

**St Hugh's**

Granville Street  
Market Harborough  
LE16 9HF

Team Vicar: Alison Iliffe, 01858 440225  
[alison@harborough-anglican.org.uk](mailto:alison@harborough-anglican.org.uk)

**St Peter & St Paul**

Dingley Road  
Great Bowden  
LE16 7ET

Team Vicar: Bryony Wood, 01858 469109  
[bryony@harborough-anglican.org.uk](mailto:bryony@harborough-anglican.org.uk)

**St Dionysius**

Church Square  
Market Harborough  
LE16 7NB

Team Vicar: James Pickersgill, 01858 465876  
[james@harborough-anglican.org.uk](mailto:james@harborough-anglican.org.uk)

**St Nicholas**

Rectory Lane  
Little Bowden  
LE16 8AS

Team Vicar: Alison Iliffe, 01858 440225  
[alison@harborough-anglican.org.uk](mailto:alison@harborough-anglican.org.uk)

**All Saints**

Church Walk  
Lubenham  
LE16 9TA

Associate Priest: Jack Wixon, 01858 439974  
[j.wixon@btinternet.com](mailto:j.wixon@btinternet.com)

More details on anything included in this booklet or a large print or braille version of this leaflet are available from the Team Office on 01858 469330 or [sue@harborough-anglican.org.uk](mailto:sue@harborough-anglican.org.uk) [www.harborough-anglican.org.uk](http://www.harborough-anglican.org.uk)



# Autumn Days

The range of groups, events and services for those with the gift of years from the Church of England in Market Harborough, Little Bowden, Great Bowden & Lubenham

The Bible encourages Christians to give special respect, deference and honour to those who have the wisdom of years or, as the book of Proverbs puts it, "grey hair of experience is the splendour of the old!".

Age is largely irrelevant as far as God – and the Church – is concerned. Our value is not based first on what we do, or have done, but on God's invitation to be his daughters and his sons, loved and treasured for ourselves. But when we get older, we can feel left behind. A bit like the Psalmist who prayed, "In my old age, don't set me aside. Don't forsake me now when my strength is failing."

Throughout the Bible, and the later story of Christianity, God often deliberately chooses people who are older, and even frailer, to fulfil his purposes.

Think of Abraham and Moses, for example – they were pensioners before they even began their work for God!



### **All we do is open to all**

There are 14 congregations across the five churches in the Harborough Anglican Team. People of all ages are welcome at nearly all our activities, ministries and services. But the Bible encourages Christians to “consider the years of all generations” and to give special respect to those who have the wisdom of years. We know that there are particular needs and opportunities that advancing years can bring.

So across our churches, we offer a wide range of small groups, events and support to help you be the person you were made to be. Our hope is that each person can echo the words of Ruth in the Bible, “Praise be to God who has not abandoned us ... He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age.”

### **Come and see for yourself!**

This leaflet outlines some of what goes on across our churches through the week that may be helpful to you. We can point you to other churches and agencies in the town if we can’t provide exactly what you need.

Whether you call yourself a Christian and are a regular church-goer, or grew up in church but drifted away and are thinking about faith again, or if you do not have a faith but would just like to meet other people, we have a welcome for you.

### **Groups and events**

There’s a wide range of regular events and groups, some open to all ages, some focused for those who are a little older, including:

#### **Tea@Three**

...meets monthly at St Dionysius Community Hall on Coventry Road the last Sunday of the month except for August. Each month we have a different speaker to share about their different interests or experiences with



**Churches Together in Harborough**, of which the Anglican Team is part, supports The Bower House counselling service, a Foodbank, and Street Pastors. It also arranges united events through the year. More details are available on the website or from the Team Office.



### **Residential Homes**

There are regular services and events led by churches in many of the residential homes in the area. For example, Susan Cooper serves as Chaplain to Peaker Park and David Palmer at Lenthall House and, together with a team of volunteers, offer monthly services, visits and more (just ask within each home for the contact details of the relevant person).

### **Church Services**

Alongside this all are welcome to the wide range of services across the Team. There are nine services across a normal Sunday, each with a slightly different style, plus three weekday Eucharist’s each week and a range of monthly or termly services too. If you would like to get to a service but transport prevents you do contact the office, who can pass your enquiry on to the right person, to see if it is possible to link you with someone who lives nearby. If you are new to a church please introduce yourself to the service leader. Some of the churches host regular welcome lunches for those who are newer to which we would love to invite you.

Details of the five churches of the Team and where to find them are on the back cover of this booklet.

This is merely a flavour of what goes on, it doesn’t cover everything and clergy from each church would be delighted to be in touch with you to talk through this or anything else. More details, including a full list of weekday and Sunday services can be found on the website [www.harborough-anglican.org.uk](http://www.harborough-anglican.org.uk) or from the Team Office (details on back).



