



The Shell



The Magazine of St James the Greater, Leicester

Autumn 2026

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8.30 am Holy Communion 10.30 am Choral Eucharist
6.30 pm Choral Evensong & Sermon

MIDWEEK

MORNING PRAYER

8 am Tuesday-Friday

COMPLINE ON ZOOM

9 pm Wednesdays - see weekly sheet for links and codes

HOLY COMMUNION

12.30 pm Thursdays

See Calendar for variations and details of special services

MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar (on sabbatical until late October)

Revd. Andrew Quigley MA (Oxon) MTh

0116 254 4113

Associate Ministers

Michael Rule BA Hons, P.G.C.E. Sheila Roberts MA

Reader

Dr .Angela Jagger BA PhD

Pastoral Assistant

Miss Vicky Roe B.Phil..Ed. MA

Sacristan

Sheila Roberts MA

For further information please contact:

Church Office, St James Hall, St James Terrace, Leicester LE2 1NA

E-mail: office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk Telephone: 0116 254 2111

Website: www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk

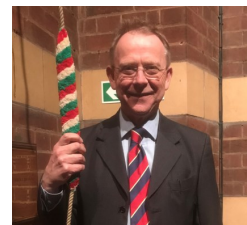
Please send items for the next edition by Sunday 1st November 2026
to Dr. Paul Jenkins at: editor@stjamesthegreater.org.uk

The picture on the front cover shows the Patronal Festival flowers
with flower-arranger Julia Walker, who has been a member of St. James since 1974, and her dog Poppy.

It was taken by Paul Jenkins.

From the Editor's Desk

In July, the University of Leicester held its summer graduation ceremony. A group of very talented UOL music scholarship students took it in turns to sing the National Anthem at the 10 ceremonies.



This year the singers included Dylan Spokes from the St. James Choir, Siyu Li and Ella Smith from the Cathedral Choir and Frances Dowdeswell from the choir at St. Mary de Castro, as well as Purba Audhora from UOL chamber choir and Natasha Carr, a regular soloist at the Little Theatre and Curve. I feel I have to be at all the ceremonies to make sure small hick-ups like being turned away from the car park or waiting at the wrong entrance door can be solved!

In addition to looking after recreational music at the University, I do the job of Public Orator at graduations. To give interest and inspiration at the graduation ceremonies, Honorary degrees are awarded to famous people. The public orator introduces the honoree and they then reply to address the graduating students with a suitably motivating speech.

This year the honorary graduates were very interesting. Dame Fiona Rayment is an expert in the nuclear power industry. Her story from humble chemistry student at Strathclyde University to a female captain of the nuclear power industry was indeed inspiring.

Gary Dixon graduated in physics at Leicester in 1987. Gary became an accountant and started his own financial company. He devoted twenty years of his life to the University of Leicester and for the last six years he has been chair of the council of the University. Gary has steered the institution through large infra-structure projects, like the new business school and the accommodation complex on Freemans Common.

Khudeja Amer-Sharif started to work at the Sharma Women's Centre in 2012 for a few weeks. Now she is the CEO of the organisation working tirelessly for women from under represented Communities who face inequality.

Professor Clive Ruggles is the world's first Professor of Archaeoastronomy – the study of beliefs and practices related to the sky in the past.

Janet Salmon graduated from the University in 1969 and she is now a writer and activist. Janet gave a rousing speech denouncing inequality where ever she perceived it.



Professor Bryan Williams, OBE, is one of the most successful members of the medical profession in the UK. Despite a huge list of achievements and overseeing one of the largest portfolios of cardiovascular research in the world, Professor Williams addressed the graduating medical students on what it means to be a doctor. The relationship of trust between the patient and the physician is the most important thing.



Not many physicians can say that they have completely transformed their field of medicine. Dr. Ffion Davies is just such a person. Ffion was the very first Consultant in Paediatric Emergency Medicine in the UK, now there are over four hundred such consultants and every major hospital in the country has a separate department for children's accident and emergency. This is completely down to the persuasive power of Dr. Ffion Davies and it was an honour for me to talk about such an important person in the practice of medicine in the UK.

Article	Page	Opium of the masses	5	A visit to Cambridge	10
From the Editor's Desk	1	Sacristan's Poem	6	From the Director of Music	12
Martin Stern	2	Tyndale 1526 Continued	7	Dine in Style at Limas	15
Memorial to Mike Bull	3	Our Lady of Kripasanam	8	Concerts and Events	16
Patronal Festival Musings	4	Coffee Morning Update	9	Calendar of Services	19

From the Editor's Desk -

Martin Stern



In 1942, at a primary school in Amsterdam, two young men walked into a class room and asked for Martin Stern. The teacher tried to say that 5-year-old Martin was not in school that day, but he showed himself and was taken to a detention centre where he was questioned, and his identity confirmed. Martin was taken first to Westerbork concentration camp and then on to Theresienstadt north of Prague. His only crime was being Jewish.

When the outbreak of the Second World War had looked inevitable, Martin's parents moved from Berlin to Holland, because they believed Holland would be neutral as it was in the First World War. It was in Hilversum, Holland, where Martin was born. Martin's father was in hiding, as he was involved in a confrontation with the Nazi authorities. Martin and his sister were looked after by a Dutch couple, Cathrien and Johannes Rademakers, who treated the children as their own. The brother and sister were not kept secret and they went about their normal business, such as visiting the Zoo and going to school. Their neighbours noticed the sudden appearance of two children in the Rademakers household, but most thought nothing of it. However, someone reported their presence to the authorities.

