

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



allsaintsadmin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk admin-stJohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Sunday 9th March 2025

Services In Our Churches This Sunday

- Breakfast Church at All Saints Centre, 8am.
- Morning Worship at All Saints, 10am. Peter Walley will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St John's, 10am. Clare Owen will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St Andrew's, 11am. Led by Peter Walley

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

Collect

Heavenly Father, your son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew close to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sundays Reading at All Saints

2 Corinthians 5: 20 - 6:10, John 8: 1-11

Sundays Readings at St John's

Deuteronomy 26. 1-11, John 8: 1-11

Next Sunday's Reading

Philippians 3: 17-4: 1, Luke 13: 31-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.
- 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* 10am – 12pm in the Link. Join us for tea/coffee, friendly conversation, and delicious home-made cakes!
- 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.**

Pastoral Care in our Benefice

This is a slightly different talk, a summary of my final assignment for Reader Training, a Parish audit of Pastoral Care. An opportunity to examine what we offer and how we can all play our part in improving it for our congregations and the community.

Definition It is hard to define Pastoral Care because it has many dimensions and involves multiple areas or disciplines. But I offer these two definitions;

(Pastoral care is) “Surprisingly simple With one fundamental aim to help people know love, both as something to be received and something to give” Alisdair Campbell (Paid to Care)

“The practical expression of the Church’s concern for the everyday and ultimate needs of both its members and the community” Roger Hurding (The Bible and Counselling Pastoral Care: The Church’s Call)

Christian Pastoral Care is not new, it dates back to Old Testament times, and was shaped by Israelite society to reflect the loving nature of God. In the New Testament, Jesus is a living example of how to love and support each other, and as the early church grew, we hear that the believers met and shared what they had, they sold possessions to give money to those in need.

Today there is a comprehensive range of formal Pastoral Care taking place in our benefice including; Prayer Ministry, Home Groups, Cafes, Breakfast Church, and JACK. There is also much informal care given to our parishioners, visits to care homes, shopping for others, and other practical support. This is often in response to a need and quietly carried out with grace and efficiency.

Marvellous, should we be patting ourselves on the back for everything we do?

‘Please Mind the Gap’ Our Pastoral care is not perfect and there are some gaps we should be looking to fill. I am going to focus on just two of the obvious areas.

Firstly, lack of people. We do not have the numbers of people within our congregations who are young, fit, and able enough to actively reach out into our community and evangelise. This is not meant to be derogatory; it is simply the case that we are aging congregations.

Let’s not give up before we have even started. There is a framework we can apply to our Pastoral Care;

All, Some, Few. This can help us to really focus on how each one of us can play our part.

‘All’ of us share the responsibility for pastoral care. ‘All’ are called to care but not ‘All’ will respond to the call.

‘Some’ have been given particular pastoral gifts.

‘Few’ have the talent for pastoral leadership and as a result are charged with enabling the ‘All’ and ‘Some’.

Every single person reading this is one of the ‘All’, and we can respond to the call by praying. You don’t need any special training, safeguarding checks or even to be in church to pray. Other practical and simple things everyone can do include; talking to newcomers to church or the café’s. If there is something we cannot do, can we take on something from someone else who can do it?

Many of us are included in the 'Some,' people within the church who have an aptitude for certain kinds of Pastoral Care. Simple things like baking a cake for one of the café's, and offering to pray with others.

The 'Few' is a smaller group of people, able to offer more specialised Pastoral Care, such as, Funeral ministry and taking Home Communion to parishioners.

In our 21st century world, we have professional care that can operate alongside our Christian Pastoral Care. Social workers, health professionals, Nadine for example are just some of those we can work alongside and call on when we need specialised care.

Secondly, engaging with families and young people. If our churches are to flourish and grow younger, we need to be actively reaching out into the community to share our Faith. We are beginning to reintroduce a wider range of family centred activities and worship but I think we all realise it is a very slow process to encourage new families to attend these. The number of new houses being built continues to grow, the challenge is how to reach out into the community and engage with the families moving into them.

Filling this gap is further complicated by the lack of people to actively work at engaging with families out in the community. We need a greater number of people engaging with church so that we have more potential volunteers, but we need more volunteers to reach out and encourage families to join us. The classic chicken and egg dilemma!

