THREEFOLD

NOVEMBER 2026



ALL SAINT'S, 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

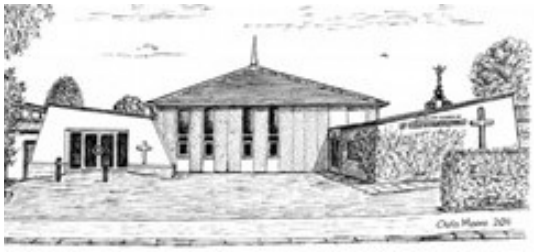
Office Hours: 9am - 3pm on Tuesdays - Thursdays
Open Church: Enquire at the office

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

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:

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:

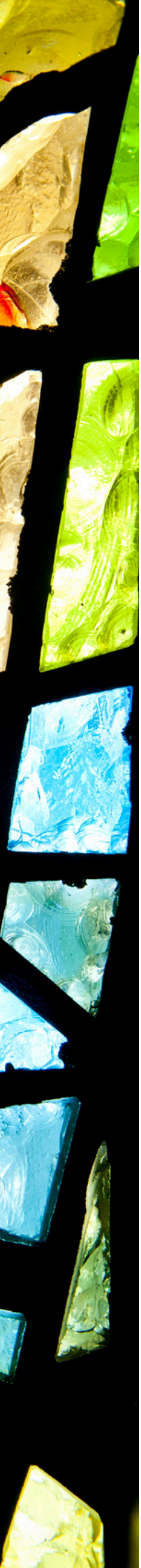
All Saints: 01332 510446 admin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk

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



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

EDITOR'S SCRIBBLES

Welcome to our November issue of Threefold with news of all that is going on this month in our churches.

Our 5th November Bonfire Night tradition with fireworks recalls the failed Gunpowder Plot of 1605 and has particular resonance today as we confront bomb plots and attempts to disrupt our civil authorities often driven by religious fanaticism. Back in 1605 Guy (or Guido) Fawkes and four fellow conspirators planned to explode twenty barrels of gunpowder beneath the House of Lords on the day of the State Opening of Parliament with the King, Lords and Commons present. Their intention as they saw it was to re-establish the true Catholic religion and root out heresy.

Their plan was thwarted when Lord Monteagle, a Catholic, was warned by a friend who knew about the plot not to attend the State Opening. He loyally warned the King and a search of cellars under the House of Lords found Guy Fawkes. He and his conspirators were tried for treason and executed in January 1606. Following the executions the Observance of 5th November 1605 Act was passed making this an official day of thanksgiving and deliverance. It remained in force until 1859. So as we let off fireworks on 5th November we should reflect on the origins of Bonfire Night, the motivation of the conspirators and how that is paralleled by what terrorists are doing today.

As Peter and Helen move on this month after 14 years service to our Mickleover community with our thanks and prayers for the future, we also remember our ministry team and churchwardens as they take on extra duties and responsibilities while we await a new vicar.

Richard

The deadline for the next magazine will be 16th November

NOVEMBER CHURCHES' CALENDAR

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

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

Sunday 1st	10am	**Holy Communion**	All Saints
	10am	**Morning Praise**	St John's
	2pm	**Craft-ernoon**	St John's Link
Monday 2nd	7pm	**PCC Meeting**	All Saints
Saturday 7th	10am - 3pm	**Craft, Coffee & Tabletop Sale**	All Saints
Sunday 8th *Remembrance Sunday*	10am	**Morning Worship**	All Saints
	10am	**Holy Communion**	St John's
	11am	**Holy Communion**	St Andrew's
Saturday 14th	8.15am	**Who Let the Dads Out?**	All Saints
Sunday 15th	8am	**Breakfast Church**	All Saints
	10am	**Holy Communion**	All Saints
	10am	**Morning Praise with JACK**	St John's
	2 - 4pm	**Sunday Afternoon in the Link**	St John's
	3pm	**Commemoration Service**	All Saints
Monday 16th	2pm	**PCC Meeting**	St John's
Friday 20th	7pm	**St Andrew's Quiz**	St John's Hall
Saturday 21st	7 - 9.30pm	**Paint, Sip & Smile**	St John's
Sunday 22nd	10am	**Morning Praise**	All Saints
	10am	**Holy Communion**	St John's
	3pm	**Peter & Helen Farewell Service**	All Saints
Wednesday 25th	2pm	**Midweek Matinee: The Quiet Man**	All Saints Centre
Saturday 28th	10am - 1pm	**Christmas Craft Fair**	St John's
Sunday 29th	10am	**MA Holy Communion**	All Saints
	4pm	**Christmas Tree Festival Carols**	All Saints

PRAYER CHAIN

All Saints

Marion Godlington
Denise Martin
Steph Brinklow

St John's - Please text or call Paul Pritchard (Co-ordinator). His details are on the contact page at the front of the magazine.

