

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 22nd March 2026

Services In Our Churches This Sunday

- Morning Worship at All Saints, 10am. Karen Cowgill will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St John's, 10am. Judi Witcomb will be speaking.
- BCP Evening Prayer at St Andrew's, 4pm. Led by Peter Walley.

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

Next Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday – the 10am is a joint benefice service at St Johns (no service at All Saints)

Collect

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

This Sunday's Reading at All Saints

Rom 8: 6 – 11, John 11: 1 - 45

This Sunday's Reading at St John's

Ezekiel 37: 1 – 14, John 11: 1 - 45

Next Sunday's Reading

Psalms 118: 1, 2, 19 to end,
Matthew 21: 1 to 11

Midweek Services and Groups

- Mondays: ***St John's Internet Café*** 10am – 12pm in St John's Link
Tuesdays: ***Prayers*** 8am at The Vicarage
Wednesdays: ***Holy Communion*** 9.30am at All Saints.
Wednesdays: ***All Saints Café*** 10am – 12pm in the Centre.
Fridays: ***St John's Rest Stop Café*** 10am – 12pm in the Link.

Talk by John Foxon – Thoughts for Mothering Sunday

Whether we call it Mothering Sunday or Mother's Day it is good to focus on the qualities of mothers. Here are some words of wisdom about motherhood:

- "Mother is a verb. It's something you do. Not just who you are".
- "Life doesn't come with a manual; it comes with a mother".
- "A mother's arms are more comforting than anyone else's"
- "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you" (Isaiah 66:13).
- "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come" (Proverbs 31:25).

Traditionally Mothering Sunday was the day when Christians were encouraged to visit their mother or home church where they were baptised and domestic servants were often given time off to visit their mothers. On this day it is also traditional to think about Mary, the mother of Jesus. It is always held on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was also a Refreshment Day when the privations of a restricted Lenten diet could be eased. The set readings for Mothering Sunday this year include Paul's letter to the Colossians 3 vs 12-17 and John's Gospel 19 vs 25-27.

In his letter to the Colossians 3 vs 12-17 Paul does not refer to mothers but does outline that we should behave with "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." He also tells us, "over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity". Whilst these are all qualities which we associate with motherly behaviour we should aspire to possess them whatever our gender.

Let us hope that if people were to return here to their "Mother Church" they would they find those qualities in abundance?

Mothers rarely stop thinking about their children no matter how old they are. In John 19:25-27 we are shown Mary's motherly love as well as her anguish. Mary knew what it was to suffer. Mary suffered when she gave birth in a filthy stable, far from home. Mary suffered when she heard that Herod wanted to kill her baby. Mary suffered when she was forced to become a refugee in Egypt. Mary suffered as she watched a whole nation misunderstand and taunt her son. And, at the foot of the cross, Mary suffers again as she watches her son being crucified for a crime he has not committed. When Mary had presented the infant Jesus in the Temple Simeon had told her "This child is chosen by God for the destruction and the salvation of many in Israel. He will be a sign from God, which many people will speak against and so reveal their secret thoughts. And sorrow, like a sharp sword, will break your own heart." That prophecy was now being painfully fulfilled. As much as she would have wanted things to be different, she had never stood in the way of his mission. Jesus knew this, of course, and rather than dwell on his own suffering his concern is to entrust his mother into the safekeeping of his disciple.

For some this day can be difficult. There are those whose mothers have passed away. There are those who are estranged from their mothers. There are those who have never known their mothers. So, for them let us aspire to put motherly love into practice. For guidance let us use this prayer of St. Anselm who identifies the motherly characteristics of Jesus:

“Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.
Often you weep over our sins and our pride,
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.
You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds,
in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us.
Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life;
by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.
Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness;
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.
Your warmth gives life to the dead,
your touch makes sinners righteous.
Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;
in your love and tenderness remake us.
In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.”
Amen

Notices

St Johns Craft and Tabletop Sale - Saturday 21st March 10am to 1pm. Donations of small cakes or tray bakes are welcome. St John's stalls are refreshments, small bakes, books and jigsaws. There is no Bric-a-brac stall this time. Do invite family and friends to visit - there's over 20 stalls to browse. Any assistance with setting up on Friday 20th from 3.30pm and with clearing away from 1pm on Saturday would be much appreciated. *Joy and Richard*

Harp Concert at St John's - Many thanks to all who attended the Harp Concert on 7th March. £310 was raised which will be shared between Food 4 Thought and St John's Church Funds.

Prayer, Study and Action - are key parts in living the Christian life, and it is good, if we share with others how we are living them out. Sharing helps us to see how we are doing, and gives others the chance to encourage us, and learn from our experience. Michael Huggett and Andrew Templer meet monthly for this sharing, and we would be delighted if anyone would like to join us. Our next meeting is Tuesday, 24 March, at 3pm at 12 Murray Road. *Michael Huggett*

Midweek Matinee – This month's matinee on **25th March at 2pm**, again in church, is 'Shadowlands' starring Sir Anthony Hopkins and Debra Winger. It tells the story of CS Lewis (Lion, Witch & Wardrobe) and Joy Davidman Gresham (Jewish American poet), their meeting, marriage and the testing of his faith during her illness and after her death... Superbly portrayed by the 2 actors. Tissues will be available. Look forward to seeing you there. *Janice*

Derventio Choir – 'Singing Folk' Melodies and folk songs from the British Isles. All Saints Church, Friday 27th March at 7.30pm. £10 at the door, includes light refreshments. Raising funds for 'Rebuild' supporting survivors of modern slavery.

Men's Breakfast - The All Saints men's breakfast group is booked for 10am on Saturday 28th March at The Great Northern. If any other men would like to join us, please speak to Mike Shooter.

Mickleover Singers – 'The Rhythm of Life', popular and uplifting tunes to celebrate Spring. St John's, Saturday 28th March at 7.30pm. Tickets £8 on the door, light refreshments included.

Good Friday: 3rd April – The meditation service at St John's has been moved to **3pm** to avoid a clash with the Rest Stop Café. Please amend your diaries.

Easter Saturday 4th April – All Saints flower team will be decorating the church from 10am. If you are available to help, you would be most welcome. Donations towards the cost of the flowers may be left with Rebekah in All Saints Centre Office. Many thanks in advance. *Celia Cullen*

Revision of the St John's Electoral Roll - is taking place. If you are not already a member and you would like to join, are over 16 or you will be 16 during the next year, please complete an application form to be found at the back of the Church and hand it to a member of the Clergy, a Church Warden or Andrew Templer (Tel: 01332 515293 or andrew@templerfamily.co.uk). Please complete, at the same time, a Church GDPR Consent form that will give us expressed permission as to how we can use your contact data.

All Saints Electoral Roll - If you are not already and would like to be included on the electoral roll, please complete a form from the back of church and return it to the office, Clergy, Wardens or James Bowles. If you are already on the Electoral Roll, you do not need to take any action, unless you have moved address in the past year.

Burundi - Rev Noe Bukuru has sent his heartfelt thanks for our donation, and their joy at being able to give 59 of their poorest families food for a week. He has also told me that they are hoping to be able to feed families at Easter. As we now have all the relevant systems working properly at our bank, we are intending to send a donation to them on a monthly basis, which, should anyone wish to make a personal donation, we can add to that. Details of how to make a donation from Rebekah or Janice. Thank you.