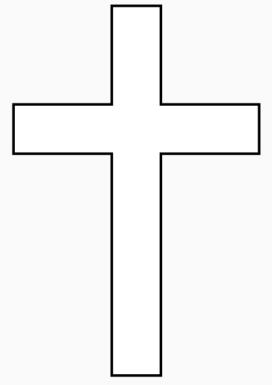


# THREEFOLD

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JULY 2026



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



# OUR CHURCHES

[www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk](http://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

# 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:* Janice Toplis & James Bowles

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 with JACK, 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 Vicarage

## **Wednesdays:**

Holy Communion, 9.30am - All Saints

*Please see the website/newsletters for  
occasional service details*

*[www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk](http://www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk)*

## EDITOR'S SCRIBBLES

Writing this in the second week of June during a spell of cool unsettled weather I am wondering what the rest of the summer will bring. Climate change seems to have brought about short, sharp spells of intense weather: heat waves lasting just a week, days of very heavy rain bringing flooding, gale force winds and so on. Memorable heat waves in the past lasted months. The exceptional summers of the 20th century were 1911 and 1976 when in both years there was continuous fine hot weather throughout July and August. On the other hand during July St Swithin is commemorated on the 15th. He was Bishop of Winchester from 852 until he died in 862. The tradition is that if it rains on 15<sup>th</sup> July there will then be forty days of continuous rain. We shall see what happens over the coming weeks!

July also marks the end of the school year, a time to remember and give thanks for the work of Murray Park and our Mickleover primary schools. We wish teachers and other staff a peaceful, restful holiday break, and those children moving on from primary school reassurance that their new schools will be welcoming and supportive.

Wishing everyone a restful and peaceful time whether at home or away on holiday,

*Richard Finch*

***The deadline for the next magazine will be 16<sup>th</sup> July***

# JULY

# CHURCHES' CALENDAR

<b>Monday - Friday</b>	9.30 - 3.30pm	<b>Open Church</b>	St John's
	9am - 3pm	<b>Open Church</b>	St Andrew's
<b>Mondays</b>	10am - 12pm	<b>Internet Café</b>	St John's Link
<b>Tuesdays</b>	8am	<b>Morning Prayers</b>	Vicarage
<b>Wednesdays</b>	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	All Saints
	10am - 12pm	<b>All Saints Café</b>	All Saints
	2pm	<b>Friendship Group</b>	St John's Link
<b>Fridays</b>	10am - 12pm	<b>Rest Stop Café</b>	St John's Link

**For more info, please visit the website [www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk](http://www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk)**

<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	10.15am	<b>CTiM Prayer Walk</b>	Meet @ Honeycomb
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	7.30pm	<b>Mickleover Singers Concert</b>	St John's
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	All Saints
	10am	<b>Morning Praise</b>	St John's
	2pm	<b>Summer Activities</b>	St John's Hall
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	7pm	<b>PCC Meeting</b>	All Saints
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	<b>CTiM Bible Study</b>	St John's Link
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15am	<b>Who Let the Dads Out?</b>	All Saints Centre
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	8am	<b>Breakfast Church</b>	All Saints
	10am	<b>Morning Worship</b>	All Saints
	10am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	St John's
	11am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	St Andrew's
	1pm	<b>Benefice BBQ</b>	All Saints Centre
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	7pm	<b>PCC Meeting</b>	St John's
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	All Saints
	10am	<b>Morning Praise with JACK</b>	St John's
	2pm	<b>Sunday Afternoons in the Link</b>	St John's
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	10.30am	<b>CTiM Bible Study</b>	St John's Link
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	<b>Morning Worship</b>	All Saints
	10am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	St John's
	4pm	<b>BCP Evening Prayer</b>	St Andrew's
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	2pm	<b>Midweek Matinee - Alamo</b>	All Saints Centre

## What does the word 'different' mean to you?

The word different can be used in many 'different' contexts. We say 'that was different' maybe, when we have been taken somewhere that we haven't been to before. We can refer to food in much the same way. 'Well it was different' when we have been faced with food that we have eaten and we don't want to embarrass our host by saying that we didn't really like it. Or, as has sometimes been said to me 'We came back to Mickleover and it was so different from how I remember it.' (A comment usually made in relation to the amount of new housing!).

