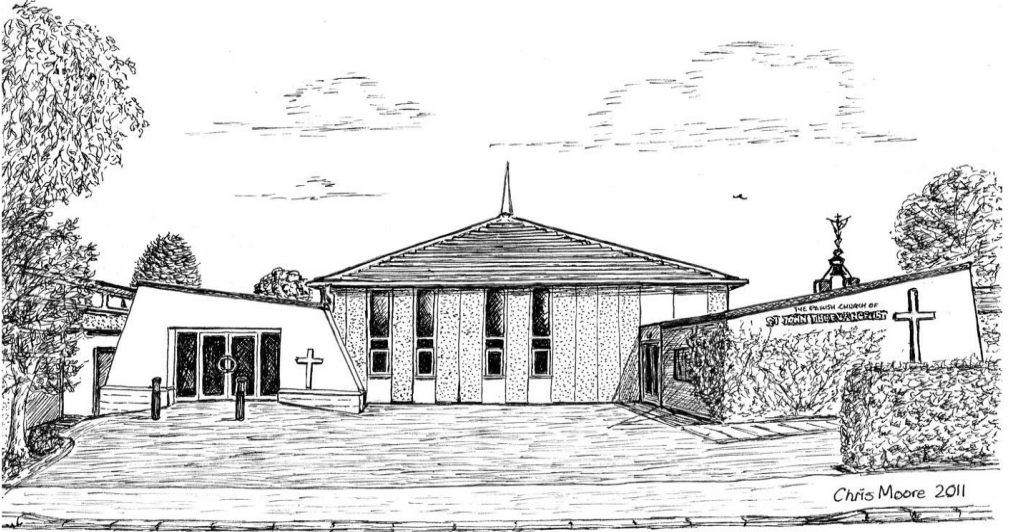


Contact

www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

e-mail: magazine-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk



St John the Evangelist

In Partnership with All Saints Church and St Andrew's Church Radbourne
as Mickleover Anglicans

In Covenant with all the Churches Together in Mickleover

Devonshire Drive, Mickleover

Parish Magazine

September 2024

Contact for Official Business

For booking baptisms, weddings and other business, please contact our Vicar, Revd Canon Peter Walley
Tel: 01332 513793 / 510446 (Church Office)
clergyteam@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Hall + Link Bookings

Contact Joy Templer - 01332 515293
Hallbookings-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

For up to date information about events

Website: www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk
Facebook: St John's Mickleover

REGULAR SERVICES

Sundays at St John's - 10.00am

Morning Praise on 1st and 3rd Sundays

Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sundays

Morning Service now on YouTube see the website for details

Joint (MA) Service with All Saints - 5th Sunday in a month

A Prayer for September

O Lord, you mark the journey of life with change.

Once again we witness your creation

Moving from one season to the other.

Change is your instrument of growth

That brings us to a deeper relationship with you.

Help us to face the challenges that change brings

Reassured that you will be with us

Through it all.

Amen.

What amazing news! – for today?

When I was on holiday earlier this year, in Norfolk, I went into the lovely parish church in Cromer and noticed a few people pick up a book in their bookshop and scan a few pages before putting it back down. I was curious and wondered what it was. When they had left, I picked it up myself and discovered the title which had obviously attracted their attention, it was “**Simply Good News**”. It is one of the latest books from Tom Wright – its subtitle is ‘Why the Gospel is news and what makes it Good’. I couldn’t resist it and instead of putting it back down I bought it and have been challenged by it. It begins by referring to the early Christians speaking regularly to their friends and family of the amazing new perspective on life which Jesus had given them. How He had changed their lives and made them different people who others wanted to know.

They certainly didn’t understand everything at first, nor later, because as St Paul said, “**Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but one day we will see everything with perfect clarity.**”

But, I can’t help asking myself why so few people today are energised by the Good News which Jesus still shares with us? Do we ever ask ourselves if being a Christian has changed our lives radically and made us authentic followers of Jesus, even with all our imperfections and lack of understanding?

There are so many who are searching for meaning and hope and yet I am often told church people aren’t very attractive examples of a different lifestyle, which others would want to aspire to. I really do have so many questions, and I struggle to understand so much about my faith. But I am encouraged by the man who said to Jesus “**I believe. Lord, help my unbelief!**” Mark 9.24. Jesus didn’t rebuke him, but immediately responded by helping him in his situation.