Soon after Martin was detained, his one-year-old sister was arrested along with Cathrien and Johannes Rademakers. Johannes was transported to a camp and never returned.

Martin and his sister ended up in Theresienstadt together. A Dutch woman got to know of the anti-Nazi activity of Martin's father and decided to protect the children. She kept them away from the other children and from the camp doctor, no matter what illnesses they contracted. Somehow or other both children survived.

On May 8th 1945, the Soviet army entered Theresienstadt and Martin's nightmare came to an end. He moved with his sister to a family in Didsbury, Manchester. Martin learned English very quickly and became a pupil at Manchester Grammar School. He then went on to Brasenose College Oxford to study medicine. Martin married a girl in Leicester and they have three children and five grandchildren. Martin's daughter Vivienne Stern is the Chief Executive of Universities UK, the body that represents the 142 British Universities. Martin has British nationality and is very grateful that Britain gave him a new home after the war.

In 1984, Martin joined the Leicester Children's Allergy service based at the Leicester Royal Infirmary. Initially Martin worked alone, but the service has expanded to provide allergy assistance to local children. Moreover, Dr Stern's association with the University has extended further through his collaboration on the Swiss Poleno sample project. The project was launched in 2024 and provides real-time pollen counts in the atmosphere, which has led to a significant improvement on previous scientific understanding. This work aligns closely with the University's broader area of research expertise on Clean Air.

Martin has devoted much of his spare time to Holocaust Education and he is an Honorary Associate member of the Stanley Burton centre at the University. Martin was awarded an MBE in 2018 for his work on Holocaust Education.

Provost and Deputy Vice Chancellor, on the recommendation of the Senate and Council, I present Martin Stern that you may confer upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.



The Vicar writes ...

Rev. Andrew Quigley is on sabbatical until mid-October .



Memorial to Mike Bull (13.7.1949 - 7.6.2025)



Mike was a loyal and much-loved member of St. James the Greater Church and Whitehall Primary School, where he taught for over 50 years.

The school have decided to commemorate his long service by commissioning a bench, the design of which appropriately references his love of cricket.

It will be positioned on the edge of the sports field in the shade of the tree.



Pictures courtesy of Mike's friend Steven Abson.

Recollections and Musings on the Patronal Festal Evensong by Paul Dean

I have been a chorister at St James for almost 55 years apart from a break in the noughties. This, along with my wandering mind gives me opportunities to compare and contrast. Emma Trounson often refers to me as the unofficial choir historian, a title which should be shared with Tim Lees who has many recordings and papers from his era.

In 1980, the Choir and Vicar of St James the Greater were on tour in Hendersonville, North Carolina. We had arrived in mid-July, but Derek Hole considered the patronal festival to be so important that he flew back home to lead the worship. He then returned to us. Amongst the choirboys was Dean Hannaford, who had a particularly good time splashing around in a local river at Sliding Rock. There is a picture in the 1980 choir booklet. He died very young and his mother Pauline sponsored the chancel step flowers in his memory.

Emma, in her first year, introduced the excellent idea of inviting alumni of all ages to sing at the Patronal Festival. So, a 60 years old man approached me asking if I was Paul Dean. Oh my goodness! It was Jonathan Carmichael, who I recalled as a head chorister, as were both of his brothers. I remembered him from about 48 years ago. He won the Bream trophy in 1979, the first boy to do so. He still sings Tenor and often performs at St. Pau's Church, Chipperfield, where I was Head Chorister in 1963 with my father Tom Dean, FRCO, as organist and choir master. Jonathan was also a member of the Wyggeston Boys Singers along with Neill Archer, who is now a lay clerk at Bristol Cathedral and sings with Oliver Hames.

When Jonathan returned as a young man in 1983 to sing at Ely, he recalled a keen young chorister called Anthony Dean. Tony, as he is now known as, cannot remember him at all. I asked Tony, now aged 51, and my granddaughter Abigail, if they would sing at the Festal Evensong and they both came. So, we had proud granddad singing bass, Tony singing tenor and Abigail as first soprano. I know it is rare to have three generations singing cathedral standard music together, and we are doing it again next week at Beverley Minster with the Liturgy singers. We shall be performing with Andrew Chapman, who was a choirboy in the late 1960s, and being led by Stephen Allen, who was a choirboy in the early 1980s.

Emma made some good choices for the music at Evensong. The introit, Bairstow's 'Let All Mortal Flesh' is well loved by the choir and I was delighted to do the bass part in the final duet. Andrew Judge and I still think of Arthur Higginson singing that part. He joined the choir in 1940. We all like the Rose Responses and I think that the Gloria from Howells 'Collegium Regale Mag' and Nunc' is one of the finest pieces of church music. It sounded great, but Jonathan and I recall the sound of 26 choirboys singing their hearts out. The power! The hardest piece for me was the Anthem, Harwood's 'Oh How Glorious is the Kingdom'. Andrew Judge and I had not sung this for many years and it was new to everyone else. Emma likes to widen our repertoire and we needed some detailed rehearsing. I think the performance went well, although some of my quaver runs needed improvement. Oliver Hames' musicianship was a great help to me. The tenor section of the choir was superb. It contained two ex-Oxbridge choral scholars, Tony and SJ; a choirmaster, Willard, and two ex-head choristers, Jonathan and Alex Cole. Alex sang the Nunc Dimittis solo well.

Recollections and Musings on the Patronal Festal Evensong . . . continued

I have one major concern about Evensongs at our church, which is are they still wanted?

