

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*



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Sunday 11th January 2026

Services In Our Churches This Sunday

- Breakfast Church at All Saints, 8am.
- Morning Worship at All Saints, 10am. Peter Walley will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St John's, 10am. Alun Rowlands 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, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour
Amen.

This Sunday's Reading at All Saints

Acts 10: 34-43, Matthew 3: 13-end

This Sunday's Reading at St John's

Isaiah 42:1-9, Matthew 3: 13-end

Next Sunday's Reading

1 Corinthians 1: 1-9, John 1: 29- 42

Midweek Services and Groups

Mondays	<i>St John's Internet Café</i> 10am – 12pm in St John's Link
Tuesdays	<i>Prayers</i> 8am at All Saints.
Wednesdays	<i>Holy Communion</i> 9.30am at All Saints.
Wednesdays	<i>All Saints Café</i> 10am – 12pm in the Centre.
Fridays	<i>St John's Rest Stop Café</i> 10am – 12pm in the Link.

Brunch and Bible Study - Due to the diminished numbers we are discontinuing the Brunch and Bible Study at St John's on a Friday. We hope to do something during Lent but it will be at a different time and day.

Have any of us been on a long journey this Christmas holiday? Was that by camel or by car? These days, Mr. Google is a pretty good mapping aid to have with you to show you the way. We don't tend to use the stars to see by although it is amazing to go for a walk on a night with a full moon.

The ancient world never forgot the night sky. Many people particularly in the countries East of Palestine, developed a deep study of the stars and the planets, giving meanings to many. They believed that everything was interconnected and when something was important on earth, you could expect to see it reflected in the heavens. Alternatively, a remarkable event among the stars and planets must mean, they thought, a remarkable event on earth.

Over the years, many scholars have tried to identify the star that led the wise men to trek those many hundreds of miles by camel. One explanation could be the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn. Since Jupiter was known as the Kingly planet and Saturn was thought to represent the Jewish people, it would be an obvious conclusion that a new King was on the scene in the land of Israel. Whatever gave rise to the new bright star in the sky, it was sufficient for these 3 to make the journey and to bring three very costly gifts, namely Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

Gold for a king (which would actually have been quite useful for Joseph and Mary as they had to make a dash for it to Egypt to escape Herod's troops, Frankincense for the worship of God and Myrrh was a spice used to anoint a body for burial. All three are prophetic, indicating just who Jesus is.

Of course, we know that the wise men's arrival at Herod's court provoked no small amount of consternation. What Matthew is telling us is political dynamite. Jesus is the true King of the Jews, not Herod who indeed died shortly thereafter. It was his son Herod Antipas who encountered Jesus before the cross. The house of Herod did not take kindly to the idea of anyone else claiming to be 'king of the Jews'.

At the heart of the Christmas story in Matthew's gospel is a baby who poses such a threat to the most powerful man around that he kills a whole village full of other male babies in order to try and get rid of him. From the moment of Jesus' birth there is a price on his head. Plots are hatched; angels have to warn Joseph; they only just escape from Bethlehem in time. Herod the Great, who thought nothing of killing members of his own family including his own wife when he suspected them of scheming against him, and who gave orders when dying that the leading citizens of Jericho should be slaughtered so that people would be weeping at his own funeral. As Herod's power had increased, so had his paranoia, as we see in dictators the world over. Jesus was born in a land in a time of trouble, tension, violence and fear. Banish all thoughts of peaceful Christmas scenes. Matthew's gospel which we will be following through this year insists that we see in Jesus, even when things are at their darkest the fulfilment of scripture.

No point arriving in comfort, when the world is in misery; no point having an easy life, when the world suffers from violence and injustice! Jesus came to be Emmanuel, God-

with-us and so he enters our pain and our suffering and ultimately pay the price to bring us all back into relationship with God our heavenly Father.

