

Martin's Message



Hats off to Jamie Murray who, at the age of 40 has announced his retirement from tennis. I didn't realise until his retirement was announced just how successful he was, winning no less than seven grand slam doubles titles. It seems that we have celebrated his success less than the achievements of his younger brother Andy, who had his own great achievement of winning two grand slam singles titles.

I started to think about why this was, and I began to wonder whether we tend to admire, and therefore celebrate, individual achievement more than collective effort and achievement. Let's face it there is something heroic that we admire about the individual winning through against the odds. However, we mustn't make this a model for how we live our lives.

We weren't created to be alone. In the ancient story of creation in the Bible, God created Adam and realised that it was not good for him to be alone, so he created Eve to be alongside Adam. Jesus appointed 12 disciples who he sent out in pairs to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

It is easy to want to go it alone, to prove ourselves, and sometimes that is what we need to do. But it shouldn't be the way we normally live. We need each other for love, care, company and support. And, while it can be harder at times working with others than on your own, we can accomplish so much more with others and the different skills and gifts they bring.

SAINTS *alive*

The Bible describes the church, not as a building, but as the 'body of Christ' with different parts, each person having a part to play in supporting each other to make the body whole. If you want to find your place in the 'body of Christ', we'd love to welcome you and help you discern what it might be.

May God bless you.

Martin Castle – Priest-in-charge



In the last few weeks, the SS&SJ bellringers have given the bells a good spring clean. The bells take a lot of maintenance to keep them ringing nicely and it takes a lot of hard work for which we are truly grateful.

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



MAY SERVICES

Sunday 3rd May

9.15am – All-age Worship at St Mary's
10.45am – All-age Worship at SS&SJ followed at
12 noon by a short service of Holy Communion
6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on Facebook

Sunday 10th May

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

Thursday 14th May – Ascension Day

7.30pm – Holy Communion service at SS&SJ

Sunday 17th May

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 24th May – Pentecost Sunday

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

Sunday 31st May – Trinity Sunday

10.45am – Holy Communion at SS&SJ
2.30pm – Afternoon worship at St Mary's
6.30pm – Prayers to end the day on Facebook

Prayers to start the day at 9am as follows:

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

Please check the church website for any alterations



St. Mary's Subscription Club

LUCKY NUMBERS

Lucky membership numbers and prize monies drawn at the March event:

1st **153**(£40), 2nd **185**(£25),
3rd **54**(£15), 4th **154**(£10) and
5th **2**(£10).

Prepare for floral delights at the next Elmesthorpe Friends, Food and Flowers Initiative coffee morning in the village hall from

10am to 11.30am

on Saturday 30th May.

The event will include a competition for the best garden flower or flower arrangement and a plant exchange as well.

Also expect either – perhaps both – a quiz or games in between a chance to buy cheap greetings cards, tomatoes, honey or chutneys while enjoying one of the cobs, home-baked cakes or some other goodie with a hot drink.

Visitors can also try their luck in the raffle, door ticket or St Mary's Subscription Club draw.

Donations to the Food Bank are also welcome.