

## Leam Valley Messenger



Flecknoe



Grandborough



Leamington Hastings



Willoughby

April/May 2022

Rev Phil Price, Priest-in-Charge of Leam Valley and Draycote Benefices  
Tel No: 01788 819366. Email: [revphilprice@outlook.com](mailto:revphilprice@outlook.com)

Dear Friends,

I'm sure that time is speeding up. It feels like only yesterday that I was sitting in my study wondering what the New Year would hold. Now we're over 25% of the way through 2022 and Easter is upon us. Before we know it, it will be Christmas again and then we'll be heading into 2023.

Time marches on and the world keeps spinning which can sometimes be a bit disorientating. That's why I find Easter such a comforting time. Even though the world can feel like it is always in a constant state of flux, on Easter weekend, Christians celebrate and mark a single moment in time. Christians believe that during one weekend a little under 2,000 years ago something monumental happened.

On Good Friday we remember Jesus' long agonising death on the cross. It may sound a bit morbid to dwell on that, but with our TV screens and newspapers full of horrific stories from not very far away, you can't help but feel like the world is a dark and a broken place. Jesus' death shows us that the world is not always a very nice place. It also offers us the reminder that whilst our world can be bleak, Jesus has lived in it and knows what it is like. Christians believe that on the cross Jesus faced down the darkness that covers this world.

In contrast to the darkness of Good Friday, Easter Sunday offers unbridled joy. The despair of Good Friday is replaced with the joy that comes from knowing how the story ends. In Jesus' resurrection we see the light at the end of the tunnel, the hope that things will be made right again. The darkness and the gloom were only temporary and the future before us is bright and sunny.

During Easter weekend we remember that we live in a world of darkness and light, but the important thing about Easter is that the light wins in the end.

By coming back to life Jesus defeated death. We might be living in a world that seems pretty dark, but Easter Sunday offers us a foretaste of what is to come. Easter promises that the time of light is coming and that the darkness will not be able to overcome.

I don't know how you are feeling this Easter, it could be that you are in a place where things feel light and happy. It could be that there are things going on in your life that make you now feel like a particularly dark time. Whatever you are thinking and feeling at the moment there is something in the Easter story for you right here and now. I'm always excited to explore this with people, but Holy Week feels like a particularly apt time to offer to do so.

We've got lots of different services and activities planned for Holy Week and you are very welcome to join us whether you want to celebrate or mourn.

Phil Price

### From the Registers

**Funerals:** We offer our sympathy and the assurances of our prayers to the relatives and friends of:

**Paul Fennell** whose funeral took place at All Saints' Church, Leamington Hastings on 9th February.

**Baptism** We welcome into the life and membership of the church family **Charlie Bostock** whose Baptism took place on 6th March at All Saints' Church, Leamington Hastings.

### Church News and Notices

#### Flecknoe

#### APCM

Our church Annual Meeting will take place on Thursday 5th May at 7.30 pm at Hillcrest House. All are welcome to come and be updated on what we have done in the last year. Please let Andrew Grant (01788 891076) know if you would like to help us in any way (flowers/cleaning) or to join the PCC – we would be delighted to have new members.

## Big Breakfast

We are planning to hold another BIG BREAKFAST on **Saturday 30th April**. We were not able to hold this event last year due to Covid, but are hopeful the current upsurge in cases will have subsided by then. All are welcome to join us in this popular event. A great opportunity to meet other villagers in a relaxed atmosphere.

## Breakfast Service

There will be no Breakfast Service on 24th April as there is to be a combined Benefice service at Frankton. Jonathan Ashton will be speaking to us at our Breakfast Service on 22nd May about his Christian mission work in Coventry.

## Grandborough

### Pennies from Heaven

We are delighted to say that some people are still working with cash and we have received the sum of £265 in donations. This the first collection in 2 years, so we are pleased to see that parishioners are still filling their boxes. Many thanks to everyone. If you weren't in when I called and have change in your boxes, let me know and I will collect it from you.

