ST DENYS CHURCH BULLETIN, Sunday 11th October 2026, 19th Sunday after Trinity

Readings for today: Philippians 4 vs 1-9; Matthew 22 vs 1-14

Dear Friends, Last weekend we celebrated our Patronal festival, it being one of the Sundays nearest to St Denys Day, 9th October. As has been our custom over the last few years, we went outside to have our final prayer under the statue of St Denys on the east end of the church. St Denys Day was celebrated for several years in the past with a parish meal held at the Leicestershire Golf Club just along the road. In 2019, the 800th anniversary of the church's dedication, some members of the congregation went to Paris with Rev Anthony to visit some of the places connected with the stories of our saint.

I would like to thank Matthew for his very thorough search into the life of St Denys which he explained to us in his sermon on Sunday. Stories about saints include some factual details and some interesting legends, including the story of St Denys who, after he had been beheaded, allegedly continued to preach while walking several miles holding his head under his arm. These are the sort of stories that we remember, but it is important to remember our Patron Saint for other reasons. He is an example of one of those who spread the Christian Gospel to pagan lands in the early centuries after Christ's death and resurrection and established Christian communities, in his case in France. This angered the Roman authorities so much that he was arrested and beheaded and so became a martyr for his faith. It is good to look back and learn about early Christian saints, be inspired by their faith and actions and to be encouraged in our own journey of faith.

We are rapidly getting nearer to the time when Rev Cecilia will be licensed by Bishop Martyn and become our vicar. These are exciting times for everybody at St Denys and will also be changing times. Please continue to keep Cecilia and all those involved in preparing for her licensing in your prayers and do your best to come to the service on 28th October to be part of her official welcome to St Denys.

With good wishes, **Ann Bennett**

COMING UP:

diary

Friday 9th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Sunday 11th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom, ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan)

Monday 12th 10am Private Booking in the parish centre

Monday 12th 2.15pm Arbor House service in Arbor House

Tuesday 13th 9am Private Booking in the parish centre

Wednesday 14th 2.30pm Evington History & Heritage Group in parish centre

Thursday 15th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 15th 10am—12pm Open Church

Thursday 15th 10am BCP Holy Communion in church

Thursday 15th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Revd Arthur Deegan will preside and preach at Holy Communion, on Sunday 11th October at 10am. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Monthly Worship at Arbor House takes place on Monday 12th October at 2.15pm. Do join Ann Bennett in sharing informal worship and a time of fun and fellowship too.

Revd Adrian Jones will preside and preach at BCP (said) Holy Communion in church on Thursday 15th October at 10am followed by refreshments.

A Macmillan Coffee Morning in aid of cancer support will be held by the residents of Pilgrim Gardens, Grocot Road, Evington LE5 6AL on Thursday 15th October 10.30am – 12 noon. It would be lovely if people would pop along and support this event. Thank you.

Another Pet Blessing Service will be held on Sunday 18th October at 3pm at St. Mary de Castro Church, Castle Street, Leicester LE1 5WN. All are very welcome, so if you missed the similar service at St. Philip's last week, do go along to this. Don't worry if you don't have a pet, it isn't compulsory to take one along. There will be an opportunity in the service to remember animals no longer with us too.



The next of the 'Chaplaincy Lectures', a joint initiative between the Bishop of Leicester and universities in Leicester and Loughborough, will be given by **Chine McDonald.** A writer, broadcaster, author and Director of Theos, the religion and society think tank, Chine was previously Head of Public Engagement at Christian Aid. Chine contributes to TV and radio programmes such as regularly presenting the BBC's Thought for the Day on Radio 4's Today programme, Moral Maze, Sunday programme and BBC Sunday Morning Live. She is also vice–chair of Greenbelt Festival and a trustee of Christian Aid and Demos. She is on the Advisory board for Cambridge University Library and is a Canon Theologian at Chester Cathedral. *This event will also be* available *to join online*. ***See Diomail for further details.***

O the Love of my Lord is the essence, of all that I love here on earth. All the beauty I see he has given to me, and his giving is as gentle as silence.

Every day, every hour every moment, have been blessed by the strength of his love. At the turn of each tide, he is there by my side, and his touch is as gentle as silence.

There have been times when I've turned from his presence, and I've walked other paths, other ways; but I've called on his name in the dark of my shame, and his mercy, was gentle as silence. ***(Estelle White, 1925-2011)***

A Poem based on today's Gospel Reading; *Matthew 22 vs 1-14*

By Gordon Mcconnell

Jesus is indeed the great storyteller
on this occasion He told of a king
telling what heavens kingdom is like
the king gave a feast for his son to bring

Those who were invited but they didn't come
then other servants went to hand out invites
but many excuses they made to not appear
despite promising a feast so very bright

This king was raging full of fire
many invited so sent army out to kill
then sought anyone to come to feast
though not worthy, bring them in still

So sent to the highways and byways
whether they be invited to be a guest
but one is found with no wedding dress
how he got in? seeing not proper dressed

The king brought judgement to bare
ordered the man to be sent in dark to weep
concluding that many indeed are called
but chosen are the few to be His sheep

Collect for 19th Sunday after Trinity Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Geoff Bunce, Ann Dixon, Sue Mitchell, Theo Riley

Pray for the family and friends of those who mourn including anyone we know personally

CONTACTS

Ann Bennett (Churchwarden) 07806 877644
Jan Vaughan (Safeguarding Coordinator) 0116 2592 524 *or* 07763 674727
Qyan Arnachellum (Administrator) 07803 828454, email: office@stdenys.org.uk
St. Denys website (including giving links for church work) www.stdenys.org.uk