On many Sunday evenings, the choir, which is smaller than it was, is still larger than the congregation. On July 19th there were only 12 in the congregation. There were about 30 at the patronal festival. I feel sorry for whoever prepares and delivers the sermon, which may involve an hour or more work. When you include a portion of the Friday rehearsal, the choir rehearses 90 minutes for evensong. The All Souls memorial service, which included all the Faure Requiem, sung to a standard which many local choirs would have charged at least £15 to attend, had a congregation of about 20. Three of us have a more than 30 miles round trip three times a week. The choir members appreciate singing four or eight part music at a high standard, Emma's leadership, the skill of the organist and the friendship of the whole group.

There used to be a congregation of about 100 at evensong, but now.....

Opium of the masses is a miraculous painkiller **by Rhys Blakely, Science Editor of 'The Times' newspaper**

More than 180 years after Karl Marx called religion "the opium of the people", scientists have shown that taking part in a church service can indeed affect the body much like an illicit drug.

A study of congregants in Britain and Brazil found that worship significantly increased their ability to withstand pain – an indication, the researchers argue, that the body's natural "mu-opioid" system had been activated.

This is the same system to which heroin, morphine and synthetic opioid painkillers bind to produce their effects.

According to Dr. Valerie van Mulukom of Oxford Brookes University, a co-author of the study in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, the results do not mean worshippers are chemically sedated by sermons. Instead, religion stirs an ancient biological mechanism that is key to humans feeling a sense of belonging.

The research studied 265 people at 24 religious events in Britain and Brazil. These ranged from Anglican, Catholic, Methodist and Baptist services to Umbanda rituals, which combine African traditions, Roman Catholicism, Spiritism and Indigenous Brazilian beliefs.

Participants were tested before and after each service. They answered questions about how close they felt to others in the congregation. They also took a pain threshold test using a blood pressure cuff inflated around the arm.

People felt more connected, on average, after a service and had a higher pain threshold. Those whose pain threshold rose the most also tended to be the people who felt most bonded to their fellow worshippers. "To us, that was evidence to say, 'Hey, it's probably the opioid that is driving this effect on social bonding.'" Van Mulukom said.

Sacristan's poem found on Facebook by William Woolley

Lay the altar, wipe the silver,
Fetch the bread, uncork the wine,
Fold the linen o'er the chalice,
Put the candlesticks in line;
Place the book and mark the pages
For the priestly eyes to see,
Straighten carpet, dust the hassocks,
So that he can bend the knee.

At this hour the choir assembles
Holy Mysteries to sing,
Organist and deacon rob-ed,
Tower bells begin to ring.
Far aloft in ancient rafters
Bats disturbed begin to fly,
Warden, looking upwards, gazing,
Gets some droppings in his eye.

Swing the censer! Get some rhythm,
Hit the boat-boy if you dare;
Raise the smoking pot above you,
Fan the fumes so all may share
In the cloud of scented vapour,
That denotes our Lord is here,
Spoon the grains on glowing charcoal,
'til the air's no longer clear

[Optional 4th verse for Easter]
Christ is risen, Alleluia!
Easter praises still ring out!
He is risen, Alleluia!
All the faithful people shout;
Thus proclaiming basic tenets
Of the faith we live and breathe,
Making false the '60's dogma
"God is dead" "I can't believe."

©Pharisaios Publications 2004

Tune: 8.7.8.7.D Lux Eoi



Tyndale 1526 Continued by Vicky Roe

On 22nd June, I travelled to London to see two exhibitions marking the 500th anniversary of the first printing of William Tyndale's 1526 New Testament in English.



Tyndale's 1526 New Testament

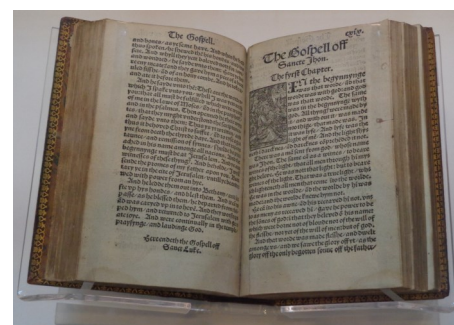
The **British Library exhibition** 'The Power of the Printed Word: Tyndale's New Testament 1526-2026' was in their Treasures Gallery. It was a rare opportunity to see the Library's copy of the 1526 New Testament, purchased for the nation from Bristol Baptist College in 1994 for £1 million. Alongside it was the 1525 'Cologne fragment' containing part of Matthew's Gospel, Tyndale's first printing that was aborted when the printer was raided. These were surrounded by a



'Cologne Fragment' of 1525

copy of John Wycliffe's translation of the Bible into English, handwritten about 150 years earlier, Martin Luther's 1522 German New Testament, Anne Boleyn's copy of Tyndale's 1534 revised New Testament, Tyndale's translation of Erasmus's Enchiridion, Henry VIII's 1521 'Defence of the Seven Sacraments' and the only known copy of the 1535 printed announcement proclaiming Henry VIII's supremacy over the church, a copy of Foxe's 'Book of Martyrs' showing Tyndale's execution in 1536 and, finally, a copy of the Great Bible from 1539, the first officially approved translation of the whole Bible into English, much of which was taken from Tyndale's translations. Within two years, more than 9,000 copies had been printed and every parish church had a copy, placed prominently in the church, thus fulfilling Tyndale's aim of getting the Bible in English to the English people. The copy on display was printed on vellum, coloured by hand and presented to Henry VIII. The final display stated, "Tyndale's impact, not only on the history of the English Bible but also on the English language was far-reaching and long-lasting. Without him, phrases like, 'eat, drink and be merry', 'go the extra mile' and 'the powers that be' would not be part of our everyday language today. Tyndale's words live on, 500 years after the first complete edition of his New Testament was printed."