When preparing a couple for marriage I ask them to think about what it means to live with difference. Each of us brings to a relationship our own background (what our parents taught us was 'right'), or things that we subconsciously pick up - we might have been taught to clear the kitchen before going to bed, our partner may prefer to leave clearing up until the morning. We have to learn to compromise but there may be more challenging things to face, such as different attitudes to saving or spending money. Good communication skills are key as we work out what it means to 'be one flesh' in the words of Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:5 or in relation to the bond between Christ and his church, Ephesians 5: 31

All of those things are observations, usually no more than that but last week it was reported that when challenged, the gangs who were roaming streets in Belfast and firebombing homes, said 'we are looking for difference'.

I hope you would agree with me that this is a chilling use of the word. It has shades of Nazi Germany or indeed Trump's America today. People who have come to this country completely legitimately, settled here, paid their taxes and made a positive contribution to the country are labelled as 'different' and made to feel that they don't belong.

In all the political discussions around immigration no-one has mentioned the fact that we as a nation invaded and took over a quarter of the whole planet. We set up schools to teach English and we instilled in them a 'love of the mother country'. Added to which our role as the world's policeman has meant that we have supported the invasion of countries we used to be in control of. Is it any wonder then that people across the world think of us as a safe harbour when war or civil unrest breaks out? The same is true for other European nations - I am thinking

of France, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Germany – all of which had empires in the past.

Things can be different. Helen and I have recently returned from holiday in France, where we stayed in a house owned by Belgian friends of ours. Almost as soon as we had arrived there was a call to us in the garden from a neighbour. They had heard that we were coming and there was going to be a bring and share meal on the Saturday evening for the little community on Rue Badiaux and would we like to come? This was the first time in the 20 or so years that we had visited the village that anyone had reached out to us. We were made so welcome – our French and their English were tested to the limit and we enjoyed their company. They genuinely wanted to get to know us. I was asked whether the English still referred to the French as ‘Grenouilles’ (Frogs!), I replied not usually! I wondered aloud in return whether they still referred to the English as ‘Les Ros Bifs!’.

That community didn’t have to reach out to two strangers, but we were really touched that they did and it was lovely over the rest of the time we were there to greet neighbours in the street who were fast becoming friends. If we visit the village again which of course I hope we will, I know it will be a different experience.

What of the context of a church community and strangers? Paul wrote in Galatians 3 28 ‘There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.’ He wrote this because he was addressing the tensions that had arisen between Jewish believers and Greek believers. Jesus’ encounters with Roman Centurions, Samaritan women and others demonstrate that he was colour blind to people from different cultures that his compatriots treated as enemies. The early church had to learn from the example of Jesus and it wasn’t easy.

We learnt so much during Covid restrictions, as to how to love our neighbour. I sometimes wonder whether all that was for nothing when I hear about discontent across different communities. The challenge for us as Christians is to follow the example of Jesus in all things. Let us learn again how to love the neighbour who is different to us and build bonds of trust that will be an example to others as we show Christ’s love to the world.

Every blessing, Peter.

## 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.*



## CTiM PRAYER WALK



**Date:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

**Time:** 10.15am

**Meeting at:** Honeycomb Car Park

We will walk for about an hour praying God's blessing upon the people and businesses in the area, and listening to God's Holy Spirit as we go. If you are unable to walk but willing to pray, join with others at St. John's Devonshire Drive.

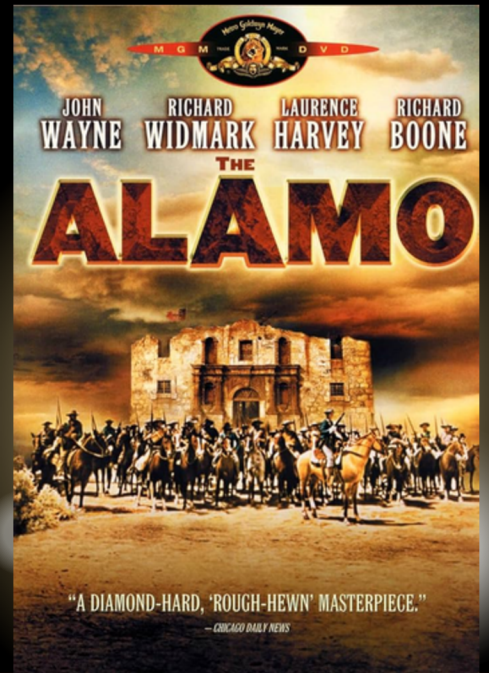
*If you plan to join us please let me know by email  
ray\_lee16@yahoo.co.uk, or  
phone or text to 07766927539  
Thanks, Ray Lee*

Almighty God,  
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:  
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all,  
the true love of peace and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom  
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth  
that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,  
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.



