Contact

www.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 November 2024

Contact for Official Business

For booking baptisms, weddings and other business, please contact our Vicar, Rev'd 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 is now on YouTube. See the website for details. Joint (MA) Service with All Saints' - 5th Sunday in a month

A prayer of Remembering

We give thanks for those whose names we do not know,
Who gave their lives in service to our country.
For their families and friends who miss them.

We will remember them

We give thanks for our loved ones whom we no longer see
For all the ways in which their lives touched ours,
For the difficult as well as the good times,
For the ways in which their lives and their love
Continue to be with us.

We will remember them.

Amen

It has been lovely to see the trees turning to their autumn colours. It happens of course every year, but sometimes just seeing a single tree ablaze with the sun shine enhancing the colours is enough to bring a smile. Let's hope that we can continue to see and appreciate the colours before the storms blow them all down and we have to get busy with our rakes!

Remembrance is nearly upon us. On Saturday last, I attended a concert by the Derby Choral Union who sang a number of pieces that were excellent, but the piece that opened the concert seemed to me to express very well the season which we are in. It is entitled 'As the leaves fall'.

Here is an extract of the longer poem.

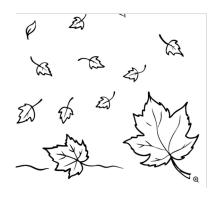
And the leaves fall....
The silver and the gold fall together,
A-mingled irresistibly like tears.

The low-branched elms stand idly
In all the full-leaved glory of their life:
Yet here and there a yellow flake slips slowly,
And the branch, where once it hung, lies bare.
Below they lie – the golden fruits of day.
And a soft spirit of night
Weaves a white spell of sleep about their feet.

And the leaves fall...
The great sleep of the trees is nigh:
The flowers are dead.
Yet through the fine-spun web of mist
Gleams faintly Michael's pale blue star...
A time of sad soul-hunger, unspeakable desire,
That clutches at the heart and drags the soul!

And the leaves fall....Is there a far faint life Whispers with blood-choked voice thy name? Whispers but once – no more?

And the leaves fall....
And yet they say you are dead?
Ask of the trees. Perchance they hear
A distant murmuring of pulsing sap.
Perchance in their dim minds they see
Pale curlèd leaves that strive to greet the sun.
Perchance they know of yellow daffodils
Will dance again.



Yet the leaves fall.....
And yonder through the mist is
Michael's star —
Saint Michael with his angel-host!
Ay! See them as they sweep along
Borne on an unseen wind to the far
throne of God.

O Mothers see; O maidens, look
How the world's Christ stoops
Down and kisses each.
And listen now and hear their cry,
As, lances raised, they greet their King
There is no death....
There is no death....
No death...."
And comfort you,
When the leaves fall.

The poem written by the soldier poet Joseph Courtney was made into a short cantata composed by Harold Edwin Darke in 1917 and if you get a chance to listen to it, you will be moved by the way lament moves to a sense of hope, faith and acceptance at the poem's end.

The natural desire expressed in the phrase 'the war to end all wars' of course was a forlorn hope. The treaty that was signed between the European nations created the seeds for Fascism to flourish. And all around our world, we see on-going conflict, we go on seeing 'man's inhumanity to man'. It is the innocent who truly suffer and all of us looking on, need ways in which we can process what we witness and find words for the overwhelming sense of loss which is where the poet's words speak.

Jesus told his disciples 'Blessed are the peace-makers for they will be called 'children of God''. (Matthew 5:9). The work of a peacemaker is often unseen and unnoticed but it is vital for all our sakes. To truly listen, to offer space for someone else to express their pain, to sit with them as they express their deepest longing is a gift we can all bring. To stand up for justice, to campaign for a cause is a calling for the few.

All of us, whether people of faith or not, would want to experience a world where conflict in the words of the poem was 'no more'. As Christians we believe that will only come at the second coming of our Lord, when the promise of the resurrection will be fulfilled in all its entirety.

Until that day, our calling as God's people is to love, to pray, to bring comfort and to work for peace: in families; in communities and between nations.

May this Remembrance season embolden us in our witness and in our love and in our understanding and may all the glory go to God. Amen!

Every blessing. Peter

Just a thought

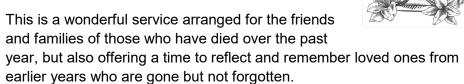
When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace

1imi Hendrix

Craft and Table Top Sale - Thanks

A big thank you to all who helped with this event on 19th October. We are pleased to report that an amazing £767.98 was raised for Church funds.