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.



Lord of the nations,
Saviour and judge of all:
remove from human hearts
all bitterness and hate,
grant to those who have died in war
your mercy and forgiveness
and bring us all to the peace
of your eternal Kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who suffered and died,
and now lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end. Amen.



CTiM PRAYER WALK



Date: Thursday 5th November
Time: 10.15am
Meeting at: St John's Link

To avoid walking in bad weather, during the winter months we will meet to pray in the Link. We spend about an hour to pray for our community, businesses, schools, etc. as led by the Spirit. Listening for anything that the Spirit prompts. This is also an opportunity for those less able to walk to join us.

If you plan to join us please let me know by phone or text.

Thanks, Ray Lee

CONGRATULATIONS

on your Baptism

Daphne
on 14th November
at St Andrew's

Edith
on 15th November
at All Saints

Harrison
on 22nd November
at All Saints

LETTER FROM PETER

‘So long, farewell, Auf wiedersehen, goodbye’. As this song was played at the end of dear Sybil Wetton’s funeral recently, I recalled how, in her own quiet way she had been a huge support to the growing ministry team from the time we arrived Mickleover. And now it is time for us to move on. Nearly 15 years has been the longest time we have lived in one place in our married lives! So how do we sum that up?

I think joyful, fulfilling and challenging. A real privilege to have served alongside all those on the team over the years, to have experienced the highs and lows of Ministry, alongside PCC members and churchwardens. Ministry in a multi-parish benefice is now the norm. Appointing Helen and then Rebekah as parish coordinators has helped hugely to support us all. I am deeply grateful to everyone.

One of the real joys over the years has been getting to know and serve the congregations and the community outside. The Church of England gives us the immense privilege to welcome people for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Many deeply valued members of these communities, who welcomed us in 2012 have left us now, and they remain dear in our memory. At the other end of life there are continuing challenges for us to ‘grow younger.’ So, work with schools is so important and definitely has to be on the basis of mutual relationship. I have enjoyed my time as a Governor for Silverhill School, and am very grateful to colleagues for keeping up relationships with Brookfield, Mickleover Primary, Ravensdale and more recently Hackwood School. In future there may be a church school at New House Farm and that is something to hold in your prayers. With challenges, as the culture has changed, we have been encouraged to see the emergence in both churches of new ways of welcoming children. Please continue to pray for and support this work.

Elsewhere in the community early on, I was asked to be an Honorary Chaplain to the local branch of the Royal British Legion. The annual Remembrance parade takes considerable planning and things may have to change in the future as compliance with the full scope of Martyn’s Law (anti-terror) will affect large gatherings (whether inside or out).

Over these years we have been able to make the buildings better fit for worship and to welcome others in the community. There inevitably was more work to do with All Saints but a new AV, WI-FI and lighting system and boiler were installed. Later we were able to take out the pews in the north and south aisles, install a tea bar and a toilet and have tables for refreshments. That has made a huge difference to the welcome people experience week by week.

St Johns had enjoyed the Link as a new addition before we arrived and has since improved its AV system and provided computer tablets for people to read the liturgy if they cannot read the screens. News of that was reported in the media, going as far as Germany! (Lo, the word of God was spread by tablet!)

Covid provided huge challenges when we had to be on Zoom to worship. We grew in skill in preparing liturgy, delivering songs using videos and leading prayers online. Breakout rooms became coffee times and, as people from different churches came on-line together in the same rooms, we saw new friendships and fellowship between the churches. The upshot of this is that still we are able to offer You Tube services each week for any who are housebound.

The cafe initiatives, that emerged as we began to meet again after COVID, both in All Saints and St Johns, have proved warm and safe spaces for people to meet and feel welcome and have made wonderful links into the community. It was around that time too that Friends of Mickleover Manor Woodlands was set up in the woodland adjacent to the graveyard at All Saints and St Johns continued its input into the care of Mickleover Meadows.

