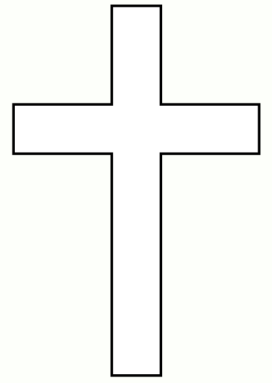


THREEFOLD

FEBRUARY 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

9am - 3pm



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

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Vicarage, Etwall Rd, Mickleover, DE3 0DL

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Associate Priests:

Rev'd Mary Staunton

Rev'd Ian Godlington

Rev'd Paul Pritchard

Rev'd Alun Rowlands

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Judi Witcomb, Karen Cowgill

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St John's: Wendy Lee & Michael Vick

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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

Wednesdays:

Holy Communion, 9.30am - All Saints

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

EDITOR'S SCRIBBLES

As we stand at the threshold of 2026, the transition from January into February offers us a unique rhythm. While the world often rushes into resolutions and busy schedules, the church calendar invites us to move at a different pace, one of reflection and deepening warmth.

January: The Month of New Beginnings

January is named after Janus, the Roman god of gates and doors, looking both backward to the past and forward to the future. In our faith journey, this is the season of Epiphany, where we celebrate the light of Christ entering the world.

As the winter chill settles in, January serves as our "spiritual sunrise." It is a time to clear the clutter of the previous year and ask, "Where is God leading me now?" Whether you are embarking on a new prayer practice or simply seeking peace after a frantic holiday season, remember that God's mercies are new every morning.

February: From Cold to Compassion

As we move into February, the days begin to lengthen, though the frost often remains. In the heart of winter, February brings us the Feast of Candlemas, marking the presentation of Jesus in the Temple. It is a reminder that even in the darkest "halfway point" of winter, the light of Christ is growing stronger.

It is a perfect time to reach out to neighbours who may feel isolated by the cold or to volunteer with local outreach programs that support those in need.

Looking Ahead

As the frost of January gives way to the first snowdrops of February, let us hold onto the promise of renewal. We are not just passing time; we are walking with the Creator who makes all things new.

I hope you enjoy this month's magazine; if your group or organisation has something to report, or you'd like to include an article in a future edition, please get in touch at threefold@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

James Bowles.

The deadline for the March magazine will be 16th February

FEBRUARY	CHURCHES' CALENDAR		
Monday - Friday	9.30 - 3.30pm	Open Church	St John's
Monday - Friday	9am - 3pm	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 Café	St John's Link

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

Sunday 1st	10am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10am	Morning Praise	St John's
	2pm	Paint a Pot	St John's Hall
Sunday 8th	10am	Morning Worship	All Saints
	10am	Holy Communion	St John's
Monday 9th	6.30pm	PCC Meeting	St Andrew's
Wednesday 11th	2pm	Coordinators	St John's Link
Saturday 14th	8.15am	Who Let the Dads Out?	All Saints Centre
	7pm	Wine and Wisdom Quiz	St John's
Sunday 15th	8am	Breakfast Church	All Saints
	10am	Holy Communion	All Saints
	10am	Morning Praise with JACK	St John's
Wednesday 18th	9.30am	Holy Communion w/ Ashing	All Saints
	7.30pm	Holy Communion w/ Ashing	St John's
Sunday 22nd	10am	Morning Worship	All Saints
	10am	Holy Communion	St John's
	4pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Andrew's
Monday 23rd	7pm	Standing Committee	All Saints
Wednesday 25th	2pm	Midweek Matinee	All Saints Centre
Saturday 28th	2.30pm	Pot-Pourri of Words & Music	All Saints

WHERE IS THE HOPE, JOY AND PEACE WE NEED?

I recently heard a song by Johnny Nash entitled **“there are more questions than answers”**, you probably remember it! It reminded me of his other popular best-selling track **“I can see clearly now”** the lyrics continue: “the rain has gone, and I can see all obstacles in my way. Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind, it’s gonna be a bright sunshiny day! These songs he wrote and sang way back in 1972. I wonder what was happening at that time to cause him to write those words?

Today, it’s very cold and the snow is lying thick around our home, but it is starting to thaw, thank goodness. Many of you join me and my friends as we struggle with health issues as we age. There appears to be an ever increasing number of issues that cause us to feel insecure and anxious. Additionally, as we review today’s world, even superficially, it is unsurprising that many are anxious with the dissension and wars, which seem to be appearing in all corners. Additionally some world rulers appear to be tearing up the written and unwritten rules for keeping the world in the relative peace it has enjoyed since 1945. I hear so many people asking the question, what is coming next? We just don’t know! How does this affect our own level of anxiety and our faith?

