Road, the Vicarage has a real sense of calm – except when the resident fox decides to bark at 2am.

As our move to Wigston is upon us, we will be forever grateful for the honour of residing in our church's Vicarage. Whatever the future holds for the house, we will cherish the memories of its spacious and comfortable feel and the time we have spent winding down at the end of a long day or entertaining family and friends, particularly over Christmas. Each and every day the Vicarage witnesses a beautiful calm sunrise, the fraught dashes of the commuters on one of the city's busiest roads and, particularly as the evenings become lighter and warmer, a peaceful sunset to end the day. The Vicarage reflects this prayer in its most literal sense and long may it continue to do so:

*Support us, O Lord, all the day long of this troublesome life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done.*

*Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

# **After the Manchester suicide bomb atrocity - A sermon from the 28 May which attempts to face some of the issues arising**

by David Clark

The readings were Acts 1:6-14; John 17:1-11

How can I glorify the Lord Jesus, or even trust in God,  
when I've just seen the most horrible carnage,  
and its aftermath, in violated bodies strewn across the foyer of the  
Manchester Arena?

How can I sing 'Rejoice, the Lord is King'  
when 22 mostly young and beautiful people have suddenly lost their lives  
by the hand of a misguided 22 year-old Islamist,  
who was so intent on gaining a blissful heaven through martyrdom  
that he was willing to kill, destroy and maim so many people?

How do I lift up my heart and voice to rejoice,  
when I am so sad for the dead,  
whose pictures have covered the front pages of papers,  
and when I am so sad for the wounded,  
and when I am so sad for the bereaved?

The horror and death is, for the time being, over.  
The pain of wounds and the pain of bereavement will continue,  
but there will be windows of opportunity for joy in recovering life.

The Newsletter of the Council for Christians and Jews had this sentence:

We have no choice but to move forward in hope, together as  
communities, with 'defiant' kindness to the other. Nowhere was this  
kindness more evident than in Manchester this week following the  
attack. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected.

What 'defiant kindness' means, I think, is that we – all people of all kinds and  
colour, shall summon up our reserves of concern and compassion for our  
neighbours. For the attack is against 'the other' – those who are different.

Islamists cannot tolerate those who do not conform to their way of thinking. Well, under God, we are learning something different: we are learning love and compassion for those who are different from us, because we recognise the differences which God has created, and we perceive God's glory in them too.

In the ISIS Caliphate, they no doubt speak of the glorious martyrs who sacrifice themselves in suicide bombing. But Monday's tragedy, the apparently senseless killing by shrapnel of innocent people, is the very opposite of what Jesus is praying for in today's Gospel. Jesus is praying for glory. So what I hope is that we shall get a real grip on the nature and identity of true glory.

I speak metaphorically: what is down there in the dust, as it were, is the profoundly wicked sin of the Manchester murders, covered in the grime and filth of the sick ideology which inhabited the mind of Salman Abedi and his fellow Islamists; whereas up there in the heavenly realms is the glory and holiness of God. At Ascensiontide, we pray in today's Collect, that we too may be exalted 'to the place where our Saviour Christ has gone before.'

I asked you to pay particular attention to the Gospel, because it is sometimes difficult to get at what John has written about Jesus. Here, John describes Jesus praying *before* his arrest, trial and crucifixion, but also – it is seen as if *after* Jesus has finished the work he came to do. The gospel writer John describes Jesus saying to God, "I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do" (that must mean his death by crucifixion). "So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory I had in your presence before the world existed."

So here is the assumption that Jesus was by the side of God – eternally – he was always there – part of the Trinity with the Holy Spirit. Of course this is picture language to try and grasp the mystery of the glory of Jesus and the glory of God. In eternity, there is no concept of linear time.

So I will rejoice in the glory of God. But there are paths of supposed glory down which I do not intend to walk. They are too triumphalistic. The imagery of Wesley's last verse which we sang has a sinister ring:

He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet.

