



## St Nick's, Allestree & St Paul's, Quarndon

April 2023

### April 2023 - Final message from the Curate.

The beginning of April, this year, also marks the beginning of Holy Week, the culmination of the previous five weeks of preparation that is Lent. During Holy Week we follow the highs and lows of the key events in the last days of the life of Jesus. We ride into Jerusalem on a donkey whilst the crowds gather and wave their palm branches and shout Hosanna. We gather around the Passover table as Jesus washes the feet of his disciples and shares with them the very first bread and wine. We sit and wait with Jesus in the garden as he prays to his Father one last time. Then we gather at the foot of the cross to watch as Jesus is put to death once and for all. On Holy Saturday we wait- as Jesus' disciples waited for the chance to serve the body of Jesus in the tomb, we wait. Then early on Easter morning before it is quite light, some churches gather and witness the empty tomb and celebrate our encounter with the risen Christ.



Each of these takes us deeper into the story and experience of Jesus and His disciples and every year we can experience something new. It also stands in somewhat stark contrast with the Easter celebrated by the world. As with Christmas where we wait for Christmas day to celebrate and keep going until February so does the rest of society binge on their chocolate eggs long before Easter Sunday dawns.

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**Office Hours:** Monday 12-3pm and Thursday 9am –3pm





I have learnt from bitter experience that waiting until Easter to buy your Easter eggs and chocolate means that you are more than likely to be limited in your choice- being left with only the most weird and wonderful and frankly disgusting combinations to choose from. And of course, by Easter Monday it is all gone, and the shelves will be full of something else- this year probably coronation flags and union jack decorated cakes.

This can make those of us who keep Easter in this way feel disconnected from the culture in which we live. This disconnection is an increasingly familiar feeling. There have always been generational divides, but the fast-ever-changing technological world can make these divides seem deeper and wider. We recently watched the first Mission Impossible movie, filmed in 1996. At the time of release, we marvelled at the amazing tech, watches that could take a phone call, ear buds that fitted in your ears with no wires, phones that could track someone's every movement. Imagine that! Well- I don't need to as I use all of those things every day. What was pure fantasy just a few years ago has become my everyday reality.

It has been a privilege to journey with so many of you through my curacy but now our journeys in Christ will go along different paths as God calls each one of us in different ways and the Holy Spirit blows where they blow.

When we feel disconnected from the culture around us it can be tempting to lock ourselves into our bubble and reject the changes, by doing this, though we risk pushing away connection and people.

The congregations of St Nicholas' and St Paul's face change again as, following my final service on 23rd April, I move on to my first Priest- in- Charge role in Cotmanhay and Shipley. There is a reordering of things, a rejigging of jobs as the churches continue to wait for their new priest and people step down or reshuffle what they are doing at the next APCM on 4th May.

It has been a privilege to journey with so many of you through my curacy but now our journeys in Christ will go along different paths as God calls each one of us in different ways and the Holy Spirit blows where they blow.

Now as both society and church changes we have to hold firm to what is true and important but keep ourselves open to the opportunities for connection; to seek for what is real and can enrich our lives, worship and God's mission wherever we are called to be.

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

God bless you

Dawn x

## **A Big Thank You!**

Thank you all so much for your love, support, and prayers over the past twelve months. For the lovely meals; for the visits and phone calls; for the gifts of flowers and plants; for the cards of endearment and condolence and for just being alongside us during Kate's illness and afterwards thank you. The caring and practical help from both parishes for Kate, myself and our family has been truly outstanding and has been very much appreciated. All too often we can talk glibly about being "church family" but it is often when times are hard that God's love can truly be seen and experienced through the actions of His people. The people of St. Nick's and St. Paul's really have been family to us and faithful witnesses to the abundant love of God.

Blessings,

Phil Moncur

## New Clergy Roles across Four Parishes

As the parishes of St Nicholas' Allestree and St Paul's Quarndon face a concurrent vacancy with the parishes of St Edmund's Allestree & St Matthew's Darley Abbey, I want to share our plan to appoint two whole-time, stipendiary clergy to work across these four parishes. This move comes as a response to the serious illness of Revd Peter Barham, Incumbent of Allestree, St Edmunds, and Darley Abbey, who has made public his application for ill-health retirement.

While the news of Revd Barham's illness was painful to receive, it has brought to light the need for a re-appraisal of the roles to be advertised. The Bishop of Derby and I see closer cooperation between the four parishes as a significant aid to their flourishing. In your wonderful diversity, you are not competing but co-operating in the diocesan vision of the Kingdom of God: Good News for All. The aim is to continue to exemplify the very best of your respective traditions while sharing a common life of mutual benefit and cooperation, leading to a deeper life in Christ.