# Midweek Matinee

at  
**All Saints Centre**



**Showing: Alamo**  
**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July**  
**at 2pm**

**£5 Adults, £2 Children**  
**Theatre snacks included**



# Maker's Market



All Saints Church  
15th August, 10am - 3pm



Join us for our first ever Maker's Market with various stalls with hand crafted goods!

Contact the office or Karen if you would like a stall (£12) 07927183325



**A poem from  
The Rev Jon Swales  
*Lighthouse, Leeds***

I don't want to be a Christian  
who forgets how to feel—  
who hides behind answers,  
quotes verses like shields,  
and silences sorrow  
with a song.

I don't want a faith  
of romanticised abstraction,  
where resurrection is polished  
and the cross is theory.  
Give me something real—  
flesh and blood,  
grief and grace.

I want to weep  
with eyes wide open.

Tears that speak truth.  
Tears that rise  
from the ground of compassion,  
from the jagged knowledge  
that the world is not  
as it was meant to be.

I have seen it—  
the wounded souls,  
the haunted eyes,  
the bruises beneath the surface.  
I have felt the weight  
of injustice  
that crushes and isolates,  
while the world looks away.

These are not tears of despair—  
but of resistance,  
of aching love,  
of holding the pain  
when no one else will.

I want a hope  
that isn't saccharine.  
Not hopium.  
Not denial in disguise.  
But a defiant, dirt-under-the-  
fingernails  
kind of hope—  
the kind that walks through the valley,  
sits in the ashes,  
and still whispers,  
“Even here... God.”

I want a gospel  
that holds the wound.  
A Christ who draws close,  
a Spirit who groans,  
a God who gathers every tear  
in a bottle,  
holds every sorrow  
like a fragile flame,  
and knows  
what it is to break.

I want to believe—  
not cheaply,  
not loudly—  
but with trembling trust,  
that one day,  
every tear  
will be wiped away.

Not erased,  
but remembered,  
redeemed,  
and transfigured.

Until then,  
let me be the kind  
who weeps.

Who walks in holy realism.  
Who holds vigil  
in the shadow of the cross  
and waits,  
with aching hope,  
for the dawn.



St John's Church Hall

# SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2 - 4pm

**no-sand sand castles, treasure hunt, quiz, and lots more! Refreshments and ice creams included**

**Adults £5, Children £2**

*St John's Church Hall, Devonshire Drive, Mickleover, DE3 9HD*

**MICKLEOVER SINGERS  
PRESENTS**

**'A CONCERT PARTY'**

**CELEBRATING 85 YEARS AS A COMMUNITY CHOIR**

**SATURDAY 4 JULY 2026 at 7:30 PM**

**MICKLEOVER SINGERS  
COMMUNITY CHOIR**



**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH**

**TICKETS £8 ON THE DOOR**

Includes light refreshments

**SONGS FROM EVERY DECADE**

Since the choir was formed in 1941

**AND HANDEL'S HALLELUJAH CHORUS!**

Performed at our first ever concert

**Come and join us!**

[www.mickleoversingers.co.uk](http://www.mickleoversingers.co.uk)  
[mickleoversingers@gmail.com](mailto:mickleoversingers@gmail.com)

## 'THE TOUCH OF HIS HAND'

'When I lived in the Forest of Ecuador, I usually travelled on foot... Trails often led through streams and rivers which we had to wade, but sometimes there was a log high above the water which we had to cross. I dreaded those logs and was always tempted to take the steep, hard way down into the ravine and up the other side. But the [local guides] would say, "Just walk across, senorita," and over they would go, light-footed and confident. 'I was barefoot as they were, but it was not enough. On the log, I couldn't keep from looking down at the river below. I feared I would slip. I had never been any good at balancing myself...so my guide would stretch out a hand, and the touch of it was all I needed. I stopped worrying about slipping. I stopped looking down at the river or even the log and looked at the guide, who held my hand with only the slightest touch. When I reached the other side, I realised that if I had slipped, he would have held me. His being there, and his touch, were all I needed.' That's all you need too: to experience God's presence and feel His touch.