In January 2022 I was licensed as Priest-in-Charge of St Andrews Radbourne and they joined the Benefice. Learning about the ins and outs of a small village at the corner of a shooting estate has been an enjoyable experience. Most recently seeing the installation of a toilet and the improvement of the churchyard makes the church a more accessible and peaceful space to visit and pray.

Throughout all this time it has been great to be able to work alongside you and encourage new initiatives of all kinds and to build new relationships across the community. Fetes, BBQs, Fairs, Festivals and special Seasonal worship services at all the churches have been highlights for us.

It has been an immense privilege to serve as priest and Vicar here. We accept the challenge to move on now, knowing it is God's call for us at this time. We are delighted to be staying in Derby and to serve in the wider Diocese. Whatever happens in the future, I am convinced that God has a plan for Mickleover. He is the one that we must lean on and not try and do things simply out of our own understanding. As Helen and I have been praying through this transition time for us all we were reminded of those verses we shared with you as we started here in March 2012, Ephesians 3:18-21. '(We) pray that you may have power to comprehend…what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine to him glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.' We will miss you all and we trust God will continue to lead you on in the months and years ahead.

With our love and prayers, Peter and Helen

ANNOUNCEMENT

From: The Bishop of Derby's Office

Date: 2nd Octover, 2026

The Acting Bishop of Derby is delighted to announce that the Revd Canon Peter Walley, Vicar of Mickleover and Radbourne, Diocese of Derby, has been appointed Chaplain to the Bishop of Derby in the same diocese. Peter will start in post on Monday 16th November.

HOW TO KNOW YOU'RE BLESSED

"May I never forget the good things he does for me."

Psalm 103:2 NLT

It's the bad days that help us to appreciate the good days. Without them, we'd have no comparison point. David was talking to himself one day, and he recorded his thoughts for us: 'May I never forget the good things he does for me.' Here are six 'good things' worth thinking about:

1) If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million people who will not survive this week.

2) If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are better off than five hundred million people in the world.

3) If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than three billion people in the world.

4) If you have food in the fridge, clothes on your back, a roof over your head, and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75 per cent of the world.

5) If you have money in the bank or in your wallet, or spare change in a dish somewhere, you rank among the top 8 per cent of the world's wealthy.

6) If you can read this devotion, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all. There is always someone who is worse off. That doesn't mean you revel in other people's misery. But it ought to heighten your Christ-like compassion and give you a sense of gratitude that spills over into thanksgiving each day.

RADBOURNE St Andrew's QUIZ!

Friday 20 November 2026
7.00pm

St Johns Hall, Mickleover, DE3 9HD
Teams of 6 max
£12.50pp Includes Ploughman's platter
Bar and Raffle

Please email your Team Name and number in team to Tim at:
woodlandsgp@gmail.com
You will receive booking confirmation and payment details.

Paint, Sip & Smile

21ST NOVEMBER | ST JOHN'S | 7-9.30PM

Decorate a tote bag as you sip your favourite tipple
(bring your own drink)

- £5 each -

Please book in advance at 01332 513363 or
admin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk



Lest We Forget

Dedication of the war memorial at All Saints on 23rd May 1920

The chap in uniform is MaJ Gen Sir Arthur Hoskins. He is accompanied by other local dignitaries including Henry Edward Ayre who set up the parade and gave his house to the veterans of Mickleover when he left Western Road to move into the Limes. *Colourised version of the black and white photograph.*

COMMEMORATION FOR THE RECENTLY BEREAVED

The commemoration service this year will take place at **All Saints Church on Sunday 15th November at 3pm.**

If you have a loved one you wish to be remembered during the service, please write their names clearly on the lists at the back of the churches.

PETER & HELEN'S FAREWELL SERVICE

Sunday 22nd November, 3pm at All Saints Church

This will be Peter & Helen's last service in Mickleover & Radbourne as Peter moves on to his new role as Chaplain to the Bishop of Derby.



Saturday 7th November 10am - 3pm

CRAFT, COFFEE &

TABLETOP SALE

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Light lunch will be available in the afternoon

FREE ENTRY!



Midweek Matinee

at

All Saints Centre





Showing:

The Quiet Man

Wednesday 25th November at 2pm

£5 Adults, £2 Children

Theatre snacks included

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the LORD's favour has come."