It can be reassuring to remember that, when we struggle with faith, we are in good company. Many of the prophets including Elijah and John the Baptist, experienced such struggles, as did all the apostles, and as does virtually everyone of faith today.

We can learn from those ‘heroes of faith’ that God is patient when we desire to believe and He never gives up on us when we don’t ‘get it’ at all. When we experience times of doubt, we can immerse ourselves in the words that those early Christians heard or read accounts of God’s miraculous interventions in ordinary folk’s lives. But the greatest way to overcome doubt comes from the Holy Spirit Himself, **“For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children.”**

Rom 8.16. We can cry out as the man cried to Jesus, **“I believe. But Lord, help my unbelief!”** And we can expect Him to answer. Tom Wright asks us again to look at the revolutionary ‘Good News’ which Jesus brought to those first disciples and apply it in our own circumstances and culture today. I recently realised how relevant that was to one particular aspect of our life today.

Some of you will remember that a few months ago, when a number of our church family were in The Royal Derby Hospital undergoing tests or receiving treatment I jokingly said “we should have corporate membership or at least have our own ward!”

Well, this trend seems to have continued, and it indicates the challenges that many of us have had to face or are still facing. It’s very easy to say, “I understand how you must be feeling” but as someone said to me recently “We don’t know how people feel unless we have walked in their shoes”. The one exception being our Lord who did experience everything we go through; as the writer of Hebrews said, **“since He himself has gone through suffering and testing, He is able to help us when we are being tested.”** So, He longs for us to share our concerns and challenges with Him, so He can reassure and support us.

As we visit folk who are having a tough time, it’s so wonderful when they share how their faith helps, and it means so much to them.

However, if we are being really honest, it can feel at times like we are under attack and it’s more than we can bear. St Paul faced this, but realised: **“We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character**

strengthens our confident hope of salva on. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love". Romans 5:3.

Paul is saying that we can reach a place where we can respond to difficulty with 'joyful and confident hope'. When we trust God and then see His faithfulness in our lives, it can give us the confidence needed to live without anxiety. Hence the importance of continuing to learn to trust Him automatically amid our challenges and not as a last resort! Then with His help, we can overcome the temptation to give up, when the going gets tough. To recognise that God uses hard, trying times to build our patience, our endurance, and ultimately our character and give us a 'confident hope'. We will then more easily be able to tell others of the Good News and faithfulness of God, which has encouraged us so much and given us hope instead of despair.

If we are in a battle right now, we can let it defeat us, or we can ask the Holy Spirit to give us an attitude which makes us stronger! So, do pray that the Spirit will encourage us all and help us make our faith more relevant and stronger as we face each day's fresh challenges.

Bless you all

Paul

Rev'd Paul Pritchard – Associate Priest



21st September - 6.30pm

At All Saints Church

CONCERT

by **OUR DEMENTIA CHOIR**

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Tickets £15

Available at St John's and All Saints Churches



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Alpha Course



Alpha is a series of weekly sessions in a small group exploring the Christian faith.

If you are interested in joining the Course in 2024, please contact any of the following

Contacts for more information
All Saints office 01332 510446
Peter Walley 07725 740407

St John's Confidential Prayer Chain

You don't have to be a church member to use this service
It can be a comfort and a support to know that people are praying for you, a family friend or a family member at a time of stress, worry, fear or pain.

To ask for prayer please text or call Helen Walley (Co-ordinator) on 07725740408 or email helenwalley@btinternet.com

Please note: if requesting prayer for someone other than yourself, permission from that person must be sought.

There is also a book and prayer board at the back of Church for you to add a person's name. Those in the book will be included in our intercessions on a Sunday morning during the service.



The ingredients of a miracle when the wine ran out

“There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee.” John

2:1 NKJV

In Jesus’s first miracle of turning water into wine, it is very revealing to understand some principles of how he can work in our lives.

