

Welcome to our Churches

www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

All Saints

Etwall Road, Mickleover,
DE3 0DL
01332 510446



St Andrew's

School Lane, Radbourne,
DE6 4LY



St John's

Devonshire Drive, Mickleover,
DE3 9HD
01332 513363



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Sunday 23rd March 2025

Services In Our Churches This Sunday

- Morning Worship at All Saints, 10am. Mary Staunton will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St John's, 10am. Alun Rowlands will be speaking.
- BCP Evening Prayer at St Andrew's, 4pm. Led by Paul Pritchard.

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

Collect

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday's Reading

1 Corinthians 10: 1 – 13,
Luke 13: 1 - 9

Next Sunday's Reading

2 Corinthians 5: 16 - end,
Luke 15: 1-3, 11 - end

Midweek Services and Groups

- Mondays:** **St John's Internet Café** 10am – 12pm in the Link. Free help with laptops, tablets, smartphones and other technology. Free Wi-Fi
- Tuesdays:** **Prayers**, 8am at the Vicarage, Etwall Road.
- Wednesdays:** **Holy Communion**, 9.30am at All Saints, **followed by 'Be Still' course**
- Wednesdays:** **All Saints Café** 10am – 12pm in the Centre. Join us for friendly chat with coffee/tea, cake and biscuits. Everyone welcome!
- Fridays:** **St John's Rest Stop Café** 8.45am – 12pm in the Link. **Followed by 'The Prayer Course'**. Everyone welcome.
- Fridays:** **Brunch Bible Study** 12.15 – 2.30pm in the St John's Link. We join for a cup of soup and a sandwich followed by discussion on life, faith and a bit of Bible study. **We are completing a Lent course until 11th April.** Come and join us.

Talk by John Foxon

In Luke 13 vv31-35 we hear Jesus refer to Herod Antipas as “that fox” and refer to himself wanting to be like a hen who gathers her chicks under her wings.

You may have heard of one of Aesop’s Fables “The Fox and the Hen”

“One evening world a wise old Hen flew into a tree to roost. Before she composed herself to rest. Just as she was about to put her head under her wing, her beady eyes caught a flash of red and a glimpse of a long-pointed nose, and there just below her stood a fox. “Have you heard the wonderful news?” cried the Fox in a very joyful and excited manner.

“What news?” asked the hen very calmly. though she had a fluttery feeling inside her, for, she was very much afraid of the Fox.

“Your family and mine and all other animals have agreed to forget their differences and live in peace and friendship from now on forever. Just think of it! I simply cannot wait to embrace you! Do come down, dear friend, and let us go into the forest together to celebrate the joyful event.”

“How grand!” said the Hen. “I certainly am delighted at the news.” But she spoke in an absent way, and stretching up on tiptoes, seemed to be looking at something afar off.

“What is it you see?” asked the Fox a little anxiously.

“Why, it looks to me like a couple of Dogs coming this way. They must have heard the good news and—”

But the Fox did not wait to hear more. Off he started on a run.

“Wait,” cried the Hen. “Why do you run? The Dogs are friends of yours now!”

“Yes,” answered the Fox. “But they might not have heard the news.”

The Hen smiled as she buried her head in her feathers and went to sleep, for she had succeeded in outfoxing the fox.”

We can’t compare the Hen to God or Jesus but the hen’s outwitting the Fox resonates with 1 Corinthians 1:25 “For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

Back to Luke 13 vv31-35. Jesus was approached by some of the Pharisees who said to him “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.”

Jesus’ response may seem a little like the modern phrase of “Bring it on”. He tells them to tell “The Fox” that he is going to drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow and on the third day he will reach his goal. We can see that Jesus is outlining his journey to the cross and beyond that to the empty tomb. In other words, Herod has no control over him. Jesus saw casting out of demons and healing as signs that the Kingdom of God was coming near. So we read in Luke 11:20: “But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you.” Casting out demons is part of Jesus’ battle against the devil and thus a part of his establishment of the kingdom of God.

Performing cures is also a part of the fundamental character of Jesus' mission, announced in Luke 4:18-19 as being "to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind" (quoting Isaiah), also a statement about the establishment of God's kingdom.