When Jesus began his public ministry (as recorded in Luke 4 above) he quoted a text from Isaiah chapter 61 in order to spell out some important elements of his mission. At the heart of that agenda was a concern and action plan for helping marginalised and disadvantaged people. Many of the charities that seek to help such people are – historically and today – built upon Christian convictions and priorities. In biblical times there was no central support or social provision for people who suffered from disabilities or other isolating physical or mental illnesses. However, we are taught in the scriptures, and through the example of Jesus and his disciples, to show effective compassion towards those who are struggling with disabilities and being marginalised.

David became aware of such a person: Jonathan's son Mephibosheth. Hidden away from mainstream life, Mephibosheth's life was blighted by being crippled with lameness in both feet. David called for Mephibosheth to be brought to him, not to exact revenge on him for his grandfather's murderous campaign against David, but in order to show him compassion. This was not a case of organisational charity, but personal charity; of one man (King David) towards a needy individual (Mephibosheth). To love our neighbour as ourselves is an important mandate which any of us can follow if we open our eyes and our hearts.

PRAYER FOR TODAY *Loving and compassionate Lord, I cannot help everyone, but please alert me today to those whom I can help with practical loving compassion. Amen.*

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Nationwide Christian Trust is the working name of Mulberry House Ministry House. Reg. Charity No. 282667 Mulberry House, Chelmsford Road, High Ongar, Essex CM5 9NL



CRAFT-ERNOON

Sunday 1st November
2 - 4pm
in the Link at St John's

Create something amazing with felt!
suitable for all abilities

£5 per person

Places are limited, book in advance by contacting
admin@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk
01332 513363

Please bring your own sharp scissors

Christmas Tree Festival

with Newmount Brass Band

All Saints Church
29th November from 4pm

Opening with carols, surrounded by themed Christmas trees and wreaths created by local groups and our community. Come and vote for the best tree. There is also a children's quiz with treats!

The trees will be on display until **Sunday 6th December** with refreshments available during opening times.

Please view our website for opening times
www.mickleoveranglicans.org.uk
or call 01132 510446



THE THEOLOGY OF THE TEACUP

There is something wonderfully civilised about a cup of tea. I am an Earl Grey tea drinker. We British instinctively understand this. Good news? Put the kettle on. Bad news? Put the kettle on. Don't know whether it's good news or bad news? Put the kettle on while you decide.

Some nations have constitutions. We have kettles. And I have come to believe there is a theology of the teacup. Not because tea itself is sacred but because of what so often happens around it.

We stop. We sit. We talk. We listen. We laugh. We cry. And occasionally, without realising it, we find ourselves on holy ground.

The Ministry of Slowing Down

We are living faster than ever, but I'm not convinced we are getting anywhere quicker. We have instant messaging, fast food, express checkouts, next-day delivery and high-speed internet – yet nobody seems to have any time. We have become experts at saving time and amateurs at enjoying it.

A cup of tea makes you stop. The kettle boils. The tea brews. You sit down. Some things cannot be rushed. People are among them.

Jesus was extraordinarily busy. Crowds followed him. People wanted healing, teaching, answers and miracles. Yet Jesus never appears frantic. He could stop for Bartimaeus, notice Zacchaeus, talk with a Samaritan woman, take children into his arms. Jesus was not simply physically present; he was personally present. We are not always so good at that. Our body can be in the room while our mind is answering a text, replaying yesterday and organising tomorrow. Perhaps one of the great spiritual disciplines of our age is simply to be where we are. Hurry accomplishes tasks. Presence touches people.

The Teacup and the Tongue

Tea has another remarkable quality: it encourages conversation. 'How are you?', 'Fine.' Which really means: 'Feeling in need of encouragement.' A few sips later: 'Well, actually…' And 'actually' is often where the real conversation begins. Actually, I'm worried. Actually, things aren't going very well. Actually, I don't know what to do. Actually, I've been thinking about God. The first cup starts the conversation. The second often gets the truth.

The Bible says, 'Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak' (James 1:19 NIV).

Many of us would prefer that verse reversed. We are quick to speak, particularly when we have advice available. But people don't always need answers. Sometimes they need ears We don't have to fix every problem, complete every sentence or immediately tell people about the remarkably similar thing that happened to us twenty years ago. Listening is love with its mouth closed. And there is a considerable difference between listening and waiting for your turn to speak.