I then went on to St. Paul's Cathedral, which holds the second of the three remaining copies of the Tyndale 1526 New Testament, the greatest treasure in their Library. The exhibition "**A Dangerous Calling**" is on there until February 2027. It comprises a video film in the crypt, a touch-screen display near the west door and as part of the Triforium Tour a visit to the Library where there is a display showing the 1526 New Testament, Tyndale's 1534 Pentateuch, a 1538 reprint of his New Testament, a Matthew Bible from 1537, a copy of the Great Bible from 1541 and a 1660 edition of the KJV. More information and booking is on the St. Paul's Cathedral website at <https://www.stpauls.co.uk/whats-on/exhibition-dangerous-calling-500-years-of-william-tyndales-new-testament>



Tyndale's 1526 New Testament at St. Paul's Cathedral

The third remaining copy of Tyndale's 1526 New Testament, usually kept in Stuttgart, Germany, will be on display in Worms Museum from 26th September 2026 - 10th January 2027 in their exhibition, 'Made in Worms'. If Germany is too far to go, you can walk the Tyndale Trail in Gloucestershire. Find out more about that and Tyndale on the Bible Society pages at <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/tyndale> and the Tyndale Society at <https://www.tyndale.org/>

Get to know Our Lady of Kripasanam

by Feby John

I would like to share my personal experience of **Our Lady of Kripasanam with everyone**. Through my faith journey, I have experienced peace, hope, and God's blessings through the loving intercession of Mother Mary. I truly believe that everyone should know about this holy place and join in its beautiful prayers.

Our Lady of Kripasanam (Abode of Grace) is located at Kalavoor, Alappuzha, Kerala, India. Today, it is one of India's most visited Marian pilgrimage centres, where people from different countries and faith backgrounds come to pray and seek God's grace.

A very important event in the history of Kripasanam took place on **7 December 2004 at 2:30 pm**, during Eucharistic Adoration. Rev. Fr. V. P. Joseph testified that Mother Mary appeared on the altar dressed in a beautiful silver-grey robe and warned of an impending natural calamity, calling the world to prayer, repentance, and conversion. Just nineteen days later, on **26 December 2004, the Indian Ocean Tsunami** struck several countries. Since then, countless devotees have shared testimonies of answered prayers, healing, and spiritual renewal.

Many people ask why Our Lady of Kripasanam wears a grey dress instead of the traditional blue or white. According to the apparition testimony, Mother Mary appeared in a heavenly silver-grey robe. Devotees understand this colour as a symbol of humility, purity, mercy, and Mary's loving concern for humanity. Mother Mary was also seen with a small ornamental clock, reminding us that time is precious and that we should not delay our repentance and return to God.

One of the most beautiful devotions at Kripasanam is the Candle Light Prayer, held every morning at 5:30 AM (IST). Lighting a candle and praying with faith has brought peace, hope, and strength to countless families around the world. The light of the candle reminds us of the words of Jesus:

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

I also encourage everyone to participate in the Marian Covenant Prayer, held every evening at 8:30 pm (IST). Whether you attend in person or join online from your home, it is a wonderful opportunity to pray together and entrust our intentions to Mother Mary.

The Bible teaches us the importance of trusting God through prayer:

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)

Mother Mary's message has always been to lead us to Jesus. At the wedding feast of Cana, her words to the servants remain her message to all of us today:

"Do whatever He tells you." (John 2:5)



Get to know Our Lady of Kripasanam

. . . continued

The Bible also reminds us of Mary's special place in God's plan of salvation:

"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." (Luke 1:28) Personally, Kripasanam has helped me grow in faith and has brought me closer to Jesus through Mother Mary's intercession.

Whenever I participate in the Candle Light Prayer or Covenant Prayer, I experience peace and a renewed trust in God's plan for my life.

Through both online and offline Covenant Prayers, many people have experienced spiritual renewal, healing, and blessings in their lives. I encourage everyone to join these prayers and experience God's grace for themselves.

Important Links

Official Website: <https://www.krupasanam.com/>

English Website: <https://www.krupasanam.com/en.html>

Online Candle Light Prayer – 5:30 AM (IST)

Online Marian Covenant Prayer – 8:30 PM (IST)

Prayer intentions can be submitted through the official website.

Finally, let us remember God's promise:

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7)

May Our Lady of Kripasanam, the Mother of Grace, intercede for us and our families and lead us always to Jesus Christ. Amen.

Monthly Coffee Morning Update from Mike Rule



It is now two years since we held our first monthly Saturday coffee morning with midday prayer. It has been a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and conversation over a cup of tea or coffee (with lovely nibbles courtesy of Jean!) and another opportunity for us to worship together aside from our long-established Sunday and Thursday pattern.

There has been a loyal, regular following and it goes without saying that all are very welcome to drop by between 10.30am and 12pm on the first Saturday of the month - if you haven't dropped by yet, come and say hello.

However, as the winter weather becomes unpredictable and the church gets colder, it has been decided that our coffee mornings will take a break over the winter period.

The final coffee morning of 2026 will take place on Saturday 3rd October and we will resume on Saturday 6th March 2027.