I want to close by quoting one of the messianic Psalms - Psalm 72 is just one of many prophecies about the coming King, the Messiah, and give us the wonderful promise that his rule will bring God's justice and peace to the whole world. The Psalm ends this way:

¹⁷May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun.

May all nations be blessed in him; may they will call him blessed.

¹⁸Praise be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

¹⁹Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth.

Amen and Amen.

At the start of this New Year, may we carry the praise of the Lord in our hearts, may we be those who join with the Angels in praising our Lord, who is almighty, and who loves us and the world completely and may we be those who take that message outside of these four walls with boldness and compassion. Amen.

Every blessing. Peter

Notices

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to the family of Muriel Burton who passed away on 1st December following a brief illness.

All Saints Christmas Carols – This year at the Christmas Eve Carol services £1156.64 was raised for Derby Food 4 Thought. Thank you to everyone who came and donated.

Tea With Trev's Trio – Sunday 11th January 2pm at St John's Hall. An afternoon of live swing-based music from around the world. Tickets £8, contact Joy 01332 515293 or Richard 01332 493939. Please call to reserve a seat.

The Bible Comes Alive - at 12 Murray Road, the home of Michael Huggett, on 12th January at 10 am. Mark 1,14-20 – Jesus calls his first disciples. All welcome.

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to Eileen and her family following the death of Peter Wade this week. The funeral will be on 9th February at midday at All Saints.

Bible Society's Bible Course - in the Vicarage starting on **Tuesday 13th January** from 7.30pm. The course aims to deepen understanding of the Bible and it is suitable if 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. Contact Peter if you are interested. There is also a signup sheet at the back of the churches. 07725740407 or peterwalley@btinternet.com

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to Pat following the death of her husband, David Rogers last month. The funeral will be on Wednesday 14th January at 2pm at Markeaton Crematorium, Round Chapel.

Vicarage Home Group - starts again on Wednesday 14th January at 7.30 - 9pm and will meet for 6 sessions, every two weeks until 25th March. We will be looking at the topic '**Struggling with Judgement**'. Many have questions about how a God of love can be a God of judgement, particularly as we read the Old Testament? If this is a question you have, or struggle with like me, then please come and join this informal and friendly group. Meeting at The Vicarage, Etwall Road, Mickleover DE3 0DL. Helen Walley (contact through the church office)

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to the family of Mary Taylor. The funeral will be on Thursday 15th January at 12noon at All Saints Church followed by committal at Markeaton Crematorium, Round Chapel.

United Service - January 18th at 6:30pm. We are invited to a united service at Mickleover Methodist Church to mark the start of the week of prayer for Christian unity. This will be a communion service and will incorporate the Methodist covenant prayer. Please support this opportunity to stand together as God's people in Mickleover.

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to the family of John Roper. Funeral details to follow.

Beetle Drive – Saturday 24th January 2026 at All Saints Centre, 6.30pm. Come along for various refreshments and friendly competition. Tickets £5 speak to Janice or Rebekah for more information.

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to Celia Cullen following the death of her mother Mary Lofthouse. The funeral will be on Tuesday 27th January at 1.30pm at Markeaton Crematorium, main chapel.

Midweek Matinee – Wednesday 28th January at 2pm All Saints Centre. This month's film is 'Calendar Girls'. Tickets £5 adults and £2 children (drink and popcorn included).

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to the family of Marion Fogg. Funeral details to follow.

Christmas Card Appeal – Thank you to those who donated towards the Christmas card appeal at St John's. The charity this year was The Children's Society. £147.50 was raised.

Our Love Prayers & Sympathy – to the family of Nora Appleby. Funeral details to follow.

Men's Breakfast - Following the successful Church Ladies night out at the end of last year, I thought it might be a good idea for the church men to also have a time out. I wondered about a breakfast at the Great Northern one Saturday in the next month or so. To co-ordinate, I want to set up a WhatsApp group so we can sort out the best date, but I would need everyone's mobile number for that. If you are interested, please let me have your name and mobile number. I am on 07504041046 or mikeshooter@hotmail.co.uk