

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 12th July 2026

Services In Our Churches This Sunday

- Breakfast Church at All Saints, 8am.
- Morning Worship at All Saints, 10am. Mary Staunton will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St John's, 10am. Dawn Perry will be speaking.
- Holy Communion at St Andrew's, 11am. Led by Alun Rowlands.

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

Collect

Creator God,
You made us all in your image:
May we discern you in all that we see,
And serve you in all that we do;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

This Sunday's Reading at All Saints

Genesis 25: 19-end, Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

This Sunday's Reading at All Saints

Romans 8: 1-11, Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

Next Sunday's Reading

Romans 8: 12 – 25, Matt 13: 24-30, 36-43

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.

Thursdays: **CTiM Bible Study** 10.30am at St John's Link. (2nd + 4th Thur of month)

Fridays: **St John's Rest Stop Café** 10am – 12pm in the Link.

Thoughts on Matthew chapter 11:16-19 and 25-30

Matthew 11:16-19 and 25-30 address human stubbornness versus childlike faith. Jesus laments the cynical public who rejected both persons, John the Baptist develops his own special ministry. Jesus then praises God for revealing spiritual truths to the humble rather than the self-proclaimed wise and offers rest to the spiritually exhausted. The passage can be broken down into two distinct, interconnected lessons.

The Parable of the Children (vv. 16-19) Here Jesus compares the sceptical public to fussy children in the marketplace who cannot agree on a game. If the other kids play wedding ("we played the pipe"), they refuse to dance. If they play funeral ("we sang a dirge"), they refuse to mourn.

The game weddings and funerals, went something like this. One group of children played the flute and the others were supposed to dance, but the Jews didn't dance. The second group of children then sang a dirge and the others were supposed to mourn, that is to cry out as people did at funerals, but the Jews also refused to mourn. The Jews were like fickle children who refused to play each other's games.

People complained that John the Baptist was too strict and possessed by a demon because he fasted and lived in the wilderness. In contrast, they complained that Jesus was a "glutton and a drunkard" because He ate and drank with tax collectors and sinners.

No matter what approach God used, the cynical crowd found an excuse to reject it. They were more interested in maintaining their own rigid expectations than accepting God's truth.

Now in the final section of our reading from Matthew. The Revelation to the "Infants" (vv. 25-27).

This refers to the religious elite (the Pharisees and scribes) who relied on their intellect, status, and man-made rules to understand God. Their pride effectively blinded them.

The Infants in our reading refers to the "little ones"—the outcasts, the poor in spirit, and the simple-hearted. They possess childlike humility and are open to God's grace. Divine truth is not reserved for the intellectual or the religiously privileged. It is revealed to those who come with a teachable, humble spirit.

The Invitation to Rest that's verses 28-30.

Weary and Burdened describes people weighed down by the heavy, exhausting legalistic rules and rituals that the religious leaders demanded they follow to be right with God.

Jesus does promise rest to all who are weary and burdened who come to him. He will take away our burden of sin, for his rest is spiritual, it allows us to have inner peace. It is rest for our souls and this rest will last for ever.

In order to find this true rest and peace it is necessary to come to the one true giver of peace and that is Jesus Christ.

Now a yoke is mentioned in the text.

In Jesus' time, a "yoke" was a wooden beam placed over the necks of animals to guide them. It was also used metaphorically by rabbis to describe and show their submission to the Law.

One of the special items of clothing a priest wears is a stole. This scarf-like band of material is placed around our necks and symbolises that at our ordination we responded to Christ's call on our lives to fulfil a particular ministry among his people. We chose to submit ourselves to Christ's just and gentle rule and to try to live-out the values of his Kingdom, calling others to share in the good news as we go. I can still recall the moment 13 years ago, the 4th of July to be precise when my stole was placed over my shoulders by Peter as my priestly ministry began. The stole represents the yoke – by which Christ directs us and steers us. And even makes us do things we otherwise wouldn't dream of doing and we are told that this yoke is easy and light.

In contrast the Jews lived under the yoke of the law and this yoke for them was a heavy burden, they were obliged to obey hundreds of regulations, if they broke one of these regulations it was counted as if they had broken the whole law.

Jesus contrasts the oppressive rules of the religious elite of His day with His own way. He asks followers to take on His yoke—a way of life centered on love, grace, and rest, which is fulfilling and restores the soul.

The yoke that Jesus offers was a yoke of obedience, but not to any law but to Jesus himself. To obey Jesus is not a burden because he is our friend, our shepherd and our saviour.

Jesus is gentle and humble, He is not impatient with us when we are slow to learn and He is not harsh with us when we stumble. Jesus' yoke is easy, but this doesn't mean as followers we will have an easy life. The path for every Christian can be narrow and difficult but with Christ's help we don't have to labour under the yoke of law. Romans chapter eight verse two states; that 'through Jesus Christ the law of the spirit of life has set us free from the law of sin and death'

We don't have to carry the burden of sin, sorrow and worry. Jesus is there for us, He strengthens us and He gives us joy as we follow Him.

Amen. *Rev Ian*

Notices

Benefice BBQ – This Sunday 12th July from 1pm at All Saints Centre. **If you are able to bring a fold up garden chair, that would be helpful. We are looking forward to seeing you.** *Peter and Helen*

Sunday Afternoons in the Link – Sunday 19th July, 2 – 4pm. Come along to St John's Link for games, refreshments and friendly chat.

Our Love Prayers and Sympathy – to the family of Mavis Deeley. The funeral will be on Friday 24th July at 10am at Markeaton Crematorium, main chapel. If anyone needs a lift, please let me know. *Judi* 07531495891.

Midweek Matinee – This month's film is The Alamo. Come and watch along at All Saints Centre on Wednesday 29th July at 2pm. Tickets £5 includes theatre snacks, pay on the door.

Maker's Market – Saturday 15th August 10am – 3pm at All Saints Church and Centre. Join us for our first ever Maker's Market. ***A variety of stalls, showcasing and selling handcrafted products created by local artisans.*** If you would like a stall (£12), please contact Karen on 07927183325 or the office. We would welcome help with this event, if you would like to get involved, please let us know.

Temporary Help Needed - We are in need of volunteers to help clean the All Saints Centre at various times during the week until September. If you are able to help, please speak to Rebekah or the Wardens (James and Janice). Thank you.

Thank You - Thank you to all who helped in any way with the Mickleover fair last Saturday. It was good to be able to show our presence at the event. *Mike Shooter*

Alpha – Christian Basics Course. From September 9th, (7pm Wednesday evenings) we will be hosting a new Alpha course. Leaflets will be in the churches soon for anyone to pick up. We are hosting on behalf of Christians Together in Mickleover. If anyone would like to help host, please also get in touch with Peter on 07725740407 or peterwalley@btinternet.com