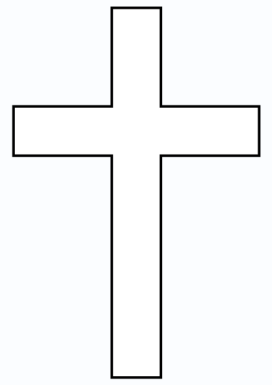


THREEFOLD

DECEMBER 2025 & JANUARY 2026



ALL SAINTS, MICKLEOVER
ST ANDREW'S, RADBOURNE
ST JOHN'S, MICKLEOVER



OUR CHURCHES

www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk



ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Etwall Road, Mickleover, DE3 0DL

01332 510446

allsaintsadmin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Office Hours: 9am - 3pm on Tuesdays - Thursdays

Open Church: Enquire at the office

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

School Lane, Radbourne, DE6 4LY

Open Church: Monday - Friday

9.30am - 4pm



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Devonshire Drive, Mickleover,

DE3 9HD

01332 513363

admin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Office Hours: Monday 9am-5pm and Friday 9am-4pm

Open Church: Monday-Friday 9.30am-3.30pm

CONTACTS

Clergy clergyteam@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Vicar: Rev'd Canon Peter Walley - 01332 513793

Vicarage, Etwall Rd, Mickleover, DE3 0DL

Assistant Curate: Rev'd Clare Owen -

Associate Priests:

Rev'd Mary Staunton -

Rev'd Ian Godlington -

Rev'd Paul Pritchard -

Rev'd Alun Rowlands -

Retired Priest: Rev'd Ingrid Munro -

Readers: Helen Walley, Dawn Perry, John Foxon

Judi Witcomb, Karen Cowgill

Wardens:

All Saints: Ian Nicklin & Janice Toplis

wardens-allsaints@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

St Andrew's: Diana Rose

St John's: Wendy Lee & Michael Vick

wardens-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Treasurers:

All Saints: Brian Devenport

treasurer-allsaints@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

St Andrew's: Olivia Keep

treasurer-standrews@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

St John's: Barrie Witcomb

treasurer-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Hall Bookings:

All Saints: 01332 510446 admin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

St John's: 01332 515293

hallbookings-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Safeguarding:

All Saints: Lindsay Nicklin 07716378308

safeguarding-allsaints@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

St John's: Kim Cooper 07732 798163

safeguarding-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

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USUAL SERVICE TIMES

1st Sunday:

Holy Communion, 10am - All Saints

Morning Praise, 10am - St John's

2nd Sunday:

Morning Worship, 10am - All Saints

Holy Communion, 10am - St John's

Holy Communion, 11am - St Andrew's

3rd Sunday:

Holy Communion, 10am - All Saints

Morning Praise, 10am - St John's

4th Sunday:

Morning Worship, 10am - All Saints

Holy Communion, 10am - St John's

BCP Evening Prayer, 4pm - St Andrew's

5th Sunday:

Holy Communion, 10am

alternating between

All Saints and St John's

Tuesdays:

Morning Prayers, 8am - All Saints

(temporarily suspended)

Wednesdays:

Holy Communion, 9.30am - All Saints

*Please see the website/newsletters for
occasional service details
www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk*

EDITOR'S SCRIBBLES

Threefold's first year

With this combined December/January issue we complete our first year of Threefold. Thank you to all our contributors who have who have helped us fill each issue with interesting and informative material from our three parishes. We shall be taking time during January to review our first year and think about anything we can do to improve our content and appeal, and bring news from our churches to the wider Mickleover community. To help with this do please contact us with comments and suggestions, speak to me, James, or Rebekah or email threefold@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

You will find in this issue information about all our services and events through Advent to Christmas and beyond in to January 2026. Amid all the busyness involved with these and other preparations we do need to take time out to pray and reflect on what we are celebrating. An example of something to help with this is *Walking with the King*, daily Bible readings and reflections through December available free from Our Daily Bread Ministries as a printed booklet or download from shop.odbm.org.uk/products/walking-with-the-king?variant=50675746898221

Another source of reflection is the recently published book *With Dickens at Christmas* , a collection of Christian reflections on Christmas from the works of Charles Dickens www.dltbooks.com/titles/2419-9781915412850-with-dickens-at-christmas

