

The Good Shepherd Church
Park Road Loughborough
October Focus 2017

Please see the reverse for Services, meetings and other events.

The Autumn for me always feels like time to learn! Perhaps it is because I spent my working life in education and it was always the start of new academic years, with new excitement as teachers and other educators begin to open up 'whole new worlds' to everyone. Looking back to this time last year – I wrote an almost identical paragraph! Just shows how ingrained it is in me!

We all learn in different ways, some of us learn best by seeing things, some by listening to others and some by trying things out ourselves – which is your best way do you think? I wonder if it will change over time too? Perhaps you would like to discover which is your best way – in which case can I invite you to join us on the Pilgrim course starting on 5 October at either 2.30pm or 7.30pm in the Link Room. We are going to look at the bible passage from Matthew 5 known as the Beatitudes. These words that Jesus shares with his disciples can at first seem very confusing maybe even contradictory – in comparison to society's typical way of life – but they sum up his teaching about what it means to live as a child of God's Kingdom – the course book says: 'In a few short sentences the Beatitudes are probably the most important, subversive and revolutionary text on the Bible.'

I have been learning a couple of new skills over the last year. I have trained to be a pastoral supervisor – a person who can help others reflect on their own work with those to whom they minister. It involved, reading, and trying things out – essays that had to be marked and 'homework'! But I have also learnt how to use a potter's wheel, sometimes with great success and sometimes not!! This has also involved reading books, watching others and listening to their explanations and then getting messy! I don't know if you have ever tried this, but it involves water, a spinning table and slippery clay – a mess waiting to happen you might think, but as you practise more and more, as you learn to hold the clay carefully and firmly as the wheel spins, so you can learn to make vases, cups, plates, bowls – some really useful items. I never thought I would be able to do this, and yet there are things in the house we now use that I made!! Mind you there is also one item that was not initially successful – and in fact I squashed it on the wheel – but when the wheel stopped spinning I realised that in squashing the clay I had created quite an interesting shape and something that may be used to hold a candle – much to my teacher's surprise I asked if the weird piece of clay could be fired in the kiln along with all the other better pieces – reluctantly she agreed. This made me realise that as the song says: 'You are potter, I am the clay', we have to allow ourselves to be moulded by God, and the Beatitudes are perhaps one way of beginning to look and feel what that might be like as we learn to think like him, act like him and encourage each other like him.

Sue

P.S. There will be new beginnings for others in the Diocese too, this autumn: Rev'd Claire Wood will be licensed as our new Archdeacon on 8 October and then in late November Rev'd Canon Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani will be consecrated as our new Suffragan Bishop. Please pray

For Further Information please contact our Vicar

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Harvest Weekend.

Saturday October 7th 2.30pm Harvest Concert.

Groups and individuals who play a part in the life of the Church will be providing entertainment at this Harvest Concert. Please come along and bring your friends and neighbours, there is no charge for entry. The concert will be a mixture of light hearted singing, music and puppets. All of which we can enjoy as we celebrate the goodness of God in a 'variety' of ways! The concert will end with everyone joining in with the songs from "Last Night of the Proms" Please bring your Union Flags to wave.



Decoration of the Church with Harvest Produce. The Church will be open to receive any produce or flowers, in preparation for the Harvest Services on Saturday Morning October 7th between 9.30 and 10.30am.

Sunday October 8th 10am. Harvest Morning Worship.

We are delighted to be welcoming to this Service, The Rt Revd Martyn Snow, Bishop of Leicester who will be our guest for the morning. The service will be a traditional Harvest Worship during which gifts of produce may be brought to the Alter. Please join us for this very special occasion providing a period of worship followed by an opportunity to meet the Bishop.



Monday October 9th Distribution of Harvest Gifts.

As in past years we will distribute the Harvest Gifts to members of the Church who now find themselves housebound and can no longer Worship with us together. These gifts are always appreciated. If you could spare an hour to help to package and deliver please see Graham Dew for details, Thank You.

Joyce Hewitt.

It is with much sadness that we have to report the sudden but peaceful loss of dear Joyce, who always greeted people with affection and such a radiant smile, for which she will always be remembered.

Joyce was always willing in doing so many things at The Good Shepherd. She regularly came to the 10am Service, and undertook her role as Sidesperson and also on the tea and coffee rota with her beloved Brian.

Joyce was a dedicated member of the Wednesday Friendly, with roles as treasurer and also on the refreshments. She also was responsible for the distribution of birthday cards, always knowing which card would suit each person. She was always keen to help with all of the Church fund raising events.

Joyce's working life was spent in the offices at the Brush, where she was a comptometer operator she also worked in the accounts dept. and the wages dept. with Brian who was Supervisor. Both have been lifelong friends, and lovingly devoted to one another.

Joyce's Funeral Service will be held at Church on Wednesday October 4th at 2.15pm.

We will miss you Joyce, you were one of the best. Our thoughts and Prayers are with Brian, her brother Derick and family at this sad time. Now at rest in the Hands of your Lord.

October 2017 News, Views and Calendar

Church Services in April Every Sunday Morning

8am

Holy Communion Traditional Prayer Book
(BCP)

10am Services

Oct 1st Holy Communion & Sunday Club

Oct 8th Harvest Morning Worship

Oct 15th Holy Communion & Sunday Club

Oct 22nd Morning Worship

Oct 29th Holy Communion and Sunday Club

**Please see additional information for
Harvest Weekend and Services.**

Sunday Prayer Meeting

October 8th 6pm.

Every Wednesday Morning

9.30am

Holy Communion (said)



Home Groups

Thursday Ladies' study group

2-3.30pm Please
contact Jackie for
details 01509
212207. New
members Welcome.

Christian Aid Lunch

At Thorpe Acre
Church
Loughborough on
Oct 29th
at 12.30pm.



**Don't forget
clocks go back on
Sunday 29th at
2am.**



**The next
Messy Church
will be on
Oct. 21st at 4.30pm**

**Stage Group
Rehearsals every
Wednesday 7.30pm**

Toddler Group
Meets every Friday
Morning 10am -
11.30am.

**Wednesday Friendly.
Meets 2.30pm in the
Church Hall.**

Oct 4th
Oct 11th AGM
Oct 18th. **No Meeting.**
Oct 25th Dedication
Service



Parish Breakfast.

The Parish Breakfast for April will be held on
October 22nd at 8.45am. This really is a
good opportunity for the congregations from
the 8am and 10am services to get together.
Please do try to come along.

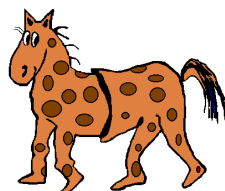
Pilgrim course

This course will commence on October 5th and
will run for 6 weeks. It is looking at the
Beaitues. The course will run in the afternoon
and again in the evening. Please see Sue for
more details, or sign the sheet in the Vestibule.



Stage Group Pantomime.

The Christmas Panto will be taking place on
the evenings of Thurs, Friday, Saturday 30th
November and 1st and 2nd December
(matinee on the Saturday afternoon).
Tickets are selling very fast. Don't be
disappointed order yours **NOW**.



Archbishop's Big Conversation

This will take place on Tuesday November 14th
at 7.30pm. It is an opportunity to meet the
Archbishop of Canterbury for an evening of
prayer for our city and county - talk to Sue
about tickets