Sun 17th November Commemoration Service 3.00pm at All Saints



If you want to remember a loved one, each church has a sign-up sheet asking for names to be clearly printed. These will be collated, displayed and used as part of the service, giving thanks for their lives.

Refreshments following the Service are provided in the Church Centre, next door.

You are all very welcome to attend

Mickleover WI

Meets at St John's Church Hall at 7.30pm - 2nd Thursdays

14th November - "Move it or Lose it".

12th December - Christmas Dabble and Faith Supper

New members welcome

Tel: Linda 07793 037 901 for more details

Just another thought

"If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded"

Maya Angelou



The Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance

supports people in Derby who are experiencing food poverty through food provision, signposting, education and advice

If you need assistance call 01332 346266

We can provide a range of support including an emergency food package

DELUXE DECORATORS

Established 1982

External and Interior Painting & Decorating

Personal Professional Reliable No VAT

For FREE competitive QUOTE call: **01332 514633** or **07749 720 606**

17 West Drive Mickleover DE3 0EX

Alpha Course

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



A new group started on **30th October 2024.**

If you are interested in joining, please contact

All Saints office 510446, Peter Walley 07725 740407 Andrew Brown 07511170421.

St John's Confidential Prayer Chain

You do not 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 family member at a time of stress, worry, fear or pain.



To ask for prayer please text or call Helen Walley (Co-ordinator) on 07725 740408 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.

St John's Church, Devonshire Drive, Mickleover DE3 9HD



Saturday 30th November 2024

Christmas Fair

10.00am ~ 1.00pm

Craft and Gift Stalls, Tombola, Raffle,

Cakes, books and Jigsaws

Refreshments and Light lunches

Invite your neighbours, friends and family

WAYS to HELP at the CHRISTMAS FAIR

This is our biggest event each year and we need lots of people to come and help. We have several stalls - Cakes and Home Baking, Pickles and Preserves, Toiletries and Gifts, Tombola, Bottle Tombola and Raffle as well as our ever popular Jigsaws and Books. We also hope to offer not only refreshments but light lunches too! We've already organised for several Crafters to attend.

Donations for the stalls as well as **volunteers to run the stalls** are very welcome. *More details available on a leaflet in the Link.*

We will also need help on Friday 29th from 3pm to **help set up for the Fair**. This includes "light" duties to arrange the café area in church as well as heavier tasks to help move the pews and put up the tables.

If you can help in any way - please speak to Joy Templer Tel: 515293 or Richard Finch Tel: 493939

Editors Note:

This poem was written by Rachel Marshall (Brian Seager's daughter) and read at Brian's funeral by his Grandson, Lewis.

We have permission to share it with you all.

'One Last Journey'

The train had sat at the platform for some time, engine slowly ticking over, waiting for its precious passenger to board. Many have boarded before you, their tickets already punched.

Before you lies a carriage full of luggage filled with the love and memories of those you knew before, all patiently waiting for the train to receive its next passenger.

You purchase your ticket and turn briefly to those who have no ticket at this time.

You stow your own luggage and although you also leave behind a suitcase of love and cherished memories, you know that this is a perpetual service.

Your friends and loved ones will be buying their tickets in years to come, bringing their own treasured luggage.

