Welcome to our Churches

www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

All Saints

Etwall Road, Mickleover, DE3 ODL 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 20th April 2025 - Easter Sunday

Alleluia Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed Alleluia. A very Happy Easter to all

Services In Our Churches This Sunday

- Sunrise Service at St John's, 6am. Dawn Perry will be speaking.
- Family Communion at All Saints, 10am. Helen Walley will be speaking.
- Family Communion with JACK at St John's, 10am. Karen Cowgill 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

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

Sunday's Reading at All Saints

Acts 10: 34 - 43, John 20: 1 - 18

Sunday's Readings at St John's

Acts 10: 34 - 43, Luke 24: 1 - 12

Next Sunday's Reading

Acts 5: 27 to 32, John 20: 19 to end

Midweek Services and Groups

Mondays: St John's Internet Café – Not meeting on Monday 21st April.

Tuesdays: *Prayers*, 8am at the Vicarage, Etwall Road. Next meeting 29th April.

Wednesdays: Holy Communion 9.30am at All Saints. Next on 30th April.

Wednesdays: All Saints Café 10am – 12pm in the Centre.

Fridays: St John's Rest Stop Café 10am – 12pm in the Link. With crafts and

activities for children.

Fridays: **Brunch Bible Study** 12.15 – 2.30pm in the St John's Link. **Resumes on**

9th May

Talk by Peter Walley

What an entrance! Jesus had set his face to go to Jerusalem for the week which included the Jewish Passover Festival. He knew what was ahead and yet he still went through with all that he was to face.

 $^{\rm 38}$ 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!'

'Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples!' ⁴⁰ 'I tell you,' he replied, 'if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.'

Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week, and it all starts with shouts of praise taken from the Hallel Psalms, for the "one who comes in the name of the Lord". Psalm 118 is one of the Psalms that pilgrims would sing as they entered the gates of Jerusalem at the beginning of Passover. The crowds were acclaiming Jesus to be the Messiah but not everyone was so enthusiastic. To say that the authorities were twitchy would be an understatement – for there were huge crowds staying in Jerusalem and if there is any time they feared most abo ut a revolution taking place it would be during a major festival such as Passover. Jesus' own decision to enter Jerusalem on a colt would have aroused their suspicions immedi ately for Zechariah had prophesied some 500 years before.

Zech 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! For behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

For the authorities what was even more alarming was the response of the people. In Mark's gospel, the crowd take up a far more dangerous and revolutionary chant – 'Welcome to the Kingdom of our Father David!' It is clear that the crowds at that point saw Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem as the inauguration of a renewed Davidic Kingdom. And that was a real threat to the Temple Authorities, the Sadducees and the Pharisees and some of them object to the disciples' words:

"Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

Jesus then responds by quoting an Old Testament prophet Habakkuk 2: 11:

¹¹The very stones will cry out from the wall, and the plaster will respond from the woodwork.

That last part of the phrase is quite startling. The Pharisees would have known the reference, and what is more they would have known the context of the phrase, for the prophet in Chapter 2 was railing against those who had made money by extortion, who had plundered many nations, who had shed human blood, who had built their houses by dishonest gain. They would therefore have known that Jesus was speaking against them. No wonder they plotted to get rid of him.

If you have had a chance through Holy Week to read the story through the lens of John's Gospel, you will have seen confrontation with the authorities, matched with incredible teaching and compassion for ordinary folk.

John, unlike impetuous Peter who when faced with the persistent questioning of the servant girl in the courtyard when Jesus was on trial denied that he ever knew Jesus, stuck with Jesus throughout and was with Mary his mother and Mary Magdalene when Jesus was crucified on Calvary, which was a very dangerous place to be. It was the responsibility of the eldest son to look after the parents in their dotage something that still happens in many societies across the world, and when Jesus was on the cross, he asked John to look after his mother (John was Jesus' closest companion among the disciples).