Jesus knows what the outcome of his decision will be but that does not stop him. He knows that the cross lies ahead of Him, but he also sees the empty tomb. And what of us? Jesus has called all of us to preach the good news of the kingdom, feed the hungry, care for the poor and needy, and to promote justice and ethics wherever we go. (Take a look at the East Window in AS). We can get distracted, intimidated, frustrated, or just weary in our work. Sometimes we see the cross and not the empty tomb. Sometimes we just feel like running away! But just as Jesus remained focused on his task, so should we remain committed to ours! Jesus knew what was awaiting him in Jerusalem.

He first indicts Jerusalem "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it." The emotion and pain of his declaration comes from acknowledging Jerusalem's reputation for rejecting and murdering prophets. (verse 34). That the city of God's habitation becomes the seat of violent opposition to God is part of the tragedy of Israel's own story;

Immediately following this indictment, we have the compassionate and agonized plea of v. 35b: Jesus longs to shelter the children of Israel like a mother hen does for her brood. Jesus speaks in the first person for God and explained how he longed to care for and protect Jerusalem as a hen cares for her chicks. Jesus yearned to gather all of the lost and broken people into his loving arms. However, the chicks did not want to stay in the nest, an image of Israel's unwillingness to receive God's salvation. The people wanted to live their lives their own way, and they didn't want God or anyone else telling them what they could and could not do. They were simply not willing to repent.

Will we take the Pharisees advice and flee from the 'Herods' in our lives OR:

Are we ready to take on the mission that casts out demons and heals the sick? Are we ready to accept that God is in control? Are we willing to embrace salvation and shelter under his protective wings? Are we ready to say, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"? I trust we are. *John Foxon*

Notices

Welcome – to Freddie, Alfie and their family this Sunday for their baptism at St John's.

The Bible Comes Alive - at 12 Murray Road on Monday, 24 March, at 10am. Luke 4,16-30 – Jesus rejected at Nazareth. All welcome.

Small Yoghurt Pots Needed! – If you have any empty small yoghurt pots (petit fillu size) All Saints Messy Church would like to use them to make Easter Gardens. Please bring them to the office before next Wednesday (26th March). Thank you.

Mickleover Singers Spring Concert - at St John's on Saturday 29th March at 7:30pm. £8 on the door including light refreshments in the interval. Doors open at 7pm.

Sunday 30th March – Next Sunday will be a joint service at All Saints. There is no service at St John's. Also, don't forget to put your clocks forward one hour next week.

All Saints Stickers – Will be selling their Easter crafts after the joint Holy Communion service on Sunday 30th March at All Saints for church funds. Cash only please.

CTM Prayer Walk – Thursday 3rd April at 10-15am. Meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes car park. This is the first walk of 2025. We will walk for about an hour, praying God's blessing upon the people and businesses in this area, and listening to God's Holy Spirit as we go. If you plan to join us, please let me know by email ray_lee16@yahoo.co.uk, phone or text to 07766927539 Thanks Ray Lee

Derventio Choir at All Saints Church – Friday 11th April, 7.45pm. Come along and hear some of your favourite songs from the musical theatre and the world of film, together with a host of other well-known melodies. £10 on the door, includes refreshments during the interval. Raising funds for Umbrella.

All Saints Electoral Roll - Forms are available at the back of church. Please return to James Bowles or the office by Sunday 20th April.

Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir – Saturday 26th April, 7.30pm at All Saints Church. Join us as we perform a wide-ranging repertoire featuring traditional male voice classics, sea shanties, contemporary pieces and some singalong fun. Plus, some terrible jokes courtesy of our compere! Tickets £10 including refreshments

St John's Electoral Roll - Forms are available in the Link or via Rebekah in the Vestry and need to be **returned by 28th April**. There's a box in the Link or hand them to a warden, ministry team member or Andrew Templer (ER Officer). We are also updating our GDPR consent forms. If you are unable to collect the forms, contact Andrew 01332 515293

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy - I don't know if anyone at St John's will remember Tony Chesterman, son of Frank and Frances Chesterman. Tony died on 4th March. He was vicar of Muggington but also vice principal of EMMTC and a significant figure in the life of the diocese over many years. He occasionally attended St John's with his parents in 1980s. Our prayers are with his family at this sad time. *Joy Templer*

St John's Flower Rota - This year's flower list is available in church if you wish to choose a week. The lily list for Easter is also now in Church.

Save the Date - Sunday 4th May Special service and bring & share lunch at St John's to consider the way forward for our worship and outreach at St John's based on the Everyday Faith agenda outlined in Peter's article in the March issue of our Threefold magazine. It is important that as many as possible of our St John's community join in on 4th May so, please get this date in your diary.