God in the Ordinary

We often expect to find God in the spectacular – mountaintops, conferences – yet Scripture repeatedly shows God using ordinary things. Moses had a staff. David had a sling. A widow had a jar of oil. Jesus used a towel and basin, bread and wine. God seems remarkably comfortable with ordinary things. We keep looking for fireworks; God keeps lighting candles. Some of life's holiest moments don't look particularly holy. A conversation around the kitchen table. A telephone call at exactly the right moment. A friend sitting beside you when life hurts. Laughter returning after a season of sadness. A cup of tea with somebody who needs to talk. Never underestimate an ordinary moment placed in God's hands. A cup of tea won't change the world, but a conversation over one might.

Friendship Needs Time

Friendships are rarely sustained by grand gestures. They grow through small investments made repeatedly. Time. Attention. Questions. Laughter. Tears. Shared memories. And quite possibly Earl Grey tea.

You cannot microwave friendship, it has to brew. Some friendships, like good tea, grow stronger with time. Others, unfortunately, get stewed.

Then there is the delicate question of what to do when somebody has stayed rather longer than anticipated. Christians can find this difficult. We want to be gracious. We want to be loving. We also want to get on. Over the years I have developed a phrase which combines Christian spirituality with unmistakable clarity: 'Let's just pray before you go.'

The important words are 'before you go'. Don't simply say, 'Let's pray.' You could be there for another hour. 'Let's pray before you go' establishes both the spiritual activity and the travel arrangements. Even the Holy Spirit understands the meeting is ending.

Grace needs boundaries. Jesus loved people deeply but he also withdrew. Sometimes the most gracious words you can say are, 'It's been wonderful seeing you.' Notice the tense.

Leave Some Margin

Many of Jesus's memorable encounters arrived as interruptions. Bartimaeus shouted from the roadside. Jairus arrived with an emergency. A woman touched Jesus's robe while he was on his way to Jairus's house. Children appeared when the disciples apparently had more important things to do.

Jesus repeatedly turned interruptions into encounters. We organise life around appointments. God sometimes arrives without one. Of course, not every interruption is divine. Some interruptions are simply interruptions. Wisdom is knowing the difference. But if every minute is allocated, every silence filled and every gap occupied, perhaps there is no room left for the unexpected.

A diary can be full while a life is empty. Leave some margin. It is often in the margins that meaningful conversations happen.

Another Cup

There is another cup at the heart of the Christian faith. On the night before the cross, Jesus took a cup: 'Then He took a cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them…' (Matthew 26:27 NIV).

That cup pointed towards the cross. It reminds us that Christianity is ultimately not about what we do for God but what God has done for us. Jesus gave himself. At the cross, love wasn't merely spoken; love acted.

Grace is not God giving us what we deserve. Grace is God giving us himself.

Perhaps the humble teacup can remind us of that principle. When we sit with another person, listen and give them our undivided attention, we are giving something that cannot be recovered: time.

Money can be replaced. Possessions can be replaced. Time cannot. When you give someone your time, you give them a piece of your life.

Put the Kettle On

Perhaps we sometimes make life more complicated than it needs to be. We don't always need another strategy. We don't always need another meeting. And we certainly don't always need another WhatsApp group. Sometimes we need to sit down. Listen. Talk. Laugh. Cry. Be present. We need fewer conversations through screens and more across tables. Fewer emojis and more emotions. Fewer 'We must catch up's and more 'How about Tuesday?'

Life is largely lived in the ordinary moments between the big occasions. And one day we may discover that those ordinary moments were the big occasions.

So make time. Ask another question. Listen to the answer. Laugh often. Leave some margin. And when you don't quite know what else to do, there is always one deeply theological response: put the kettle on.

And if, after several cups, I say, 'Let's just pray before you go…'
you know what that means!

J.John
jjohn.com





St John's Church Hall, Devonshire Drive

Wreath Making Workshop

Join us for an afternoon creating your own unique Christmas wreath. All supplies provided with guided tuition and refreshments.

Contact St John's office for tickets

£15 per person

Sunday 6th December
12 - 2.30pm or 3.30 - 6pm

Christmas & Craft Fair

Saturday 28th November
10am - 1pm

St John's Church
Devonshire Drive, Mickleover

Lots of stalls to enjoy!

