

ST. JOHNS CHURCH DONISTHORPE

GRAPEVINE

JULY 2026



FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

MONDAY MORNING CUPPA – In need of some company and fellowship? Come along **every Monday morning** for friendly cup of tea/coffee. 10.30am onwards. All welcome.

LUNCH LIGHT our group that supports folk who are bereaved, plan to meet in church on **Friday 31st July between 12.30pm – 2.00pm**. So, if you have lost a loved one and would like some company, a chat and a bite to eat, why not drop in or Telephone Janet 01283 215000, if you want to know more and would like to join us, or if you wish to help out. There is a charge of £5

COFFEEANDCHAT@CHURCH will meet in church on **Tuesday 7th July between 9.30 and 11.00am**.

JULY SERVICES and EVENTS ACROSS THE WOODFIELD TEAM. (all starting at 10am unless otherwise stated).

Monday July 6 th 13 th 20 th 27 th	Monday Morning Cuppa (in church) 10.30am
Saturday July 4 th	St John's Prayer Group meeting Winnie Meadows home at 10am
Sunday July 5 th	Donisthorpe (MP) , Measham & Snarestone (HC), Normanton & Sweptstone (MP), Packington (Breakfast Church), Appleby (Baptisms).
Tuesday July 7 th	Coffee & Chat at St. John's Donisthorpe at 9.30am
Sunday July 12 th	Donisthorpe (HC + Baptism) , Appleby (HC), Packington (MP) Measham (MP Lay Led)
Sunday July 19 th	Donisthorpe (Lay Led Worship), Measham (Breakfast Church), Appleby (Sunday People), Norton, Normanton & Sweptstone (HC), Packington (Songs of Praise 4.00pm)
Sunday July 26 th	Donisthorpe (HC) , Packington (HC), Appleby (Family Worship), Measham, (MP).
Friday July 31 st	Lunch Light at St. John's Donisthorpe (12- 30 – 14.00)

SOMEWHERE IN MALAWI A TREE IS GROWING BECAUSE OF YOU.

Florence Leonardt, who strives on our behalf to make St. Johns more 'eco-friendly', received the following email and says she is rightly proud that we at St John's are part of this initiative.

From: The Tiboo Team <info@tiboo.co.uk>

Sent: Friday, June 5, 2026 10:48 AM

To: Cynthia Leonardt <florenceleonardt@gmail.com>

Subject: Somewhere in Malawi, a tree is growing because of you 🌳

This isn't a sales email. Just something nice to sit with for a minute.

Somewhere in Malawi, there are families who measure a good year by whether the trees gave enough fruit to eat, and enough to sell, not by what's in the cupboard, but by whether there's anything in it at all.

It's easy to forget that, stood in a supermarket aisle picking between two near-identical packs of toilet roll. The choice feels small. To us, it is.

But that same small choice, made here, can plant a tree there.

That's the whole idea behind Tiboo. Every order puts a real fruit tree in the ground in Malawi. Food, shade, income. Something that outlives the order that paid for it.

You probably just wanted toilet roll. Turns out it meant a little more than that.

We're not asking anything of you today. We just thought you'd like to know.

Thanks for being part of it, however long you've been around.

The Tiboo Team

The **Tiboo team** represents the operational group behind 'Tiboo', a UK-based eco-friendly brand specializing in zero-waste household and hygiene products.

Known for its sugarcane and bamboo tissue products, the team is driven by managing director Russell Simpson and operates out of Exeter and Cornwall.

Core Focus Areas & Values

Sustainable Operations: The team produces zero-waste, plastic-free alternatives to everyday consumables, such as sugarcane toilet paper, bamboo wipes, and refillable forever bottles.

Charity Initiatives: Every purchase plants a fruit tree in Malawi, Africa, in partnership with Ripple Africa, encouraging sustainable futures for local communities.

Wholesale & Retail: Beyond direct-to-consumer sales, the team operates an eco-friendly wholesale program for businesses seeking to improve their sustainability ratings.