This reminds me of the bloody Crusades, and the insistence of submission which Crusaders often demanded of their foes. As Christian people, we have to be very careful about whom we label as foes, remembering Jesus' word, "He who is not against me is for me."<sup>1</sup> And as promoters of the Christian cause, we do not require submission: we rejoice with those who join us in our obedience to God in Christ.

Fortunately we have as our last hymn, one by Canon Michael Saward, who in his long life as a faithful Christian priest, also experienced the same sort of evil and wickedness as the Manchester atrocity.

*On 6 March 1986, a gang of burglars broke into the Saward family's home at lunchtime. Saward and his daughter Jill's then-boyfriend, David Kerr, were tied up and beaten, both suffering fractured skulls, while Jill (who died in 2017) was raped. Jill became an author and campaigner for victims of rape and sexual violence. She was the first rape victim in England to waive anonymity.* <sup>[Wikipedia]</sup>

Michael Saward and his daughter rose above the evil, and lived to worship and glorify God in their own lives. In the same way we hope to do so as well.

The young man who exploded his suicide bomb thought he was doing God's Will. As a defiant protest we, too, need to think about God's Will for us. St Paul wrote:

"Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise; think on these things." Think on *these* things.

Note:

For those who like to follow up some of the issues raised here, I am grateful to Paul Jenkins who recommended to me *The Way of the Strangers – Encounters with the Islamic State* by Graeme Wood (2017). From the blurb:

---

<sup>1</sup> Mark 9:40 'For he that is not against us is for us.' Cf. Luke 9:50: 'For he that is not against you is for you.'

But: Matt 12:30 'For he that is not with me is against me.' // Luke 11:23.

“Drawing on insights from a wide spectrum of Islamic scholars, Wood explores the group’s apocalyptic dogma and the theology that influences its expansionist project. The Islamic State is bent on murder and apocalypse, but its recruits find meaning and fellowship in a utopian dream. This appeal of the Islamic State is key to understanding it - and predicting what its followers will do next.” This is a readable book. Heavier but no less interesting books are by Richard Bonney, former Professor of History at the University of Leicester: *Jihad – from Qur’an to bin Laden*, (2004) and *False Prophets – The ‘Clash of Civilisations’ and the Global War on Terror* (2008).



*Manchester Memorial service  
Manchester Evening News*

*Since writing the above we have learned of the tremendous success of the police in tracing further threats to civil peace. The intelligence departments are working overtime and we pray that they are successful. The price of success is eternal vigilance.*

*Graham Wood is optimistic. He writes at the end of his book “the nightmare will end some day. After two years of listening to the group’s followers I’ve come to think of them as sick romantics, of a visionary company whose longing for meaning was never matched by an ability to distinguish good from evil, or beauty from horror... it will not do to pretend they believed in nothing or that they believe weakly.”*

# Mission through Music

By Lindy Forbes



We are always blessed by the quality and range of music at St James and so we are delighted to be joining together with the other six churches in our Mission Partnership to celebrate our Christian faith through an afternoon of informal performance at St Andrew's Aylestone, at 4.00pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Each church will offer an item of their choice with an emphasis on younger participants, especially inviting those who might not usually attend a church, to come

and share with us through music and performance. Do come along if you can, bring your friends and family and enjoy the performances, tea and cake, as we share fellowship together.



If you had been at St James at 3.00pm on 5 Sundays between last October and March this year, you might have been surprised to see babies, toddlers and older children enjoying the space at St James in a series of interactive KoolGigs family concerts, led by professional musicians variously dressed as pirates,

princesses and angels. Up to 25 families at each concert enjoyed a relaxed, informal afternoon, with refreshments served at the back of the Church throughout the concert. This series gave us a further opportunity to welcome families not used to being in a church environment. We were delighted to give all ages a warm welcome and hope that some concert-goers might return again to a service at St James.

## STOP PRESS

Koolgigs will return in the autumn. Look out for further announcements!