A very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year to everyone,

Richard Finch

The deadline for the February magazine will be 19th January 2026

DECEMBER	CHURCHES' CALENDAR		
Monday - Friday	9.30 - 3.30pm	Open Church	St John's
Monday - Friday	9.30am - 4pm	Open Church	St Andrew's
Mondays	10am - 12pm	Internet Café	St John's Link
Tuesdays	8am	Morning Prayers	All Saints
Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints
Wednesdays	10am - 12pm	All Saints Café	All Saints
Wednesdays	2pm	Friendship Group	St John's Link
Fridays	10am - 12pm	Rest Stop Cafe	St John's Link
Fridays	12.15 - 2pm	Bible Brunch Group	St John's Link
For more info, please visit the website www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk			
Wednesday 3 rd	2.30pm	Coordinators	St John's Link
Saturday 6 th	2.30pm	New Opera Company Concert	St John's Hall
Sunday 7 th	10am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10am	Morning Praise	St John's
	12pm - 2.30pm	Wreath Making Workshop	St John's Hall
	3.30pm - 6pm	Wreath Making Workshop	St John's Hall
Thursday 11 th	7pm	Radbourne Quiz	Brailsford Institute
Saturday 13 th	8.15am	Who Let the Dads Out?	All Saints Centre
	7.30pm	Mickleover Singers Concert	St John's
Sunday 14 th	8am	Breakfast Church	All Saints Centre
	10am	Christingle	All Saints
	10am	Holy Communion	St John's
	11am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's
	6.30pm	Christmas Carols & Readings	St John's
Sunday 21 st	10am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10am	Nativity with JACK	St John's
	4pm	Carols by Candlelight	St Andrew's
	7pm	Carols by Candlelight	All Saints
Wednesday 24 th <i>Christmas Eve</i>	2pm, 4pm & 6pm	Family Carols	All Saints
	4pm	Carols Around the Crib	St John's
	11pm	Midnight Communion	All Saints
	11pm	Midnight Communion	St John's
Thursday 25 th <i>Christmas Day</i>	10am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10am	Holy Communion	St John's
Sunday 28 th	10am	MA Holy Communion	All Saints

December at **Rest Stop Café**

St John's Church, Devonshire Drive

Reverse Advent Calendar throughout

5th

Quiz

12th

Christmas Jumper day

in aid of Save the Children fund

19th

Carol Service

26th

No café

Reverse Advent Calendar

Instead of opening doors to find chocolates or treats, a Reverse Advent Calendar flips the idea on its head. Each week in December, you bring to the café an essential item such as non-perishable food, hygiene products, or household supplies. This will then be donated to **Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance**. Not only does this provide vital support for our community, but it also becomes a powerful reminder of the generosity and kindness.

Items Needed: Tinned Foods, Porridge, Noodles, Pasta, Rice, Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Biscuits, Jams, UHT Milk, Juice & Squash, Mince Pies, Yule Log. Toiletries, Household Products, Feminine Products, Baby Supplies.

There will be a box at the back of church for your items.

ADVENT TO THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST AT THE TEMPLE

Ask any member of the clergy how they are at this time of year and you may not get the answer you were expecting...whilst others plan for parties, for most clergy this is their busiest time of year. Advent feels far harder to observe than Lent, because it feels like there is very little time to take in the wonder of waiting. In the story of Jesus at the home of his close friends Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42), it feels like we are definitely in the place of Martha rather than her sister Mary. But when a little space comes my way, I like to turn to those who have made the time to reflect and have the gift of writing. One author I enjoy reading is Malcolm Guite.

In his advent book, published in 2012 – ‘Sounding the seasons’ he has written a series of sonnets and I’d like to share two of these with you. The first one is entitled: ‘Prologue- Sounding the seasons’

‘Tangled in time, we go by hints and guesses,
Turning the wheel of each returning year.
But in the midst of failures and successes
We sometimes glimpse the love that casts out fear.
Sometimes the heart remembers its own reasons
And beats a *Sanctus* as we sing our story,
Tracing the threads of grace, sounding the seasons
That lead at last through time to timeless glory.
From the first yearning for a Saviour’s birth
To the full joy of knowing sins forgiven,
We start our journey here on God’s good earth
To catch an echo of the choirs of heaven.
I send these out, returning what was lent,
Turning to praise each ‘moment’s monument’.

I like the phrase ‘tangled in time’ – it brings an image in my mind of being caught up. We are going forward and there are hints and guesses about God’s purposes in undertaking the journey that is going from January to December. We catch ‘an echo of the choirs of heaven’ which leads to us returning to God in praise, as we recognise what he has given us.

Looking back over the past year, certainly for myself and Helen we have had to face two major challenges, Helen’s loss of her mother combined with the accident to my knee. We were so touched by so many messages of support and reassurances of prayers for us and we are so grateful for each and every one. I am also acutely aware that the rest of the ministry team have had their own challenges, not the least of which has been Clare’s health too and I know she would want to add her thanks to everyone for their prayers and practical support of her.