Safeguarding Survey 2026

INEQE
SAFEGUARDING GROUP

Surveys now open

Take the survey:

leicester.anglican.org/safeguarding/audit

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY...**

The INEQE safeguarding surveys are now live and will remain open until Wednesday 5 August 2026.

Everyone is invited to take part in the independent INEQE safeguarding audit, designed to strengthen and support best practice in safeguarding in the Church of England.

The surveys provide an opportunity to share your experiences and perspectives of safeguarding across the Diocese of Leicester and Leicester Cathedral, including what's working well and where things could be better.

There are different surveys for:

- Diocesan workforce
- Parish workforce
- Parish community members
- Cathedral workforce
- Cathedral worshippers
- Children and young people
- Survivors

Simply go to the Diocesan website and follow the links

The feedback gathered by INEQE will help build a clearer picture of current safeguarding culture, highlighting areas of strength while identifying where further improvements can be made.

Participation is completely confidential, ensuring that all voices can be heard safely and honestly. Everyone is encouraged to take a few minutes to complete the relevant survey(s) and contribute to making our churches safer and more welcoming spaces for all. You can access the surveys or read more, on the Diocesan Website or look out for the pink posters and postcards, which include a QR code link to the surveys, in your church buildings and on our diocesan and cathedral social media channels.

You can find further information about the INEQE safeguarding audit, the surveys and how to support your church community to fill out the surveys on our audit website.

Thank you for helping support this important work.

Rev. Brenda Campbell, Safeguarding Officer

REFLECTION

One moment Adrián Simancas was kayaking in the Strait of Magellan in Chile with his father. The next, the twenty-four-year-old was engulfed in the mouth of a humpback whale. “I thought I was dead,” Adrián told a news outlet. After a few seconds, the whale released Adrián into the frigid waters. His life vest caused him to float to the water’s surface, and his father helped him to safety.

The Old Testament prophet Jonah also had an encounter with a large sea creature. Jonah refused to follow God’s directive to preach a message of repentance to the Israelites’ enemies, the Ninevites, so he boarded a ship in the opposite direction of Nineveh. When the ship got caught in a storm, Jonah convinced the crew to throw him overboard (Jonah 1:11-12, 15). “Now the Lord provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights” (v. 17). Jonah went from fleeing from God to crying out to Him: “From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God” (2:1).

God heard Jonah and rescued him (v. 10). Then Jonah preached to the Ninevites, and they repented (3:8-10).

If God could hear Jonah’s plea from inside a big fish, He can hear us and rescue us from wherever we are. Instead of running from God, let’s run to Him in prayer, knowing that He will answer us when we cry out to Him.

Reflect & Pray

Why do you sometimes run from God? How can you run to Him today?

Dear God, thank You for the rescue You alone provide.

Today's Insights

The Bible records various places where people cried out to God. Samson prayed while chained in a pagan temple (Judges 16:28), Jesus prayed from a cross (Luke 23:46), and Paul frequently prayed while in prison (Philippians 1). One of the most unusual places of prayer was in the belly of “a huge fish” (Jonah 1:17; 2:1-9). Imagine how different his story might have been had Jonah prayed while still at home, rather than after God had pursued him to the depths of the sea. When Jonah cried out to God in prayer, He delivered him and gave him a second chance to fulfill his mission (3:1-2). Running from God only makes our problems worse. But when we walk in obedience to Him and cry out to Him in prayer, He’ll hear us and do what’s best within His perfect plans.

OTHER EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE TEAM THIS MONTH

- Active Age, Measham Church Hall 11.am every Wednesday.
- Kid’s Kingdom Baby & Toddler Group 9am. Thursday 2nd July, Appleby Church Hall.
- ‘Little Fishes’ Teddy Bear’s Picnic, 10am Friday 3rd July, Measham Church Hall.
- Toasties & Crafts 12 noon, Packington Church Thursday 23rd & 30th July.

You are welcome to attend. Pass on the information to friends/young mums/the more mature and unfit, whoever may be interested.