



***This week at St Mary's***

***7 July 2019***

**THOSE WHO HAVE LOST OR SAID GOODBYE TO EVERYTHING.**

The best ideas are often the simplest ones. Taking a 'Welcome Box' filled with small gifts and local information to a recently arrived refugee is one such.

I am a member of St Nics and have been volunteering for Welcome Boxes for about 6 months - trained volunteers fill and then deliver a box full of little goodies - stationary, socks, chocolate, toothbrushes, toothpaste etc to welcome the new arrival. We keep in touch over the next three months, helping them to access support available to them and linking them into the community.

Everyone I have visited is always very grateful for the welcome smile and box we bring, responding with smiles and hugs. I watched one lady's eyes light up as she saw a bar of chocolate in her box. She said she didn't often have any money for such 'luxuries'. Not all of them speak English but we get by with google translate and/or sign language and laughter!!

We also invite them to come to a bring and share lunch at a volunteer's home, to meet other people in similar situations as their own. It's also a good way for us volunteers to get to know them too! Many of them are no longer strangers but greet us as friends. We invite them to join in church services, English classes, small bible study groups or mums and toddler groups.

We are welcomed into their homes and hearts through the Welcome Box. Each time I visit a family I am reminded of Jesus' words (Matthew 25) 'I was a stranger and you invited me in'. It is such a joy to welcome strangers into our city who have often lost or said goodbye to everything and everyone they love in order to rebuild their lives in a safe, peaceful place. (see <https://www.welcomechurches.org/welcomeboxes>)

**ALISON DAVIES**

**A very warm welcome, especially to  
anyone new or visiting St Mary's**

**LAST WEEK AT ST MARY'S...**

**The Institute for Historic Building Conservation...**

held their annual dinner last Thursday, which included a tour of St Mary's

**Gin Festival 28 & 29 June**

An independent national artisan initiative, - almost 300 attended over the weekend giving many people the chance to explore and experience St Mary's for the first time, either as locals or visitors to Nottingham

**The Nottingham College...**

the affiliated International Group's annual visit included attendance at last Sunday's Evensong and a tour of St Mary's on Tuesday, enjoyed by all

And please note...

**THE CARRINGTON NATIVITY** - a dynamic, fresh and exciting portrayal of the Nativity story, by the community for the community. Actors needed of all ages, backgrounds and abilities, informal auditions 9 and 11 September. Register interest at [www.carringtonnativity.co.uk](http://www.carringtonnativity.co.uk)

## **AND COMING UP SOON...**

**13 JULY FRIENDS ANNUAL OUTING to Thurgarton Church.** Ellis Morgan will lead a guided tour. 11am. Anyone welcome - for further details or queries contact Hilary Tinley 0115 9814682 or [hilary.tinley@ntlworld.com](mailto:hilary.tinley@ntlworld.com)

**11 - 13 JULY JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR 7.30PM** (Lloyd Webber and Rice) an immersive staging of the biblical rock musical. Audiences will be taken back to Jerusalem and whilst drinking complimentary wine, will be surrounded by a 360 degree professionally performed production, put together by one of the UK's most exciting young musical directors Tom Bond. Tickets available on Groupon.

**14 JULY BISHOP TONY PORTER** will be with us at 10.45am

**17 JULY INSIGHT BY WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY** into how the Roosevelt Scholarship is 'Expanding Young Minds and improving Nottinghamshire'. Since 1946 over 150 local people have been awarded this prestigious Scholarship to visit America to investigate a work-related topic of their choice. We will hear of the scholarship's history, the experiences of a number of scholars and how it benefits organisations and individuals today. 12-1.30pm at Congregational Church on Castle Gate. All welcome. To help with catering, if coming, please email: [lensimmonds@aol.com](mailto:lensimmonds@aol.com).

**19 JULY SPOOKY MEN'S CHORALE 7.30pm.** A 16 piece male acapella choir from the Blue Mountains of Australia. Expect wry humour, pathos and Georgian songs. Tickets £19.80 from [gigantic.com](http://gigantic.com)

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**Please continue to pray for**

Estelle Barks

John Bowers

Debbie Butler

Harry Palmer

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### **This Week's Services**

**Sunday 10.45am Sung Eucharist**

**Sunday 6.30pm Evensong**

**Wednesday 6.15pm Evensong**

**Thursday 1.15pm Holy Communion**

[admin@stmarynotts.org](mailto:admin@stmarynotts.org)

[stmarysnottingham.org](http://stmarysnottingham.org)

Facebook St Mary's Church Nottingham

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