How do we move forward? What can each one of us do? We can all start straight away by praying. Praying for work with families, and for more volunteers to support our Pastoral Care initiatives. Aiden Watson, the diocese Youth Worker, came to talk to St John's PCC, and asked if we were actively focussing prayer on children's work. He said this should be a whole church initiative to place prayer for our children's work and local families at the centre of our intercessions and daily prayers.

Those with a bit more time and energy can get involved with some of the activities already offered and new initiatives such as opening Rest Stop Café at 8.45 for parents and carers after the school run. We all need to search our hearts and consider how we can contribute.

We should also be mindful of two things, we all need to be cared for before we can offer Pastoral Care to others, and we need to be aware of our own humanity and that of everyone in our congregations.

The Carers commandments;

1. Thou shalt not try to be all things to all people.
2. Thou shalt not be perfect or even try.
3. Thou shalt leave undone things that ought to be done.
4. Thou shalt not spread thyself too thinly.
5. Thou shalt learn to say no.
6. Thou shalt schedule time for thyself and thy supportive network.
7. Thou shalt switch off and do nothing regularly.
8. Thou shalt be boring, inelegant, untidy, and unattractive at times.
9. Thou shalt not feel guilty.
10. Thou shalt not be thine own worst enemy.

As I have said, prayer should always be our starting point and I ask you to pray for Pastoral Care in our Benefice. With blessings and hope, *Karen*.

Notices

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to the family of Jan Jarrett, a dearly loved member at St John's. The funeral will be on 18th March at 11am at Markeaton Crem Main Chapel.

Extended Opening of Rest Stop Café! - will open from 8.45am term time to offer drinks and pastries to parents, grandparents and carers after the school run. There will be toys and activities for small children. This will be a trial to gauge interest.

Be Still Course - where we will explore in 5 sessions, the simple, transformative practice of a daily quiet time with God. The videos will be played in church after the Wednesday HC service at All Saints starting on 12th March and finishing on 2nd April.

The Prayer Course – will be shown as a series of videos which will be played in Church at St John's at the end of the Rest Stop Café, starting on 14th March.

All Saints Stickers – During the café at All Saints on Wednesday 12th March 10am – 12pm the Stickers will be selling their Easter items. Cash only please.

St John's Craft & Tabletop Sale - Saturday 22 March 10am-1pm. Do come along and support this event. We have over 20 craft stalls, together with refreshments, books, CDs and jigsaws for sale. Book donations welcome, especially paperback fiction (please leave these at the back of church or in the vestry) and also home baked small cakes, tray bakes etc.(please bring these to cafe on Friday morning or after 9am on Saturday.)

Helping at the Sale - Help is needed please to set up, serve, and clear up afterwards. Setting up is on Friday afternoon from 3.15pm; serving on the day from 9.30am, helping with refreshments and assisting with the sale of books etc. If you are able to help in any way contact Joy Templer.

Mickleover Singers Spring Concert - at St John's on Saturday 29th March at 7:30pm.

St John's Electoral Roll - 2025 is the year for a New Roll, and everyone MUST fill in an application form if they wish to be added to the Roll. Forms are available in the Link or via Rebekah in the Vestry and need to be returned by 28th March. There's a box in the Link or hand them to a warden, ministry team member or Andrew Templer (ER Officer). also, we are updating our GDPR consent forms. This allows you to tell us how we can contact you and whether photos of you can be used for our Church history records. If you are unable to collect the forms, contact Andrew he will try and deliver copies for you.

All Saints Electoral Roll - Forms are available at the back of church. Please return to James Bowles or the office. The closing date for the entries onto the roll is Sunday 20th April.

All Saints Pot-Pourri Concert - Thank you so much, ladies and gentlemen, for all your work to make Saturday afternoon so enjoyable and, I think, a success too. Be really pleased with yourselves! Thank you to our lovely audience, you made all the hard work worthwhile! Thank you to our 'catering ladies', we'll use the centre kitchen to prepare next time, we can spread out then! And a nice surprise... We made a small profit of £189.02 too, which, on this occasion, will go into the All Saints 'Repair and Renovation' pot. There will be news of other social/entertainment events in a few weeks' time. Thank you again for your support last weekend. *Janice Toplis - Churchwarden*