External Crafters, Cakes, Tombola, Jams & Pickles, Books Jigsaws, Raffle, Gifts and lots more!

Refreshments served throughout and lunches from 11.30am - 12.45pm

Do pop in for a visit



PCC NOTES

Meeting held at: All Saints on 7th September 2026

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

During the meeting we discussed:

- Craft, Coffee and Tabletop Sale will be on 7th November, Christmas Tree Festival will begin with carols on 29th November.
- Gift Aid income has decreased. Treasurer to speak to congregation to clear any doubts/misconceptions.
- New church glass doors - the architect has visited to measure up.
- Church policies were reviewed and amendments made.
- Feedback is needed on the AV sound system to investigate the source of the problem for repairs.
- Another brown bin is needed for the churchyard.

Meeting held at: St John's on 23rd September 2026

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

At our September meeting, along with other routine business, we agreed:

- a list of Charitable Giving donations for 2026 totalling £5,350, £3,900 for local and UK national charities and £1,900 for overseas charities including £1,000 for Friends of Kenya's Children. This left £450 unallocated available for emergency appeals.
- Mission Without Borders, given its ongoing work in Ukraine, should be the Christmas Card Appeal.
- the virginia creeper on the front should be removed and replaced with low level greenery and a large notice board for posters with secure cover to be installed above.
- to set out a permanent area with chairs and low hexagonal tables for young people and to remove distracting clutter from the area in front of the prayer screen.
- an update to our Everyday Faith Plan noting that the current Alpha course is running successfully and that there is a confirmation service in the Cathedral in January.
- arrangements for our Christmas Tree Festival 5 - 12th December.



NEW OPERA COMPANY DERBY
Reg. Charity 260253

Autumn into Winter Concert 2026

St Matthew's Church
Darley Abbey, DE22 1EX
2.30pm Saturday 28 November

In aid of The Hope Centre, Derby



St John's Church Hall
Mickleover, DE3 9HD
2.30pm Saturday 5 December

In aid of The Friends of Kenya's Children

Coffee/tea/squash/biscuits included

Book in advance or buy tickets at the door
01332 557096 or 01332 882637
Email: jannice@read55.plus.com or
newoperacompany@hotmail.com

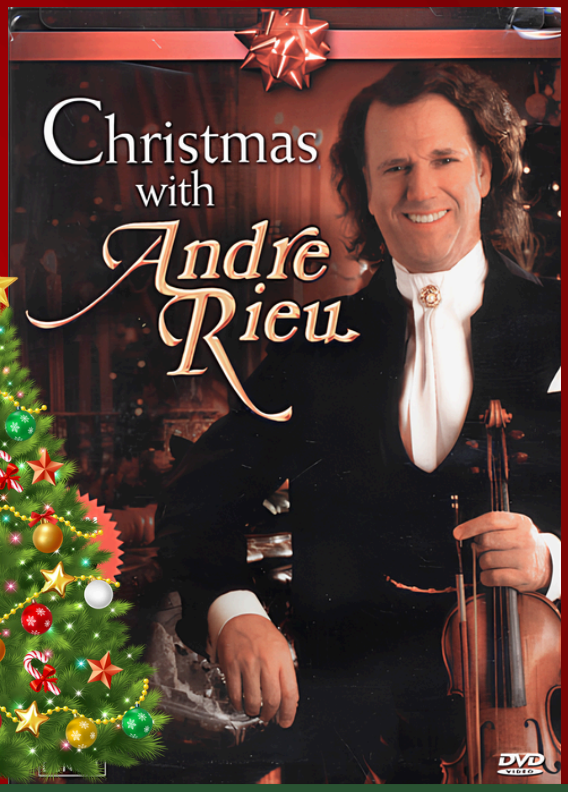
Christmas Soirée



Join us for this special evening as we watch

Christmas with Andre Rieu
on Friday 4th December at 7pm

in All Saints Church while surrounded by Christmas Trees and lights



£5 Adults, £2 Children
Theatre snacks included

An Update on the Work of FKC in Kenya
(Friends of Kenya's Children)

FKC is a charity based in Derby supporting the work of Champions School in Eldoret Kenya. This is a precis of the report to be delivered at the AGM in St John's Church on 28th October 2026

Through all the ups and downs, Champions' School has made considerable progress during the past year coping with 'events' as they arise. Thankfully there have not been catastrophic floods because the big flood in 2024/5 did extensive damage to the school, which has mostly been satisfactorily repaired. The food crisis of previous years hasn't been repeated either thanks to prudent forward planning and funds to buy maize at harvest time. However, the rising price of fuel has meant that in order to continue collecting students from their homes, an increased charge had to be made. Parents couldn't afford this and took their children out of school. Consequently, the school's income dropped having a serious effect on funds, this needed a quick resolution. FKC provided funds to service and repair the van as well as having to make regular contributions to the fuel cost, resulting in all children returning to school.