God never promises any of us an easy life, but he promises always to be with us in good times and in bad, watching, caring, loving and sometimes rescuing. We are never completely on our own and that should lead us to a renewed spirit of thankfulness. 'We sometimes glimpse the love that casts out fear'.

Thankfulness should shape our witness too. At this time of year, we meet old friends, neighbours and acquaintances. Sometimes reading Christmas letters it is as if everything has been perfect for the writer and their family. If that is so, we rejoice with them, however it's equally OK to write that the past year has been tough and at the same time say, 'through it all, I am so thankful that the Lord has carried me'.

People who don't yet hold a living faith can sometimes accuse Christians of hypocrisy. From the outside it can be hard to see how a relationship with God through Jesus Christ can help. 'Your faith is just a crutch!' is one phrase that can be flung at us. If faith is a crutch, then I for one am very grateful. Having to get used to using two crutches both before and after the operation was essential. I couldn't have recovered without them. But Christian faith is of course far more than the picture of a crutch. The promise of Jesus is that he comes to live in our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. He also opens the gates of heaven to all who believe in his name.

In his lifetime, Jesus' motivations, his words and his actions were often completely misunderstood, and in this next sonnet, O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations) Malcolm picks up the seeming contradictions of Jesus' life, death, his coming again.

'O King of our desire whom we despise,
King of the nations never on the throne,
Unfounded foundation, cast-off cornerstone,
Rejected joiner, making many one:
You have no form or beauty for our eyes,
A King who comes to give away his crown,
A King within our rags of flesh and bone,
We pierce the flesh that pierces our disguise,
For we ourselves are found in you alone.
Come to us now and find in us your throne,
O King within the child within the clay,
O hidden King who shapes us in the play
Of all creation. Shape us for the day
Your coming Kingdom comes into its own.'

Every blessing this Christmas and New Year. In Him.
Peter

JANUARY

CHURCHES' CALENDAR

Monday - Friday	9.30 - 3.30pm	Open Church	St John's
Monday - Friday	9.30am - 4pm	Open Church	St Andrew's
Mondays	10am - 12pm	Internet Café	St John's Link
Tuesdays	8am	Morning Prayers	All Saints
Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints
Wednesdays	10am - 12pm	All Saints Café	All Saints
Wednesdays	2pm	Friendship Group	St John's Link
Fridays	10am - 12pm	Rest Stop Cafe	St John's Link
Fridays	12.15 - 2pm	Bible Brunch Group	St John's Link

For more info, please visit the website www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Sunday 4 th	10am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10am	Morning Praise	St John's
Monday 5 th	7pm	Standing Committee	All Saints
Tuesday 6 th	7.30pm	Bible Course	AS Vicarage
Saturday 10 th	8.15am	Who Let the Dads Out?	All Saints Centre
Sunday 11 th	8am	Breakfast Church	All Saints Centre
	10am	Morning Worship	All Saints
	10am	Holy Communion	St John's
	11am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's
	2pm	Tea with Trev's Trio	St John's
Monday 12 th	2pm	PCC Meeting	St John's Link
Sunday 18 th	10am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10am	Morning Praise with JACK	St John's
Monday 19 th	7pm	PCC Meeting	All Saints
Saturday 24 th	6.30pm	Cheese & Wine Beetle Drive	All Saints Centre
Sunday 25 th	10am	Morning Worship	All Saints
	10am	Holy Communion	St John's
	4pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Andrew's
Wednesday 28 th	2pm	Midweek Matinee - Calendar Girls	All Saints Centre

Christian Unity Week: Saturday 18th - 25th January



REMEMBRANCE AT ST JOHN'S

This year for Remembrance Sunday, Elaine Pritchard had the wonderful idea to create a knitted and crocheted poppy display outside St John's church. All the poppies were created by church members and the All Saints Stitchers. Thank you to everyone who made the beautiful poppies or helped to put up the display and a special thank you to Elaine for all her hard work on the project.

The red poppies symbolised all who sacrificed their lives in World War 1 and the conflicts that followed. The purple were to remember the animals of war,

such as dogs, horses and pigeons. The white represent civilians, military personnel, and all other victims of war (a symbol of peace). The black poppies commemorate the contribution from black, African and Caribbean communities to the war effort.

Sunday 11th January
2pm - 4pm
in St John's Church Hall
Get out of the house
and join us for
Tea with Trev's Trio



An afternoon of live swing based music from around the world
with interval tea and cakes. Tickets £8.