*An extract from Elisabeth Elliott's book 'A Slow and Certain Light'*

*(Elisabeth was a Christian Missionary to the Auca Indians and widow of Jim Elliott)*

SUPPORT THE...



A Clinical Trial Support Grant from the Bone Cancer Research Trust is helping to investigate whether an advanced whole-body imaging technique can improve how doctors detect the spread of Ewing sarcoma.

Accurately detecting whether Ewing sarcoma has spread to other bones is critical in guiding treatment decisions and improving outcomes for patients. This study will help us understand whether this advanced whole-body imaging approach can identify metastases more effectively and monitor how they respond to treatment. If successful, this approach could enable more precise, personalised treatment and improve outcomes for patients.

Thanks to all your efforts I am just about to post off another 2 kg of used stamps. Please keep collecting and encourage your friends to join our little army!

# PCC NOTES

## Meeting held at: All Saints on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Full minutes available at the back of Church and on the website

- The PCC appointed the following Officers of the PCC:
  - Treasurer - Brian Devenport
  - Electoral Roll Officer - James Bowles
  - Lay Chair - Janice Toplis
  - Parish Safeguarding Officer - Lindsay Nicklin
- A new sub-committee was formed to cover maintenance issues for the buildings and grounds.
- Planned giving is less than expected at this time of year.
- Due to ill health, the Centre cleaner has had to resign. A new cleaner will start from 19<sup>th</sup> July. Volunteers who have been cleaning the Centre in the mean-time were thanked.
- New lines and a disabled parking space will be repainted in the car park.
- Reverend Canon Matt Barnes has been invited to preach in September with the aim to help focus on what priorities can be worked on as a church in ministry outreach.
- Volunteers are needed to help cut the grass in the churchyard.
- CTiM (Churches Together in Mickleover) will have a stall at the Mickleover summer festival.
- John Foxon's Reader's licence is due for renewal. The PCC supported his application.
- Ramps are needed for wheelchair users to access the chancel and fire exits at the East end. This will be looked into.



Sunday 12th July at 1pm  
**Benefice BBQ**

All Saints Centre

There is a sign up sheet at the back of the churches for anyone who would like to attend.

*£7 per person*

## PCC NOTES

### Meeting held at: St John's on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Full minutes available at the back of Church and on the website

At the May PCC meeting we:

- Received a financial update noting a modest surplus to 30 April.
- Considered a report from Stephen Johns on the condition of the church organ and agreed that Alun should convene a small working group to explore possibilities of acquiring a replacement second hand digital organ. [Following the meeting advice is being sought from Allens on the viability of repairing our existing organ.]
- Approved the PCC's Annual Report for 2025 ahead of the APCM.
- Received an update from the Planning Group working on improving our welcome.
- Welcomed news of a grant of £250 from Bloor Homes for publicity for Rest Stop Café.
- Heard about the visit by Catherine Atkinson MP to the Pre School and Rest Stop Café on 24th April.

# 20 YEARS POST BRAIN TUMOUR CELEBRATORY WALK: MY STORY

I was asked by Richard if I would write my story for our church magazine so here goes!! 20 years ago, aged 29 I was diagnosed with a brain tumour which turned mine and my family and friends' lives upside down in an instant. I write to share this with you as it is a positive story of love, friendship and faith.

I had been suffering with many symptoms that were slowly worsening over time including headaches and loss of coordination. One hot day in June 2006 I woke up in the early hours feeling terrible and made a phone call to work to say I was not coming to work. It turned out that I left a garbled message and said I have left the front door unlocked!! I believe this was a God inspired message. I was provided with an excellent team leader and friend who sent 2 colleagues to my house to 'rescue' me. Many more decisions made that day I believe were driven by God. I had an amazing team of medical professionals and friends who looked after me and facilitated my safe passage to Queens Medical Centre. I was stabilised in time for my parents to safely arrive from Devon. Once I was told I had a brain tumour I felt relief that these migraines were not something I was going to have to live with and that something could be done.

