

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



admin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Sunday 24th August 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. Ingrid Munro will be speaking.
- BCP Evening Prayer at St Andrew's, 4pm. Led by Paul Pritchard.

Sunday 31st August – MA service at All Saints, 10am. There will not be a service at St John's on this date.

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

Collect

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This Sunday's Reading at All Saints

Isaiah 58: 9 - 14, Luke 13: 10 - 17

This Sunday's Reading at St John's

1 Corinthians 4: 9 – 15, Luke 21: 1 - 4

Next Sunday's Reading at All Saints

Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16, Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Midweek Services and Groups

- Mondays: **St John's Internet Café** – Closed 25th August for the bank holiday.
- Tuesdays: **Prayers** - Suspended for the time being.
- Wednesdays: **Holy Communion** 9.30am at All Saints.
- Wednesdays: **All Saints Café** 10am – 12pm in the Centre.
- Wednesdays: **The Quiet Place** 10am – 11am at St John's.
- Fridays: **St John's Rest Stop Café** 10am – 12pm in the Link.
- Fridays: **Brunch Bible Study** Resumes again on 5th September.

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16, Luke 12: 32-40

"You also must be ready for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour"

The Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.... Are you ready? Are any of us?

Planning this, made me think about what we do when we are 'ready and waiting'... What do you do when you have to be ready? If some-one is coming to pick you up, you might get your coat on, your shoes on, the things you need to take out with you and you stand prepared, looking out of the window, ready to leave as soon as they arrive. If you are the one collecting someone – you expect this readiness when you get there... how frustrating is it when someone is not ready?

What will happen if we are not ready? If we are not prepared? Will Jesus sit waiting, drumming his fingers on a heavenly dashboard?

And what does it mean to be ready in terms of Jesus, and a second coming? Are we really ready – do we know what that really means for us?

Our reading from Hebrews today tells us that to be ready we need to 'have faith', we need to 'believe' in what we are told, what we read, we need to have faith in the things we believe to be true even if they are an unseen reality to us. We are believing in the promises made and we are given examples where others before us have done this. We look to Abraham and his belief that one day his descendants would be in a promised land. The examples we are given had faith even if they themselves did not see the promise come to fruition. We are doing the same... we are believing in a place that has been prepared for us but this is not an earthly place, it is an eternal kingdom beyond this existence.

Faith means, that for us – the hoped for, becomes something that is treated as a reality. It is the proof/evidence that we hold onto as believers. We believe in something we may not have physically seen but we have faith that it is there.

Faith means stepping into the unknown and we are reminded that this the temporary world, we are preparing for the unknown Kingdom of Heaven ahead of us. We have to be able to see though this world to what comes after, we are given examples from the past and we need to link them to our own examples in our present in order to support our faith and belief in what is to come. And we do have our own examples of how our faith is real to us... So part of being prepared means having that faith in the certainty, not of what we have here and now, but in the realities that we cannot yet see. We need to be ready for the eternal promise. Having 'Faith' in it is part of that 'readiness'.

Jesus takes this another step further. In the reading today he is clearly telling us to be prepared, to be ready – to keep that faith alive and present in our lives. He gives the example in the picture or the story of the servants waiting for their master to return – ready for his commands as he arrives. The reading states the words 'dressed for action' and in Jesus' time this would have been waists girded and a lamp lit ready... and by waists girded it means long tunics tucked into the belts of their waists ready for them to be free to run to a given task, the lamp lit ready to guide the way. How are we ready...? How are

we girded and how are we lit? Well, we know that Faith is leading light but what can we do to gird our waists and help ourselves to be safe to run?

Because this is the challenge we face in our modern world. Jesus speaks to us today about the immaterial worth of our possessions and how we are to put these aside and concentrate on our generosity towards others... Well, that sounds easy or at least our understanding of it does but what is the reality of this, in today's world because I think our possessions, our way of life in 21st century Britain might actually trip us up rather than aid our run to the eternal Kingdom.

