

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN
Sunday 9th February 2025, 4th Sunday
before Lent; Racial Justice Sunday




Readings for today: 1 Corinthians 15 vs 1-11; Luke 5 vs 1-11

Dear Friends, on Tuesday, Zak and I went to see St Denys' favourite play at The Curve – The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe! I was once again struck by the line from Mr Beaver in response to the question “Is [Aslan] safe?” “He’s not a tame Lion, but he is good.”

This conversation comes at a point of uncertainty and fear for all present, but the Beavers are trying to put their own fear aside and reassure the Pevensey children. It made me wonder about the times of uncertainty ahead, and how each of us could seek to prioritise comforting others and reassuring each other of God’s goodness, power and strength, over our own fears. When we are all afraid, it is easy for fear to multiply and multiply again.

I wonder how, this week, you could trust the roar of the Lion over the whispers of fear and anxiety in your heart, and so encourage and comfort others? With love and prayers, **Sian**



Bishop of Leicester's Chaplaincy Lectures 2025
in partnership with De Montfort University

The Belief That We Can Change The World

A Talk by
Lord Woolley

Founder of Operation Black Vote,
Principal of Homerton College, Cambridge
& Former Equality and Human Rights Commissioner

Photo credit: David Johnson

LEFT: A fascinating and inspirational speaker, whose lectures are well worth attending. FREE entry to all.

Thursday 27th
February 2025

All welcome!



THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY
6-7:30PM | FREE ENTRY
ST ANDREW'S JARROM STREET,
LEICESTER LE2 7DH

COMING UP AT ST DENYS:

Thursday 6th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Friday 7th 10am Musical Toddlers in the parish centre

Friday 7th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Sunday 9th 10am Holy Communion in church, also on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332
(password from Qyan)

Monday 10th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 11th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 11th 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Support church & parish centre

Wednesday 12th 12pm Best Community Charity Lunch Club in parish centre.

Wednesday 12th 2.30pm Evington History & Heritage Group in the parish centre

Thursday 13th 10.30 Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 13th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Thursday 13th 10am Morning Prayer in church

Thursday 13th 10am—12noon Open Church in church

diary

Safeguarding at St. Denys From now on, if you have any questions or queries about Safeguarding, or need to raise a Safeguarding issue, please contact Sian Rigby, who is again, our Temporary Safeguarding Officer. Her telephone number is: 07538 756709, or e-mail: sian.rigby2@outlook.com

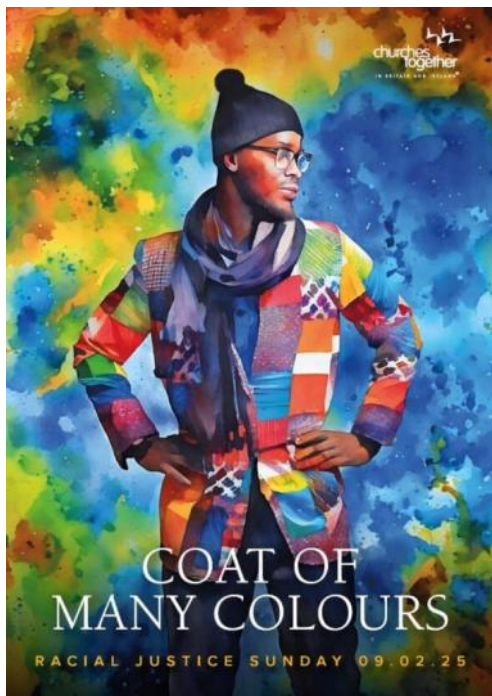
I am still looking for people to join the Reading and Intercessing rota as we are short of people again. If you would like to try reading a bible reading during a service, or preparing and delivering the prayers, please have a word with me. Guidance will be given if wanted. **Qyan**

Bulletin Letter Writing We now have 'Guest' slots for this. If you are not one of the few who normally writes the front page letter, and would like to try this occasionally, again, please get in touch. **Qyan**



The Revd Phil White will preside and preach for us this coming Sunday 9th February at 10am. It will be his first visit to St. Denys! We are delighted to welcome him.

Pause for Thought: Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here. Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear. In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground. Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. Words and well known tune by David J Evans (b. 1957)



Racial Justice Sunday, 9th February 2025 is entering its 30th year of celebration – a unique day in which we, as the body of Christ, highlight the continued need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice.

The call for racial justice can often be a fraught topic in our workplaces, social settings and even our places of worship – yet the Bible is clear that all humanity, in all its racial diversity, has been made in the image of God.

We serve a God who not only values but enshrined variety in all his creations – from the foundation of the world. And, as his handiwork, our first purpose was to live in harmony with each other, reflecting God’s goodness and character to all.

Unfortunately, sin has marred this purpose. We now live in a world where race is often weaponised. Where racial hierarchies have placed most global communities at the bottom of a system that seeks to erode worth and our collective humanity – due to the depth of skin pigmentation.

It is these injustices that Racial Justice Sunday seeks to call out – encouraging and empowering Christians to be the change makers who lead by example for a fairer and more just world.

Sophie Holder, Director of Racial Equity in the Diocese of Leicester, says: “As Christians, we have the honour and privilege to re-establish what racial justice looks like in our world, as disciples of Christ. This work is not limited to one day, but this coming Sunday gives us opportunity to sing a little louder, connect a little more and work towards reflecting the true kingdom of God and all the people who call it their home.”

The theme of this Racial Justice Sunday is ‘Coat of Many Colours’, a beautiful and poignant reminder that our diversity in Christ is interconnected, that we were created to stand side by side, all representing the fabric & essence of God’s kingdom.

*Pause for thought: A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another, as I have love you...**John 13 vs 34-35.***

Arbor House A service will take place there on Monday 10th February at 2.30pm. All are welcome to join Ann Bennett and Chris Hossack for this time of fellowship. Please contact them for further information.

Evington History and Heritage Group meet in the parish centre this coming Wednesday 12th February at 2.30pm. Neil Finn will be giving an illustrated talk about the Anglo Saxon Settlement at Eye Kettleby. All welcome.

Morning Prayer will take place on Thursday 13th February at 10am in church. Many thanks to our Reader Geraldine Moulden for leading this service.

Owl Network, Growing Community Saturday 15 March 10am-11.30am on Zoom. Come and be inspired by a morning with Revd John White. John is the founder and leader of the Hazelnut Community, a worshipping community that has social innovation, economic inclusion, political and spiritual transformation at its heart. He is passionate about connecting with creation and addressing the reality of the climate emergency. This will be a wonderful chance to think about using our church land differently, creatively growing community and deepening our roots in God our creator and sustainer.

[Register to receive the Zoom link.](#)

Collect for 4th Sunday before Lent Lord of the hosts of heaven, our salvation and our strength, without you we are lost: guard us from all that harms or hurts and raise us when we fall, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please continue to pray for Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Palestine, Sudan, Myanmar, Syria and other places across the world suffering conflict and war.

Pray for the sick: Barrie Coleman, Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Alison Keddilty, Roy Lee, Daryle Pearson, Linda Perks, Kimberley Tyler, Andy White, Richard Williams. **Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of** Roger Billingham, Josephine Butler, and anyone we know personally.



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St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:
www.stdenys.org.uk