Contact Joy 01332 515293 or Richard 01332 493939
or email: events-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

PRAYER CHAIN

All Saints

Marion Godlington - 01283 730832

Denise Martin - 01332 514325

Helen Walley - 07725740408

Steph Brinklow - 01332 517966

St John's - Please text or call
Helen Walley (Co-ordinator)

07725740408 or email

helenwalley@btinternet.com

*There is also a book and prayer
board at the back of Church for
you to add a person's name.
Those in the book will be included
in our prayers on a Sunday
morning during the service.*



Lord,
as we stand at the beginning
of this new year,
we ask for Your guidance.
Illuminate our path with Your
light so that we may walk in Your
ways and make choices that
align with Your will.
Grant us wisdom to discern
where You are leading and help
us to trust You in all things.
Amen.

CTM PRAYER WALK



Date: Thursday 4th December

Time: 10.15am

Meeting at: St John's Link

During the winter months we suspend our walks but meet to pray for about an hour. We pray for God's blessing upon the people and businesses in Mickleover, and listening to God's Holy Spirit to Guide our prayer.

If you would like join us please contact Ray Lee so that I know to expect you. 01332 239645, or 07766927539, or email ray_lee16@yahoo.co.uk

Not meeting in January

LIFE EVENTS



RIP

Margaret Huggett

The funeral will be on 3rd
December at 11.30am at St John's

Colin Haxell

CONGRATULATIONS

Adrian Flude

on your baptism at
All Saints on
14th December



CHRISTMAS LUNCH ON JESUS



Donate



'Christmas Lunch on Jesus' Derby

This year, we will once again be providing Christmas lunch to families and individuals on a low income who would otherwise be unable to afford a Christmas meal. Volunteers will deliver food boxes containing a selection of vegetables, pudding, mince pies, and chocolates along with a card and voucher for buying meat for the meal.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please consider sponsoring a Christmas meal for a family in Derby for £30 or give whatever you can afford. Cheques, made payable to St Peter's Derby, (please write 'Christmas Lunch on Jesus' on the back) can be sent to: Christmas Lunch on Jesus, c/o St Peter's in the City, St Peter's Street, Derby, DE1 1SN, visit: www.stpetersderby.org.uk to donate online, or use the QR code above.

We would love help to pack and deliver the boxes and cards around Derby on the 19th and 20th December. If you are able to help, please get in touch: office@stpetersderby.org.uk or 07910137229

Supported by Derby City Centre Churches

Please help us to help as many people as we can this year.



CONGRATULATIONS!

To Jonathan Fowler and Agnes on their marriage in July 2025.

Jonathan was a former Youth and Children's Worker at All Saints and St John's.

We wish Jonathan and Agnes a lifetime of love and happiness in their marriage together. Best wishes to you both.



SUPPORT THE...



STAMPING OUT CANCER

As Christmas approaches and everyone is sending cards to friends and family, it gives us the opportunity to collect Used Postage Stamps to help fund Research into Bone Cancer Treatment

For the last 2 years we have been able to contribute with stamp collecting and other related activities around £25000!

This could not have been achieved without YOUR help

But what is this research? One example is :- Osteosarcoma is difficult to treat and survival rates have improved little in recent decades. A key issue is that treatment relies on old anti-cancer drugs and in some cases, the treatment stops working. A major recent focus in bone cancer research is the identification of overactive biochemical pathways in cancer cells and the development of new drugs that can block such pathways.

This research will explore whether a specific enzyme (a protein which speeds up chemical processes), known as inhibitory kappa B kinase alpha, or IKK α for short, plays a role in osteosarcoma development. The researchers also want to investigate whether blocking this enzyme can inhibit the growth of osteosarcoma cells.

Please continue to support us by saving your stamps.... every single one helps.

A LETTER FROM CLARE

Dear friends, as many of you know, the last few months have been incredibly difficult for me, and I wanted to take the opportunity to express my deep gratitude for the love and support I have received from you all. I will not pretend that experiencing a heart attack was not terrifying (it absolutely was, and the journey of recovery has not been easy), but throughout I have felt held in prayer, and supported in a way that I have never experienced before in my life. The cards, gifts, food, messages of support, visits, lifts, advice, practical support around the house, the knowledge that I was held in prayer, together with the time and space that I needed to come to terms with what had happened, made all of the difference to my recovery. I will be eternally grateful to you all!

Since I arrived in Mickleover, you have provided me with an incredibly supportive environment in which to begin my ministry, and I have learnt so much from you all. Since being taken into hospital, you have taught me something far more profound – What it truly means to be a part of a loving church family. The personal impact of this has been life-changing, and the example of this love and support will be something that I will take with me into my future ministry, wherever God calls me.