# CALENDAR OF SERVICES & EVENTS

## JUNE

1 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Derek Hole
<b>4 Sunday</b>	<b>PENTECOST</b>	
	08.30 Holy Communion (BCP)	Celebrant: Derek Hole
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: David Clark Preacher: David Clark
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Derek Hole
8 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Philip Norwood
10 Saturday	19.30 Concert by the Leicester Bach Choir	
<b>11 Sunday</b>	<b>TRINITY SUNDAY</b>	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: Derek Hole Preacher: Derek Hole
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Philip Norwood
15 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Derek Hole
17 Saturday	19.30 Concert by De Montfort University Orchestra	
<b>18 Sunday</b>	<b>FIRST AFTER TRINITY</b>	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: David Clark
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: Jane Sharp Preacher: David Brunning
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Philip Norwood
22 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp
24 Saturday	12.00 Wedding of Robert and Elizabeth	
<b>25 Sunday</b>	<b>SECOND AFTER TRINITY</b>	
	08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Derek Hole
	10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: David Clark Preacher: David Clark
	18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Angela Jagger
29 Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Jane Sharp

# JULY

1 Saturday 19.30 Concert by the Charnwood Orchestra

## 2 Sunday **THIRD AFTER TRINITY**

08.30 Holy Communion (BCP) Celebrant: Peter Mackenzie  
10.30 Sung Eucharist Celebrant: Derek Hole  
Preacher: Derek Hole  
18.30 Evensong Preacher: David Brunning

6 Thursday 10.15 Holy Communion Celebrant: Derek Hole

## 9 Sunday **FORTH AFTER TRINITY**

08.30 Holy Communion Celebrant: Derek Hole  
10.30 Sung Eucharist Celebrant: David Clark  
Preacher: David Clark  
18.30 Evensong Preacher: Philip Norwood

13 Thursday 10.15 Holy Communion Celebrant: Philip Norwood

## 16 Sunday **FIFTH AFTER TRINITY**

08.30 Holy Communion Celebrant: **TBC**  
10.30 Sung Eucharist Celebrant: Diane Johnson  
Preacher: Diane Johnson  
17.00 Friend of St James AGM in the Large Hall  
18.30 Evensong Preacher: Derek Hole

20 Thursday 10.15 Holy Communion Celebrant: Derek Hole

## 23 Sunday **PATRONAL FESTIVAL**

08.30 Holy Communion Celebrant: Peter Mackenzie  
10.30 Sung Eucharist Celebrant: **TBC**  
Preacher: **TBC**  
18.30 Festal Evensong Preacher: David Monteith  
Dean of Leicester

27 Thursday 10.15 Holy Communion Celebrant: Philip Norwood

## 30 Sunday **SEVENTH AFTER TRINITY**

08.30 Holy Communion Celebrant: David Clark  
10.30 Sung Eucharist Celebrant: Philip Norwood  
Preacher: John Raven  
18.30 Choral Evensong Preacher: Philip Norwood

## AUGUST

3	Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Derek Hole
<b>6</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>EIGHTH AFTER TRINITY</b>	
		08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: <b>TBC</b>
		10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: Derek Hole Preacher: John Raven
		18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: David Clark
10	Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: David Clark
<b>13</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>NINTH AFTER TRINITY</b>	
		08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: <b>TBC</b>
		10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: David Clark Preacher: David Clark
		18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Philip Norwood
17	Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: David Clark
<b>21</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>TENTH AFTER TRINITY</b>	
		08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: <b>TBC</b>
		10.30 Sung Eucharist & Baptism	Celebrant: David Clark Preacher: David Clark
		18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: <b>TBC</b>
24	Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Diane Johnson
<b>27</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	
		08.30 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Philip Norwood
		10.30 Sung Eucharist	Celebrant: Derek Hole Preacher: Derek Hole
		12.00 Baptism	
		18.30 Choral Evensong	Preacher: Angela Jagger
31	Thursday	10.15 Holy Communion	Celebrant: Philip Norwood

# Charnwood Orchestra



The Charnwood Orchestra's final concert for the 2016/17 season will be in St James the Greater on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 at 19.30. There will be an interval bar.

The programme comprises three pieces of Romantic music by Dvorak: the Festival March, the superb Cello Concerto performed by Tim Gill Principle Cello Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and London Sinfonietta and concluding with the marvellous 7<sup>th</sup> Symphony.