When I heard the Johnny Nash song it reminded me of the Apostle Paul suggesting to the Corinthian believers, who were struggling, all those centuries ago: **“Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete.... like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then (one day) we will see everything with perfect clarity, ...and I will know everything completely, just as God now knows completely”**.

I often hear the cry **“why”** and the consensus is that much of life seems so cruel and unfair. I’ve heard it often said that it’s a good thing we can’t see what is heading our way in the future and I agree. We couldn’t prepare for half of it even if we did know. But I believe our real peace can only be sustained as we hold on to, and develop our relationship with our Lord and Master. His heart desires to give us His joy, hope and peace even when we don’t like or can’t understand why we are facing so many challenges. As has been said “He is only a prayer away”.

I keep reminding myself what God said to Isaiah **“I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God, I will strengthen you”** (Isaiah 41:10). I regularly remember some forty years ago, when my ‘wonderful life’ seemed to be imploding, a dear friend of mine pointed me to this verse along with a second one promising hope and assurance: **“See, I am doing a new thing! I am making a way in the wilderness and provide water... to give**

drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.”

Those who struggle to have faith must be worried and anxious for the future, but if we truly believe our God does know all things and really is in control, loving his children unconditionally, we can take great comfort from these promises.

Thankfully our Lord encouraged us to support one another and when we gather for worship surely we should be celebrating and rejoicing, with love, joy and hope, **‘proclaiming His praise’**, irrespective of the circumstances which challenge us and surround us every day. This then will surely be the difference for us who claim to have a living faith in the one true God and His Son, our wonderful Lord Jesus Christ.

So, the answer to my original question, in the title of this article, is and must be only in our Lord and Saviour, He is our only **“hope, joy and peace”**.

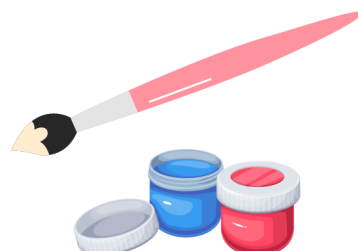
Bless you all
Paul

KIM HAD AN IDEA!!

Following the huge success of the wreath making workshops in December, my good friend Kim thought we should explore other activities we could offer the community on a Sunday afternoon. She was remembering, fondly, Tea Time on Sunday and wanted to offer something different but still on a Sunday. So, the idea of **Paint A Pot** was hatched. This will be on **1st February at 2pm at St John’s Church Hall** and is designed for all ages. I have had a go and it is very therapeutic. We have all sorts of pots from children’s money boxes to trinket boxes and mugs. All the materials are provided as well as refreshments for **£6**. Come and join us if you can.

The year began with ‘Tea with Trev’s Trio’ and this was a great success despite the weather; a couple of hours of swing music with an afternoon tea. We want to offer a range of things for all ages to enjoy on Sundays and would appreciate any ideas and any help in organising these events.

Karen



PRAYER CHAIN

All Saints

Marion Godlington
Denise Martin
Helen Walley
Steph Brinklow

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

*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.*



Heavenly Father,
thank You for the gift
of this new day.

Guide my every thought,
word, and action.

Help me to be present today,
to love well, and to trust You fully.
Give me peace in uncertainty and
strength for whatever I face.

I invite You into every
moment today.

CTM PRAYER WALK



Date: Thursday 5th February **Time:**
10.15am

Meeting at: St John's Link

During the winter months we
suspend our prayer walks, but still
meet to pray for our community.
We will spend about an hour
praying for our community,
businesses, schools, etc. listening
for anything the Holy Spirit
reveals.

*If you would like join us please
contact Ray Lee so that I know to
expect you.*

ray_lee16@yahoo.co.uk

LIFE EVENTS

RIP

David Rogers
Mary Lofthouse
John Roper
Peter Wade
Norah Appleby MBE
Marion Fogg
Christine Taylor
Jeremy Allum



CONGRATULATIONS

Isabella on your
baptism at All Saints
on 22nd February

Wine & Wisdom

Quiz Night with complementary glass of wine, table snacks & interval cake
St John's Church Hall, Devonshire Drive, Micklegate, DE3 9HD



Saturday 14th February ~ 7.00 pm

Team of 4 is £25 or £7 per person (if you need a team)

To book please contact:

Richard on **01332 493939**

Joy on **01332 515293**

events-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

Registration Deadline 6th February 2026



Celebrate St David's Day!
An afternoon concert with



Cambrian Harp Ensemble
Saturday March 7th 2pm

Experience the whispers of
strings that stir the soul

St John's Church

Tickets £10 on the door in aid of
church funds and food bank



presented by www.cambrianharps.com

INTRODUCING

Revd Emma Sykes

Archdeacon-Designate of East Derbyshire



The Rt Revd Libby Lane, Bishop of Derby, has appointed the Revd Emma Sykes as the next Archdeacon of East Derbyshire.