They know you'll be waiting at the final destination to share your never-ending love.





~~~ 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 495 891



Harvest Thanks

Many thanks to all who generously donated items for the Padley Centre - they were much appreciated. Thanks too, to Joy Brandrick and the team for a splendid Harvest Lunch.



CTM Prayers for Mickleover

Thurs 7th November 10-15am In St John's Community Link .

As the colder weather is upon us, we will no longer walk but gather together in The Link to pray for areas of Mickleover each month.

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

What's Happening in NOVEMBER

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

Sun 3rd	10.00am 10.00am	Morning Praise at St John's Holy Communion at All Saints'
Thurs 7th	10.15am	CTM Prayers - in The Link
Sun 10th	REMEMBI 8.00am 10.00am 10.00am 11.00 am	RANCE SUNDAY Breakfast Church at All Saints' Centre Holy Communion at St John's Morning Worship at All Saints' Remembrance Service at the War Memorial Holy Communion (Traditional) at St Andrew
Sun 17th	10.00am 10.00am 3.00pm	Morning Praise with JACK at Johns Holy Communion at All Saints' Commemoration Service for the Bereaved at All Saints' Church
Sun 24th	10.00am 10.00am 4.00pm 4.00pm	Holy Communion at St John's Morning Worship at All Saints' Christmas Tree Festival Carols at All Saints' BCP Evening Prayer at St Andrew
Sat 30th	10.00am	Christmas Fair at St John's
Looking Ahead to December		
Sun 1st	10.00am 10.00am	Morning Praise at St John's Holy Communion at All Saints'

JACK* at JOHNS - 17th November - 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 whilst participating in our Morning Service.

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 WiFi

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

The "new" magazine for 2025

Included in this issue is a slip to be returned to me or the Church to help us plan the distribution of the new magazine from February 2025.

Please return the slip by 15th December (latest)

loy Templer - Editor

******** **Mickleover Singers Christmas Concert.** Do come and join us for "A European Celebration" Saturday 14th December - 7.30pm



Tickets f8 on the door Includes light refreshments in the interval.

Family Events - October

New arrival - 23rd September

We celebrate with Avril and Blayne Peacock on the safe arrival of Sophia Mariella Dias dos Santos Daughter for Emily and Leroy - born on Aunt Lucy's Birthday!

Ordination - 26th October

Rev'd Blayne Peacock was ordained priest by Most Reverend Mark Strange - Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church at St Paul's Church, Croachy, Straithnairn We pray for God's guidance and blessing on Blayne's ministry

\mathcal{R} , \mathcal{I} , \mathcal{P} .

We give thanks for the life of: Ian Cummings Brian Seager And we remember in our prayers their families and friends

I Heard Your Voice In The Wind Today

I heard your voice in the wind today and I turned to see your face; The warmth of the wind caressed me as I stood silently in place. I felt your touch in the sun today as its warmth filled the sky; I closed my eyes for your embrace and my spirit soared high. I saw your eyes in the window pane as I watched the falling rain; It seemed as each raindrop fell it quietly said your name. I held you close in my heart today it made me feel complete; You may have died... but you are not gone You will always be a part of me. As long as the sun shines... the wind blows... the rain falls... You will live on inside of me forever for that is all my heart knows.

Author Unknown

From the Lily Mae Foundation This poem was passed to me with a request to share it in the magazine

Communion Service at Greenbelt

How to describe the main communion service at Greenbelt?

Thousands of people Open air Live music on stage Administering communion in small groups of about 12-15

One year the theme was Christmas, and as we approached the arena there was a Salvation Army band playing carols. Always a highlight of Christmas for me so that was brilliant.

This year the service was quite simple, in response to the conflict in Gaza. Simple however didn't stop it being very powerful.

For the first time ever our group of 9 friends had found a place on the front row, great view, enough space, and we were comfortably seated with all the belongings you need for a day at a festival (chairs, picnic lunch, snacks, drinks, extra jumpers and coats, programmes, order of service, a rug for the children to sit on and a few toys).

The service began with the instruction that everyone had to move. Not far but we all had to move. My brain briefly went into overdrive. "I like it here, this is a great spot, I can't carry all my belongings, I don't want to be separated from my friends, I'm going to spill my cuppa, it's not safe moving us all around, don't lose track of the children"

It was an incredibly powerful insight, highlighting the vast numbers of displaced people in the world. Only a few metres but what an impact. People were still talking about it for the rest of the day, and I know many of us continue to think about it days and weeks later.

The bread for communion was freshly made by a local bakery, so didn't arrive in time to be included in our communion bag, handed out to each group as we arrived. Instead there was a mound of loaves piled high on the stage. These were distributed with great enthusiasm and joy, to each group in a crowd of maybe 5000 people. (Sounds familiar?)