- 1) Firstly ‘...**Jesus and His disciples were invited**’ (vv. 1-2 NKJV). When the problem of the wine running out arose, this couple didn’t have to send for Jesus because He was already there. Not only did they know Him, but they had also included Him in their plans. They honoured Him. The cry of Paul’s heart was ‘**that I may know Him**’ (Philippians 3:10 NKJV). Why? Because when we know the Lord, we can call on Him with confidence and can be assured He will be by our side when we need Him. This couple probably had a long time to prepare for their wedding, yet Jesus didn’t criticize them for poor planning. He came to their aid and met their need. And He will do the same for us; all we have to do is invite Him.
- 2) Secondly, we need to do what He tells us, even when we don’t understand it. Faith does not require explanations. It requires simple obedience and trusting in the goodness of God. ‘**Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart’s desires. Commit everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you.**’ (Psalm 37:4-5 NLT).
- 3) Finally, understand that God can save the best for the last. ‘**But you have kept the best until now!**’ (John 2:10 NLT). It’s not too late. What looks to us like a tragedy can become a testimony of God’s goodness and faithfulness in our lives too.

An edited version of a UCB ‘Word for Today’ from August 2024.

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~ ~ ~ The Rest Stop Café ~ ~ ~



Fridays 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Outside and in the Link and Church

Do join us for a cup of tea or coffee, friendly conversation, and
of course delicious home-made cakes

EVERYONE WELCOME

If you feel able to help in any way, please contact me - Alun Rowlands

This is followed every Friday by

BRUNCH from 12.15 - 2.30pm

Join us as a follow-on from Café or come for lunch

We join with others for a cup of soup & a sandwich

Followed by discussion on life and faith and a bit of Bible study



For more information contact Judi - 07531 495891

Just a thought.....

Your talent is God's gift to you.

What you do with it, is your gift to God



CTM Prayer Walk

Thursday 5th Sept at 10-15am

Starting at the Memorial Hall

(Station Road - next to Sainsburys Local)

We will 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, Ray Lee, via
ray_lee16@yahoo.co.uk or phone 239645 (answerphone screened),
so that I know to expect you. Everyone welcome.



INTERNET CAFÉ

Monday 10am - 12noon in the Link

FREE help with laptops, tablets,
smartphones and other technology

Can we make molehills out of your mountains?



FREE Wi-Fi

Our helpers don't guarantee to have all the answers
but may know where to start looking.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are served around 11.00am

Our Betel gardeners

It was suggested at our APCM in May that we should employ some outside help to maintain the church grounds.



A team of four men from Betel came on 12 August to tidy our outside space and trim the hedges. Hopefully you will agree that in spite of having to work around thundery showers that they have done a good job.

Betel is an international Christian charity that does great work helping people to cope with homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, and unemployment. They provide a residential setting with mentors and medical support, and training in life and employment skills.

Locally Betel runs a gardening service from a base near Etwall, which is where our team came from, and on Station Street in Burton they have a shop selling reclaimed furniture.

**To find out more about their work see the website
<https://betel.uk/>**

What's Happening in SEPTEMBER

St John's is open Monday to Friday 9.30am - 3.30pm

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| Sun 1st | 10.00am | Morning Praise at St John's |
| | 10.00am | Holy Communion at All Saints |
| Thurs 5th | 10.15am | CTM Prayer Walk -starting at Memorial Hall |
| Sun 8th | 8.00am | Breakfast Church at All Saints Centre |
| | 10.00am | Holy Communion at St John's |
| | 10.00am | Morning Worship at All Saints |
| | 11.00am | Holy Communion (Traditional) at St Andrew |
| Sun 15th | 10.00am | Morning Praise at St John's |
| | | with JACK at Johns |
| | 10.00am | Holy Communion at All Saints |
| Sun 22nd | 10.00am | Holy Communion at St John's |
| | 10.00am | Morning Worship at All Saints |
| | 4.00pm | BCP Evening Prayer at St Andrew |
| | 6.30pm | Confirmation at All Saints |
| Sun 29th | 10.00am | Joint MA Communion Service at All Saints |
| | | (All saints are celebrating Harvest on this day) |
| | | St John's Harvest Service is on 6th October |

Looking Ahead to October

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Sun 6th | 10.00am | Morning Praise at St John's |
| | 10.00am | Holy Communion at All Saints |

JACK* at JOHNS - 15th September - 10.00am

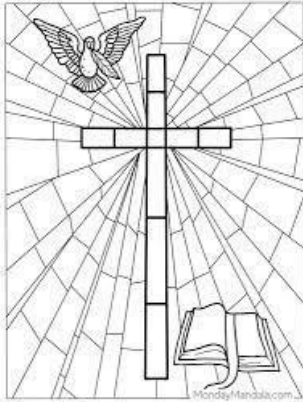
(* Jesus And Cool Kids)



If you are aged 2 or more then come along and join us at this Morning Praise Service. We do some craft activities and play games whilst participating in the Service.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Confirmation With Bishop Malcolm



All Saints Church - 6.30pm
Sunday 22nd September.