Tickets cost £12, £10 (concessions) and £3 for accompanied children under 16. They can be bought via Paypal from [www.charnwoodorchestra.org.uk](http://www.charnwoodorchestra.org.uk) or on the door.

---

## Servers' Skittles

By William Woolley

Rather than a Christmas meal the Servers and Eucharistic Assistants decided to go out in January, when venues are quieter, prices lower and diaries emptier.

The skittle alley at the Black Dog, Oadby was booked and thither we and partners repaired. Teams were drawn at random and Keith Vaughan's team won the first leg. Supper was then served, a choice of sausages, faggots or pies before the second leg, also won by Keith's team. Prizes donated by Emma-Jane Hunt were then presented with wooden spoons for the runners-up.



A most enjoyable evening, which it is hoped, will become an annual event.

# Meet Jains in Leicester

by Angela Jagger

*A chance to visit the Jain Temple and learn about the Jain Community*

*Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 9.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.*

Oxford Street in Leicester is very different from Oxford Street in London. A visit to Oxford Street in London is likely to involve a leisurely walk wandering in and out of shops. In Leicester, you're more likely to be driving a car along the inner ring road and probably don't even notice where Oxford Street begins and ends. As a result, it's very easy to miss one of the most interesting buildings in the city. As you drive north, roughly opposite the DMU campus, you will find on your right the first Jain temple and centre in Europe.

In the 1980s the Jain community in Leicester purchased a redundant Congregationalist church and over the next few years set about converting it to a temple. As you enter about the only item you can identify from the outside of the original church are pillars next to the door. The rest has been radically changed with a carved stonework façade. Inside you will find even more intricately carved stonework, together with walls covered in mosaic-like mirror work and most importantly images of the Jinas. Altogether a building has been created that is quite special.

But who are the Jains and what are their beliefs and practices? Like many Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims in Leicester, the Jains found their way here from East Africa, although their original home was in India. Like Hindus and Sikhs they believe in rebirth, so that each person will have had many lives before this one and probably many lives yet to come.



The term Jain means a follower of the Jinas (spiritual victors) a line of human teachers that are believed to have existed from time immemorial. They attained infinite knowledge and perfect purity through their spiritual efforts. The Jinas are also known as Tirthankaras meaning 'ford makers', those who forge a path, helping others to cross the stream of birth and death to liberation. There are 24 Tirthankaras for each age and the last one for our age is Mahavira who lived in the sixth century BC. Jains remember his life and try to follow his example. This means living in a very disciplined way.

Jains see all forms of life, including plants, as sentient and therefore to be respected. They will therefore do whatever they can to care for the planet and the life to be found in it. This leads into their most well known teaching, that of non-violence (*ahimsa*). They will avoid occupations where harm, albeit unintentional, is likely to be caused. It is not unusual therefore to find them in the medical profession and in India they have founded veterinary hospitals. Gandhi, although not a Jain himself, was profoundly influenced by a Jain teacher in his youth, and this influence can be seen in his campaigns of non-violence.

Another aspect of Jain teaching is that any reality we may encounter is multi-faceted. If we look only at one aspect of anything we fail to grasp its true nature. This understanding that there are many facets to truth encourages Jains to be very open to people of other faiths, who may be able to offer different insights. A good example of this openness and respect for the environment can be found in the Jain temple in Leicester. The original church building included, as is common in churches, a series of stained glass windows. Stained glass is not a tradition among Jains, but they wished to respect the environment into which they had moved. A set of beautiful stained glass windows depicting incidents in the life of Mahavira was therefore commissioned and can be found today occupying the space of the previous windows.

The Jain Centre in Leicester is unusual too, because it has different sections for members of different branches of the faith. This is probably a result of the fact that the building, the first dedicated space for Jains in Europe, serves a small diaspora community, for whom it would be difficult to use separate buildings, but it also fits with the essential tolerance to be found among Jains.