A visit to Cambridge by Vicky Roe

On Saturday 1st August, fourteen members of the congregation travelled to Cambridge in a mini-bus, driven by Churchwarden Serge Mozota, where the St. James Choir were singing services for the weekend at Great St. Mary's Church.

After arriving at the Madingley Road Park and Ride on the outskirts of Cambridge, some of the group had a sandwich lunch before travelling on the bus into the city centre. The rest of the party went in earlier, having made other lunch arrangements.

Cambridge was crowded with visitors on a warm, sunny day. Having located Great St. Mary's Church near to the market, some people went off to explore on their own, while a small group of us stayed together, trying not to lose each other in the crowds.

As time was limited, we decided not to pay the entrance fee to see inside King's College Chapel, but viewed it from the outside.

We then walked down the road to see the Corpus Christi Clock, before having a look inside Corpus Christi and Pembroke Colleges.



King's College



Corpus Christi clock



Corpus Christi College



Pembroke College



Crossing the road, we visited Little St. Mary's (or St. Mary the Less) Church, a small, peaceful place of worship.

Returning up the road, we purchased souvenirs of our visit in the Cambridge University shop, taking advantage of their sale items.

At 2 pm, we joined the rest of *the party*, which also now included James and Neill Addison-Gutteridge, for a talk and guided tour of the Church of St. Mary the Great.

The first mention of the church is in a record of King John presenting Thomas de Chimeleye to the rectory in 1205, although the foundations of the church may date back to 1010. From 1209, it was the home of the University of Cambridge, started by tutors and students who had fled there to escape riots in Oxford. The church was destroyed by fire in 1290 and rebuilt. It remained the home of the University, even as the individual colleges gradually became established, such as Peterhouse (1284), Pembroke (1347), King's (1446) and St. Catherine's (1473). The present church was built between 1478 and 1519, its construction being funded by Richard III and Henry VII. The tower was finished later in 1608.



A visit to Cambridge . . . continued

In the Middle Ages, it was the official gathering place for the University, hosting meetings and debates, until the Senate House was built across the street in 1730. However, from 1300 to the present day, the 'Sermons Before the University' held in the church have been used to reach a wider audience for the purpose of education and the promotion of thoughtful consideration of faith. These University Sermons, have in the past inspired the English Reformation and the Abolitionist Movement. Even today they are held several times a year in the church, being given by prominent men and women from many different traditions on a wide variety of topics.

St. Mary the Great is a parish church in the Diocese of Ely, but remains the University Church for the University of Cambridge. There is a requirement that undergraduates live within three miles of it and University officers within 20 miles. The church houses the University Organ in the West Gallery, built by 'Father' Bernard Smith in 1698, which is used for University events, and the 1991 Kenneth Jones Parish Organ in the chancel, that is used for services.

The University Clock in the tower chimes the 'Cambridge Quarters', which were later used for the chimes of the clock tower at the Houses of Parliament, and are more usually known as the 'Westminster Chimes', although, as our guide pointed out, Cambridge had them first.



We had a close look at the chancel, with its Victorian stained glass windows and striking, gold reredos of 'Christ in Glory' surrounded by the evangelist's emblems.

Then we went up into the 18th Century gallery for a better view of the Tudor wooden ceiling, stone carvings and the tiered benches introduced to accommodate increased audience capacity for the popular sermons, which could last up to three hours.

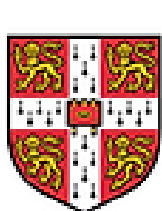
After a short refreshment break in the Michaelhouse café, run by the church, we returned for Evensong, sung by St. James the Greater Church Choir, who performed well and concluded with 'The Heavens are Telling' by Haydn.

Two members of our party, Vicky Roe and Jennifer Smith, read the Old and New Testament lessons, respectively.

The choir were pleased that we had come to support them and a group photograph was taken.

Then we headed off through the crowds to catch the Park and Ride bus, before returning to Leicester in the evening sun, tired, but happy after our Cambridge day out.

Everyone gave a big 'Thank you' to Churchwarden Serge Mozota for organising it all.



Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

From the Director of Music

Emma Trounson



'PERFORM at St James'

On Saturday 4th July, we held a successful and well attended informal concert for school-age musicians. It was a joy to welcome these talented young people with their families and friends to perform a variety of musical styles. The performers ranged from those just starting out (as young as 5) right up to sixth formers, with singing, piano, strings and brass instruments represented. There was also a chance for PERFORM-ers and audience alike to get involved with the singing workshop. Special thanks to Daniel Macdonald (our Junior Choir accompanist) who accompanied some of the performers as well as kicking off the performance section with a sparkling organ piece, and thanks also to our stewards and refreshments helpers! Many of the parents were already asking about 'next time' so it clearly proved popular – watch this space!

Family Music Day

On **Saturday 26th September 2026 from 1.00pm-4.00pm** we are holding a Family Music Day in church. Sing in harmony with other voices, make junk instruments and create some beats with our 'Junk Orchestra' and learn about and hear the St. James the Greater organ – the afternoon finishes with a singalong with the organ. Please encourage anyone you know to come and take part, there's no need to register, people can just drop in when they like!

If you are available to help steward, serve refreshments or support the activities, please contact Emma dom@stjamesthegreater.org.uk. If you have any clean items you're no longer using which might make good instruments for the craft table, please bring them in and leave them in the box at the back of church (these will not be returned, but anything unused will be recycled.)