If you have been baptised but haven't already been confirmed and would like to take this step of public affirmation of faith, please speak to one of the clergy team. Peter (with Clare) is hoping to lead a short 3- or 4-week course beforehand to look at Holy Communion and faith.

Contact Peter on 07725 740407

email: clergyteam@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

As we support and pray for those who have come forward for Confirmation, we share this ancient prayer - still very appropriate today

**Lord,
Be thou within me, to strengthen me;
Without me, to keep me;
Above me, to protect me;
Beneath me, to uphold me;
Behind me, to keep me from straying;
Round about me, to defend me;
Blessed be thou, O Lord,
our Father for ever and
ever**

Amen

Lancelot Andrewes (1550 - 1626)

Note from the Editor: The second in the series of reminiscences about some of the “St John’s Characters” by Colin and Ann Haxell.

BETTY AND MALCOLM GROSTATE.

Soon after we arrived in Mickleover there was a squealing of brakes outside our house. A very smart lady was obviously upset and came in (we were eating our lunch) and asked to use the phone (pre-mobiles). She asked her husband to come and collect her. Her name was Betty.

On Sunday we came to St John’s, possibly for the first time, and there was Betty, smartly turned out in her Sunday Best singing in the choir. She greeted us with, “it is my Good Samaritan”.

In the summertime Betty had a parasol to match each of her outfits. I often wondered if the Queen, with her see-through umbrellas, had copied Betty.

Betty had a rather fine piano and she and Malcom would wheel it along Darwin Road to the church for concerts.

I chiefly remember Malcolm for organising several Parish outings. One year we went on a bus to Staunton Harold reservoir. We set up a picnic area near the shot tower. Malcolm organised games for the children, cricket, races, hide and seek. I called out “Mind the nettles!”. Too late, it had to be our Philip who got stung. Malcolm also compered our Harvest entertainment which included members of St John’s singing, dancing, playing instruments and reciting poems and ditties.

Malcolm was Churchwarden for a number of years. He also re-started our Parish Magazine and called it “Contact”.

Each year they went to Malta for their holiday. I think they had a time share arrangement but also where Malcolm came from. They would come back looking bronzed and encouraging us all to visit Malta. One year Betty left as a blonde and returned as a silver haired lady still looking as attractive as ever!

The St John’s Icon (on the right of the altar) was commissioned by their family in memory of Betty and Malcolm - it is unique to St John’s.

Family Events - August

Arrival - 18th August.

We celebrate the safe arrival of Isaac William Woodcock,
second grandson for Karen and Martin Cowgill

R.I.P.

We give thanks for the life of Joan Goddard
and remember in our prayers her family and friends

The Silent Grievers.

It's easy to miss them for they've learned how to mask their true pain.

You may think you are supporting them when you ask

“How are you doing?”

But mostly they tell you what you want to hear:

“I'm doing ok.” “Hanging in there.”

“I'm taking it one day at a time.”

But if they had permission to be honest, they'd probably tell you truth:

“Sometimes I feel like I can't breathe under the weight of all this grief.”

“I don't understand how the world can just keep moving on.”

“I feel completely alone.”

You nod your head in sympathy and say,

“Let me know if you need anything.”

And again they tell you what you want to hear:

“Ok. Thanks.” “That's so kind. Thank you.” “I will.”

But if they had permission to be honest, they'd probably tell you truth:

“I promise you I won't let you know if I need anything.”

“It's all I can do to put one foot in front of the other.

I don't know what I need. I don't have the energy to reach out.

So, I won't. There's no way I will. I don't want to seem weak."

Maybe you give them a hug and you whisper
"I wish I could make it better for you" before you walk away.

And they smile and whisper back what you want to hear:
"Thank you." "That means a lot." "I appreciate you."

But if they had permission to be honest, they'd probably tell you truth:

"No one can make it better but you could sit with me in
my messy grief for a while longer."

"I don't want someone to make it better.

"I want someone to let me talk about how much it really hurts."

"Then please reach out more. Talk about my loved one. Support
me even when I can't ask for it."

And later that night you think about them as you
capture a quiet still moment in your evening
and your heart aches because you know they are struggling.
You hope they know how much you truly care about them.
You pick up your phone and think about reaching out to them.