### Farmers' Market

We are pleased to say our Farmers' Market was very well supported in February, though numbers were down quite a bit in March. We are looking forward to having Maliwan Plants return again on **7th April** with their large selection of garden plants. Also joining us for the first time is Lindsey Bramley, a local resident with her Tin Pot Flower arrangements.

**Please note that there will be no set price for anything in the Café at the April market and all proceeds from the Farmers' Market will be donated to the Ukranian Appeal. We hope people will give generously.**

### Messy Church

We started again after 2 years and it was obvious the children were glad to be back. The children enjoyed making pancakes, Mothers' Day cards and wrapping up chocolates for Lent. We would be delighted to have more families join us on the 1st Thursday of the month from 4.30 pm. Contact Dorothy for more information. Details on back page.

## Lent Lunch

We had a very successful and well attended Lent Lunch on 24th March. We had some delicious soups, cheese scones and cake. Everyone was very generous, and we were delighted to raise the sum of £200 for the Leprosy Mission. Many thanks for all the donations and also to our helpers.

## Easter Sunday

Our service on 17th April will be held at 10.30 am and we would like to invite as many people as possible to come along and join us. The church will be decorated with Easter flowers. There will also be an Easter egg hunt in the church at the end of the service, together with refreshments. All ages welcome.

## Churchyard tidy up

We are looking for volunteers to help on **Saturday 2nd April** to tidy all the remaining debris in the churchyard, after the recent storms. Only rakes, brushes and wheelbarrows required, apart, of course, from willing workers!!

## APCM

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 27th April at 7.15 pm. If you would like to hear what has been going on throughout 2021, please come along and join us. Refreshments will be served.

**Christian Aid week 15 – 21 May.** To make it easier we would like to suggest that people give their donation on-line by visiting the St Peter's page on the Christian Aid website. This is a very easy way of giving. Your details are anonymous and Gift Aid can easily be added if you are a taxpayer.

If you don't feel comfortable doing it on-line, then please come along to our **Coffee Morning on Thursday 19th May**, where you can make a donation to this very worthy cause, while enjoying a chat and refreshments with friends. No time to stop for refreshments, then just drop off your donation!!

**Women's Institute** - Our meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. All visitors welcome.

**20th April** – Vanessa Cooper will be showing us 'Folk Art Painting' and we will have the opportunity to take part and do 'Dot or Brush' painting a flower on a card. Perfect for beginners.

**18th May** - 'Behind the Crime Scenes' – We will be having a presentation from Paul Tabener telling us about crimes and criminals!



This month Grandborough Trust is focusing on: Costs for healthcare – You may need to pay for dental work, new glasses, transport costs to hospital, hospital parking charges.

**Let us help you.**

Please contact: Tracy Pawsey 07530 380159,  
Kay Worrall 01788 811605 or Michelle Johns 01788 812945.  
Email: [mail@grandboroughtrust.org.uk](mailto:mail@grandboroughtrust.org.uk) Clerk of Grandborough Trust,  
3 Hargrave Close, Grandborough CV23 8DS.

**In the past, today and in the future Grandborough Trust is here to help.**

### Willoughby

Plans for the servery and toilet move ever closer to the start. We are delighted to have received the sum of £2,250 from the Benefact Trust and are now only £750 short after receiving several generous donations. Any ideas or support in reaching our goal would be really appreciated. We are aiming to start end May beginning June.

The Ladies Fellowship formed in 1998 has reluctantly decided to disband due to a small and aging membership. The remaining funds of £161.43 has been donated to the church specifically for the purchase of flowers as and when required. A very generous gesture, meaning we now have a flower fund which we can build on.

A mid week Communion Service is planned for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 am, the middle of Holy Week. Followed by coffee and Hot Cross Buns/biscuits. We look forward to welcoming people at our services.

### Craft and Table Top Sale

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April a Craft Fair and Table Top Sale will be held at the Church and Churchyard from 10.30 am – 4.00 pm. Tables £7. Contact Sue 07889 532810 or Karen 07866 572209 for details.