As I am in the final year of my curacy, I will be heading off on placement for a time in the new year, before returning to Mickleover to await where God calls me to serve next. Once the details of my placement are finalised, I will let you know.

Thank you all so very much!

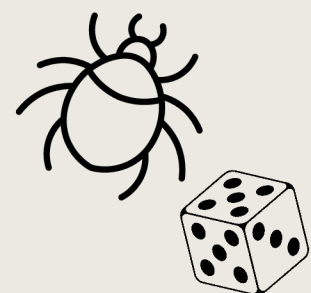
Blessings, Rev. Clare

Cheese & Wine Beetle Drive **All Saints Church Centre** **Saturday 24th January 2026** **6.30pm**

Cheese, wine and friendly competition!

Grab a seat for just £5

Contact Janice Toplis or the office for more info or tickets



Celebrate Christmas with Mickleover Anglicans

Sunday 14th December

All Saints: Christingle - 10am

St John's: Carols & Readings for Christmas - 6.30pm

Sunday 21st December

St John's: Nativity with JACK - 10am

St Andrew's: Carols by Candlelight - 4pm

All Saints: Carols by Candlelight - 7pm

Wednesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

All Saints: Family Carols - 2pm, 4pm and 6pm

St John's: Carols Around the Crib - 4pm

All Saints: Midnight Communion - 11pm

St John's: Midnight Communion - 11pm

Thursday 25th December - Christmas Day

All Saints: Holy Communion - 10am

St John's: Holy Communion - 10am



GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

**“We are God’s masterpiece...
planned...long ago.”**

Ephesians 2:10 NLT



It has been said: ‘To the average eye, it was a mutilated piece of marble.... but a young artist named Michelangelo saw something in that stone others did not. Chiselling the eighteen-foot block of marble would consume nearly four years of his life, but that seemingly worthless stone was destined to become what many consider the greatest statue ever sculpted...Michelangelo resurrected a dead stone and, breathing his artistry into it, brought David into existence. As he chiselled...he believed the masterpiece was already inside the stone. All he had to do was remove the excess stone so David could escape. He didn’t see what was. He saw what could be... He didn’t see the imperfections in the stone. He saw a masterpiece of unparalleled beauty. ‘And that is precisely how God sees you. “We are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” Every work of art originates in the imagination of the artist. And so, you originated in the imagination of God. You were conceived by God long before you were conceived by your parents. You took shape in the imagination of the Almighty before you took shape in your mother’s womb.’ Regardless of what others think of you, or what you think of yourself, God sees you as a potential masterpiece. To see yourself as anything other than that is to devalue and alter your true identity. And it’s in discovering your true identity that you discover God has a plan for your life, however young or mature you are.

Attributed to UCB November 2025

MIDWEEK MATINEE

All Saints Centre



Wednesday 17th Dec



showing
**White
Christmas**
at 2PM

Wednesday 28th Jan



showing
**Calendar
Girls**
at 2PM

£5 Adults

£2 Children

*There is a signup sheet at the back of church or
speak to Janice Toplis or the office 01332 510446*

Drink and Popcorn included

Cinderella themed **Christmas Tree Festival**

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

30th November - 7th December

Come and see our 'Cinderella' themed Christmas trees created by our local community. Vote for your favourite tree. There is also a children's quiz with treats!

Monday 1st : 10.30am - noon, 2 - 4pm, 6 - 7.30pm

Tuesday 2nd : 10.30am - noon, 2.30 - 4pm, 6 - 7.30pm

Wednesday 3rd : 10.30am - noon, 2 - 4pm, 6 - 7pm

Thursday 4th : 10am - noon, 2.30 - 4pm

Friday 5th : 10am - noon, 2 - 4pm, 6 - 7.30pm

Saturday 6th : 10am - noon, 2 - 4pm, 6 - 7.30pm

Sunday 7th : 3 - 5pm, 6 - 7.30pm

BURUNDI CHARITABLE GIVING



At their November meeting, having discussed the topic at previous meetings, the All Saints' PCC agreed to add **Association des Jeunes Vulnérable l'auto Developpement (A.DE.VU.DE)** to their Annual Charitable Giving list. This is the Association founded by Rev'd Noe Bukuru who visited All Saints with Bishop Malcolm at Pentecost. Some of the money raised at the Christmas Tree Festival will be sent as a 'one-off' and will be followed by a monthly contribution of £30. (It costs £13 to feed a family of between 5

and 7 for a week. This comprises of 8kg of cassava flour, 6kg of beans and a few biscuits for the children. (Meat, vegetables and fruit are too expensive.) There are 38 families in their area. More details of are displayed on the noticeboard at the back of church on the kitchen side.

