

Welcome to our Churches

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



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Sunday 10th November 2024



Services In Our Churches This Sunday:

- Breakfast Church at All Saints, 8am.
- Morning Worship at All Saints, 10am. Ian Godlington will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St Johns, 10am. Ingrid Munro will be speaking.

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

Midweek Services and Events

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

Collect

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Sunday's Reading – All Saints

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

This Sunday's Reading – St Johns

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

Next Sunday's Reading

1 Samuel 2: 1-10, John 4: 1-40

St Johns Internet Café – Mondays 10am-12pm 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!

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

St Johns Rest Stop Café - Friday mornings 10am-12pm in the Link. Do join us for Tea/Coffee, friendly conversation, and delicious home-made cakes. **Brunch** follows the café from 12.15 – 2.30pm. We join with others for a cup of soup & sandwich followed by discussion on life, faith and a bit of Bible study.

Talk based on Mark 12 v 28-34

‘A relationship with God is not about how we believe, it’s about how we love and listen.’ Rabbi Lizzi Heydemann.

I came across this as I was researching the Shema. The ancient prayer recited by Jews twice a day, taken from the scriptures of Deuteronomy. Jesus uses this in his answer to the Scribe’s question at the beginning of our gospel reading, ‘What commandment is the first of all?’

Jesus replies ‘Hear oh Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’

People of the time would have been familiar with this because it comes from the Old Testament scriptures, God gives the commandments to Moses in Exodus, and then, when quoted in Deuteronomy there is the inclusion of ‘Hear oh Israel.’

Jesus answer to the Scribe, subtly changes the original commandment to include; ‘with all your mind.’ This is significant because it brings an intellectual reference into how to love.

Let’s start by considering love, what do we understand by loving God and loving others? Deuteronomy ch 6 v 5, commands us to; ‘love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your might,’ a straightforward instruction. As Christians we understand the concept of loving God, with all our being. The addition of; ‘with all your mind,’ adds a new dimension, something more cerebral. If we use our minds does that give us more control over loving, can we make an active choice to love people? This may not be very helpful in terms of romantic love, usually, we cannot decide to fall in love or out of love with someone, but it seems to me to make the instruction to love your neighbour a bit easier to comprehend. In the 21st century, Jesus’ instruction can aid us to fulfil his additional commandment of, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

In His answer, Jesus wanted the Scribe to understand the importance of Love. I think we can identify with the Scribe even though we are separated by more than 2000 years, because, as we usually find with the scriptures, they are relevant and speak to us today. We need to understand that love should be at the centre of our relationship with God and our relationships with all other people. Jesus uses the Shema to emphasise the one true God and that we should respond to Him by loving with our entire being. We can demonstrate this through the action of loving our neighbour as ourselves. This does not mean we all love ourselves in some vain and conceited way, rather that we should demonstrate our love of God through our love and respect for

all people. We may not understand or agree with others, but we can still choose to love them if we set our minds to it.

Think of the story of the Good Samaritan which shows us, it is not just our fellow Christians we should love and respect, it is everyone, regardless of their age, gender, race, religion, or anything else making them different from us. In today's context we are being asked to love the addicts, the refugees, the asylum seekers, those who struggle with their gender, the list goes on. Often, we do not understand some of these lifestyles and situations, and we can really struggle to love. Even more challenging, how do we love those initiating and enabling conflicts around the world, well I hold my hand up to finding that extremely difficult. Jesus is asking us to engage our minds and set them to loving others. That may be by encouraging openness and communication, or it may simply be by listening without judging.

The Scribe's response to Jesus gives us more to consider. He replies to Jesus; 'This is much more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.' The message is that the action of love does not centre around ritual and tradition. Things such as ensuring we wear the correct liturgical colour and use the liturgy and worship according to tradition means nothing if it is done without love. Think about a wedding, so often the reception becomes the main focus of the event rather than the ceremony, and trivial things seem to be so important. Only last week I was reminded of this by an episode of Peppa Pig watched with my grandson. The adult animals were saying the dress and cake and rings were very important. I am not sure how this was interpreted in the mind of an almost 3 year old, but hopefully the 'granny influence', ensured he at least heard about the importance of commitment before God to share your lives together.