### Home Communions

A team of Home Communion Ministers are authorised across the Team, with a co-ordinator in each of the churches. They would be delighted to bring the Eucharist from one of our Sunday or weekday services to those who are housebound (normally as part of a short service, with bible readings and prayer). To help you feel as full a part as possible of your church, our habit is to remember those receiving home communion in prayer in the service from which it is taken. Contact details for the link person in each church are available from the Team Office.



### Bereavement Visiting

As your church we are here in all seasons of life, part of which is offering trained volunteer bereavement visitors to help you talk through the death of a loved one. Alongside this, each November we host a special service in each church to remember in prayer our loved ones, and in the run up to Christmas each year St Nicholas Church host a 'Light a Candle' afternoon of quiet reflection for those we remember. To make contact with a Bereavement Visitor or receive details of the annual services please contact the Team Office. Details of Light a Candle are included in the Christmas card with details of all special Advent and Christmas events posted through the door of each house in the area each November.



**Noticesheet and Quintet** – if you are unable to get to church and are on email, we'd be delighted to send you a copy of the noticesheet each Friday so you can keep in touch with what is going on and pray as the rest of the church is. The monthly magazine of the Team, The Quintet, is also available and various church members are happy to deliver you a copy.

a Christian perspective; community singing; a variety of games or activities plus we provide a lovely home made tea. We can provide transport for those less mobile and there is no set charge but we do ask for donations to cover the running costs. Please contact David Palmer: 07505 968767

### Coffee Heaven

...is a free coffee morning with cakes and fellowship meeting each Wednesday morning between 10.30am and 12.30pm at St Peter and St Paul's Church in Great Bowden. Lots of seniors attend but it is open to all ages. For more details contact Julie Jones on 01858 467359.



### Coffee, Cake, Chat (3Cs)

Running from 10am to midday on the Fourth Saturday of each month (February to November) at St Nicholas Church, Little Bowden, everyone of all ages is welcome to 3Cs. A great opportunity to get to know others, just turn up or contact Elizabeth Allen on 01858 464847 for more information.

### Saturday drop in and Thought for the Day

Every Saturday morning from about 10.00 until 11.30 church members from across the team serve drinks for anyone of any age or background



who drops into St Dionysius' church. At 11.00 am there is a short Thought for the Day and a prayer, providing a brief quiet space in what for many is a busy day. A team of both ordained and lay people from across the team provide the thoughts which are accessible to all ages.



### Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union is a Worldwide Christian organisation with over 4 million members in 83 countries. Through programmes, campaigning, community outreach and prayer Mothers' Union promotes stable marriage and family life. From parenting, prison ministry, community health education, to relief and development programmes, MU works to create lasting change for families. We enjoy meeting together, normally at least once a month (on the first Wednesday of the month at St Di's Community Hall), to encourage and support each other in issues that might affect any member or their community. All our meetings include a service, a speaker, refreshment and fellowship. Members are prepared for enrolment and promise to uphold the 5 objects of the organisation; they subscribe annually to the central funds. The MU and its meetings are open to all who are interested in supporting Christian family life, including married, single, widowed, separated / divorced men and women. Contact the Team Office for contact details.

### Alpha

The Alpha course is a 10-week course of interactive sessions that explore the basics of the Christian faith, for anyone who's curious to explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning. The talks are designed to

encourage conversation in a friendly open and informal environment. Running most terms, some courses are held in the evening and include a free meal, others are during the day, and usually start with coffee and cake. All are free and open to anyone, whatever their age, background or beliefs.

If you'd like to find out more, why not come to a taster session? For more details contact Pep Hill on [pep@harborough-anglican.org.uk](mailto:pep@harborough-anglican.org.uk) or 01858 468461.



### Elderberries

With people of all seasons, Elderberries is a community garden initiative that meets in the grounds of Lenthall House Care on the southern estate. You don't have to be a resident of the Care Home or indeed elderly as we are a mixed group of all ages, all gardening experiences and all or no faith backgrounds. We meet every Wednesday afternoon, weather permitting, growing a variety of organic produce and learn new skills. Please contact David Palmer 07505 968767.



### Small Groups

There are also a growing range of small groups to help people grow in and explore what it means to be a Christian. Some run on an ongoing basis and some as 'pop-up' groups for a month or term. Some run during the day and some in the evenings. Some are focused on particular areas (e.g. grandparents supporting grandchildren) others are general purpose. Please contact the Office for the latest list of these.

### Ministries on Request

Just because a person is housebound for a season or longer term doesn't stop them being a full member of the church family.

### Home & hospital visits

Pastoral Assistants are authorised by the Bishop to work alongside clergy to do home or hospital visits on behalf of the church. They can also administer home communion if requested (see below). The three Pastoral Assistants in our Team, Elizabeth Allen, Angie Hill and Eileen Bangerter are all trained listeners and what is shared is held in confidence. To find out more or request a visit contact Eileen Bangerter on 01858 431115.