If anyone feels they would like to contribute to this monthly donation as an occasional or more regular gift, please speak to Janice or Rebekah. Or, if you wish to make an anonymous gift, leave your gift in an envelope on the collection plate writing 'Burundi' on the front, please. Many thanks.

PCC NOTES

Meeting held at: All Saints on Monday 3rd November 2025

Minutes are available at the back of church or on the website.
Do speak to a member of the PCC if you have any questions,

At the November meeting we discussed:

- A child height design and wording needs to be created for the new glass doors that will be installed where the current main door to church is. If anyone has any ideas, please contact Peter.
- The stonework in the church porch has been carved and fitted. The old boiler chimney has also undergone work.
- The first Midweek Matinee was held on October, and was enjoyed by those who came. The next showing will be Cinderella on November 26th
- There has been great interest in the Christmas Tree Festival with 21 groups signing up to display trees. We are in need of stewards for the event, there is a signup sheet at the back of church for volunteers. Monies raised from the event will be split between All Saints, Derby Food 4 Thought and Burundi. The event will begin on Sunday 30th November and the church will be open daily until 7th December.
- Proposal to install two disabled parking spaces near the slope closet to church in the car park.
- Mycologist has identified over 50 species of fungi in the Vicarage Garden, the graveyard and the woodlands. A number of rare species have been recorded.

WHITE CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2025



St John's Church Hall
Saturday 6th December at 2.30pm

Tickets £10 (refreshments included)

Book in advance or buy on the door
01332 557096 or 01332 882637
jannice@read55.plus.com or
newoperacompany@hotmail.com

In aid of The Friends of Kenya's Children



**Mickleover
Singers**

‘Come and Sing’
Saturday 13th December
at 7.30pm
St John's Church

Tickets £8 on the door
including light refreshments
in the interval.

PCC NOTES

Meeting held at: St John's on 19th November 2025

Minutes are available at the back of church or on the website.

Do speak to a member of the PCC if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

At the meeting we ...

- Received an update from Clare Penter on the work of the Bramblebrook Pre-School that uses our Hall on weekdays.
- Agreed a budget for 2026 noting that this involves a significant deficit.
- Adopted a Code of Conduct for PCC proceedings.
- Agreed updated guidelines for hiring our facilities and booking fees for 2026.
- Agreed to invite someone from the diocesan Mission, Evangelism & Parish Revitalisation team to speak at our Sunday morning service to help us work out the way forward for our worship and outreach. This is planned for early 2026.
- Heard from Clare on the progress of her curate's training.
- Discussed what vulnerable groups we have in our church and what we should be doing to ensure their safety.
- Received a report on the October meeting of Derby City Deanery Synod.
- Agreed to accept a quote to install a ramp and handrails in the doorway from the Link to the Hall passage. We hope to have this in place before Christmas.
- Agreed for our customary Christmas Card Charity to be in aid of the Children's Society this year.
- Committed to discussing at a future meeting our fund raising and social events and how we balance fund raising, our capacity to organise and run activities, and outreach to our community.



£15

Sunday 7th December
12.00 - 2.30pm
3.30 - 6.00pm

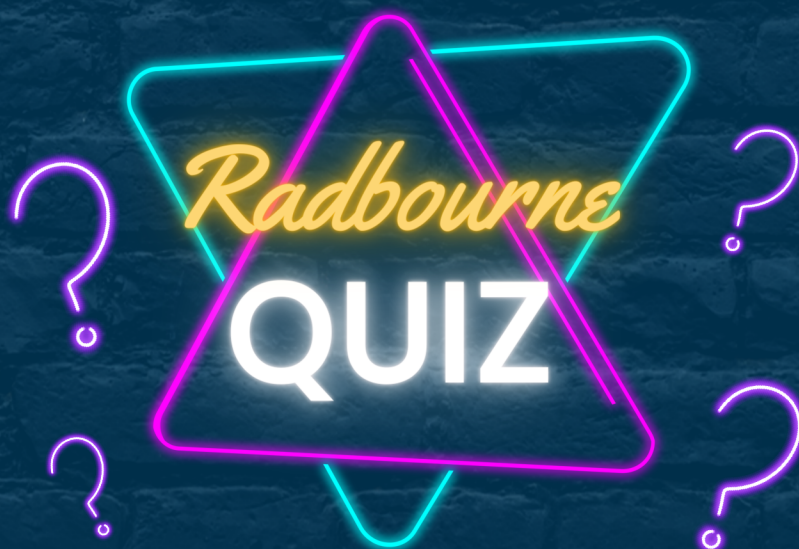
Join us for one of our afternoon sessions creating your own unique Christmas wreath. All supplies provided with guided tuition and refreshments.