If you would like to visit the Jain Centre, meet some Jains and learn more of their beliefs and practices, St Philip's Centre has arranged a visit. There will be a short day course on 21<sup>st</sup> June 9am – 2pm, including a visit to the temple, an opportunity to witness Jain ceremonies and meet with Jains, followed by lunch.

Costs are covered by the Diocese, but it is important to book a place. Contact Maureen Hebblewhite on 0116 273 3459 or [maureen@stphilipscentre.co.uk](mailto:maureen@stphilipscentre.co.uk).



*The raised hand in the Jain symbol reminds us to stop and consider our actions. The wheel in the symbol represents the cycle of rebirth and the 24 spokes stand for the 24 Tirthankaras who lead the way to liberation from the cycle. The word in the centre is ahimsa, non-violence.*

# Lenten Inspiration, Lectio Divina & a long view.

By Cherry Fulloway

I recall David Brunning once saying in a sermon that Lenten Practice is not necessarily completed at the end of the great forty days. His words have stayed with me as I continually reflect on how one lives out, deepens and enlivens the quest and commitment to respond to the call of Christ to 21st century discipleship.



This year the 'Lenten Inspiration' bookstall has been a source of interest and well utilized by members of the congregation. In establishing it, I have been desirous of long term outcomes for the initiative and nurtured the hope that it could be extended beyond the boundaries of the season of Lent. We already have a small Church Library comprised of legacies from the book collections of the late Gillean Russell and Henry Evans. Both these much loved and respected members of our congregation encouraged many of us to enrich and deepen our faith through reading. Their book collections are housed in a rather dark area at the back of the Church which is not conducive to browsing. Conveniently we have been able to set up our Lenten Inspiration bookstall in a more visible and accessible space. However, I sometimes feel that we do not always confidently explore the information and opportunities that are available to us when we come into Church. When visiting a library, selecting a book to meet our needs takes time and consideration. It is often helpful to have a recommendation from someone who is already familiar with the book or read a review. One of the unexpected outcomes of our bookstall has been to provide an opportunity for the children to select a book to read in the Sunday Club and to take home. Those who generously commit themselves to run our Sunday Club were fully supportive and I feel there is scope to make this a regular practice. Those of us whose foundations of faith were laid in regular attendance at a Sunday School or Children's Church have long retained and been influenced by memories of hearing the Gospel stories read to us.

Storytelling, recording and reading the memories and experiences of others, still exerts the powerful influence today that it has always had. This has been made apparent through the words of visiting speakers who have preached on the theme of their faith journey. These accounts have been profoundly moving and encouraging. Almost all the speakers mentioned their heroes, particularly great Christian thinkers and writers. I have been heartened to hear that these have included Laurence Freeman, Thomas Merton, Henri Nouen, Richard Rohr, Esther De Waal, and Rowan Williams to name but a few. Some of these names may not be familiar to everyone but they are among the foremost of contemporary spiritual thinkers and theologians whose writings are inspiring and lead into new ways of Christian prayer and practice. Lawrence Freeman for example, is a Roman Catholic Benedictine monk whose life's work is to promote, through his writing and world wide travels, the practice of contemplative prayer in the tradition of John Main. Richard Rohr is an American Franciscan, who, again through his writing, conferences and lecture tours, encourages the practice of contemplation and, sometimes, less comfortably, stretches our thinking by offering new ideas about our understanding of Christian practice, the teaching of Jesus and our comprehension of the nature of God. Margaret Silf has written a series of practical but creative, imaginative books that help to enlighten and revitalize our Christian belief and practice. Many will be familiar with Sister Wendy Beckett's interpretations of religious works of art. For those who have limited time for reading there are many intriguing poets whose musings give food for thought.