Emma is currently serving in the Diocese of Birmingham, where she has lived for nearly 30 years. She began her working life in the charity sector working with young people facing homelessness and other challenging issues. As a youth minister at St Michael's Church in Boldmere, she began to discern a call to ordained ministry. She trained at St John's College, Nottingham and, in 2008, was ordained at Birmingham Cathedral.

She served her curacy at St Martin in the Bull Ring and became Associate Rector there three years later. In 2014, she took a break from full-time ministry and took a 'portfolio' approach, taking on a variety of different roles as a self-supporting minister including being an assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands and a Bishop's Advisory Panel advisor. She also worked part time for CPAS as a Leadership Specialist with a focus on young vocations and facilitating training for Curates and Incumbents.

In May 2020, she followed God's call back to fulltime parish ministry, into her current role as Vicar of St Barnabas Erdington and Oversight Minister for the Erdington Area. Emma has been a member of General Synod since June 2024.

Speaking on her appointment, Emma said: "I'm delighted, honoured and a little overwhelmed to be asked to be the next Archdeacon of East Derbyshire. I'm looking forward to getting to know the people in the archdeaconry and supporting them to flourish in mission and ministry.

"Whilst I'm excited, I also carry sadness at leaving Birmingham Diocese and especially the people of St Barnabas whose resilience, generosity and joy has helped shape me as I follow God's call to step into this new role."

Bishop Libby said: "I am delighted that Emma has accepted my invitation to serve as Archdeacon of East Derbyshire. Her varied experience, both in parish ministry and other ministry contexts, will be an asset as she takes up this role within our diocese. I am looking forward to working with her as we follow our shared vision of the Kingdom of God as Good News for all, and seeing that come to fruition for the congregations and communities of East Derbyshire and across the Diocese. Please join me in praying for Emma as she prepares to join us next year,"

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

The idea was a year in the making. Karen had attended a wreath making workshop at another church in 2024, and thought "We could do this".



Fast forward 12 months and enough people wanted to come that we did 2 workshops of 30 people each. People attending ranged in age from teenagers to the "more mature", and included church folk and people from the wider community. A fair bit of planning went into this event. Karen ordered all the hardware needed- her dining room looked a bit like a warehouse at one point! 6 of us had a practice session round Karen's dining table - with mixed results! We can't all be creative! Greenery was foraged by a few members of the congregation. It's surprising how much is needed to make 60 wreaths. In spite of her foot being in plaster Karen managed to demonstrate each stage of the wreath making process successfully.

There was a lovely atmosphere in the hall all afternoon; maybe a bit of muttering when people were struggling, (I didn't hear any bad language but then I am quite deaf...), plenty of cooperation and shared efforts and lots of laughter. Some stunning wreaths were produced- there are some very creative people in Mickleover. Refreshments were available all afternoon, bacon cobs alongside more traditional Christmas fayre.

We were asked several times if we would repeat the workshop next year - always a good sign.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event and to all the helpers.

Kim Cooper



MIDWEEK MATINEE

All Saints
Centre

Wednesday
25th February

showing

Oklahoma!
at 2PM

£5 Adults

£2 Children

Theatre snacks included



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

A Pot-Pourri of Words and Music



All Saints Church
Saturday 28th February at 2.30pm
Afternoon Tea and Concert

Showcasing the wealth of talent, of all ages, across the congregations of our three churches. whether spoken word, sung word or instrumental musicians.

This will be a relaxed occasion and our audience will be limited to the congregation, friends and family.

Tickets **£5** available on the door and from the office with profit going to All Saints Church.

If you would like to take part, please let Janice or Rebekah know by 14th February.

“Education”

Paul Pritchard has provided an update on the work of Friends of Kenya's Children. He begins by quoting a recitation by Grade 2 children which illustrates the principals they are taught.

