

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

24 th Nov	10.30am	Sunday before Advent – Communion Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Peter Hill Subject: 'Jesus Heals' Matt 9:27-34 Prayers: Katie Jenkinson
	7.00pm	Worship Central course session 2 Subject: "Encounter God." Café open from 6.30.
26 th Nov	9am 10.00am-12	Prayers in Church Seniors' Café – a Quiz led by Elizabeth Taylor
28 th Nov	6.00-7.30pm 7.30-9.00pm 8.00pm	Youth Group in church – Years 7-9 Youth Group in Church – Years 10-13 Worship Group Practice – in Church
1 st Dec	10.30am	Advent 1 – Informal Service Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Ian Biscoe Subject: 'Workers are few' Matt 9:35-38 Prayers: Dora Potter
	12.30-ish	Light lunch in Church & meet Sriyamal
	7.00pm	Church Prayer Meeting – in Room 1 at Church with Godly Play and prayer for schools' work
3 rd Dec	9am 10.00am-12	Prayers in Church Seniors' Café – in Church
5 th Dec	6.00-7.30pm 7.30-9.00pm 8.00pm 8.00pm	Youth Group in church – Years 7-9 Youth Group in Church – Years 10-13 Worship Group Practice – in Church 20's / 30's Group – in Bure Farm
8 th Dec	10.30am	Advent 2 – All Age Service Leader: Karen Stoddart Preacher: Sunday Club Subject: Nativity Tableau Prayers: Sunday Club
	7.00pm	Sri Lanka Evening – In Church Come to learn more about Sri Lanka, the Christian community, and Sriyamal (includes Sri Lankan Christian music, presentation and Q&A, prayer stations for Sri Lanka).



Welcome!

**to the church
at the heart
of the community**

24th November 2013

Prayer chain: ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk

Notices: emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk

email to receive either of these.

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk



We extend a warm welcome to regulars and visitors alike. If you are new at Emmanuel, or visiting, please do introduce yourself to one of the Welcome Team.

Faith, hope and love remain...

As we progress through life we see our roles change from child to adult, from parent to grandparent, and, in the workplace, from trainee to experienced worker to retiree. Framing this constant series of changes are those two great bookmarks of life, the joy of birth and the sadness and loss of death. Several within our church family have experienced this loss in the last few weeks, some expected and some unexpected.

In the great experience that is life - how does the Bible guide us in such troubled times? In the Book of Job, in the midst of unexpected death, destruction, and illness, his world overwhelmed, being reduced

to sit silently in a pile of ashes, Job states: "I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth..... whom I shall see for myself ." Despite all the calamities that had come upon him, he turned in faith and hope to the One he knows can rescue him, resting in God's everlasting love and there he finds restoration.

When we look at Christ on the cross and hear him cry, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" There is this sense of unexpected loss, so unexpected and so terrible that the physical torture that preceded it, and which could be borne in silence, pales into insignificance. The anguish can no longer be contained but has to be screamed out. Yet these are also words of faith, hope, and love. The repeated certainty of the statement "My God" revealing a continued trust and reliance on the Father and the implied hope, based on God's loving nature, that restoration will follow. And again

God raised him from the dead and restored him to his rightful place.

So, as we, as a Church, as families, and as individuals encounter life's troubles and the loss of loved ones, even when those emotions wash over us and overwhelm us, we know our Saviour understands and is there with us. It may feel that we cannot recover or understand what has happened, but we can look to God's everlasting love and the promise that "all things work together for good to them that love God".

We can also look to each other for love and support in our time of trouble, being sensitive to each other's need for recognition and space for quietness. So in difficult times such as these we can be certain that God will, in due course, restore us to himself.

Blessings,

James Dunne

Emmanuel Church **Christmas Fair** Saturday 7th December 1:00 - 5:00pm

John Thompson would like your old (Christian) books, CD's and DVD's for his stall at the Fair. Call 01869 601082

To advertise the Fair in your child's school (if given permission!), please contact Andrea Pena 07943 699301 or Debbi Pardoe 01296 770706 for leaflets

Worship Central course session 2 - Encounter God on **24th Nov – starts at 7pm** with café open from 6.30.

This week, **we ask you to pray for those in our church family or known to us** who are ill or for other reasons require our prayers, including:-

- **Nathan Hill** and all those who have been recently bereaved
- **Those currently in hospital**, also their medical staff and all who provide support in any way

Fancy buying a plane ticket to Sri Lanka? Well now you can! ECB bought our Sri Lankan mission partner Sriyamal Fernando an £800 return plane ticket. To contribute, contact Peter Stoddart at: treasurer@emmanuelbicester.org.uk



Sriyamal is visiting us between **Monday 25 November** and **Wednesday 11 December**.

Any notices please to Roger Winson by 7 p.m. Wednesday at
rogerwinson@btinternet.com

ROTAS

Prayer Ministry

24th Nov John Williams
1st Dec Katie Jenkinson
8th Dec Chris Shields

Sunday Club *Bubbles*

24th Nov Doreen & Andrea
1st Dec Libby & Karen & Catherine
8th Dec **All-Age Service**

Splash

Claire & Hannah
Andy & Jo/Nathan
All-Age Service

Sunday Club *The Grid*

24th Nov Hannah & Debbie
1st Dec Karl & Sandy
8th Dec **All-Age Service**

Crèche

Doyin & Nicola
Jackie & Claire
All-Age Service

Welcome Team

24th Nov Rachel Matheson, John Innes
1st Dec Lisa Verman, Tony Shields, Doreen & John Thompson
8th Dec Del Hindmarsh, Debbie Winson, Mark Verman

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering, the reading)

24th Nov Clare Bean's Small Group
1st Dec Heather Hindmarsh and members of Peter & Carol's Small Group
8th Dec **Youth Team**
