

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 7th September 2025, 12th Sunday after Trinity



Readings for today: Philemon 1-21; Luke 14 vs 25-33

On the 1st September, we entered Creationtide, a time set aside in the church's calendar dedicated to God as Creator and sustainer of all life.

I wonder, if you look out of your windows do you see lots of wonderful colours? When I looked at my garden a couple of weeks ago, I was really disappointed to not find any colour apart from green leaves! The beautiful roses had gone over, the hollyhocks were producing seeds, I could go on. However, as I sat in my garden this week enjoying a cup of tea, something caught my eye, I couldn't believe that a tiny hollyhock had started to produce flowers, followed a day later by my roses coming into bloom again!

I started to reflect on this. My mind started to think about the various passages and stories from the bible which feature people being given second chances. In Matthew 18 verses 21 - 22, Peter asked how many times he should forgive someone to which Jesus states 77 times, this number signifying the need for continuous forgiveness. How easy or difficult do you find it to forgive, either yourself or someone else? Each week in our church services, we seek God's forgiveness, it is such an important part of our faith, with so many references to forgiveness in the bible.

If we forgive others and ourselves too, we and others are set free and able to produce fruit that God can use to reveal himself to other people. If you are in need of his forgiveness, know that God will forgive you. Galatians 5 v 1 says 'It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again.'

I encourage you this week to consider looking at the beautiful space outside, whether that be from your window, a walk around your garden or even the arboretum. As you do so, ask God to reveal something new to you; you might be as surprised as I was when I noticed the new rose buds and hollyhock coming back to life! ***Continued overleaf.....***

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Prayer: Creator God, in bright light and dull darkness, in the energy of each day and the rest that comes with night, we remember the goodness of God.

In the heavens high above our heads, in waters that run deep around the world, we remember the goodness of God.

In solid land and flowing seas, in vivid flowers and fruit laden-trees, we remember the goodness of God.

In the rising and setting of the sun, and the cycles of the seasons; in the patterns of the shining stars, we remember the goodness of God.

In oceans teeming with fish, in skies filled with birds, we remember the goodness of God.

In a world filled with animal life, And in ourselves as human beings, we remember the goodness of God.

And God looked and saw all that he had made, and indeed it was very, very good.

In rest and reflection, in wonder and worship, we remember the goodness of God. Amen.

I started to ponder and wonder what was going on and then I felt I heard God speak to me about how often do we count ourselves out? I had given up thinking that my plants would flower again. At times, I lack confidence and may try to avoid doing something if it might be too challenging, take up too much time or I might fail at it. I have been on a journey the last couple of years as I explore a call to ordained ministry, and whilst I don't know where this journey will lead I have learned to become much more reliant on God and trust him at every step of the way, I would like to encourage you too to draw closer to God through the ups and downs of life.

Last week I was sat in another garden, that of Bishop Saju. We had a cup of tea and to my surprise, after 30 minutes, he informed me that he was happy to sponsor me on the next stage of the discernment journey. I should also point out that the bishop's garden was similar to mine! **Kimberley**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS:

Thursday 4th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 4th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Friday 5th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Sunday 7th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332
(password from Qyan)

Tuesday 9th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 9th 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Group church & parish centre

Wednesday 10th 12pm Lunch Club in the parish centre

Wednesday 10th 2.30pm Evington History and Heritage Group in parish centre

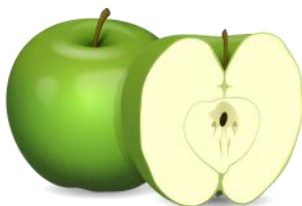
Thursday 11th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 11th 12pm—5pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Thursday 11th 10am—12 noon Open Church

Thursday 11th 10am *to be confirmed*

diary



Excess of Apples! Do you have an excess of apples at home that you don't know what to do with? The community Foodbank based at Wesley Hall Pantry, 76 Hartington Road, LE2 0GN would love to relieve you of them! They are much needed for those on benefits and in difficulty. The Pantry opening times

are Mondays: 12.30pm – 3.00pm, Wednesdays: 12.30pm – 3.00pm, Fridays: 12.30pm – 3.00pm. Apples can be dropped off there during their opening hours or, passed to Councillor Zuffar Haq who will arrange for them to be delivered via the Eden Café. Much appreciation in anticipation of your support.

ANDY WHITE wishes to express his gratitude most sincerely, to all those who have held him in thoughts and prayers during his long term illness. He appreciates greatly the immensely kind messages he has received, whether verbal, face

to face or otherwise, and the visits by some to him whilst in hospital. They have meant a great deal and have been of much comfort. Though not yet back to where he needs to be physically, he is working hard at recovery and has progressed hugely. Andy sends his love to all, with many thanks.



For the fruits of his creation, thanks be to God.

QYAN & KAY wish to thank all those who have so generously, sent cards, messages written and verbal, and gifts, for the occasion of their wedding on 9th August in Stoke Albany. Also, to all those who joined them for the church service in Wilbarston and The Crown, Tur Langton for lunch the following day. It is greatly appreciated. We were blessed with glorious weather and it was so lovely that you could share our special weekend with us. With many thanks again.

CANCELLATION! With regret, the Quiz and Ploughman's Supper scheduled for this coming Saturday 6th, has had to be **cancelled**. Anyone who has purchased a ticket already, will have their money refunded. Thank you.