Understandably not everyone has time to read, and some may find the reading of spiritual tomes daunting, but if this is so, I would encourage you to sample holy reading and you might well find yourself inspired by the 'God of Surprises!' Not all books need to be read from cover to cover, sometimes an odd chapter or even paragraph can provide new insights and inspiration. Helen Hayes in her Lenten Evensong sermon reminded us that the journey of faith is not accomplished or indeed revealed to us in a linear lifetime. We all experience times of doubt, lassitude and darkness. Through such times we have to have courage, trust and sometimes allow ourselves to be supported, even carried, by others. Helen talked about taking 'the long view' as does Rowan Williams in his revealing little book on Discipleship. Many of us can look back over past years and discern when, in the course of difficult days, we have been carried through 'the dark night of the soul.' Through the chances and changes of her life Helen described how she felt 'compelled' to continue her faith journey and I would echo that. To continue to travel the pilgrimage

road we do need guidance and motivation, and much of this will be found through Church worship and fellowship. However, we need to challenge ourselves, to shift the lethargy, to accept change, as part of our Christian commitment is to work at our faith. Spiritual reading is an effective means of aiding our growth and understanding. Many will be familiar with the practice of Lectio Divina, reading, reflecting and meditating on a short passage of scripture or sacred writing, putting oneself into the circumstance. Spiritual reading cannot take the place of prayer but like Lectio can lead us into it and possibly transport us into new ways of spiritual practice and service to others.

One of the great joys of following the way of Christ is that life is never dull. If we are alert to opportunities there are always challenges and new ventures to engage in, insights to comprehend and exciting paths to travel. Delving into a book might well be one of the means of accomplishing such things and I hope this has been true for those of you who have borrowed books from our bookstall or from other sources. Thank you for supporting the venture. Enjoy the journey!

---

## **FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREATER**

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St James the Greater will be held in St James' Hall on Sunday, 16 July at 5 pm. Tea and biscuits will be available at the meeting. The Friends have been established to provide financial support to pay for any work that is needed to be done to help keep the building in good order. There are items on the agenda including the amplification system. A decision about this must wait until the arrival of the new Incumbent. Besides encouraging members of the congregation to join The Friends, we wish to have occasions when money can be raised to support any work that needs to be done.

Everyone who comes to the Church falls in love with the building, the dignity of its worship and superb acoustics. Many outside Organisations and Societies like to use the Church for their Concerts. If you are not already a member of the Friends, please consider joining. The cost is only £10 a year. Please come to the Annual General Meeting and show your support and concern for the maintenance of the building.

The Very Reverend Dr Derek Hole, Chairman

**Election Results** At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday, 30 April the following were elected :



**Churchwardens :**  
**Keith Vaughan & Julia Walker**



**Deputy Churchwardens :**  
**Angela Hefford, Simon Edwards,  
April Rule & Phil Jones**

**Parochial Church Council** (for 3 years):  
**Angela Hefford, Phil Jones, Simon Edwards, Caroline Beardsmore  
and Serge Mozota**

**Deanery Synod** (for 3 years):  
**Margaret Terry, Annabel Cowley and William Woolley**

**Sidesmen :**  
all those on the current rota were re-elected *en bloc*.

We thank God for everyone who is willing to serve the Church in these ways.  
Let them be upheld by us all in our prayers.

**OUR CHURCHWARDENS, Julia Walker and Keith Vaughan,** were duly 'sworn-in' at a special service at St Cuthbert's, Great Glen on 15 May.



# Maundy Service

by Rosemary Freer

*On Maundy Thursday this year, Her Majesty the Queen came to Leicester Cathedral to distribute the Royal Maundy Money. One of the recipients was Rosemary Freer and here she describes that memorable day.*

It was an immense privilege for me to enjoy a very special and memorable Maundy Thursday this year. Her Majesty the Queen had chosen Leicester Cathedral to distribute the Maundy money to 91 men and 91 women (representing her number of years) who have served society and the Church in our Diocese.

It was a great surprise for me when I received a letter from the Palace informing me that I had been nominated to receive Maundy Money and that I could bring a companion. At that stage I was sworn to secrecy!

There was a rehearsal a week beforehand for positions and timings to be worked out. The Royal Almoner, Bishop John of Worcester, was in charge of the proceedings and explained the history behind the ceremony.

For two days prior to the actual ceremony, the Cathedral was closed to visitors. This allowed the police to maintain security and the magnificent flower arrangements to be installed.