*Education is the key
To unlock your destiny.
It opens your mind
To the wonders you can find.*

*Education is the light
That guides us through the life
It helps us see the truth
And makes us the best.*

*Education is power
That makes us grow and flower
It gives us skills and confidence
And prepares us for excellence.*



News of the CHTTC – now renamed the Vocational Centre - The “Champions of Hope Technical Training Centre” has had a rough start but at last we have progress to report. Its title is to say the least clumsy, even shortened to CHTTC, and for our purposes Vocational Centre better describes what Kenneth is trying

to establish. This new vision to offer a year's practical training to young people leaving school without skills for work or life, was originally intended to be based in a derelict school building close to Kenneth's church and not far from Champions' school. The landlord's demand for exorbitant rent made that idea impossible, and an alternative was proposed using extra classrooms to be built inside the Champions' compound. These would serve two purposes, also providing essential space for pre-technical skills lessons in the junior secondary school.

FKC has probably, unintentionally, held this plan up for almost a year, although Kenneth's serious illness also added to the delay. If we are to fund the building work, which will be a major outlay, we would have liked to have the scheme approved, costed and run by a project manager known to us who we know would do an excellent job. Unfortunately it has not been possible to interest him in the work, it was perhaps always too small a job to ask him to travel from Nairobi regularly to oversee, especially as he works all over East Africa. The scheme has now moved back “in-house” and



Kenneth is working with his trusted local builder Lucas to draw up the plans. The outline plan has already been sent to the County Education Authority for approval. Meanwhile, five youngsters are already involved in the scheme, three doing general building work and two learning welding. Kenneth reports that they are making excellent progress and are enjoying the responsibility and the opportunity to learn a useful skill for the future. While this practical experience is valuable, it cannot lead to a trade qualification until space in the compound is available to teach the theory.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE AGM 29th October 2025 - We were thrilled when we were told by Pastor Kenneth that with all our help over the years with so many capital investment projects, supporting the orphans, they were now relatively self-sufficient being able to 'stand on their own two feet' if necessary. But a little like the experiences of national leaders and Chancellors of the Exchequers – "Stuff Happens".

We had the droughts and those awful floods and the damage they did, and the problems with the well water quality. Then the Kenyan government changed dramatically the approach to delivering the curriculum. These things do give us pause for thought, until we realise this is not the work of Sandra or Kenneth or you or I, but it's God's work and we are the hands, brains and feet that he is using to enable his work to be done there in Eldoret.

Others are coming in from outside of Champions to join the school. Clearly this must be from the reputation the school has gained over recent years. We were also so delighted to see the report from the Authorities stating unequivocally that Champions Junior Secondary was an excellent local school, the only action point was to bring the Curriculum up to date and that is what has been done. **"The school plays a vital role in increasing access to education in the area."**, **"It has well developed infrastructure"**, **"It had high performance in last year's KCPE results"**.

As to the future, we would welcome new trustees to see how FKC can manoeuvre through the next few years. It is clearly a time of change in the way FKC operates, as the current trustees are not getting any younger, yet the need to support Champions will continue, even if not to the extent it has over the past 21 Years. If any of you are interested or feel led to this work don't wait to be asked but do speak to one of us. If we feel there are no younger people coming forward we will take it as a sign from the Lord that He has other ways to look after the children of Eldoret in the future. If this is the case there will be no option but to take even more dramatic steps in remodelling FKC.

So please pray that the current trustees may have wisdom and insight from the Holy Spirit in facing the future for this amazing charity. Remember what an incredible privilege it is for us to make such a difference in the lives of those children and their families in Eldoret and the surrounding area. Thank you for all you do, every one of you.

Rev Paul Pritchard



“Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”

John 16:24

I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day.
I had so much to accomplish that I didn't have time to pray.
Problems just tumbled about me and heavier came each task.

“Why doesn't God help me?” I wondered. He answered,
“You didn't ask.”

I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, grey and bleak.
I wondered why God didn't show me. He said, “But you didn't seek.”
I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock.



God gently and lovingly chided, “My child, you didn't knock.”
I woke up early this morning and paused before entering the day.
I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray!

Anon.