The Very Reverend Karen Rooms, Dean of Leicester Cathedral will preside and preach for us at our Holy Communion service this Sunday 7th September, 10am. We are delighted to welcome her. Please do join us for worship followed by refreshments in the parish centre.

Arbor House, September 2025 Our monthly service at Arbor House will take place on Monday 8th September at 2.15pm. There will be our usual short service, including hymns, readings and prayers. We always enjoy this opportunity to meet and chat with the elderly residents who are always pleased to see us and many of whom sing along with the hymns enthusiastically. The staff always make us feel very welcome, so if you are free for about half an hour on Monday afternoon do come along and join us. Looking forward to seeing you there. **Ann Bennett**

Ride & Stride for Churches! Saturday 13th September Using cars this year, not walking or cycling, we shall visit the churches in the proposed Minster Community: St Philip's, St Peter's Highfields, St Stephen's East Park Road, St Chad's Coleman Road, St Mary's Humberstone, All Saints Scraptoft, Christ Church Thurnby Lodge and back to St Denys. If you are able to 'man' St. Denys during the day, please sign up to the list which is at the back of the church. Please contact **Elizabeth Rudge** on 07941 233315 if you are interested. Sponsor forms are available in church.



Hollyhocks and a Rose from Kimberley and Phil's garden, to *accompany* the bulletin letter:



Left: Qyan and brother Dirk (best man) outside St. Botolph's Church, Stoke Albany just before Qyan and Kay's wedding

Picture Right: One of the wedding cakes at Qyan and Kay's wedding reception.





*A reflection by **Jessie Tang**, the **diocesan Intercultural Ministry Director**, on her familial journey and the stories of many others who've migrated into our cities and worshipping communities:*

My dad came to the UK from Hong Kong in the 1970s, part of a wave of migration from Hong Kong and South China and in the 1980s, my mum came over from Malaysia to London, to work and to study. Like others, they found jobs in the catering trade, often working long hours in restaurants and takeaways, to provide for our family.

This September, during East & Southeast Asian (ESEA) Heritage Month, we are called to reflect on the theme Reframing Resilience. Resilience is an important attribute in life - not least for those who become immigrants in other lands.

As people migrate, they often carry the weight of leaving behind their homes, cultures, and languages. Upon arrival, they must navigate a new culture while facing potential prejudice and isolation in a country that may not always welcome them.

For some, in my parents' generation, resilience was not simply about survival; it was about sacrifice - a willingness to give up something of themselves so that their children could grow up with opportunities they never had. ***Continued overleaf.....***

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Sacrifice is also an important principle in the intercultural church. In order for my sibling in Christ to come alive in their worship and connect with God with their own culture or language, I may have to lay down some of my cultural preferences or learn to say 'peace be with you' in an unfamiliar tongue to myself.

Furthermore, if the premise of an intercultural church is that the cultures in the church make up the overall culture of the church, then heritage plays an essential role.

The stories, cultures, experiences and contributions of its members are valued in such a church. When we bring the good of our heritage - our food, our music, our languages, our histories - into the shared life of the church, we embody a colourful vision of the church as it is intended to be, and one that reflects heaven on earth.

Revelation 7:9 reads: "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb."

For me, celebrating and honouring ESEA heritage means remembering the past, thanking my immigrant parents for their sacrifices, and living faithfully in the present — in a way that recognises how the resilience of parents is passed down to their children and can be shared with others.

It also reminds me that my culture and heritage is important, and that diversity is a gift to the whole body of Christ.

This month, as we celebrate ESEA Heritage, let us give thanks for the sacrifices of those who came before us, recognise the resilience they instilled in us, and continue building a legacy of faith and contribution for the generations to come.

Jessie will return for a second time, to lead intercultural worship at St. Denys, on Sunday 28th September, 10am. We welcome her back warmly.





Choral Evensong! Date for your diary! On Sunday 5th October 2025 at 4pm, the choir of Leicester Cathedral and organists will return for a second time to St. Denys, as part of their 'Together

With' scheme, to sing full Choral Evensong. Do reserve this date, and experience the Cathedral choir singing wonderful music to very high professional standards, in worship and praise of our Lord God.

Looking Ahead! The Leicester based Cantamici Choir will visit St. Denys to perform, in part, a Christmas programme of music in concert, on Saturday 6th December. This choir, who have visited us in the past more than once, is of an extremely high, professional standard and has toured the UK and Europe. Further details will be given nearer the time. Please reserve this date in your diaries. You will not regret it!

Collect for the 12th Sunday after Trinity God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for our Diocese Visit to Tanzania This week a group from our Diocese, led by Revd Dave Rollett, will be travelling to Tanzania to visit our link partner dioceses of Kilimanjaro and Kiteto. Their time in Tanzania will be shaped around three core aims: 1) To strengthen our diocesan links. 2) To engage in a learning exchange. 3) To equip each participant with fresh insight and tools. Please pray for their safety, good health, energy and wisdom in the face of the unexpected and pray that they find joy in learning the richness of faith expressed in a different culture.

Pray for all those with long term health issues. Also, pray for the long term sick: Joan Ackland, Pat Davies, Nigel Dearman, Ann Dixon, Zak Gardner, Morag and Ron Maund, Mary Smith, Richard Williams.

Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of Penny Judge, Joyce Richards 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

