Welcome to our Churches

www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

All Saints

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St Andrews

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St Johns

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Sunday 29th September 2024

Services In Our Churches This Sunday:

- Harvest at All Saints, 10am. Clare Owen will be speaking.
- There is no service at St John's this Sunday.

Link for Sunday's service: https://mickleoveranglicans.org.uk/you-tube-services/

Midweek Services

- Tuesday: Prayers, 8am at All Saints
- Wednesdays: Holy Communion, 9.30am at All Saints

Collect

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

This Sunday's Readings

Joel 2: 21-27, Matthew 6: 25-33

Next Sunday's Readings

Job 1: 1, 2: 1 - 10, Mark 10: 2 - 16

<u>All Saints Café</u> - Join us for friendly chat, coffee, tea, cake and biscuits every Wednesday in the Centre 10am-12noon. Everyone welcome!

<u>St John's Rest Stop Café</u> - Friday mornings 10am-12pm in the Link. Do join us for Tea/Coffee, friendly conversation, and delicious home-made cakes.

<u>St Johns Brunch</u> – Fridays 12.15-2.30pm (after the Café). We join with others for a cup of soup & sandwich followed by discussion on life and faith and a bit of Bible study.

Confirmation talk given by Bishop Malcolm on 22nd September

What a privilege it is for us to be here to witness the confirmation of these candidates today!

Anyone who turns up at church brings their own story with them. For many it is a story of God's surprising intervention in their life – stilling storms of various kinds, Jesus being present in times of fear or failure, restoring hope and confidence for the future. The account of Jesus stilling the storm is followed by the story of Jesus healing two men who were deeply troubled – demonised, whether by trauma, or sickness, or something else.

For some of us, the storms are external – as we face circumstances beyond our control we find ourselves using that most familiar prayer of all – the one that just says HELP!!!!!

For others the storms are internal, and terrifying, as was the case for the two mentioned in our gospel reading. We often don't appreciate the internal struggles others have, and when we realise it can come as a shock to us.

Whatever the storm, God promises to be with us in Jesus, and to see us through. In Jesus we have both the promise of his presence with us always, and the hope of life in all its fullness both now and in eternity.

People often say that religion and spirituality is a personal thing. They are right if they mean that it matters deeply to them as individuals. But it is much more than that. Our reading from Ephesians speaks of our one Father 'from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.' Those confirmed into the family of God today join a community of peoples and nations where all are siblings together. There is no such thing as a solo Christian – we are a community, joined together in Christ by the Holy Spirit.

Together we have far more power than we imagine to make a difference in the world. Far more power to extend the reach of God's kingdom of justice and peace – far more power to make the love of God real in practical ways for people everywhere. Faced with the problems of today's world people often ask, 'But what can I do?' The problems seem immense, and we feel so powerless to make a difference. But we are not – we have the power, given by God through Jesus, and vibrant among us in the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Those being confirmed tonight, and all of us at All Saints and St John's, as well as those visiting in support of the candidates, are invited simply to receive that gift - and to be ready to face the changes this will bring. Watch this space... and see what God will do in us, among us, and through us day by day.

Notices

<u>All Saints Harvest Flowers</u> — On Saturday 28th September from 10am we will be decorating church for Harvest. If you can help in any way and need more info, please ring Celia. Any donations towards the cost of flowers would be appreciated. (the cost of flowers is going up and up). Any seed heads, Autumn berries, greenery or flowers from the garden are very very welcome and will help offset the cost. Hope to see you at 10am on Saturday 28th September. Tea, coffee and cake at half time!! Thank you. *Celia on behalf of the flower team*.

<u>All Saints Harvest</u> –today at 10am (joint service). We will be collecting food items for Derby Food 4 Thought (Mickleover Pantry), there is a list of items needed at the back of All Saints Church, money donations will be given to Derby City Mission.

<u>St Andrew's Harvest</u> – Sunday 13th October at 11am. Goods will be going to the Mickleover Pantry.

<u>St John's Harvest</u> - Sunday 20th October at 10am with donations going to Padley, there is a list of items needed on the notice board in the Link.

<u>CTM Prayer Walk</u> – 3rd October 10:15am. We will meet at Inglewood Ave. / Station Road Junction. Then we walk for about an hour praying for God's Blessing on our community, the local businesses, schools etc. Listening for anything the Holy Spirit might want to reveal to us. If you plan to come, please contact me, so I know to expect you. Thank you. *Ray*

<u>St Johns Craft & Tabletop Sale</u> – Saturday 19th October 10am – 1pm. 20 tables with a selection of crafts including crafts, cards, jewellery, knitted/sewn/crocheted items, wood and pebble art and lots more. Refreshments available. Do come for a visit.

<u>All Saints Messy Church</u> - We are restarting a midweek Messy Church for every 4th Wednesday of the month from 3.30pm - 5pm; the first meeting will be on Wednesday 30th October (5th Wednesday). Clare Owen is coordinating.

<u>Alpha</u> – is starting again also on 30th October on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. Alpha is a very accessible introductory course on the Christian Faith, where you can ask all those questions you have always wanted to ask! If you are interested, please contact Peter Walley, Clare Owen, Andrew Brown or the Office. Leaflets will be available to take away and if you feel brave, ask a friend to come.

<u>Our Dementia Choir</u> – despite the stormy weather, All Saints was full to bursting to hear the concert put on by Vicky McClure's Our Dementia Choir and Brookfield School. It was a wonderful atmosphere which ended with a very rousing rendition of

Sweet Caroline which everyone joined in with. We raised £1805.83. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with support beforehand and on the night.

<u>Confirmation</u> – to round off the weekend, Bishop Malcolm led a very moving and joyful confirmation service (see the notes from his sermon). Please continue to pray for the candidates – Avril, Brian, Chuma and Olivia. Will's baptism and confirmation will be rearranged for a new date (as he had Covid) soon. *Peter*

<u>St Johns Internet Café</u> – Monday's 10am-12noon in the Link. Free help with laptops, tablets, smartphones and other technology. Free Wi-Fi. Our helpers don't guarantee to have all the answers but may know where to start looking! Refreshments served around 11am

<u>News and Views Magazine</u> – The latest edition of the All Saints News and Views magazine is available at the back of church and on the website.

<u>Date for Your Diary!</u> – St Johns Christmas Fair, Saturday 30th November, 10am-1pm. The usual range of stalls will be available at this popular event. Lots of help will be needed!

All Saints PCC Minutes – Are available at the back of Church at All Saints.

<u>Sunday readings during October</u> – the first reading for each Sunday set for October are taken from the book of Job. This is a very ancient text and records the experience of Job, who is an honest and upright man, but who loses everything (home, family, prosperity, health) yet refuses to blame God, believing that both good and bad comes from God's hand. A dialogue between God and Satan (called 'The Accuser' in some translations), indicates that God has allowed Job to be tested in this way.

The God who allows Job to suffer these appalling losses is the same God who takes a child in his arms and blesses them. The book of Job serves to remind us that as God's people, we are not immune from tragedy or pain or loss, but through it we need to remember the faithfulness of God to us, and in our turn, the challenge to remain faithful to God ourselves.

One commentator, Philip Yancey points out that 'the book of Job decisively refutes one common view, that suffering comes to us as a result of our sin'. It may do, but it is not necessarily so. When Jesus disciples were discussing with him the collapse of the tower of Siloam, which was a tragedy that killed a number of people, Jesus said "Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish" (Luke 13:4–5). This reminds us that true assurance comes when we place our faith in the saving work of Jesus on the cross. *Peter*