The wonderful truth of Easter is that death is not the end of Holy Week. Evil may have unleashed all it had to kill the author of life for good, but a deeper truth prevailed, Jesus, the sinless son of God voluntarily went to the cross. For those 3 hours when the sky turned dark, he carried the sins of the world on his shoulders, his human despair was captured in the only piece of Aramaic which is quoted verbatim in the New Testament. 'Eloi, Eloi, Lama sabach-thani?' (My God, My God why have you forsaken me?). This was the first and only time in his life that he experienced the desolation of God his heavenly Father turning away. But his final cry as he gave up his spirit 'It is finished!' was the cry of the sinless son of God who knew that his sacrifice would be vindicated by God his heavenly Father and so it was on Easter Sunday that early in the morning when the women go to anoint his body and are worrying about who will roll the stone away, that the biggest surprise of all occurs. They find the stone rolled away, Jesus dead body was gone and the grave clothes were folded neatly where his body had been place.

Maybe if you or I had written the script we would have wanted all the world's media to be present to witness it, the BBC, ITV, all the social media. And yet this, the greatest of all the miracles associated with Jesus is kept a secret. If we have been staying in Jerusalem that weekend along with all the other thousands of pilgrims we would have slept right through it. Even the earthquake, recorded in Matthew's gospel didn't seem to rouse many people.

Indeed, God doesn't rouse any of the disciples by sending Angels to Peter or any of the rest. He certainly doesn't rouse Herod or Pontius Pilate or Caiaphas the high priest. God instead waits for the secret to be discovered, for someone to come along and find the tomb empty. You see, the stone was rolled away to let us in, not to let Jesus out! Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Every blessing, Peter

Notices

<u>Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir</u> – Saturday 26th April, 7.30pm at All Saints Church. Tickets £10 (including refreshments) can be purchased from All Saints church office or from Janice (All Saints Warden).

St Andrew's – There will not be a service on 27th April.

<u>Messy Church</u> – Due to holidays, we are cancelling Messy Church on 23rd April. Join us again next month on Wednesday 28th May.

<u>CTM Prayer Walk</u> – 1st May 10:15am. We will meet at All Saints car park. Then we walk for about an hour praying for God's Blessing on our community, the local businesses, schools etc. Listening for anything the Holy Spirit might want to reveal to us. If you plan to come, please contact me at ray_lee16@yahoo.co.uk or phone 239645 or 07766 927539, so I know to expect you. Thank you. *Ray Lee*

<u>Karen Cowgill Licencing as a Reader</u> – Saturday 3rd May at 2.30pm at the Cathedral. There are multiple events this day in Derby, if you are able, please travel by public transport or car share.

<u>Sunday 4th May Cafe Service & Lunch POSTPONED</u> - Due to pressure on time for preparation it's been decided to postpone the special cafe service and bring & share lunch planned for 4th May until after the APCM. Apologies to anyone who has rearranged commitments to make that date. There will be the usual 10.00 Morning Praise service on 4th May.

<u>Our Love, Sympathy and Prayers</u> - for Richard and the family of Mo Brown, who died on the 1st April. The funeral is taking place on 9th May at 11.30am in the Round Chapel at Markeaton Crematorium.

<u>All Saints APCM</u>- If you would like to pick up annual reports and the agenda for the APCM on Sunday 11th May, these are at the back of church and also going out as PDF's to those on the weekly mailing list.

<u>APCM Elections</u> - If you would like to stand for elections for any of the PCC's, please pick up the forms from the back of church at All Saints, in the Link at St John's or the office. Forms need to be returned before the meetings.

<u>All Saints Clock Chimes</u> – you may have noticed that the clock chimes have stopped working. Smiths of Derby have said that the 150-year-old mechanism needs a full repair which is going to cost £2,270.00 (Plus VAT). We are so grateful for gifts we have already received of £1500. If you would like to make a donation speak to Brian Devenport or Rebekah in the office.