Choir News

One of our highlights this term was Canon Philip Norwood's fantastic music choirs for the special Evensong to marking his 60 years in ministry. The choir especially enjoyed singing Parry's famous anthem: 'I was glad'. We had also prepared a little surprise for after the service, when we performed the cut 'Vivat' section from the Anthem with changed words: "Vivat Canonicus Phillipus!" The whole service was filmed and is available on the church's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwZ96MUUFgrNRIZmrTRH0mA>

Another real highlight of this term was singing at Abbie (choir Alumna)'s marriage to Ollie. The Senior Choir were joined by a few past members to sing Stopford's 'Come down, O Love Divine', 'Greater love hath no man' by Ireland and Howells' 'A spotless rose'. It was a joyful service with a mix of musical styles. We wish the couple every future happiness from the music team at St. James!

FAMILY MUSIC DAY

FREE MUSIC WORKSHOPS FOR ALL AGES

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026

1.00PM - 4.00PM

**ST JAMES THE GREATER CHURCH
LONDON ROAD, LEICESTER. LE2 1NE.**

1.00PM MAKE AN INSTRUMENT CRAFT
(TO TAKE HOME AFTERWARDS)

1.30PM JUNK ORCHESTRA JAM

2.00PM REFRESHMENTS SERVED

2.15PM HARMONY SINGING WORKSHOP

3.00PM ORGAN WORKSHOP - HAVE A GO!

3.45PM-4.00PM SING HYMNS/SONGS BY REQUEST



UNDER 16'S MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST DROP IN!
STJAMESTHEGREATER.ORG.UK



From the Director of Music

Emma Trounson . . . continued



Choir Tour to Cambridge



The Choir of St. James embarked on our annual summer weekend tour over the first weekend of August. The Senior Choir sang the Saturday Evensong service at Great St. Mary's Church, which was attended by members of the St. James congregation. It was special to see familiar faces in the congregation! We were ably accompanied by



Phil Johnson on the organ, who also got the chance to play the University Organ by special permission! As usual, it was great to welcome back recent alumni of the choir on their summer break plus a couple of other friends of the choir alongside our regular singers. The musicians all made a fantastic sound and the Great St. Mary's clergy and congregation were so welcoming and appreciative.



We enjoyed exploring Cambridge and sharing a couple of nice meals together in local restaurants. We were joined by three Junior Choristers for the Sunday services and they sang a beautiful soli section together in the Agnus Dei! All three services for 1st and 2nd August are on the



Great St. Mary's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/greatstmarys>



The choir were also offered the chance to climb the tower of Great St Mary's (for free!) and experienced amazing views of Cambridge, especially of the spectacular King's College Chapel opposite.

A very special visit was organised by Jonathan Carmichael, who sang at St. James as a boy and for



the past few years has returned to sing at our Patronal Festival Evensong and joins us on tour! Having been at Sidney Sussex, he organised a tour of the college and a chance to sing a few unaccompanied pieces in the College Chapel with its wonderful acoustic - a real treat! At the end of the weekend, we said a fond farewell to



Dylan, our tenor choral scholar who is off to study for a Masters at Cambridge University! We wish him well for his future studies and have loved having him in the choir. At St. James Choir it's never really goodbye, only for now, but we'll sing together again sometime!

From the Director of Music

Emma Trounson . . . continued



My National Youth Choir experience – Connie Woods (age 10)

In the autumn of 2025, I auditioned for the National Youth Choir. The audition took place online and was not a scary ordeal: I had to sing an unaccompanied song from memory, do some aural tests and chat about how much I enjoy singing. Everyone on the panel was very friendly and welcoming. A few weeks later I was very pleased to learn that I had been given a place and that I would be attending my first 4-day NYC residential course during the Easter holidays.

The course was at a boarding school not too far from home. When I arrived, I felt a bit nervous, but also excited. As soon as I got there, I met the girls I would be sharing a dorm with, and we soon became good friends. Every day we would start the day with a delicious breakfast before a jam-packed schedule of rehearsals and fun activities like treasure hunts. Different conductors came to rehearse with us, and we worked on things like breathing, projecting our voices and memorising the pieces for our final concert. Not only did we learn the songs, but we also had to get our heads around body percussion to accompany some of the music. It was very intense, but a lot of fun.

On the final day, we travelled by coach to Warwick Arts Centre when we combined forces with two other NYC courses to form an enormous choir of about 240 children. The sound we all made together was remarkable! After a morning of rehearsal, we performed our pieces from memory to a packed audience. Some of the more senior children did impressive solos.



The title of the concert was 'Paper Boats', and while we sang, origami artist Coco Sato folded huge pieces of paper into amazing shapes.

The National Youth Choir is a really great thing to be part of. It has made me love singing even more, and I can't wait to go again! I'm so glad that Emma encouraged me to apply, and if you're into singing, don't hesitate to put yourself forward.

Small Sounds

We have completed our first full year of 'Small Sounds', our music group for pre-schoolers and their grown-ups! We have sung, played percussion instruments, listened to performances, played with toys, had a natter, eaten biscuits and overall had fun! A huge thank you to all who have supported this, especially to Emma Smith who comes to help every week, including setting up and packing down as well as leading a couple of songs each time! This year has been fully funded by the Cathedral Music Trust to whom we are so grateful. We were delighted to find out recently that CMT will majority fund the programme at St. James for a further year, which is fantastic news! We'll be inviting Small Sounds families to take part in the Harvest morning service if they would like to, to show some of our harvest themed songs!

Small Sounds takes place on Mondays at 10.30am during term time and the first session of the next term is on Monday 7th September.



