

# Welcome to our Churches

[www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk](http://www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk)

## All Saints

Etwall Road, Mickleover,  
DE3 0DL  
01332 510446



## St Andrews

School Lane, Radbourne,  
DE6 4LY



## St Johns

Devonshire Drive, Mickleover,  
DE3 9HD  
01332 513363



[allsaintsadmin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk](mailto:allsaintsadmin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk)

[admin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk](mailto:admin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk)

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024

### Services In Our Churches This Sunday:

- Holy Communion at All Saints, 10am. Helen Walley will be speaking.
- Morning Praise at St Johns, 10am. Karen Cowgill will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St Andrews, 11am. Led by Clare Owen.

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

### Midweek Services and Events

- Mondays: Internet Café, 10am – 12pm at St Johns Link
- Tuesday: Prayers, 8am at All Saints
- Wednesdays: Holy Communion, 9.30am at All Saints. Café follows from 10am-12pm
- Fridays: Rest Stop Café at 10am – 12pm at St Johns. Brunch follows in the Link

### Collect

God of holiness,  
your glory is proclaimed in every age:  
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,  
inspire us to follow their example  
with boldness and joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### Sunday's Readings

Hebrews 9: 11-14, Mark 12: 28-34

### Next Sunday's Reading – All Saints

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

### Next Sunday's Reading – St Johns

Hebrews 9: 24-end, Mark 1: 14-20

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov** – All Saints car park will be open for cars to enter before the 10am service (short Morning Worship) Please only park there if you are staying for the service of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 10.45am. The road will be closed for all traffic from 10.30am onwards. We strongly suggest parking on near by streets if you do not wish to stay for the 10.45am service. Refreshments served after 10am service.

**St Andrews November Services** – will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November (first and third Sunday of the month) instead of the usual pattern. The dates will go back to normal on the second and fourth Sunday of the month in December.

## Talk based on Readings: Job 42 1 to 6, 10 to end, Mark 10:46 to end

We have come to the end of our walk with Job. The way it is written sounds in some ways like a 'happy ever after' Hollywood ending. Job has passed all the testing and God rewards him because he has retained his innocence.

I want to focus on the first 6 verses here, before we look at the Gospel reading.

After God's speeches to Job, out of the storm – Job realizes finally that there is no comparison between him, a human being and the Almighty God. Verse 3 – 'I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know....'

The issue here in making his strong complaints against God, Job has moved dangerously close to pride, i.e. being certain that he is able to judge God or know better than God. And so, in making his confession, Job is confirming that humility is essential for a living relationship with God.

The thing he wanted most of all (Chapter 19: 25 to 27), which was to hear and see God, had come to pass. Just as with Moses approaching God on Mount Sinai, God had had to veil himself in the storm so that Job would not be consumed by God's holiness, but Job hearing God speaking so clearly is akin to seeing. 'Now my eye sees you..... I repent in dust and ashes.' No more questions.

And so we turn to our Gospel reading. How do these stories relate? No doubt Bartimaeus's parents will have been told that their son's blindness from birth was a judgment from God, in much the same way Job's friends had challenged Job 'to confess the sins' that had led to his trials?

Bartimaeus didn't have a theological issue to work out however, all he wanted was healing from the Lord. And his declaration: "Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me" was absolutely spot on, for it recognized Jesus as King (by the reference to David), and his own personal need for mercy.

I can't claim to understand what that must have meant for him to have lived with blindness from birth, but my own experience three years ago of being sat down by the Optician and being told in all seriousness that unless I presented myself to hospital immediately and was operated on ASAP, I would go blind in my right eye was a salutary reminder to me of the precious gift of sight. I do own up to the profound sense of shock that I felt. And the experience after the operation of relying on Helen and Gareth for help for the most basic elements of life was an important experience of vulnerability.

Quite how Bartimaeus gets to hear that Jesus is in the crowds (going up to the Festival), we aren't told but maybe some kind person tells him. Jesus' reputation has clearly gone before him. So he cries out.

The crowds told him to be quiet. After all, this will upset the authorities, he could have been arrested for linking the name of Jesus to the title 'Son of David'. Bartimaeus despite

his blindness saw what others didn't, he calls Jesus Messiah.... but however much they try to keep him quiet, he shouts out all the louder..... 'Son of David have mercy on me!'

