

## New Year Plans

If our heavenly Father gave his only Son for our salvation, can we really doubt his plans to prosper us?

## He plans to give us hope and a future.

Biblical hope is solid and secure because it's based on Jesus, not us. This hope is not pie in the sky thinking. In other words, it's very different from the hope we might have for the success of our favourite football team. Christian hope can be trusted. It's a hope that will come to pass. It's hope that is based on an event of history, the resurrection of Jesus. Because of Jesus, we can have an indestructible hope, even when things may seem hopeless. There is a future too.

As Jesus is the resurrection and the life, even death cannot prevent us from enjoying this future that God has for us. This is a future with him where there will be no more tears, or pain, or death.

In Jeremiah's day, God brought his people back from captivity. We too are offered forgiveness from sin and freedom from that captivity. We are offered a hope and a future. So, let's remember God's good plans for us in 2026.

### JANUARY EVENTS & SERVICES IN THE WOODFIELD TEAM OF CHURCHES

( services start at 10am unless otherwise stated).

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| Saturday January 3 <sup>rd</sup>   | <b>St Johns Prayer Group meeting at Winnie Meadows home at 10am</b>   |
| Sunday January 4 <sup>th</sup>     | <b>Donisthorpe (MP)</b> , Measham (HC), Swebstone (HC), Snarestone (HC), Packington (Breakfast Church)                          |
| Tuesday January 6 <sup>th</sup>    | <b>Coffee &amp; Chat at St. John's 9.30am – 11.00am</b>   |
| Sunday January 11 <sup>th</sup>    | <b>Donisthorpe (HC)</b> , Measham (Breakfast Church), Appleby (HC), & Packington (MP)   |
| Sunday January 18 <sup>th</sup>    | <b>Donisthorpe (MP Lay Led)</b> , Normanton & Swebstone (HC) Norton (BCP – HC), Measham – (MP Lay Led), Appleby (Sunday People) |
| Sunday January 25 <sup>th</sup>    | <b>Donisthorpe (HC)</b> , Measham (MP), Packington (HC), Appleby (MP),  |
| Wednesday January 28 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Donisthorpe Midweek Holy Communion 10am</b>  |
| Friday January 30 <sup>th</sup>    | <b>Lunch Light Fellowship Group 12.30pm</b>   |

### MINSTER COMMUNITY PROPOSAL – INVITATION TO AN OPEN MEETING WITH BISHOP MARTIN

Dear All,

Apologies for the delay in communication regarding Minster Community formation. We are grateful for all of the consideration and feedback that your PCCs sent in on the draft proposal. The Steering Group and your Coordinating Group have taken time to consider and collate the feedback to inform the next steps.

A lot of hard work, thought, and prayer has gone into the process so far and the drafting of a proposal. But it is clear from the feedback that we still have a way to go in creating a proposal that works for this area, with lots of questions and concerns remaining. We have also lost members of the Coordinating Group for various reason and so now only have two people serving on this group. We can see that we need to reset before we move forward together. Therefore, **Bishop Martyn would like to invite all to an open meeting to discuss the learning from the process so far and talk through a way forward on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026, at 7pm, at Holy Trinity Church, Ashby.**

This meeting is open to all in your church communities.

We appreciate that it may be frustrating to have such a delay in what has already been a long process. But with the Advent and Christmas everyone's diary will be very busy! So, we have paused until the New Year to gather afresh.

All the best,

Beth

**Beth Cluer**

Senior Parish Transition Officer and Facilitation Lead, Diocese of Leicester