The music for the service was provided by an all female folk trio.

The leader of "the tent of nations", a Christian community in Bethlehem, had planned to come to Greenbelt to speak, but was unable to travel due to the conflict. So instead, he and some of his family and church members joined us by video link. He spoke

about the four principles of his community:

- +We refuse to be enemies
- +We refuse to hate, and no one can force us to hate
- +We act based on our Christian faith
- +We believe in justice

Incredibly powerful to see this group joining our service from a place of such conflict, and to see their reaction as the gospel was read in Arabic as well as English and we sang a Palestinian hallelujah.

As we celebrated communion in our groups, a drag queen sang beautifully for us.

The service was a deeply moving and thought provoking experience.

Kim Cooper

Autumn Events in 2024

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 2.30pm - Afternoon Concert

In aid of FKC - more details soon.

14th December - Mickleover Singers Christmas Concert

Probably 7.30pm - awaiting more details



Church Family Christmas Card

Just a reminder that a board will be up at the beginning of December for you to add a card with a donation to our chosen Charity. More details next month.

Note from the Editor: The last in the series of reminiscences about some of the "St John's Characters" by Colin and Ann Haxell.

BETTY FINDLAY

Betty was a very lively lady. She wore colourful clothing, was even a bit of a 'Hippy' and was friendly to everyone and known by everyone.

She supervised the youngest children in the Sunday School which met separately in the Hall at that time. She was very keen for the children to be included in what ever was going on.

For several years the parish had a weekend away at Morley Retreat House. She always fully contributed in our discussions and organised us all to play Croquet on the lawn.

Betty was a valued babysitter for the Vicarage children and was a good person to go to if you had a problem. She was involved in a number of counselling courses and was keen to promote outreach activities.

One year she hosted a garden party in her home with lots of prepared activities. Some of us were more interested in the Wimbledon Men's Final and crammed into her living room. It was the year that Borg beat McEnroe 18 to 16 in the final set and we all got very excited.

She also allowed a group of Guides to camp overnight in her garden as they prepared for a camping badge.

Betty's youngest daughter, Mary, was getting married and she chose to go to Radbourne Church as her grandfather was sometime vicar there. (Look on the board in Radbourne Church). It was a lovely wedding, Betty wearing flowing skirt and lots of beads,. It was very much like a village wedding we see on period drama on television.

Betty left Mickleover to be near another of her daughters and continued her interest in the church's outreach at St Olave's church in York.

My Mate God

"Worship me, or I shall send thunderbolts to destroy you and all that you love."

"Worship me and I shall reward you with many riches and pleasures."

Advisory Note: If either (or both) of the above sound like *your* God, you might prefer to turn the page now.

---- 00000 -----

In his youth (well, eighties) Harry was in the habit of persuading me to travel to various, 'Ecclesiastical' conferences. It goes without saying that this also enabled him to get there and back <grin>. Of course, it also goes without saying that as they were, 'Harry' conferences the content leaned towards the more liberal and challenging end of the spectrum of religious thought.

It was at one of these meetings that someone asked our group the question, "Is God evolving?" I'd never previously heard it put quite that way and (uncharacteristically maybe for me, but honestly) I shut up and simply listened to the discussion.

I don't recall much detail and I don't think that the discussion was even *supposed* to reach any conclusion, but recently I've been pondering that maybe *God* doesn't evolve, but my *perception* of God is evolving – and that got me thinking that in our lives we pick up a lot of assumptions about God's nature that, while OK in themselves, only show his *public* image and can thereby leave people either feeling dissatisfied ("is that all there is?") or embarrassed / guilty about knowing a God that maybe doesn't fully fit with this commonly held persona. (As an aside here, I'm referring to God using the masculine pronoun because that's the accepted convention but, for

the life of me, I cannot conceive what possible use a unique, eternal and immortal entity would actually have for any kind of gender.)

My first encounter with God was when I started school – during school assemblies. As a five-year-old I got the impression of a rather aloof, fairly disinterested individual who did not really wish me any ill but was fully occupied with important stuff and therefore appreciated it if I could avoid distracting him.

Personally, I never really, 'got' the old bloke with a beard, sitting on a cloud, usually with a large record book in his hands, but I did (then) recognise that he's a distant God – one that we pray *to* rather than pray *with* – an impression that is reinforced by both secular perspectives and our conventional religious behaviours.