Dine in Style at Limas Bar & Tapas

by Trevor Langley



Long Eaton has a lot to be proud of – not just for the past times, which involved lace making, engineering, railways involvement and furniture making (some of which continue to present days) - but also for modern-day shops, supermarkets and businesses. Amenities and facilities feature greatly in the success of Long Eaton town.

West Park is widely known for accommodating several sports, including football, cricket, rugby, tennis, bowling and croquet, amongst the popular attractions. The West Park Leisure Centre offers facilities for swimming, wet area enjoyments, plus gymnasium activities and extensive fitness classes. Eateries and restaurants in Long Eaton provide many various cuisines.



I located award-winning Limas Bar & Tapas in Long Eaton (Est. 2023). This Two AA Rosettes restaurant was created and developed with a Mediterranean feeling and has complementing artworks. Current special offers and forthcoming events are detailed on the website and are proving to be extremely popular.

To commence my dining time - Mixed Olives. For the 'main event' I selected Satay Chicken (Chicken Skin Crumble, Black Garlic & Lime), plus Korean Fried Monkfish (Thai Spiced Honey, Pickled Ginger & Herb Yoghurt) and Tenderstem Broccoli (Crispy Chilli Oil, Blue Cheese Dressing). I found these dishes to be delicious, with impressive presentations. Compliments to Ben, Head Chef, who creates memorable and outstanding dishes, along with the team. Complementing flavours of ingredients were in abundance. Further choices included other meats and seafood options, with gluten free, vegetarian and vegan preferences all being very much accommodated,

For dessert I favoured Mango & Lime Baked Alaska. This delectation came as a most perfect (for me) towards ending of the dining occasion.

The drinks menu offers something for all palates. Parties/occasions and corporate events are easily accommodated. Gift vouchers (to surprise someone special?) are available. Occasional entertainment times are very popular and booked well in advance. Outside catering can be arranged, too. Thank you to Kenny, for exemplary service throughout.

Finally, if just a drink is 'the order of the day', then just have a drink – or two. Highly recommended.

Limas Bar & Tapas, 115 – 117 Derby Road, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4LA.

Tel: 0115 784 4626. E-mail: info@limas.uk Web: www.limas.uk



Forthcoming concerts and events

Recitals at St James



Second Sundays at 3.00pm

Pay as you feel (suggested donation £10) - Refreshments

St James the Greater Church, London Rd, Leicester, LE2 1NE.

30th August 26 - Castle Baroque Players

Chamber ensemble led by Seb Carrington

13th September 26 - Ricardus Consort

Choir and instrumental ensemble led by Simon Mold

11th October 26 - Serenity Flutes

Flutes: Julie Dearden, Ann Wright; Piano: Fergus Black

8th November 26 - The Juliet Consort

*Soprano: Emma Trounson, Anna Jane Davies; Countertenor: Mark Trounson;
Tenor: Jeremy Goldsmith; Bass & Violoncello: David Bean; Lute: Chris Susans*



No recital in December due to carol services

10th January 27 - Mariko Terashi - Piano

14th February 27 - Jude Richardson - Piano



Knighton Opera and Chamber Orchestra present

'The Flying Dutchman' by Wagner

Director: Stephen Bruce

Music Director: Paul Jenkins

Saturday 12th September at 7 pm

Tickets £20

Wednesday 16th September at 7 pm

Tickets £16

Saturday 19th September at 7 pm

Tickets £20

Tickets can be bought online at:

<https://www.ticketsource.com/knighton-chamber-orchestra>



Saturday 26th September from 1-3.30 pm

Saturday 3rd October at 7.30 pm

FAMILY MUSIC DAY

FREE MUSIC WORKSHOPS FOR ALL AGES

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026

1.00PM - 3.30PM

**ST JAMES THE GREATER CHURCH
LONDON ROAD, LEICESTER. LE2 1NE.**

**1.00PM MAKE AN INSTRUMENT CRAFT
(TO TAKE HOME AFTERWARDS)**

1.30PM JUNK ORCHESTRA JAM

1.45PM REFRESHMENTS SERVED

2.00PM HARMONY SINGING WORKSHOP

2.45PM ORGAN WORKSHOP - HAVE A GO!