Champions' School began as a 'Preparatory School' but recently, the Kenyan Department of Education asked the Board to convert it into a Junior Secondary School. This meant extra facilities would be needed to accommodate the additional curriculum, but with the Vocational Centre coming into existence it will mean they will be able to share the fully equipped classrooms for practical training. As a result the School has received its full registration as a Junior Secondary School.

Much has been said about the Kenyan Education system. Champions' has had a playgroup, two pre-primary, six primary and three junior secondary classes. The new curriculum, known as the 'Competency Based Curriculum' emphasises students "developing the ability to apply knowledge, skills and values in real-life situations". The staff have embraced this big change, as it helps bring out the best in each learner – but so far, they have managed with the older resources, adapting as best they could. But the Local Authority has

insisted the school acquire the full computer-based programmes. This meant a £5,000 cost, which they could not afford! FKC provided it, to ensure the school retained its registration. This does pose a challenge, as new programmes will be produced every year and schools will be expected to buy them.



The new system assumes that many young people, will leave school at the end of the 9 years of primary and junior secondary education. Senior Secondary High Schools provide three additional years for A levels for the more academically able. Senior Secondary High Schools provide three additional years for A levels for the more academically able. Orphans at Champions' boarder programme, usually leave at 13 or 14, this is still very young to return to uncertain and unsafe futures in their home villages. In past years, FKC have sponsored additional years at high school for some – but our funds do not permit this at present. However, soon there will be the possibility of a further year's training in the Vocational Centre for those interested in a trade.

This Vocational Centre is certainly 'good news'! You may remember the challenges to achieve Pastor Kenneth's, vision. Yet wonderfully the church he leads, which is adjacent to the school, has made available a piece of land for the necessary classrooms/workshops needed. This is ideal, as it is close enough for the school to have daytime use, yet not in the school compound from a safeguarding perspective. FKC agreed to fund the building even though it would be a drain on its resources. Yet in May 2026 we were informed of a £35,000 bequest from the estate of a long-standing FKC supporter. This was a complete surprise, and it arrived in the same week as the £20,000 quotation for the building work came through. Amazing



miraculous timing yet again! So, the building is currently being completed, and St John's Mickleover's generous contribution of £3000.00 will be used to equip it with all

the machinery and materials needed to enable several trades for young people to be taught almost immediately. It is anticipated that as the Centre becomes established, it will serve the needs of School leavers and others in the community wanting a trade with which to earn their living.

It has certainly been a year of highs and lows as always, with the work at Champions' School continuing successfully in spite of everything. What always shines through is the determination of Kenneth, the school's Director, the Head Teacher and their staff and the School Management Board who overcome all obstacles in their pursuit of excellence and growth of the school. It is hoped that the Vocational Centre will be another major contributor to the success of this venture which is quietly doing so much good in one small corner of a slum on the outskirts of a Kenyan city – the beacon of hope its founder dreamed of, when he began his work as a young pastor in the place of work he was called to.

Rev Paul Pritchard & **Sandra Noon**
Chair of FKC Trustees *Secretary and Founder of FKC*

Christmas Tree Festival at St John's

5th - 12th December

Free entry to view the trees that have been created by local schools and groups connected with St John's

The church will be open at various times Monday to Friday to view the trees. We hope to add an evening too!



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 CAFÉ

Wednesdays
10am - 12pm
All Saints Centre

Come for a friendly chat, tea/coffee with delicious 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!

Silence

Silence is golden, a treasured healing time, yet our thoughts whirl and dash around in our minds.

To be still in body is perhaps the start - not attempting too much at a time or being dismayed when the mind does not seem to slow down. Perhaps we need to remember that as babies we learnt a new skill. A brief moment and it was gone but something gained and remembered, registered, and the time we tried again and again till a moment grew and stayed and we grew too.