I guess that something in me has always wanted to 'know' God because I have often spent otherwise idle moments pondering on what I *personally* have to believe in order to, 'Believe in God'.

... and, in this way, over the years, yes, 'my' God is evolving.

My God's evolution mostly involves identifying my own essential beliefs and stripping away beliefs, perspectives and attitudes that are – *for me* – inessential.

Evolution is a continuing process - I'm pretty sure that my God is continuing to evolve — but (if you're interested) here's a taste of where God and I are currently at:

Paul G's current perceptions and beliefs (Your mileage will vary)

God is love, indiscriminate, unlimited, endless love. God is unique, but he is *not* a one-size-fits-all God – we each have an individual experience of God. Our experiences will overlap, sometimes heavily – but they are each our own and while we will often *share* our God,

nobody has the right to impose their God on anyone else.

Similarly, God does not impose himself upon us – we choose how he presents himself to us. If we're most comfortable with an all-powerful, distant, busy God that requires us to Worship Him, then that's the face that we'll see. If we choose a forgiving but rather disapproving God then *that's* the face we'll see. If we choose the chief executive of The Celestial Country Club with his archangel board of directors and hierarchy of lesser spirits reaching down into His Church on Earth, then *that's* the face we'll see. And so on.

... and, at the individual level, every perception is equally valid and of equal value.

A loving relationship is an equal sharing — and I believe that God loves each of us to the limit that we allow him to. Starting from the foundation that God is love I prefer not to 'worship' God because that distances him from me, and me from him. (In my view it's a pretty insecure God that demands worship anyway, but it's a very human desire to have something to worship). God is my friend and always around whether I recognise him or not, but when I do recognise him as a loving friend then that opens wide the gateway for our mutual love and respect in a way that 'worship' never does. Yeah, he's my mate God — pretty cool when you think about it but he's just God - in the same way that the air that I breathe and would die in minutes without is exactly that - just air.

Paul Gribbin

Note from the Editor. Our next issue is the last "Contact". It will be a two-month edition for December 2024 and January 2025.

The deadline for articles is Monday 18th November

WHO'S WHO in ST. JOHN'S

CLERGY

Vicar Rev'd Canon Peter Walley, Tel: 513793

The Vicarage, Etwall Road, Mickleover Clergyteam@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Friday is Peter's day off. Please try and avoid contacting him on this day,

Assistant Curate Rev'd Clare Owen Tel: 479875

Associate Priests Rev'd Alun Rowlands Tel: 517964

Rev'd Paul Pritchard Tel: 512530

Retired Priest Rev'd Ingrid Munroe Tel: 723053

LAY MINISTRY TEAM

Readers Mrs Helen Walley Tel: 513793

Mrs Dawn Perry Tel: 605166

Mrs Judi Witcomb Tel: 07531 495 891

<u>Churchwardens</u> Mr Ray Lee Mr Michael Vick

22 Sandown Ave 17 Heath Ave, Littleover

Tel: 239645 Tel: 361260

Email: wardens-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

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

Ray Lee* Richard Finch Karen Cowgill Joy Templer Judi Witcomb* Kim Cooper Lorraine Mycock (Co-opted)

Email: pcc-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

PCC Secretary Mr Richard Finch Tel: 493939

Email: pcc-sec-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

<u>Safeguarding</u> Mrs Kim Cooper Tel: 07732 798 163

<u>Treasurer</u> Mr Barrie Witcomb Tel: 304441

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

<u>Church Flowers</u> Mrs Eunice Upton Tel: 517460
Hall and Link Bookings Mrs Joy Templer Tel: 515293

<u>Hall and Link Bookings</u> Mrs Joy Templer Tel: 515293

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

Sunday Bulletin e-mail: bulletin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Website Email: web-team@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Magazine Editor:: Mrs Joy Templer Tel: 515293

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

Parish Administrator Miss Rebekah Tunnicliffe

All Saints Centre (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

Tel: 510446

St John's Vestry (Mon and Friday)

Tel: 513363

Email: admin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

John F Fell Opticians

8 The Parade, Mickleover, DE3 0GB

01332 517388

Providing the highest standards of personal optical care and services johnfellopticians.co.uk

R. G. STAFFORD

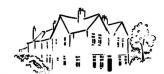
Quality Butchers



Locally produced Beef, Pork, amb & Poultry

Homemade pies, cooked meats and BBO foods

72 Western Road, Mickleover. Tel: 01332 514087



The Old Lodge Nursing Home

Sandypits Lane, Etwall, Derbys. DE65 6JA Telephone 01283 734612

Passionate about your care



The New Lodge Nursing Home

114 Western Road, Mickleover, Derby DE3 9GR

Telephone 01332 510181

WEAVERS Carpets & Flooring Ltd

IN-HOUSE CARPET FITTERS

QUALITY GUARANTEED

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

163 Ladybank Road, Mickleover, Derby, DE3 0QF Telephone 01332 510500 Mobile 07956 360028

LARGE SELECTION OF

CARPETS - WOOD FLOORING - VINYLS - LAMINATE FLOORING