Candlelit Music Night

with

RYAN JOSEPH

 **FRIDAY 13TH MARCH 7PM** 

RADBOURNE ST ANDREWS CHURCH

 **£15 A TICKET** 

please contact Rachael on
07815848214 to buy tickets



**Dear children, let us not love
with words or speech
but with actions and in truth.**

1 John 3



Bishop Malcolm in a recent UCB Word for Today highlighted that “we should model ourselves on the example of Jesus, in whom the truth is spelt out in both action and words. It is all very well expressing sympathy, or empathy – but if “I am not willing to lift a finger to help,” or to “dig deep in my pocket to help,” what use am I? ‘I hear what you say’ or ‘I hear your pain’ is all very well – but what do I do to make up for the damage done? Action speaks louder than words”.

“As St Theresa of Kolkata taught, we should spend more time washing feet, so there is less time for throwing stones. How we and the world all need to learn that lesson.”

“Talking of words, truth matters. In the media, in daily life, and especially when it comes to safeguarding. Listening well, getting it right, telling it clearly, not twisting others’ words, but speaking and acting, in love”.

Lisa Marriott, Diocesan Head of Safeguarding recently gave her thanks to Parish Safeguarding Officers for their ongoing commitment to safeguarding, highlighting that their vigilance, care, and willingness to embed safeguarding into the life of our churches makes a real difference.

She said, “Together, we are creating communities where everyone feels safer, valued, and protected. This work is not always easy, but it is vital, and your dedication is deeply appreciated. Safeguarding is not a tick-box exercise. It is a reflection of our faith, it embodies the core values of care, protection and justice that lie at the heart of Christian teaching. Let’s continue to build a church where safeguarding is not just a standard, but a way of life”.

Most people who attend St John's will be aware of Bramblebrook Pre-School that has been based in our Hall for many years. Clare Penter, the manager, has provided an update on its current work:



The preschool is currently very busy, supporting 39 local families. The increased funding for working parents has meant that many more can now access free childcare.

At present, 46% of our children have some form of developmental need, mainly speech and language delays, but we also support three children with diagnosed Autism Spectrum Disorder and one child with Down's Syndrome who has significant developmental delays. Inclusion for all is at the heart of what we do, and although this brings challenges, we are determined that no child is left behind.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated and long-standing team of seven. Three of us have been here for over 20 years and one for 10 years. Unlike many nurseries, we do not experience high staff turnover, our team genuinely loves working here, and this continuity is invaluable to our children and families.

Our commitment to professional development remains strong. I have recently completed my Early Years Teacher qualification, allowing us to promote the preschool as teacher-led. Another member of the team has completed her Level 5 Leadership & Management course, and five members of staff now hold advanced Special Educational Needs and speech and language training, enabling us to meet the increasingly complex needs of the children we support.

Although we are currently busy, we do have concerns about our long-term sustainability. Low government funding, rising wages and national insurance contributions, and the imminent opening of a new 60 place nursery on Station Road all present challenges for the future. This is why the support we receive from the church means so much to us.

Clare goes on to express particular thanks to Joy Templer all her work managing the Hall and ensuring that pre-school sessions, church events, cleaning and maintenance are all co-ordinated and that everything runs smoothly.

For St John's, we feel privileged to be able to accommodate and support such valuable work for children, their families and the community. We are grateful for the way in which we are able to work with Clare and her team and share church facilities through the week. It was a joy to welcome the Pre-School to our carol singing in church during the Rest Stop Café session on 19th December.

TWELFTH NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

The presents have all been opened,
The wrappings all thrown away.
Greetings have all been spoken,
And so ends our Christmas Day.

The garlands are stretched and look tired,
And tree needles cover the floor.
Parents are worn out and mithered,
By children who keep wanting more.

Expectations were not quite fulfilled,
As no-one saw Santa's sleigh,
Some presents he left were not wanted,
But still we'll not give them away.

Is this all the season means to us,
Or is there some deeper purpose to find,
Something that changes our focus,
And persuades us to change our mind.

A long time ago a child was born,
And laid in a manger on hay.
In case we forget in this world forlorn,
What we celebrate is His Birthday.

God entered our world as one of us,
To experience life as we do.
His name Emmanuel, God with us,
God and man through and through.

So as the season comes to an end,
Do remember Jesus who came,
To bring love and forgiveness and tend,
To the sheep of this world who have strayed.

Let's remember all those who have nothing,
Those despised and rejected by men.
The hungry, the thirsty, those tormented by sin,
Jesus love includes all of them.

So on this the twelfth night of Christmas,
Let's focus our thoughts once again,
On Jesus our Saviour who loves us,
And wants us to be like him. Amen.



REMEMBERING MARION

Marion Fogg passed away in hospital on January 8th following a fall. A sad start to the year for her family and friends. When I told Alun that Marion had died he said "another great character passed on".