The day came at last! All the recipients and their guests had to be at the King Power Stadium at 8.30am so it was a very early start! After a final briefing, we were taken by coach to the Cathedral where we were met by St Martins staff and congregation, members of the police and young cadets. It was such a



warm and friendly welcome. We were then welcomed by the Dean, the Choirs took their place and then the Royal Visitors arrived, escorted by the Bishop of Leicester and Cathedral Canons.

A wonderful service followed. During the two anthems, sung by the combined choirs of the Cathedral and the Chapel

Royal, the Queen distributed two leather purses containing the Maundy money to each recipient. Wonder of wonders, this was Her Majesty giving ME a gift!!!



The memories of the day will stay with me forever. My overwhelming feeling is one of humility that I was chosen to be a recipient. What else will I



remember? Well the Queen is tiny, but when she smiles at you it is with her whole self - and she is able to walk without a stick! She seems so tireless.

I will always treasure the memory of such a wonderful occasion. There was a truly happy atmosphere which reflected the joy of all the people there – people representing different faiths and communities but all part of One Leicester. But, above all, I was aware of the spiritual feeling that invaded every corner of the Cathedral and I still feel so privileged to have been part of this wonderful pageant.



On 17<sup>th</sup> June, the DMU Orchestra celebrates its 1<sup>st</sup> birthday with a performance of Beethoven's epic 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony featuring four incredible soloists, a chorus of over 50 singers from choirs across Leicestershire and the world premiere of '*Perhaps*', commissioned by the DMU Orchestra and written by

celebrated composer and Philharmonia Orchestra Cellist, Richard Birchall, for Soprano and Orchestra.

The concert will be conducted by the DMU Orchestra Musical Director, Samuel Burstin. Based in London, Samuel is an award-winning conductor and in 2014 was a prize-winner at the highly prestigious Evgeny Svetlanov International Conducting Competition in Paris, where he conducted the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France at the Salle Pleyel. The following year, Samuel made his Russian debut in Kazan with the Tatarstan National Symphony Orchestra, with the Korngold Violin Concerto (Laurent Korcia) and Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra. As an orchestral musician, Samuel has played principal viola with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, BBC Philharmonic, Bournemouth Symphony, New Zealand Symphony, Opera North, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and Scottish Chamber orchestras, joining the Viola section of the Philharmonia in 2005.

**Programme:**

Brahms: Academic Festival Overture  
World Premiere of '*Perhaps*' by Richard Birchall  
Beethoven: Symphony No.9 in D Minor

**Beethoven Soloists:**

Soprano: Belinda Evans  
Mezzo-Soprano: Vanessa Heine  
Tenor: Adam Tunnicliffe  
Bass-Baritone: Stephen Kennedy

**7.30pm, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Church of St. James the Greater, Leicester**

**All tickets £5.00**

# Evington Footpath Conservation Area Society (EFCAS)

By Serge Mozota

The Evington Footpath sits squarely within our parish of St James the Greater. The Footpath and its surroundings have been a conservation area since 1981. A Society, EFCAS, is being founded on the 15<sup>th</sup> June, a mere 36 years after the establishment of the conservation area by Leicester City Council! The main aim of the Society will be to preserve and enhance the visual and social amenities of the Evington Footpath Conservation Area.



The Chair for the inaugural meeting of the Society will be Mr Stuart Bailey, Chair of The Leicester Civic Society. Anyone with an interest in the preservation and upkeep of our Conservation Area is welcome to attend the meeting. Here are the full details;

Date: Thursday, 15th June

Time: 7-9 PM

Venue: St James the Greater Church Hall, St James Terrace

The Leicester Mercury's 'Mr Leicester' wrote a nice piece on the history of The Evington Footpath on the 13<sup>th</sup> April and this is available to read at Mr Leicester's online page on the Leicester Mercury website. For a copy of the proposed Constitution of the Society and a copy of the Agenda for the inaugural meeting please contact Serge Mozota, either in person, by phone on 0116 212 3068 or by email at [serge@sertas.co.uk](mailto:serge@sertas.co.uk) . We hope you can come!