I had complete faith that I would survive this despite that initially not sounding promising. Two major surgeries later through which I was surrounded by prayer I came out the other end with a lot of rehabilitation to do and a life to start rebuilding. At the time I attended St Peter's Church in the city centre and had an amazing network of Christian friends praying for me locally and worldwide as the news spread. I felt the energy of that and was able to relax knowing I had to have faith. Don't get me wrong



it was tough, I had times of “why me” and “it’s not fair” but I was provided with all I needed physically, mentally and spiritually to carry on slowly one step at a time picking my life back up again gradually. Simple tasks had become a challenge, and I was unable to drive or ride a bicycle. (Those that know me will understand my love of cycling and the loss that felt!). I absolutely felt held by God and felt arms of comfort wrapped around me by him and physical arms in family and friends that came to me just when I needed them.

To symbolise my journey, I devised an 18 mile walk from Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham to the Florence Nightingale Community Hospital in Derby (old Derby Royal Infirmary) the hospitals where my journey started and ended. It is also the hospital I worked in then and now and my career as a physiotherapist is extremely important to me. I have been fortunate that with hard work, determination and support I have been able to get back to work fully and continue to support patients and colleagues as appropriate. I ended the walk with an afternoon tea party in the All Saints church hall where I was bowled over by friendship, love and support. I feel I have been well provided for and believe God gives you what you need when you need to overcome life's hurdles.

The walk was to celebrate and to give something back and to date I have raised over £4000 for the Brain Tumour Charity which supports anyone diagnosed with a brain tumour and supports research for more efficient diagnosis and treatments. If any one feels able to give, please look at my JustGiving page. [Louise Amandini is fundraising for The Brain Tumour Charity](#).

[www.justgiving.com/page/louise-amandini-5?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL&utm\\_campaign=lc\\_frp\\_share\\_transaction\\_fundraiser\\_page\\_donation\\_received\\_nth\\_donation](http://www.justgiving.com/page/louise-amandini-5?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=lc_frp_share_transaction_fundraiser_page_donation_received_nth_donation)

Thanks for reading.

*Louise Amandini*



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# "ETERNITY IS NOW IN SESSION"

## A BOOK REVIEW

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*"More than getting us into heaven, He taught how to get heaven into us."*

The cover blurb (on the paperback edition) states, "A Radical Rediscovery of What Jesus Really Taught about Salvation, Eternity and getting to the Good Place." Well, personally, I'd balk a bit on 'Radical Rediscovery' – and the capitals are a bit over the top - but then, it's an American publication with (presumably) an American blurb-writer. One cannot have everything.

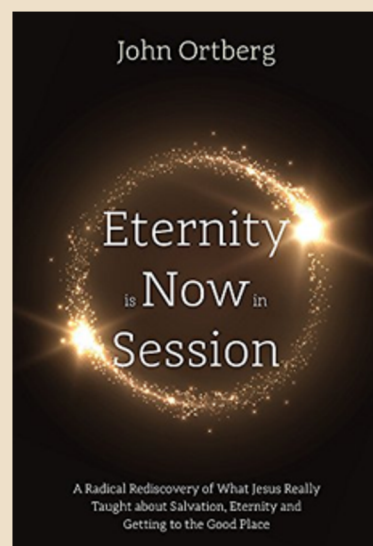
This book (sometimes simply titled, 'Eternity is Now'), by John Ortberg, an American Christian author and speaker was published in 2018 and has, in the past, been used by the Thursday Study Group who were impressed and inspired by what John had to say about Jesus' teaching.

The book is arranged into two major sections, the first introducing John Ortberg's perspective and the second looking at the life strategies that John sees in Jesus' and The Apostles' teachings and writings.

Key to the perspective being offered and then developed by John is the suggestion that, rather than culminating in a final examination that one either passes ('heaven') or fails ('hell') our lives are more akin to a 'journey to the centre' (Jesus). He suggests that, in God's eyes, there is no 'Holy In-Crowd' that are 'saved' but rather an opportunity for all of us to recognise a life-focus that will encourage us to spend our lives in ways and with attitudes that will prove more satisfactory than some of the other goals that we often seek to pursue.

