



November 2023

Newsletter of the Churches of Ashby St. Ledgers, Braunston and Welton

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

5 th November	Braunston	Holy Communion	10-30am
12 th November	Ashby	Act of Remembrance	10-30am
12 th November	Welton	Act of Remembrance	10-45am
19 th November	Welton	BCP Holy Communion	9-00am
19 th November	Braunston	Family Service	10-30am
26 th November	Welton	Holy Communion	10-30am

Tea/coffee is served before and after all Sunday 10.30am services.

SATURDAYS

- 4th November Ashby St. Ledgers Outdoor Family Church (see below) 11am-1pm
- 11th November (Remembrance Day) Braunston Act of Remembrance 10-45am

Mid-Week Services

Wednesdays	6.30pm	Ashby St. Ledgers	Evening Prayer (NOTE CHANGE OF DAY/TIME)
Thursdays	9.30am	Welton	Morning Prayer
Saturdays	10.00am	Braunston	Celtic Morning Prayer

Prayer and Praise:

Nov 19th 6pm @ Holy Cross Daventry

Outdoor Family Church
November 4th, 11am-1pm
Meet 11am at Ashby St. Ledgers Village Hall

Jesus said "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life"

Follow the clues around Ashby St. Ledgers to find our fire pit.

ADVENTURE, GAMES, LUNCH, CRAFTS.

No charge, but donations towards costs welcome

Gunpowder plot themed session!

We often talk about church growth and wonder how to do it. But before we think about how to do it, we need to ask ourselves what we think it is, and why we should do it? So ahead of our busiest season for visitors, let's just stop and think about what we're doing, why we're doing it, and what we hope will happen as a result.

First, what is church growth? At one level, we're talking about our parish churches, but more broadly, we're talking about the Kingdom of God. As much as we want to see our local churches grow in numbers, I suspect that just like our other needs, if we seek first God's kingdom and righteousness, all these things will be given to us well (see Matthew 6:28-34). The Bible, particularly the Gospels, tells us about the values of God's Kingdom. Prayer teaches us how God wants us to be involved here and now.

Second, why should we do it? Well, if we don't, we'll have trouble sustaining our services and buildings and paying the parish share. But we know that's not why we do it (that's one of the "all these things will be given to you as well" things). What would it mean to you to see God recognised and worshipped in our villages? What would our villages look like if the fullness of life offered by Jesus was embraced by our neighbours?

Third, how do we do it? How do we bridge the gap between where we are and what we believe God longs for in love for Ashby St Ledgers, Braunston, and Welton? We don't panic, we don't strive by our own efforts, we don't give up. We rejoice that God loves these places and the people in it, we pray "Your Kingdom come, your will be done in Ashby, Braunston, and Welton, as it is in heaven", and we sow seeds of the Kingdom, and we water signs of life – seedlings of faith that we encounter in people.

We need to be faithful in this, but not stressed about it, because it is God's work, not ours. It is God that draws people, and sometimes he gives us the privilege of being involved. St Paul wrote about this to the church in Corinth, emphasising that life always comes from God:

"What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."

We needn't be anxious about it; we just need to pay attention. I would like to offer two simple things we can all do. The first is for us to use the below "Prayer for growth" which has been published by an organisation called "Leading Your Church Into Growth." The second is to invite someone to one of our upcoming services in December – either the service for remembering loved ones, a gentle space to hold grief before the pressure of the Christmas season, or one of our events of celebration and worship around Christmas itself.

Prayer for Growth

God of mission,
who alone brings growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit
to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions,
and power to our witness.
Help us to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
and service to our community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

Every blessing, Kathryn

Calling all Toddlers (and their parent/carer)

“Tiny Treasures” Toddler Group takes place every Tuesday 9.00-11.00am, *in term time*, for pre-school children and their parents/carers. We meet in Braunston Church – the door is open, just come on in!!

ALL SAINT’S FUNDRAISING

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the “cream tea” fundraising event in Braunston on Saturday, October 7th. It was a big success and the magnificent sum of £757 was raised for the running costs of the church. Thank you also to everyone who came to support the event. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Baby Project “Love in Action”

Thank You

During October we have received donations of blankets, ponchos, knitted items for babies aged 6 months plus, scarves and hats for all ages and good quality clothes, freshly laundered and ironed for brothers up to 10.

We took 12 memory blankets for stillborn babies and 20 colourful blankets made by a knitting group to the midwives at Northampton General; they were thrilled. Because of this great response, we have been able to reach out and donate to another local charity.

Gilly



Rector: Rev. Kathryn Evans

Phone 01788 726912 Email: revkathryn@outlook.com

St. Martin’s Ride and Stride Heroes

On Saturday 9th September, and on one of the hottest days of the year, the annual Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust (NHCT) Ride & Stride was held. Three members of St Martin’s took part, namely Christine Reid, Jan Shepperson and Kevin Young, to raise funds for the upkeep of our much-loved church. I am delighted to say that collectively they have raised a fantastic £1,015.00 in sponsorship, half of which goes to NHCT and half to the church. Grateful thanks go to Chris, Jan, and Kevin and to all those who sponsored them.



WELTON HOUSE COMMUNION

Friday 3rd November at 3pm.

Transport can be arranged for those living in Welton and probably from the edge of Daventry.

If you would like to be included, please contact churchwarden@stmartins.org.uk or speak to Rev. Kathryn.

Please send all contributions for the December Edition of the Newsletter to safeguarding@stmartinswelton.org.uk by **18th November**. Let me know if you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail. *Jackie*

Welton Craft Fair

Saturday November 18th

11am to 4pm

Welton Village Hall

Wooden gifts; rock frames; resin art;
jewellery; cosmetic items; needlework; art
prints, ceramics, silks, wreaths and more.

Teas & Raffle

That's Christmas sorted!

In aid of St. Martin's Church, Welton

Stallholders contact: safeguarding@stmartinswelton.org.uk

Save the date:

15th December 7.30pm

Christmas Extravaganza

Braunston Church

led by Coventry Brass Band

For reflection in November:

1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Welton PCC would be most grateful for any donations of cake or help with the teas for the Craft Fair on 18th November. Just an hour of your time would make a big difference.

Please contact Jackie, the Churchwarden of Welton, if you are able to help:

churchwarden@stmartinswelton.org.uk

SINGING FOR WELLBEING



No ability necessary!

Just a good old sing and a cup of tea.

1st Saturday of each month

3-4pm. Braunston Church

parish room.

A Service for
Remembering Loved Ones



Sunday 3rd December at 4pm
Braunston Church

Friends of Welton

St Martins Church

The Big Welton Pre-Christmas
Jumble Sale

Saturday 11th November

1pm - 3:30pm

Welton Village Hall

Entry £1 (free child entry)

Great quality preloved clothes, games, household items, bric-a-brac.... and so much more!

Tea, coffee, cake and refreshments will be on sale too.



Are you due a clear out? We need your contributions! Please donate any giftable and sellable books, toys, clothes, bric-a-brac, household items and unwanted gifts. We will be collecting items from the 6th-10th November ready for the weekend sale.

COLLECTION POINTS (6th-10th November):

A Friends of Welton volunteer at the Welton village hall car park between 8:45 am-9 am.

St Martin's Church between 9 am - 5 pm.

Caroline at 6 Emery Close.

Lucy at Welton Brook, Kiln Lane.

Please ensure items are securely packaged

We appreciate your donations!