“A thousand years is but a day…”

In the hurly-burly of our noisy modern day world - seemingly measured in time slots to do/achieve this, that and the other - even working across allowed breaks and meal slots - means the insight of why such rests are vital to our welfare is gone.

Across the faiths - and none - can be found the time of drawing aside, taking a break - however it may be called, for many this is not recognised. Many do recognise and realise our human minds and bodies need a break. An old Anthony Newley song ‘Stop the World I Want to Get Off’ may seem extreme and wishful thinking but it is an important expression of the need to be still.

So let us do as babies do - a fleeting moment - lifting eyes from the task - noticing someone laughing, sharing a smile, hearing a baby make a noise, a child laughing, a bird in flight, a flower in bud or blooming. There are a myriad of happenchance moments in our day. Let the moment give you pause to reflect and remember - to give joy in the remembering.

It is a start, do it again and again in your day - each day - and you may find like a baby, the new skill has been given. Gather the moments together at sometime in your day - giving time to sit and be mindful of them all and what they may offer you.

What is the use, you may ask, like any new skill this small act will, imperceptibly become part of your day’s pattern and create a rhythm of life within a part of you that cherishes and refreshes the whole.

A pebble, however small, thrown into a pond sends ripples flowing out across the water. So your act of stillness, however momentary it will ripple across your day - a stirring and refreshing.

Jan

St John's Church

at the heart of the community

admin-stjohns@mickleoveranglicans.org.uk
01332 513363

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.

Sunday Afternoon in the Link

Spend a relaxing couple of hours on the

3rd Sunday of the month

2 - 4pm

at St John's Link

There will be games for all ages (feel free to bring your own), or just come to chat and enjoy being with other people. Refreshments will be available throughout the afternoon. No set charge, just a donation if you wish to make one.

Rest Stop Café

10AM - 12PM

Every Friday at

St John's

Join us for a coffee/tea, friendly chat and of course delicious cakes!



Everyone welcome!

Internet Café

St John's Link

Monday's 10am - 12pm

Help and advice for computers, laptops, smart phones, and tablets etc.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are served mid-morning.

Bring along your own tablets, iPads and laptops or borrow one from us!

Our friendly team are happy to help!

DIOCESAN MESSAGE

Revd Sarah Watson writes...

A season of hope



Remember, remember the 5th of November! Beyond Guy Fawkes, November is a month that invites us to remember. On Remembrance Day, we pause to honour those who gave their lives in war, to pray for peace in our world, for those serving in our armed forces, and for those who continue to suffer the consequences of conflict.

Before Remembrance Day, the Church celebrates All Saints' Day (All Hallows) on 1 November, followed by All Souls' Day on 2 November. These days can easily be overlooked amidst the pumpkins and costumes of Halloween, itself a shortening of All Hallows' Eve.

When we hear the word "saint", we may think of great figures from Christian history; one of my heroes of faith is St Hild. Yet All Saints' Day celebrates all those who have faithfully followed Christ and now share in the fullness of God's presence. The writer to the Hebrews (12:1) describes the "great cloud of witnesses" surrounding us as we run the race of faith. Some are remembered in history books, but many are ordinary people whose faith shaped our own lives people who prayed for us, encouraged us, taught us about Jesus, and showed us what Christian faith looks like.

All Souls' Day gives us an opportunity to remember those whom we love but see no longer. We bring our memories, gratitude, grief, and prayers before God, trusting that those who have died are safe in his eternal care.

We also begin to look forward to Advent, remembering Christ's first coming as a child in Bethlehem and knowing that, because of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, death does not have the final word. Yet Advent is also about looking forward to Christ's return and the full establishment of God's Kingdom. The prophet Isaiah (2:4) gives us a vision of that future: "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore." Likewise, Revelation (21:4) points to a time when God "will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more."

This is the hope that sustains us. November is a season for remembering, grieving, and lamenting, but it is also a season of hope. I invite you to take a moment to remember and give thanks for those who have shaped your faith, to pray for those who mourn, and for peace in our world. Above all, may we be people of hope, encouraged by those who have gone before us and inspired to follow Christ faithfully in our own generation.

Reverend Sarah Watson ***Acting Archdeacon of Derby City and South Derbyshire***