(A key element of John's thoughts, something that several people, including myself, have recognised and discussed is that, as well as having no end, Eternity has no beginning – we don't have to wait until we die, it's available to us right now!)

*(The book is available in paper-back, cover price is around £10 but there are plenty of cheaper second-hand copies available online. It's also available as an eBook on Kindle. However, if I've piqued your interest but not sufficiently to make you yet wish to part with your cash, you might find a copy on the St John's Book Trolley – unless, of course, it's currently being borrowed by someone else!)*



# HE'S THE GOD OF NEW BEGINNINGS



Our God is the God of new beginnings! James says, *“if you know people who have wandered off from God's truth, don't write them off. Go after them. Get them back and you will have rescued precious lives from destruction and prevented an epidemic of wandering away from God”* (James 5:20) ‘It is never too late for a new beginning. And what’s even more remarkable is that God uses people like us to help others find a new beginning. The Bible contains many accounts of men and women who got a second chance and, by God’s grace, used it well. Like Peter, who denied Jesus but went on to become a leader in the New Testament church. Or David, who committed adultery and murder, yet his psalms are a major part of one of the most quoted books in the Bible. And what about Jonah? He got a do-over! **‘GOD spoke to Jonah a second time’**(Jonah 3:1 Msg). Sin can wreck hearts, homes, plans, and people. But the good news of the gospel is that sin can never keep God from loving or reaching for us. And we should never stop loving and reaching for others. **‘If someone falls into sin, forgivingly restore them, saving your critical comments for yourself. You might be needing forgiveness before the day's out.’** (Galatians 6:1 Msg). The Greek word for restore is a medical term that means ‘to set a broken bone’. When a doctor resets a broken bone, he realigns it and then puts it in a cast for about six weeks. During that time, God does the actual healing. Your job is to find broken people who need a second chance and help to restore them.

*By permission of UCB Ma 202*

## Has anything changed in 75 years?

A guide book on "The East Midlands and the Peak" published in 1951 has this description of Derby: "Derby, a great railway centre, has much to commend it, much more than anyone might expect upon arrival at its railway station. For those interested in architecture and the arts there is a great deal to see in this lively town."

# 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](mailto: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!**

# MARY AND MARTHA

We all know the story of Mary and Martha. Martha welcomed Jesus into her home, and was very busy preparing a meal for Jesus and his twelve disciples and the women, who followed them, among whom was Mary Magdalene. Instead of helping Martha, Mary sat at the feet of Jesus, listening to him teaching. Understandably Martha was annoyed with Mary, and asked Jesus to tell Mary to help her, but Jesus said to Martha, “you are busy with many things, but Mary has chosen the better part.”

We often interpret this to mean that it is better to sit at the feet of Jesus in prayer than to be active, and so prayer is our number one priority, and being active in service very much second best. However I have lately been reading *Everyday God* by Paula Gooder, who has a different understanding. For her Mary is doing something quite revolutionary in sitting at the feet of a Jewish rabbi. That was for men, who told the women afterwards what the rabbi had said. Mary however had taken the bold step of joining the men to sit at the feet of Jesus. She wanted to know for herself what Jesus was teaching about the Kingdom of God. Meanwhile Martha was performing the valuable ministry of hospitality, which was very much women’s work. Overwhelmed by the preparations for a meal Martha asked Jesus for help in getting Mary to help her. No doubt Jesus was surprised at Mary sitting at his feet, but He saw that she was doing the right thing. He saw that women were of equal worth to men, and so he commended Mary for her choosing the better part.

Throughout the Church’s history there have been women, who, despite all the difficulties have chosen to do, what they believed

Jesus was calling them to do. Among them is our local hero, Florence Nightingale, who transformed nursing from a job that out of work men did into a skilled and caring profession, that has reached its culmination in



Nurse Sarah becoming Archbishop of Canterbury.