Jesus recognised the Scribe's understanding. Do we understand as he did? Are we living our lives centred around love for God, worked out through love for our neighbour? Do not panic, we are not perfect and at times we may fail to live out these commandments. What I believe is that God wants us to try, and to keep this passage at the forefront of our minds to help us.

When I began to work on this sermon, Tina Turner's song, 'What's love got to do with it?' Was going round and round in my head until it spun into this message for me to leave with you; 'Love has everything to do with the Christian Faith; and the Christian Faith has everything to do with love.'

Amen

Lay Reader in Training, Karen Cowgill

Notices

Sunday 10th Nov – All Saints car park will be open for cars to enter before the 10am service. 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 nearby streets if you do not wish to stay for the 10.45am service. Refreshments served after 10am service.

Church Offices Closed – Monday 11th – Friday 15th November. Please contact the clergy if you need to speak to someone urgently.

The Bible Comes Alive - at 12 Murray Road on Monday 11th November, at 10am! Thessalonians 5,1-11 – Living in the Present. All welcome.

Invitation for St John's Congregation - Following the articles in our Contact magazine for September & October on "Where are we going?" Peter has invited Aidan Watson, Diocesan Lead on Youth Ministry, to talk to the PCC to help us in our thinking about where we are going with our outreach and worship. Anyone interested is very welcome to join PCC members for this, in Church at 8.00 this Wednesday 13th November. If you are coming please enter through the door by the vestry as there is another event in the Link.

St Andrews Service – will take place on 17th November, 4pm (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.

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

Thank You – to everyone who supported the All Saints Stitchers craft sale at St Johns Church last Friday. £109 was raised for Breast Cancer UK.

Commemoration for the Bereaved – at All Saints on Sunday 17th 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.

Stitchers Craft Sale – at All Saints Centre on Wednesday 20th November 10am – 12pm during the Café. Christmas items will be on sale!

St John's Christmas Fair – 30th November 10am - 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 and help with the stalls are very welcome. Please speak to any of the stall holders, or contact Joy Templer or Richard Finch.

Dates For Your Diary – **New Opera Company Christmas concert** at St Johns Church on Saturday 7th December at 2.30pm. Please note the time. Full details soon.

Mickleover Singers Christmas Concert - on Saturday 14th December at 7:30pm at St Johns. £8 on the door including light refreshments in the interval.

Our Mickleover Christmas Fair ***Sunday 24th November***

Held Needed- during the Christmas fair from 3-6.30pm. The *Mickleover Churches Together* are again running a tombola in aid of Padley so we need suitable prizes donated and plenty of volunteers on the day. We will need helpers for setting up the stall, and then helping staff the stall during the fair, particularly during the first hour or two - Things may quieten down a bit after the initial rush. We'll also need help to dismantle and put things away after. Please sign up at the back of church if you can help or speak to Mike Shooter for details.

All Saints Christmas Tree Festival and Carol Concert – part of the Christmas fair, we will be holding a carol concert at 4pm, joined by Newmount Brass Band. This year's Christmas Tree Festival will run from 24th November - 1st December. 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. 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*

Opening Times to view the Christmas trees and wreaths are:

-  Grand Opening: Sunday 24th November at 3.30pm. *Carol Service starts at 4pm*
-  Monday, Tuesday and Friday: 10am-12noon, 2pm-4pm, 6pm-7.30pm
-  Wednesday: 10.30am-12noon, 2pm-4pm, 6pm-7.30pm
-  Thursday: 10am-12noon, 2pm-4pm
-  Saturday: 10am-12noon, 2pm-4pm
-  Sunday 1st December: 3pm-5.30pm

All Saints Stitches – Craft and coffee stall in the Centre from 3-6pm during the fair.