

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN Sunday

5th July 2026, 5th Sunday after Trinity

Readings for today: Psalm 48; Matthew 11 vs 16-19, 25-end



Dear Sisters and Brothers Last Sunday, Sarah and I were privileged to attend the ordination, at Norwich Cathedral, of a friend and former colleague. Other than the fact that it was as hot as...well, the other place!....it was a wonderful occasion, with eight new deacons, freshly trained, bright as buttons and ready to go off to their new parishes, to what is called their 'Title Post'. The *Reverend* Eleanor Morrison has now taken up her post as Curate in a group of lively churches serving the area of suburbs and countryside north east of Kings Lynn in the Diocese of Norfolk. Eleanor was one of my employed lay workers, effectively a school chaplain, in the Wisbech Town parishes I served before I retired, and I am thrilled and delighted to have accompanied her for part of the lifelong journey which has taken her into ordained ministry. This time next year she will be ordained as a priest, and then after another eighteen months will start looking for a parish (or more likely a group of parishes) where she can be a Vicar in her own right.

When we are ordained in the Church of England we take two oaths: one of loyalty to the Monarch and (his) heirs and successors, and one of 'canonical obedience' to the Bishop. We also make a number of promises about behaviour, belief, commitment and service. These oaths and promises define the role we are accepting and are a public statement about the way we intend our lives to be lived out in the service of God through Jesus Christ. We can never henceforth *not* be a deacon or priest, for ordination is a sacrament like baptism, so one cannot be 'unpriested' any more than you can be 'unbaptised'. In the case of serious transgression however, any deacon, priest or bishop can be prohibited for life from operating as a minister. Furthermore, in the Church of England, no priest or deacon can minister without the express permission of a Diocesan Bishop. This is why I have a 'Permission to Officiate' which must be renewed every three years. Other than that, there is no difference at all between me, or Eleanor, or any ordained person, and all the other confessing Christians in the pews. This is what the church calls '*The priesthood of all believers*'. **Continued on next page.....**

Continued from previous page... St Peter himself wrote about this idea to all the faithful people in the early church saying, *'You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light'* (1 Peter 2:5-9). Five hundred years later, St Augustine of Hippo explained that baptism was no more or less than *'an ordination into Christ's royal priesthood'* adding that *'we call them all priest inasmuch as they are members of Christ, the One Priest'*. Last week, the Bishop of Norwich encouraged everyone present in the congregation to consider their own calling as witnesses to the Gospel and to ponder what more they might do to serve the Lord. As Kimberley starts her training for this arduous but rewarding journey, and as we await the selection and appointment of our own new Incumbent, let us all consider how each of us, as baptised Christian believers, may live out the demands and joys of our own ministry. **Matthew**

COMING UP:

Saturday 4th July 10am Prayer Morning in church

Sunday 5th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom, ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan) refreshments in the parish centre after the service

Monday 6th 2pm Monday Meet in the parish centre

Wednesday 8th 2.30pm Evington History and Heritage Group in parish centre

Thursday 9th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 9th 10am-12 noon Open Church

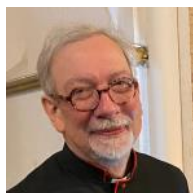
Thursday 9th 10am Morning Prayer (said)



Prayer Morning On Saturday 4th July the church will open in the morning for people to visit to pray, be still, spend some time in the quiet of the church and reflect on whatever is in one's heart, particularly praying for St. Denys Church and our local area. Come and go as you please from 10am until 12 noon. Ann our Churchwarden and Kimberley, our Authorised Minister will be present to pray with you if you wish or to be on hand to advise, guide etc.

Thought for Sunday: Sing of the Lord's goodness, Father of all wisdom, come to him and bless his name. Mercy he has shown us, his love is for ever, faithful to the end of days. Come then all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness, melodies and of praise & thanks to God. Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music, worship him and bless his name. (Ernest Sands)

NEW—Leicester Cathedral Choir Summer Concert: Rejoice in the Lamb Join Leicester Cathedral Choir on Saturday 4th July at 6pm for an evening of uplifting choral music and a rare chance to see the full cathedral choral tradition in an extraordinary evening. From the soaring beauty of Mendelssohn to the electrifying joy of Handel's Hallelujah, with Britten's renowned Rejoice in the Lamb (marking 50 years since his death), all are welcome to an evening full of colour, contrast and celebration. [Tickets from Eventbrite](#)



Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster will preside and preach at our service of Holy Communion this coming Sunday 5th July at 10am. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served in the parish centre after the service.

Morning Prayer will be held on Thursday 9th July at 10am in church led by **Ann Bennett**. There won't be Holy Communion on this day. Join us for coffee, tea and chat afterwards at the back of the church. All are welcome.

The St. Jerome's Book Club, as featured in the bulletin a while back, still runs online. It is particularly suitable for those interested in reading books that stimulate the mind and spirit. The next session is on 9th July at 7.30pm via Zoom. The book being discussed is 'When prayer doesn't work' by Margaret Somerville. To learn more and to receive the Zoom link, please email Revd Liz Rawlings at: Liz.Rawlings@LeicesterCofE.org



Looking Ahead: Diocesan Centenary Worship Gathering at the Athena Events Venue, Leicester on Sunday 13th September 2026, 2.30pm—5.30pm. Join in with celebrating the life of the Leicester diocese over its 100 years, in worship, prayer and liturgy, with food and drink, presentations and more. The special guest will be the Most Revd Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury. [Book free tickets on Eventbrite](#)

Guest Bulletin Letter Writers Our former Curate, Revd Mark Batchelor when with us, began a 'guest letter' slot for the bulletin, asking those not on the regular rota for writing the letter, if they would like to do so. I have carried on this idea on an ad hoc basis. If any readers of the bulletin would like to try writing the front page letter, please have a word with me or email me at: office@stdenys.org.uk Thank you, **Qyan**

INEQE Safeguarding Audit Survey – Have Your Say

The Diocese of Leicester and Leicester Cathedral are currently taking part in an independent safeguarding audit by INEQE. Please take a few minutes to complete the relevant survey(s), designed to gather valuable feedback about safeguarding practice and culture across the diocese.

There are surveys for: Diocesan workforce; Parish workforce; Parish community members; Cathedral workforce; Cathedral worshippers; Children and young people; Victims & Survivors of church related abuse.

- Your voice matters – share what is working well and what could be improved
- All responses are confidential and anonymous, and managed independently by INEQE

Thank you to everyone who has already taken part. If you have not yet completed the survey, we warmly encourage you to do so - your feedback is important and valued.

Look out for the surveys link on pink posters and postcards in church.

[Find the INEQE surveys here.](#)

[Learn more on the diocese website.](#)

Collect for 5th Sunday after Trinity Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Phoebe Achurch, Geoff Bunce, Ann Dixon, Michael Durrant, Revd Fr Michael Hibbert, Revd Richard Howells, Ron Maund, Sue Mitchell, Richard Williams

Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of Michael Elsom



Ann Bennett (Churchwarden) 07806 877644

Qyan (Administrator) 07803 828454 office@stdenys.org.uk

Jan Vaughan (Safeguarding Coordinator) 0116 2592 524 or 07763 674727

St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:

www.stdenys.org.uk