What does all this mean for us? We are to choose “the better part” of waiting on Jesus and then living out our lives as He would wish. A very simple way is befriending someone who is alone. That simple act of befriending can change their lives and ours, and it was Margaret, my wife, who first befriended me on a weekend course, when I felt very alone. Another way is speaking out in a group situation, where one or two dominant persons seek to make the group think what they think and do what they want. It is very easy to remain silent for fear of conflict, but Jesus in our hearts may well be telling us to speak our minds, and that may well encourage the fearful to speak and the dominant to seek a better way forward. Even if we fail we can hold our heads high, because we have chosen “the better part” – to listen to Jesus and do his will. MH



## SUNDAY AFTERNOONS in the Link



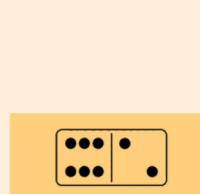
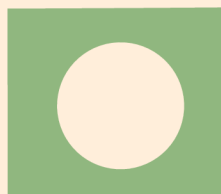
Spend a couple of hours relaxing with others in a friendly atmosphere. At the Games Afternoon on the 3rd Sunday in May, there was positive feedback from those present: they had enjoyed themselves!

So we're proposing to hold similar opportunities, on the **3rd Sunday of the month, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.**, for anyone - singles, couples, families - to come and spend a relaxed afternoon in the Link (the building between St. Johns church and the Hall).

Games such as Dominoes, Rummikub, Uno, Triominoes and Playing Cards will be available for adults/older children and various games such as Hey That's My Fish and Balancing Penguins for younger children. Beetle or Bingo could be possible if people wished, or bring your own favourite game. Or, you could just come to chat with others.

Cakes and unlimited tea, coffee or squash will be served throughout, along with a good selection of cakes or biscuits.

There will be no specific charge – just a donation to cover costs



# 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!*

## 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**



## CTiM

*Churches Together in Mickleover*

## BIBLE STUDY



Meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday of the month  
at St John's Link  
10.30am - 12.00pm

For more information, contact Judi Witcomb on 07531495891  
see calendar for dates

# DIOCESAN MESSAGE

*The Ven. Emma Sykes writes...*

I have been reflecting recently on “transitions”. This is not surprising as in the last few months I have encountered (and still encountering) a lot of changes. These range from being a Parish Priest to becoming an Archdeacon, moving house from Birmingham to East Derbyshire and entering a stage of life where our young adult children are leaving home.



In his book “Transitions: Making sense of life changes”, William Booth points out that every transition has three stages, an ending, a neutral zone and a new beginning. Often we overlook the ‘neutral zone’ we try and rush through it or ignore it, but it is in the transition in and out of these stages and the disorientation that we feel where the growth in understanding and ability to respond well comes.

Emma Inneson’s latest book “Middling” is all about this, learning to live within the tensions, especially in a polarised world and to not see the middle “as a place of accident, mediocrity or stagnation, but as a place of faithfulness, authenticity and hope.”

When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, it only took three days before the complex reality of their new situation started to dawn on them. They had escaped Pharaoh’s oppression only to find the water they had to drink was bitter. Moses cries out to the Lord, the Lord intervenes, the water becomes sweet and they are led to Elim, a place that has an abundance of water (Exodus 15:27).

A month and a half later, the Israelites are grumbling again, this time they are hungry, yearning for the ‘fleshpots’ in Egypt where they ate their fill. The Lord provides manna for them to gather each day. Challenge, hardship, grumbling, desperate cries, God intervenes, reminds them of the covenant he made with them, responds to their needs, and on the cycle goes. Their disorientating middle goes on... for forty years.

I would suggest being a follower of Christ is to be in a permanent state of transition, in a permanent middle place. As a community of believers, the church, the ‘Ekklesia’ we are called out to proclaim the gospel, a gospel of hope and yet, it is not easy or comfortable. It requires us to live in the now of a future hope that we do not yet see.

Anyone who has made that step to follow Christ into the unknown will know it is both compelling and joyful but also disorientating and bewildering. It’s a cross shaped place of tension. To navigate it well, we need the one who knew all about cross shapes, whose life, death, resurrection and ascension gives us not just a pattern to follow, but a deep prayerful relationship that gives wisdom and courage when the challenges arise. The Ven. Emma Sykes writes... July 2026

**The Ven. Emma Sykes Archdeacon of East Derbyshire**