Contact St John's office for tickets.

Thursday 11th
December
7pm
Brailsford Institute

£12.50

**(inc. Ploughman's
Platter)**



To book your tickets, contact Tim
WhatsApp: 07813324115
Email: woodlandsgp@gmail.com

Information required: Team name, number in team (6 maximum)
and any dietary requirements.

You will be sent online payment details

JACK

Jesus And Cool Kids

AT JOHNS

Join us for our interactive
family-friendly service on
the 3rd Sunday of the month
St John's Church at 10am.

Enjoy crafts, worship
and games with other
children and families as the
central part of the service.

BRUNCH BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Fridays 12.15 - 2pm
St John's Link

Following the café, stay for lunch
(sandwiches, soup, fruit etc.)
and a discussion on life and faith.

**Everyone is welcome to join,
come along!**

Any questions phone Judi
07531495891



INTERNET CAFE

Mondays 10am - 12pm
St John's Link



Help and advice for computers,
laptops, smart phones, and tablets

***Our helpers don't guarantee to
have all the answers, but we may
know where to start looking!***

Bring along your own tablets, iPads
and laptops or borrow one from us.

Refreshments served mid-morning.



***Our friendly team
is happy to help!***

REST STOP CAFE

Fridays
10am - 12pm
St John's Link

Join us for a cup of tea or coffee,
friendly conversation, and of course,
delicious home-made cakes!

EVERYONE WELCOME

***The café is open from
8.45am for the school run!
(term time only)***





NEW YEAR COURSE

Peter will be hosting the Bible Society's Bible Course in the Vicarage starting on **Tuesday 6th January from 7.30pm.**

The course aims to deepen understanding of the Bible and it is suitable whether you're new to the Bible, just curious about it or you've been reading it for years.

This is an 8 session small group resource and it includes video teaching, discussions, a reading plan, a handbook (£10) and extra content.

Please do get in touch with Peter via his e-mail peterwalley@btinternet.com or phone him on 07725740407 if you are interested

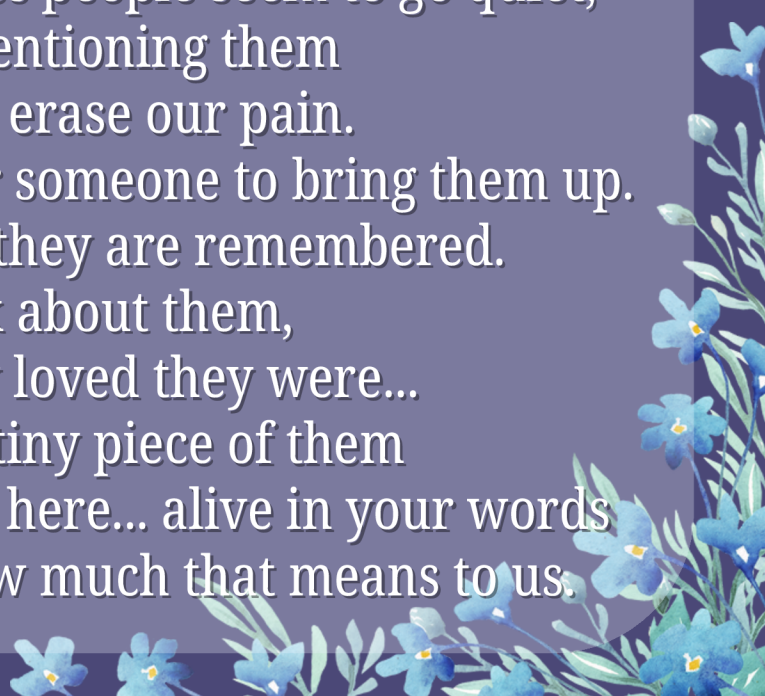


We don't talk about it enough...

How much it means when someone says their name.
Because when someone dies people seem to go quiet,
as if avoiding mentioning them
would somehow erase our pain.

But the truth is, we crave for someone to bring them up.
We want to know that they are remembered.

When you talk about them,
you remind us how loved they were...
you give us back a tiny piece of them
and for a moment, they are here... alive in your words
and you'll never know how much that means to us.



Pause & Ponder

As you walk through the All Saints churchyard, take a moment to pause and ponder at our 16 stations with photographs and quotes.