I'm not sure when Marion started attending St John's. She used to come to "tea time on Sunday", so I guess it could be 20 years. Marion was a stalwart member of the café that Colin and Ann Haxell ran on Mondays and Fridays. She was then a founder member of Rest Stop Café. Friday mornings would find Marion sat in her regular spot, by the hatch, where she was happy to chat with anyone who came to sit with her, or to just observe the comings and goings. I guess she was quite lonely and loved to be among company. I know she valued her friends at church. When Marion moved into Kingsway View she loved to hear news from St John's. She maintained her curiosity about people right to the end. She always asked after Mr Vick. (She liked to remind him that when Michael first qualified as a teacher he taught her son at John Port). She appreciated

receiving the church magazine each month and would read it carefully, questioning me about things she had read. She continued to enjoy church services at Kingsway view; a team from St Francis at Mackworth held a service there each month. Marion looked forward to this, marking the date in her diary.

May she rest in peace.

Kim Cooper





“All Scripture is inspired by God.”

2 Timothy 3:16 NCV

Perhaps you wonder, ‘Is the Bible really inspired by God? Is it true, trustworthy, and infallible?’ The answer is yes, and here are three reasons why:

1) It is remarkable in composition. It was composed over sixteen centuries by forty different authors, including soldiers, shepherds, farmers, and fishermen. Begun by Moses in Arabia and finished by John the Revelator on Patmos – it was penned by kings in palaces, shepherds in tents, and captives in prisons. Would it be possible for forty writers, largely unknown to each other, writing in three different languages in several different countries, separated in time by as much as 1,600 years, to produce a book of singular theme? This would be impossible unless behind them there was one mind and one designer. (See 2 Peter 1:21.)

2) It is remarkable in durability. It is the single most published book in history. Translated into at least 1,200 languages by an army of translators, it has outlived all its opponents. Bibles have been burned by governments and banished by courtrooms, but God’s Word endures. The death knell has been sounded a hundred times, but God’s Word continues (see Isaiah 40:8).

3) It is remarkable in prophecy. Its pages contain more than 300 fulfilled prophecies about the life of Christ, yet they were all written at least 400 years before He was born. What are the odds? Imagine if something similar occurred today. If we found a book written in the year 1900 that prophesied two world wars, a depression, an atomic bomb, and the assassinations of a president and a civil rights leader, wouldn’t we trust it? Yes. So you can believe these words: ‘All Scripture is inspired by God.’

UCB Word for Today

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.

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!*

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Wednesdays 2pm - 4pm
St John's Link

Formed in 1975 for older people
to meet up socially

Bingo, Dominoes and Cards

Tea and Coffee served



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 cakes!

EVERYONE WELCOME



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!

Archdeacon Nicky writes...

.This month sees the beginning of Lent. A traditional time of prayer and fasting where Christians are attentive to their individual discipleship and walk with God. We seek to draw near and deepen our relationship with God through prayer. To co-operate with the Spirit's transformative work within us through self-discipline and self-giving. To learn more about



our faith and how to live well within the kingdom of God. To give sacrificially blessing others.

Churches across our diocese will host Bible studies, Lent courses, soup lunches, quiet days and all manner of missional activities. Many church members will read a Lent book, join a study group, give something up, or take on a new challenge through this season.

Lent can be a time for great personal growth in our own walk with God. But, is also a time when we recognise we journey with others. During the coming weeks, we can encourage and inspire one another by sharing what we learn and how God is at work in our lives. We can practice the skill and build the habit of sharing our faith with others.

As we journey together through Lent we will see God at work amongst us - in acts of service, in kind deeds, in teaching and learning, in self-giving and self-sacrifice, in community and togetherness. We will have many opportunities to look around us and recognise the kingdom of God in our midst. To encourage and build each other up and to sow seeds of faith amongst our families and friends who haven't yet found their own faith in God.

As we grow in faith through prayer, learning, self-denial and service, let's encourage, inspire and 'provoke one another to love and good deeds' (Hebrews 10:24). Ideas for doing that might be - recommending a book, sharing an insight, telling a story, letting someone know you are praying for them, acts of kindness, words of encouragement, being gracious in difficult situations etc...

A challenge for Lent is to encourage a different person in their walk with God every day. We could inspire and encourage 47 different people each, if we are willing to take on the challenge. If we share some of the stories of our Lenten acts through our church newsletters and with our diocesan Comms team then we could encourage even more people in their walk with God this Lent.