

Welcome to our Churches

www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

All Saints

Etwall Road, Mickleover,
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St Andrew's

School Lane, Radbourne,
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St John's

Devonshire Drive, Mickleover,
DE3 9HD
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Sunday 6th April 2025

Services In Our Churches This Sunday

- Holy Communion at All Saints, 10am. Ian Godlington will be speaking.
- Morning Praise at St John's, 10am. Peter Walley will be speaking.
- Life Celebration of Jan Jarrett at St John's, 3pm. Led by Paul Pritchard.

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

Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world: lead us
to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace through
the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday's Reading

Philippians 3: 4b to 14, John 12: 1-8

Next Sunday's Reading

Psalm 118: 19-24, Luke 19: 28-40

Midweek Services and Groups

- Mondays:** *St John's Internet Caf * 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 Caf * 10am – 12pm in the Centre. Join us for friendly chat with coffee/tea, cake and biscuits. Everyone welcome!
- Fridays:** *St John's Rest Stop Caf * 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.**

Talk by Peter Walley

Mothering Sunday 30th March 2025 – as told by Peter, Maisie & Mickey 'The Big Spender' based on Luke 15 1 to 3, 11 to end – The prodigal son

Maisie I am going to read our story today. It is The Big Spender from the Lion Storyteller Bible and it is the story of the 'Porrigeal' Son.

The people who thought they were good were still not happy with Jesus. They moaned. They groaned. They frowned. "It's not fair," they complained, "Jesus spends all this time with the bad people." Jesus heard this and told them one more story.

Once upon a time there was a man who had two sons. He loved them both, very much. But one day, the younger son came to him with a sad request. I want my share of your inheritance and I want it now!

Maisie Hi Peter, can you help explain the story because Mickey doesn't understand it.

Peter Of course Maisie. What doesn't he understand...?

Mickey I do understand, it's Maisie that doesn't!

Peter Brilliant Mickey, would you like to explain it for us?

Mickey Umm..... the Dad was glad to have the naughty son back because he needed a new servant...?

Peter Not quite.. He loved his son, he welcomed him home as **his son**, not as a servant...

Maisie So... in the story are the people meant to be different people?

Peter How do you mean Maisie?

Maisie Is the Father meant to be Jesus or God?

Peter That's right, he is God the Father

Maisie Who loves us and will always love us and lets us have pudding even when we've been naughty?

Peter Not sure about pudding but yes that's the right idea, Because of Jesus, all our 'naughty' things are forgiven. We call them our sins. Our sins are forgiven and we are welcomed into the Father's house because he loves us.

Maisie Does that mean we can do whatever we like and we can always just go back then?

Peter Well,,, what do you do when you have done something naughty at home Maisie?

Mickey She blames me

Maisie I do not. Unless you did it too....

Peter Right.. but what do you do if you get found out?

Maisie I say sorry...

Peter Well, that's good to know... and that's what the son did in the story. He came home and said sorry to his Father. When we repent, when we say sorry, we are forgiven.

Maisie It wasn't very nice for the good son was it? When I'm a good girl I don't think it's fair if Mickey gets away with things.. It wasn't fair for him.

Peter Well look at it this way... did the good son lose anything? Wasn't he welcome at the party too?

Maisie No.... and yes....

Peter And didn't his Father love him too?

Maisie Yes...

Peter It's human to think of fair and not fair but that's because God's love is bigger than the way we think, bigger than fair or not fair and something very, very special.

Maisie So.. both sons were loved and both were special.. and because the naughty one said sorry he was welcomed home.

Peter That's right Maisie.

Maisie So if I say sorry for what I did to Mummy's make up before I left, then I can still have pudding...?

Peter Well... that's up to Mummy...

Maisie Oh....I'm going to practise my sorry then...

The story of the 'Porrigeal Son' as Maisie put it at the start of the Luke reading is that at first sight, we may also think 'its not fair!' (the younger son getting forgiven by his Father from all the debt). The cry of the older brother (son), 'I've worked hard for you all this time, and you haven't even given me a young goat to celebrate my birthday and when your younger son comes home, you kill the fatted calf'.

God's love isn't 'fair' in human terms. His love is far, far bigger than our human love, which is often blighted by our inability to forgive. Here maybe lies a challenge for all of us in Lent. Is there anyone (living or dead), whom we haven't ever truly forgiven? Is there a way in which I can reach out to them and offer peace?

If that someone has already died maybe the thing to do is write a letter to them and then in prayer offer it to God. If you need help to do this, then do speak to one of the clergy. We can help you 'post it' and offer absolution.

Jesus wants us to be free from anger or bitterness so that he can instead give us his peace. Lent is a good time to make things right as far as we are able.

Every blessing, Peter.

Notices

Easter Fair – Saturday 5th April at Alvaston Methodist Church 10.30am – 1pm. Proceeds for Friends of Kenya's Children. Many stalls and refreshments. All welcome.

All Saints Social Committee – During refreshments after the service on 6th April, there will be a little get together for those interested in being on the Social Committee.

Jan Jarrett - There will be a short service to celebrate the life of our dear Jan Jarrett at 3pm on the 6th April at St John's. Those who were unable to come to the funeral service at Markeaton on March 18th would be so welcome to join the family on this occasion. Anyone who has a specific memory of Jan, which you would like shared, please talk to Paul Prichard who will be leading this service.

Our love, sympathy and prayers for Richard and the family of **Mo Brown**, who died on the 1st April. Funeral details will follow later.

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.

St John's Easter Lilies – This year's Easter flowers that are arranged, have been given by Harry Bedborough's family. But if you wish to remember your loved ones on the lily list and make a small donation, the list will be closed on Sunday 13th April.

Easter Eggs – Saturday 19th April, on behalf of *Churches Together*, we will be giving out Easter Eggs and leaflets for our Easter services at the shops outside Birds from 10am. Please consider volunteering to help us. Speak to Karen Cowgill or Peter. (One of us will be making a guest appearance as the Easter Bunny!)

Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir – 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) from 12th April.

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.

All Saints Sidespersons Rota – Is available at the back of church for completion please.

Congratulations to Joan Robotham who celebrated a very special birthday last Thursday, 3rd April (one of those with an '0' in it!). Please sign the card at the back of All Saints this Sunday.

"The Bible Comes Alive" on Monday, 14 April, at 10am, at 12 Murray Road. John 8,1-11 – Jesus forgives the woman caught in adultery. *Michael H*