### Community Garden

We are looking for volunteers to help with the community garden and are hoping to start work soon. Just waiting on hearing the results of our Heritage Lottery bid. There are plans for other craft and heritage events throughout the summer.

**Woolscott Flower Club** If you enjoy flower arranging, why not join us at our club? Beginners welcome! We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month starting at 7.30 pm at Willoughby Village Hall, to watch talented flower arrangers as they put together beautiful designs on a theme, while sharing tips and stories of their experiences. Afterwards we raffle the designs off and enjoy a cup of tea before the evening draws to a close.

We also run occasional workshops to create our own designs, as well as outings to gardens and festivals. Guests are welcome at our meetings - £5, or why not become a member - £30 for the year, representing excellent value for money.



### 15 APRIL 2022 - Celebrate@4 – Celebrate at Easter Activities and 'Walk of Witness' - Suitable for all ages

Meet and start our Easter story on Good Friday at FRANKTON Church at 9.00 am. Take up our cross and walk to BOURTON where we will make Easter Gardens.

More walking to BIRDINGBURY Church to finish our Easter story around 11.15 am, complete our Easter trail and have refreshments.

We aim to finish by 12.15 pm. Lifts available back to Frankton and Bourton. Anyone may drive the route if they prefer.

ALL WELCOME for all or any part of the morning

Join us on Easter Sunday, 17th April, as we celebrate Jesus coming back to life. Multi-media Easter Praise with traditional and modern music, readings and a short talk; followed by an Easter egg hunt in church or around the grounds. Refreshments will be available and everyone is welcome.

All Easter services throughout the whole Benefice are shown on page 7.



## Holy Week Services for Draycote and Leam Valley Benefice

10 April Palm Sunday	10.30 am 9.00 pm	Grandborough Zoom Compline	Benefice Holy Communion
11th April Monday	9.00 pm	Zoom Compline	Evening Prayer
12th April Tuesday	9.00 am 9.00 pm	Zoom Zoom Compline	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
13th April Wednesday	9.30 am 10.30 am	Birdingbury Willoughby	Morning Prayer Holy Communion
14th April Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm 7.30 pm	Flecknoe Stretton	Holy Communion Holy Communion
15th April Good Friday	9.00 am	Frankton, Bourton and Birdingbury	Celebrate@4 Walk, craft, stories.
	3.00 pm	Leamington Hastings	Reflection at the Cross
	9.00 pm	Zoom Compline	
17th April Easter Sunday	9.00 am	Bourton	Easter Celebration
	9.00 am	Flecknoe	Easter Celebration
	9.00 am	Frankton	Holy Communion
	9.00 am	Leamington Hastings	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Birdingbury	Easter Celebration
	10.30 am	Grandborough	Easter Celebration
	10.30 am	Stretton	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Willoughby	Holy Communion

Church Services for Leam Valley Benefice			
3rd April	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 7th April	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
10th April	Palm Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion
14th April	Flecknoe	7.30 pm	Maundy Thursday
15th April	Leamington Hastings	3.00 pm	Good Friday
17 April <b>Easter Sunday</b>	Leamington Hastings	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Easter Celebration
	Grandborough	10.30 am	Easter Celebration
	Willoughby	10.30 am	Holy Communion
24 <sup>th</sup> April	Frankton	10.30 am	Holy Communion Benefice
1st May	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 5th May	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
8th May	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Family Service
	Grandborough	6.00 pm	Evensong
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Leamington Hastings	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Grandborough	11.00 am	Welcome to Worship
22nd May	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Breakfast Service
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Holy Communion
29 <sup>th</sup> May	Willoughby (TBC)	10.30 am	Holy Communion Benefice
Thursday 2nd June	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
5th June	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion

Please note the latest date for items to be included in the next Leam Valley Messenger is **18<sup>th</sup> May 2022**. Reports should be sent to: [dorothyjohnson@outlook.com](mailto:dorothyjohnson@outlook.com)