Let's think about this... Are we ready? Most of us here today, I am sure, would like to say that we have Faith in the eternal Kingdom we are promised. Tick.. one part already sorted. After all, we read the bible, we are sure of the examples it gives us and we have confidence in the meaning of this for us. If we believe in Jesus, if we work with and in the Holy Spirit for God's purpose then we are surely on the right track – surely that means we are ready... right?

Ready for when Jesus returns... I wonder... will we recognise him? Would we see him beyond the glare of the world we have around us?

Let's go back to our possessions. Could we give up our possessions? What call is there in our world for that to even happen? Of course, some people don't actually have a choice do they? Their homes are taken from them, or they can no longer afford them or they didn't have one in the first place. Belongings get taken away, or they didn't have any to start with... For some people in our world today, having to be without possessions is not going to be hard, but for us is it the same story?

If you had to leave in a hurry – what would you take? What matters most to you? If you had to run at the last minute – what would you not think twice about leaving behind...? When I was a little girl and me and my mum left in a hurry, I was fetched out of school and in the taxi, my mum had my dolls house and my white teddy. But everything else was left behind apart from the clothes we would need. But it wasn't the 'things' I missed. It was the security, the belief as a child, that my world was safe in the centre of everything. I missed my home and what it represented for me. I didn't find that again until I met Wayne.

Which is what we need to understand in Jesus' words today. What really matters is not what we might think, it is all wrapped up in how we see ourselves, those around us, how we treat others, how we respond to the needs of others.

So let's look at Jesus' words about not putting possessions first but being generous. Generous to others around us. Is giving to charity enough? Is buying a coffee for someone homeless on the street when you pass them enough? Would you open your home to a charity? Would you give your spare room up for someone in need? For someone with nothing? How generous do we have to be?

Faith is the light but we need to be careful that we don't trip up on the things we haven't done, on the people we didn't see, on the things we have littered our world with and held

on to that in the end, don't matter.

As I grew up I held on to things that were from my childhood, when my grandma died I found letting go of her belongings that I had very, very difficult, when my aunt died a couple of years ago and some of her things came to me, I again, have struggled to let these go. But, holding onto things is never an answer. Holding onto Faith and reaching out to help people is.. not recognising someone else in need, not seeing beyond our own needs, they might just be our undoing.

So our challenge for this week – to be prepared, waists girded and lamps lit. Are you ready?

Dawn Perry

Notices

Our Love Prayers and Sympathy – to Keith and his family following the death of Adrienne Godley. The funeral will be on Monday 1st September at Markeaton Crematorium, Main Chapel at 1.30pm.

St John's Service with Bring & Share Lunch - Unfortunately the bring and share lunch planned for Sunday 7th September has had to be cancelled. It is not going to be possible to reschedule before Christmas given all our other autumn events so it is intended to look at our future plans for worship and outreach and how we can carry forward our Everyday Faith agenda early in 2026.

Mickleover Singers - If anyone fancies joining this developing choir, rehearsals resume on Monday September 8th at St John's Church. 2026 will be special as we will celebrate 85 years since Mickleover Singers started as a group during the war.

Harvest Festival – Sunday 28th September we will once again celebrate Harvest at All Saints. This is an early request to save or nurture any Harvest/Autumn garden produce. Stop/think before chopping down before Harvest! Donations towards the cost of flowers can be left with Rebekah in the office or any of the 'flower girls!'. Many thanks in advance. *Celia Cullen*.

Advance Notice – All Saints Flower Festival Friday 26th – Monday 29th September. Church will be open on Friday and Saturday from 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm, on Sunday church will be open from 2 -4pm. Monday morning we will be selling the produce from the festival from 10am with money going to Derby Food 4 Thought. *The Wardens*

CTM Prayer Walk – Thursday 4th September 10:15am. We will meet at Mickleover Memorial Hall, Station Rd. 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 join us please let me know by email ray_lee16@yahoo.co.uk, or phone or text to 07766927539 Thanks Ray Lee"