But then you doubt yourself.

You don't want to make them feel worse.

You don't want to remind them of their pain if
they are having a good night.

You don't really know what to say.

And so you put down your phone and trust that
they will reach out to you if they need you.

But they probably won't.

Because we don't give them enough permission to
be real with their grief.

And so they continue to walk among us.

Grieving.

In silence.

St John's Church, Devonshire Drive

Craft and Table Top Sale

Saturday 19th October

10.00am - 1.00pm

20 tables with a selection of crafts including:

Crafts, cards and jewellery, knitted,
sewn and crochet items
wood and pebble art and lots more

Refreshments available

Do come for a visit

Helping at the Fair

Your help to set up, service and clear for the above event would be much appreciated. Here's what we need

Bakers for the refreshments - small cakes and tray bakes ideal *

Is anyone available to help sell/serve these?

Bric-a-brac Stall. We have decided to once again have a St John's Table offering small bric-a-brac items. Can anyone help to run this?

Friday 18th from 3pm - setting up the Link and Church

Saturday from 9.30am - serving refreshments (drinks and small cakes)
- assisting with the sale of books and jigsaws

Saturday from 1pm - helping to return the areas to normal.

If you are able to help in any way, please speak to Richard Finch (493939) or Joy Templer (515293)

* bring any bakes to Rest Stop Café or 3-5pm on Friday or after 9am on Saturday.

Autumn Events in 2024

Pop these dates into your diary and look out for details

**Saturday 30th November - Christmas Fair-
10.00am to 1pm**

The usual range of stalls will hopefully be provided at this popular event. However, we do need lots of help for it to happen!

**7th December - New Opera Derby
Afternoon Concert**

In aid of FKC - more details soon.

14th December - Mickleover Singers Christmas Concert
Probably 7.30pm

Note from the Editor.

Our next issue will be for October

The deadline for articles is Monday 16th September

WHO'S WHO in ST. JOHN'S

CLERGY

<u>Vicar</u>	Rev'd Canon Peter Walley, The Vicarage, Etwall Road , Mickleover <i>clergyteam@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	Tel: 513793
	<i>Friday is Peter's day off. Please try and avoid contacting him on this day,</i>	
<u>Assistant Curate</u>	Rev'd Clare Owen	Tel: 479875
<u>Associate Priests</u>	Rev'd Alun Rowlands Rev'd Paul Pritchard	Tel: 517964 Tel: 512530
<u>Retired Priest</u>	Rev'd Ingrid Munroe	Tel: 723053

LAY MINISTRY TEAM

<u>Readers</u>	Mrs Helen Walley Mrs Dawn Perry Mrs Judi Witcomb	Tel: 513793 Tel: 605166 Tel: 07531 495 891
<u>Churchwardens</u>	Mr Ray Lee 22 Sandown Ave Tel: 239645 <i>Email: wardens-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	Mr Michael Vick 17 Heath Ave, Littleover Tel: 361260

Parochial Church Council (PCC) * These are also members of Deanery Synod

Ray Lee*	Richard Finch	Karen Cowgill	Joy Templer
Judi Witcomb*	Brian Seager	Kim Cooper	Elaine Pritchard

<u>PCC Secretary</u>	Mr Richard Finch	Tel: 493939
<u>Safeguarding</u>	Mrs Kim Cooper	Tel: 07732 798 163
<u>Treasurer</u>	Mr Barrie Witcomb <i>E-mail: treasurer-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	Tel: 304441
<u>Church Flowers</u>	Mrs Eunice Upton	Tel: 517460
<u>Hall/Link Bookings</u>	Mrs Joy Templer <i>E-mail: hallbookings-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	Tel: 515293
Sunday Bulletin	<i>E-mail: bulletin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	
Website	<i>E-mail: web-team@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	
Magazine	Editor: Mrs Joy Templer <i>E-mail: magazine-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	Tel: 515293
Distribution:	Mrs Lesley Paginton	Tel: 513489
Parish Administrator	Rebekah Tunnicliffe All Saints Centre (Tues, Wed, Thurs) St John's Vestry (Mon and Friday) <i>Email: admin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk</i>	Tel: 510446 Tel: 513363

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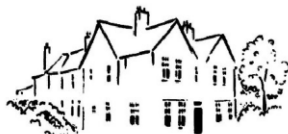


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