

Martin's Message



AUTUMN

Like many people I love autumn! Let me clarify – I'm not that keen on the damp and cold days, and the night's drawing in quicker than expected. No, I love the part of autumn when the leaves crisp-up and turn from green to shades of golden-brown, red and even purple. I used to enjoy their rustling sound as I waded through them as a child. And today, on the colder days, I like watching them slowly descend to the ground, ready for me to rake up and turn into leaf-mould for the garden.

As I rake up those leaves it makes me think. Each leaf is quite insignificant. Apparently, a mature English Oak tree can produce up to 100,000 leaves each year depending on its size. Yet, each one of those leaves is unique. And each one plays its own part in absorbing Carbon Dioxide and releasing Oxygen for us to breathe in. I look at the leaves in a new way and begin to value

each one. I don't want to waste any, so I rake up as many as possible ready for their next purpose.

It's easy for us to underestimate our own value in life, especially when there is an emphasis on fame, having a strong social media profile and 'success' in defining our value. Who am I? we may ask.

The Christian poet, John Donne, wrote some four hundred years ago the following words as part of his poem entitled Meditation XVII:

No man is an island,
Entire of itself.
Each is a piece of the continent,
A part of the main.

In other words, we find our true meaning, not in standing out, but in relation to each other, and the part we play. It may be small, but like the leaf it adds up to so much more. It is why Jesus taught a lot about how to love one another, and how each one of us is valued and treasured by God, our heavenly Father.

Martin Castle – Priest-in-charge

Remembering our Loved-ones

On Sunday 2nd November at 4pm we have a Memorial Service at St Simon and St Jude's Church. During this service we come together to remember our loved ones who have died. There is an opportunity to have their names read out and to light a candle in their memory. Everyone is welcome to this service, whether you have been bereaved recently or not. If you would like the name of your loved one to be read out, even if you cannot make the service, please contact the church office (details overleaf) or let us know when you arrive.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.

NOVEMBER SERVICES

Sunday 2nd November

9.15am – All-age Worship at St Mary's
10.45am – All-age Worship at SS&SJ followed
by a short service of Holy Communion
4.00pm – Memorial Service at SS&SJ

Sunday 9th November

9.15am – Remembrance Holy Communion
Service at St Mary's
10.15am – Remembrance Service at Earl
Shilton Methodist Church – followed by Act
of Remembrance at the War Memorial
6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on
Facebook

Sunday 16th November

9.15am – Morning Worship at St Mary's
10.45am – Morning Worship at SS&SJ
6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on
Facebook

Sunday 23rd November

9.15am – Holy Communion at St Mary's
10.45am – Holy Communion at SS&SJ
10.30am – Sunday Club in the SS&SJ Parish
Hall
6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on
Facebook

Advent Sunday 30th November

9.15am – Holy Communion at St Mary's
10.45am – Holy Communion at SS&SJ
6.00pm – Churches Together Advent Service
at Earl Shilton Methodist Church.

Prayers to start the day at 9am as follows:

Monday – St Simon and St Jude's
Tuesday & Thursday – St Mary's
Wednesday – Facebook

St. Mary's Subscription Club

LUCKY NUMBERS

Lucky membership numbers and prize
monies at the September event were as
follows:

1st 146(£40), 2nd 69(£25), 3rd
189(£15), 4th 168(£10) and
5th 45(£10).

Things go downhill for Elmesthorpe Friends,
Food and Flowers Initiative this month!

The theme for their coffee morning in the
village hall on **Saturday October 25th** is
“**On the piste**” and organisers promise
“**ski chalet chat, chocs and croissants**”
in addition to the stalls, hot drinks and a fun
time. There will be a raffle, door prizes and
the draw for lucky membership numbers in
the St Mary's Subscription Club (SMSC), all
between 10am and 11.30am.

At the next coffee morning on **November
29th** there will be a wartime tea to give
thanksgiving for 80 years of world war
peace. This will be at the same venue and
times.

*If you wish to get in touch please contact the
church office:*

Parish Church Office at St Simon & St Jude
Church Hall, High Street. Earl Shilton,
Leicestershire. LE9 7DH 01455 843961
parishchurch@gmx.co.uk

*If you would like to contact our church
minister his contact details are
as follows:*

Revd Martin Castle (Priest-in-charge)
07759 002660 revdmartincastle@gmx.com



www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Mary-Elmesthorpe
www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Simon-St-Jude-Earl-Shilton
www.achurchnearyou.com/Earl-Shilton-with-Elmesthorpe