You can imagine the tut-tutting in the crowds... who does he think he is? but Jesus stops and said 'Call him'. At this point the crowds change and instead encourage him to go. 'Cheer-up! On your feet! He's calling you!'

It seems that no-one offered to help him to get to his feet, but instead he jumped up, threw his cloak aside and came to Jesus. I'm sure his sense of direction from his hearing must have been far more acute than it would be for any one of us. He hot foots it to Jesus. Jesus looks at him and asks him with compassion.

51 "What do you want me to do for you?"

The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see."

52 "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

It would have been so easy for Jesus to walk on by because he had to get to Jerusalem but he didn't. He had compassion. Jesus had told Bartimaeus to 'Go' but instead he follows. And in Luke's gospel, we are told that : '(Bartimaeus) praised God. When all the people saw it [the healing], they also praised God.'

What lessons can we learn from this encounter?

[1] "The value of persistent prayer is not that He will hear us, but that we will finally hear Him." (William McGill)

When Jesus speaks, he asks Bartimaeus a simple question. Jesus may know all the secret longings of our hearts but he still wants us to voice our requests. Why? Because speech implies that he and we are in a relationship. Sometimes Helen will say to me 'I can't read your mind'. We need to speak.

[2] Secondly, if we are tempted to think that we are not good enough to draw near, Jesus said (in John 6: 37):

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

May we as Christians never stop anyone, especially those from the outside from meeting Jesus. On the contrary may we welcome and encourage those who come among us to place their trust in Jesus the Messiah. Amen.

*Reverend Peter Walley*

## Notices

**Our Love Prayers and Sympathy** – to the family of James Percival. The funeral will be on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am at All Saints Church followed by committal at Markeaton Crematorium.

**Thank You** - Pat Seager and family would like to thank the clergy and congregations at St John's and All Saints for their love and support during Brian's illness and for the many cards and messages of condolence following his death.

**CTM Prayer for Mickleover** - 7<sup>th</sup> November 10:15am in St. John's Link. During the winter months we suspend our prayer walks, but still meet to pray for our community. We will spend about an hour praying for our community, businesses, schools, etc. listening for anything the Holy Spirit reveals. If you plan to come, please contact me at ray\_lee16@yahoo.co.uk or phone 239645 (answerphone screened), so I know to expect you. Thank you. Ray Lee

**Commemoration for the Bereaved** – at All Saints on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 3pm. There are lists at the back of All Saints and St Johns churches for any names you wish to be remembered during the service.

**Save the Date** - Mickleover Christmas fair Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November and the Churches Together hope to run another Tombola to support Padley. Please start to put suitable items aside and save the date in your diary as we will be asking for helpers. The All Saints Stitchers will also be holding a craft sale in the Centre from 2pm – 6pm.

**All Saints Christmas Tree Festival and Carol Concert** – part of the 'Our Mickleover' Christmas fair on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November, we will be holding a carol concert at 4pm, joined by Newmount Brass Band. This year's Christmas Tree Festival will run from Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November - Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December (Advent Sunday). The church will be open at various times during the week. We need to have stewards-preferably 3 -for each session. (Steward tasks, 1 greeting the visitors and handing out voting slips and quiz sheets (children). 2 serving tea/coffee/squash and biscuits. 3 'floating' and helping where necessary.... so the tasks aren't onerous. Sometimes it is quiet so bring a book! Each session is 2hrs in duration. There will be a rota/ list of opening times at the back of church from this coming Sunday. Please help if you can. Perks? You get free coffee/tea and biscuits!! If you have questions, see me on Sunday. *Janice Toplis – Church Warden*

**St John's Christmas Fair** – 30th November 1am - 1pm. Leaflets and Posters for this event are in the Link. Please help us widely advertise this event by distributing posters in the local area (or pop one in your window). Check the event leaflet to see how you can help - donations for and help with the stalls are very welcome. Please speak to any of the stall holders, or contact Joy Templer (515293) or Richard Finch. (493939)

**New Opera Company** – are back with another engaging Christmas concert, this time in the afternoon at St Johns Church on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm. Please note the time. Full details soon.

**Mickleover Singers Christmas Concert** - "A European Celebration" on Saturday 14th December at 7:30pm. It will be held in the St Johns. £8 on the door including light refreshments in the interval.