



Sunday 2nd August 2026

Today's Service

10:45 Morning Worship
with Sean O'Toole



Today's Reading



2 Corinthians 5:11 - 21

A thought from Sean

I am amazed by the natural world, especially how things change. At this time of year, I enjoy picking tomatoes that have been transformed from tiny seeds into tall plants laden with fruit. And then there is the delight of watching a helpless baby growing into a confident and mature adult. In the spiritual world, Father God gives us the opportunity to be transformed from broken, damaged human beings into new creatures when we put our trust in Jesus. We have been given this marvellous gift of salvation because of God's kindness; we must not keep it to ourselves. Instead, we must keep on being transformed by God's grace, become more like Jesus and share His amazing love with others.

Prayer for the week

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our
day,
and make her holy, strong
and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Pigeon Problem

Back in 2010, nobody would climb the tower without protective clothing. There was a terrible problem with guano – pigeon poo. The church paid a pest controller to remove countless bags of it, and we then had to secure netting over the louvres in the tower windows.

Problem solved – or so we thought.

The pigeons simply moved into the roof void above the church. The situation became so bad that, during quiet moments in a service, you could hear scratching and other bird noises coming from above.

Things finally reached breaking point when an unsavoury object dropped onto someone during a service. The pigeons had to go!

The pest controller returned and persuaded the birds to leave the building, sealing up their entrance and exit points.

The result was like a scene from Hitchcock's *The Birds*: pigeons circled menacingly, looking for somewhere to roost. Bill installed a kite bird of prey, which had some success in keeping them away. Finally, we seem to have seen the last of them.

So, you can understand why I do not have a good relationship with pigeons. However, I do enjoy watching their courting antics, and for the past few years a pair of pigeons have built nests in my garden. Pigeons are not known for their nest-building skills, and sometimes the young chicks have fallen out before they were fully fledged.

This year, I watched the whole process: nest building, sitting on the eggs until they hatched, and the rapid growth of the chicks. For the last two weeks, I have been watching the two chicks in the apple tree, and my grandchildren have had the chance to spot them too.

This morning, I went to have another look and was horrified to find the nest empty. There were no feathers or dead bodies on the lawn below. Then I spotted one young bird on a branch of the tree and the other on the roof of the gazebo.

I managed to take photos and videos before they finally flew the nest.

Now they are gone!



Church Calendar



ALL SERVICES WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL WHILST THE CHURCH IS CLOSED FOR RESTORATION WORK

Sunday 9th August
10:45 Morning Worship
with Sean O'Toole

Sunday 16th August
10:45 Holy Communion
with Rev Kara Gander

Sunday 23rd August
10:45 Morning Worship
with Debbie Patrick

Sunday 30th August
10:00 Joint Minster Service
at **Gresley Church** followed by picnic -
more details to follow



Rotas

	Reading	Intercessions	Tea/coffee
Aug 2nd	Sean	Friday HG	Maxine & Jane
Aug 9th	Emily	Nigel	Gwen
Aug 16th	Brian	Brian	Jeff
Aug 23rd	Sandra	Sean	Carol
Aug 30th	JOINT	MINSTER	SERVICE

	Meet and greet	Tidying after service
Aug 2nd	Christine T	Jean
Aug 9th	Carol J	Jeff
Aug 16th	Christine T	Nathan
Aug 23rd	Carol J/Jeff	Jean
Aug 30th	Joint Minster	Service at GRESLEY

You're invited to Alive at Five

*A time to pause
A time to pray
A time to connect with God*

5pm for about an hour

*Every other Sunday at
Gresley Church Community Centre
Next meeting : Sunday 2nd August*

*Everyone welcome!
Come as you are*



Please come along to the
new Minster group for
women

Thrive

Breakfast at 8:30
August 08, 2026
Gresley Church Community
Centre

 Everyone welcome! 




BACK TO BASICS

5 WEEKS TO EXPLORE LIFE

Mondays in Autumn 7th Sept - 5th Oct 2026

14:00 -15:30 St Peter's Church, Hartshorne 19:00 - 20:30 Gresley Church, Community Centre

EVERYONE WELCOME TO EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO:

BELONG, BELIEVE, AND RESPOND TO GOD TODAY!