# Commemorative Flowers

## JUNE

- 4 Peggy Winter in memory of her mother  
11 The Family in memory of Joan and Hugh Standing-Smith  
**Altar Frontal**  
The Finn family in memory of Vera and Verrall Clark  
18 April Rule in memory of her father Robert Burton  
25 Jan Geere in memory of her parents Frank and Gwen Potts

## JULY

- 2 Peter Toft and Gillian Saunders in memory of their parents  
Bernard and Dorothy Toft  
9 Julia Warner  
16 Marilyn Dorum in memory of her husband Sylvester and  
daughter Pauline Veronica  
23 Patronal Festival  
30 Pauline Hannaford

## AUGUST

- 6 David and Sarah Clark in grateful memory of Kathleen &  
Bernard Clark and George & Anne Hayter  
13 Michael Bull in memory of his mother  
20 Paul and Tricia Dean remembering with affection their long  
association with the Church.  
27 Michael Molloy in memory of his parents Michael and Hilda  
**Altar Frontal**  
The Simpson family in memory of Geoffrey



**A.C. JAMES & SON**  
INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Douglass & Robert James  
9 Biddulph Street  
LEICESTER

24-HOUR SERVICE

TEL: 0116 254 2900

# What's on ...

## SUNDAYS

**Sunday Club in school term time 10.30** **Large Hall**  
Contact Mrs Jo Stapleton 39 Craighill Road, Leicester LE2 3FD 270 2001

## THURSDAYS

**Coffee Drop-in 10.45 – 11.30** **Large Hall**

Organiser Mrs Elizabeth Turner Contact via Church Office

**Lunch Club (monthly) 12.15 – 1.30** **Large Hall**

Organiser Ms Barbara Penrose Contact via Church Office

**St James' Singers 19.30 alternate Thursdays** **Ashman Music Room**

Director Mr Michael Rule organist@stjamesthegreater.org.uk

**Scouts Beaver Scouts 17.30 – 18.30 Cub Scouts 18.30 – 20.00 Scouts 19.30 Undercroft**  
Leaders Mr Tony & Mrs Alison Hurst 210 2958

## FRIDAYS

**Boys' Choir & Girls' Choir Practices 18.00** **Ashman Music Room**

**Full Choir Practice 19.30**

Director Mr Matthew Haynes DOM@stjamesthegreater.org.uk

## SATURDAYS

**Stop-by Project for the homeless 11.00 – 14.00** **Undercroft**

Coordinator Salma Ravat Contact via Church Office

# Who's who ...

**Ministry Team – see inside front cover**

## Churchwardens

Miss Julia Walker 3 Paddock Close, Oadby, Leicester LE2 5GG 271 9347  
Mr Keith Vaughan Contact via Church Office

## Deputy Wardens

Mr Simon Edwards MBE deputy.churchwarden@stjamesthegreater.org.uk  
Mrs Angela Hefford angela\_hefford@hotmail.com 270 6060  
Mr Philip Jones pcc.secretary@stjamesthegreater.org.uk 237 4894  
Mrs April Rule Contact via Church Office

## PCC Secretary

Mr Philip Jones pcc.secretary@stjamesthegreater.org.uk 237 4894

## Church Administrator & Hall Booking Secretary

Mrs Annabel Cowley office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk 254 2111

## Treasurer

Mr Alan Fletcher alanfletcher@hotmail.co.uk

## Assistant Treasurer

Mr John Cox Contact via Church Office

## Director of Music

Mr Matthew Haynes DOM@stjamesthegreater.org.uk

## Organist & Associate Director of Music

Mr Michael Rule organist@stjamesthegreater.org.uk

## Head Servers

Mr John & Mrs Angela Finn ej\_finn00@hotmail.com 292 9562

## Flower Guild Co-ordinator including commemorative flowers

Miss Julia Walker fabric@stjamesthegreater.org.uk 271 9347

## Child Protection Officer

Vicky Roe pastoralassistant@stjamesthegreater.org.uk 255 2108

**Church Office, St James Hall, St James Terrace, Leicester LE2 1NA**  
**office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk 0116 254 2111**