ALL SAINTS CAFE

Wednesdays
10am - 12pm
All Saints Centre

Come for a friendly chat, tea/coffee with delicious home-made cakes and biscuits

Everyone welcome!



WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

2nd Saturday of the month
8.15 - 9.45am
All Saints Church Centre

A group for fathers, father figures and their children to have fun, form friendships and find support



01332 510446

admin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Breakfast Church



2nd Sunday of the month
(full weekend)

Join us at 8am for breakfast, crafts, games and worship

All ages welcome!

Bishop Malcolm writes...

Advent Hope - Light in the darkness

As I write it is not even December yet but by 4pm it is already nearly dark! All the darker as the weather gets wilder and wetter, with the promise of the white stuff coming any day now. At least in the dark the snow will bring its own unique reflective brightness.

Whilst officially still autumn until December 21st – by which time the last leaf in Derbyshire will surely have fallen - these rapidly shortening days and lengthening hours of night shroud us in this season with foreboding, as much as in anticipation. These are the days we learn to appreciate the light, and begin to pine for more of it long before Spring comes. Our regular seasonal gathering gloom is more than matched by the dark shadows which prevail in our nation and in the wider world. Like buses it seems existential crises all arrive at once – poverty and inequality, destructive weather events caused by climate change, and persistent conflict erupting in devastating wars. Dark days indeed for a world that had come to believe in progress. And most especially, for the poor, the vulnerable, and the dispossessed.

At our churches in Advent, Sunday by Sunday we hear the words of the Hebrew prophets. They were realistic about darkness, about human failure and sin, and its impact on the whole of society, especially on those who were most vulnerable – in that time the orphan, the widow, the alien or stranger. A society that failed to live up to God's call to justice, integrity, and compassion was doomed to fail. Judgment was inevitable where people turned their back on the responsibilities of being human.

In the days of the Hebrew prophets there were those who thought you could get away with thinking of your own nation only. But this was not the whole picture. In the scriptures and most especially in the New Testament we see a different perspective emerging – the recognition of the whole human family as created by God, invited to share in the 'fullness of life' which is Jesus' gift to us.

The internationalism of the Gospel is a core value of the Christian faith. Contemporary versions of Christianity that revert to the attitudes of the Crusades are perversions of our faith. As the established church in England we have to be careful not to misrepresent Jesus, the Saviour not just of our people, but of all people. Why? Because 'God so loved the world.' Not just me and the people who agree with me. Not just my people, not just my ethnic group or my country, but the whole wide world. This includes everyone:

The orphaned child taken care of within a family fleeing the fighting in Sudan. The elderly woman who cannot understand why she has to leave her pacific island home, soon to be devoured by the rising sea. The young man fleeing persecution for his faith. All these, along with our friends and neighbours here at home and at school and at work, are part of that same human family into which Jesus was born, and for which Christ died and rose again. And yet the journey is so hard, and the way is so dark, for many today.

John Donne, 16th Century poet and Dean of St Paul's in London, published a poem expressing the darkness of his grief at the loss of his beloved. On St Lucy's Day, 13th December, then believed to be the shortest day, he wrote of his experience of



loss: 'It is the year's midnight, the Dies Lucies'. Not from 13th December, but from the end of the month, the days do begin to turn brighter and longer again. Donne in his darkness did not despair absolutely – he knew the light would return. So even in the thick darkness of December we detect the seeds of hope. As someone reminded me recently, during the winter there is life and growth – we just don't see it because it is going on underground.

This theme of light and darkness stays with us throughout Advent, and then on Christmas morning the Gospel hope resounds: with Jesus coming 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.'

May the light of Christ shine ever more brightly in our world and in our time, and in each one of us. We do well to learn from the Jewish Rabbi who asked his students: "how do we know when the night has ended and the day has begun?"

One bright student offered an answer: "When I look out at the fields and I can distinguish between my field and the field of my neighbour's, that's when the night has ended and day has begun."

The rabbi shook his head. That was not it.

Another student answered: "When I look from the fields and I see a house and I can tell that it's my house and not my neighbour's house, that's when the night has ended and the day has begun."

No – that wasn't it either.

A third student suggested: "When I can distinguish the animals in the yard – and I can tell a cow from a horse – that's when the night has ended."

Disappointed in his students, the Rabbi replied, and went on to say:

"When you look into the eyes of the person who is beside you and you can see that that person is your brother or your sister, when you can recognize that person as a friend, then, finally, the night has ended and the day has begun."

May God open our eyes to the true light that has come into the world, and make us able to live in this light always.

'The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world' John 1.9. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The Rt Revd Malcolm Macnaughton
The Bishop of Repton