3.15PM-3.30PM SING HYMNS/SONGS BY REQUEST



**UNDER 16'S MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST DROP IN!
STJAMESTHEGREATER.ORG.UK**



Forthcoming concerts and events

Saturday 17th October at 7 pm

Leicester Philharmonic Choir Concert

Karl Orff - Carmina Burana

Jonathan Dove - Arion and the Dolphin

Conductor: Stephen Bullamore

Soprano: Emma Rae Ward

Countertenor: Dominic Mattos

Baritone: Andrew Ashwin

Pianists: Rosemary Field and Darrell Smith

Lead Percussionist: Helen Shelton

Tickets: £25 from: <https://thephil.org.uk/event/carmina-burana-2/>



Saturday 14th November at 7.30 pm

City of Leicester Singers

Brahms: A German Requiem

Soprano: Caroline Essex

Baritone: Andrew Ashwin

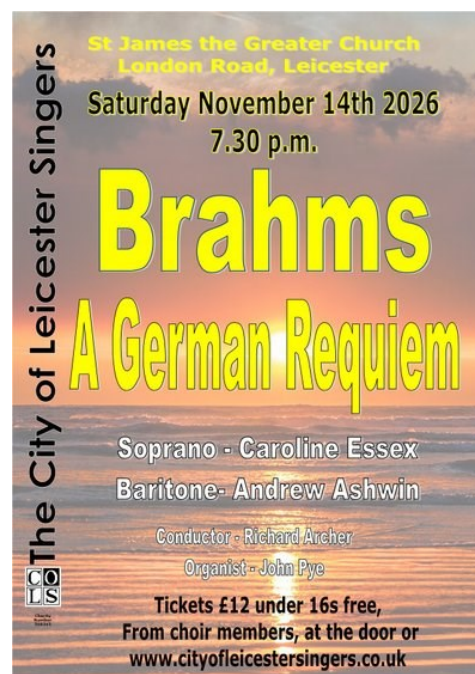
Conductor: Richard Archer

Organist: John Pye

Tickets £12, under 16s free

Tickets available on the door or

Online at www.cityofleicestersingers.org.uk



Calendar of Services and Events

See inside front cover for regular services pattern. Officiants given in the weekly sheet.

SEPTEMBER

3 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	Gregory
5 Saturday	COFFEE MORNING AT 10.30 AM	11.45 am Midday Prayer in church
6 Sunday	CREATIONTIDE 1	8.30 am BCP Holy Communion
10 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
12 Saturday	RIDE AND STRIDE OPEN DAY	10.am - 4 pm
	KNIGHTON OPERA	7 pm 'The Flying Dutchman' (Wagner)
13 Sunday	CREATIONTIDE 2	3 pm Ricardus Consort Recital
16 Weds.	KNIGHTON OPERA	7 pm 'The Flying Dutchman' (Wagner)
17 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	Hildegard of Bingen
19 Saturday	KNIGHTON OPERA	7 pm 'The Flying Dutchman' (Wagner)
20 Sunday	CREATIONTIDE 3	10.30 am Mattins 6.30 pm BCP Holy Communion
24 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
26 Saturday	FAMILY MUSIC DAY	1 pm-3.30 pm Free Workshops
27 Sunday	CREATIONTIDE 4 & HARVEST	

OCTOBER

1 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	Remigius
3 Saturday	COFFEE MORNING AT 10.30 AM	11.45 am Midday Prayer in church
	REQUIEM FOR HUMANKIND	7.30 pm concert
4 Sunday	CREATIONTIDE 5 & ST. FRANCIS	8.30 am BCP Holy Communion
8 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
11 Sunday	19TH AFTER TRINITY	3 pm Serenity Flutes Recital
15 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	Teresa of Avila
17 Saturday	LEICESTER PHILHARMONIC CHOIR	7 pm Carmina Burana Concert
18 Sunday	20TH AFTER TRINITY	10.30 am Mattins 6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
22 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
25 Sunday	BIBLE SUNDAY	
29 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	

Calendar of Services and Events

See inside front cover for regular services pattern. Officiants given in the weekly sheet.

NOVEMBER

1 Sunday	ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS	8.30 am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am All Saints Mattins 6.30 pm All Souls Requiem
5 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
8 Sunday	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 3RD BEFORE ADVENT	10.45 am Remembrance Service 3.00 pm Juliet Consort Recital 6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
12 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
14 Saturday	CITY OF LEICESTER SINGERS	7.30 pm Brahms 'German Requiem'
15 Sunday	2ND BEFORE ADVENT	
19 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
22 Sunday	CHRIST THE KING	
26 Thursday	HOLY COMMUNION AT 12.30 PM	
30 Sunday	ADVENT SUNDAY	6.30 pm Advent Carols Procession



St. James the Greater Choir outside Sydney Sussex College Chapel on their Cambridge tour.



St. James the Greater Sponsored Flowers Autumn 2026

6 September

Vicky Roe

13 September

Mollie Drake & Cherry Fulloway in memory of Gillean Russell

20 September

BATTLE OF BRITAIN

27 September

HARVEST

4 October

Andrew Curry in memory of Wendie Stone

11 October

Caroline Beardsmore in memory of Derek hole

18 October

The Brunning family in memory of David

26 October

Julia Walker in memory of her Mother

REMEMBRANCE

15 November

Chris and Kathryn Morfey in memory of their son Thomas

22 November

Jo and Pete Durham in loving memory of Suzanne greatly missed mum and wife

29 November

Advent

What's on ...

Sundays	Coffee after Eucharist Organiser: April Rule	11.30	Church
Mondays	Small Sounds- Music for 0-5s Organiser: Emma Tounson	10.30	Large Hall or Church
Thursdays	St James's Singers Director: Michael Rule	19.30 Monthly on Thursdays	Ashman Music Room
Fridays	Junior Choir Practice Youth Choir Practice Full Choir Practice Director: Emma Tounson	16.30 - 17.45 18.00 - 19.15 19.00 - 20.45	Ashman Music Room

Who's who ...

Churchwardens	April Rule Serge Mozota	
Deputy Warden	Paul Jenkins	
PCC Minutes Secretary	Patricia Thistlewood	pcc.secretary@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Church Administrator	James Addison-Gutteridge	office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Acting Treasurers	April Rule Serge Mozota	treasurer@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Director of Music	Emma Tounson	dom@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Organist and Director of St. James Singers	Michael Rule	
Organist	Phil Johnson	
Flower Guild Coordinator	Julia Walker	juliabentom350@outlook.com
Head Server	William Woolley	servers@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
Building Services Co-ordinator	Tony Chizema	chizemate@yahoo.com
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Vicky Roe	pastoral.assistant@stjamesthegreater.org.uk
		0116 255 2108
The Shell Editor	Paul Jenkins	editor@stjamesthegreater.org.uk