The main focus of this cooperation will be the over 4300 school-aged children at no less than eight schools, including two secondary schools. The Church of England has stated its commitment to increasing the numbers of children, young people, and families through its Growing Faith initiative. The warm and trusting relationships the churches have developed with local schools position them well to welcome in the missing generations, but only by working together.

The plan is to appoint two whole-time, stipendiary clergy to be licensed across the four parishes in Allestree, Quarndon, and Darley Abbey, with one as Priest in Charge and the other as Associate Priest. In time, the hope is that through growing together in love and trust, the parishes will have the courage to form a team ministry of the four parishes, transitioning the Priest in Charge role to Team Rector and the Associate Priest as Team Vicar.



For now, the priority is to find two exceptional clergy to resource, alongside the whole people of God, mission, and ministry in these parishes. The seeds of faithful parish ministry sown by Revd Barham and the way he has gone about it create a strong foundation for his successor to build on. It is also important not to lose sight of Julie Barham's valued ministry as a licensed reader. In St Nicholas' Allestree and St Paul's Quarndon the ministries of Revd Becky Mathew and Revd Dawn Knight have also laid strong foundations for future growth.

The announcement of the plan to appoint two whole-time, stipendiary clergy is a significant step towards the continued flourishing of these four parishes. By working together, they can focus on their crucial mission priority of welcoming in the missing generations and increasing the numbers of children, young people, and families in our church communities. With the support of exceptional clergy and the whole people of God, these parishes can continue to thrive and grow together in love and trust. I look forward to working with you in the pursuit of this hopeful future.

Yours in Christ,

The Venerable Matthew Trick

Archdeacon of Derby City & South Derbyshire

## St Nicks News

- Dawn's leaving do will be at St Nicks hall starting at 12pm on Sunday 23rd April.
- Over 300 children are expected to attend the Easter Experience in the church before Easter.
- The lobby area is being redecorated by the Community payback group over the next few weeks.
- The church APCM is on Thursday 4th May 7:30pm in the church.
- Our Archdeacon Matthew Trick will be the visiting minister on April 30th for a joint service at St Nicks

## Pre-School Toy Library

Do you have any suitable pre-school toys you can donate?

Allestree Library is offering a pre-school toy library to the local community.

This will not only raise funds for the library it will also help the families who are finding life difficult at the moment by providing toys to rent for a small fee.

If you have any suitable toys (they must be of a substance that can be wiped on return) please bring them into the library

Many thanks for your help



## **Prayer Requests:**

***Please pray for:-***

- Phil and family as they mourn the loss of Kate.
- Those who are seriously ill and in need of comfort and healing.
- For progress in the calling of a new vicar to our parishes.
- Dawn's priesting and starting her new appointment at Cotmanhay and Shipley.

### **St Nick's Prayer Circle**

St Nick's have a prayer circle as part of their pastoral care set up. For those unfamiliar with the practice, it is simply a circle of people who are committed to phone along a chain when people request prayer, or a situation arises that needs communicating and praying for. You can rest assured that you are being covered in prayer when you approach someone who is on the contact list.

***If you would like to be added to the prayer circle, please get in touch with the church office.  
For more details, please see the poster at the back of St Nick's***

## Church Prayer @ St Nick's

**Pre-church prayer** has now resumed in the chapel from 9.30am to 9.45am on a Sunday morning. We pray for the service to follow and anything else the Holy Spirit prompts us to bring to our Father.

**Monthly Prayer Meeting**  
now returns to the chapel  
normally on Wednesdays  
7.30-8.30pm

This month the  
meeting will be on  
Wednesday April 26th 7:30pm



Contact Graham if you are interested in joining us in prayer, or just turn up.

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

A quote not from the Bible as you would think, but from Alfred Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate during Queen Victoria's reign.

In this season of change let us pray - individually, in pairs , in triplets and in groups. Let us draw closer to God and hear His voice.

Julie

## Coffee & Chat @ St Nick's

A reminder that Coffee & Chat meet every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, in the Church Room, 10:30am -12noon. All are welcome to join in and enjoy this lovely social, which is much appreciated after a time of not being able to gather.



## St Nick's Pub Lunches

Join us after church for a pub lunch social once a month.

The next two will be on the 16th April and 21st May at 12 noon at The Markeaton.



## Knit & Knatter @ St Nick's

Meetings are held in the Church Hall on the 1st, 3rd, and where there is a 5th Wednesday of the month, 2-3:30pm.

*Membership fee* £5 each quarter, then £1 per session.

Contact Sandra on 557114  
Come and join us for tea, biscuits, and chat.

## **Newsletter Information - Deadline!**

Please be aware that the deadline for any news you'd like to be included in the next Newsletter is always the 23rd of the month before.

Any info should be sent to the

## **St Nick's Birthdays**

If you've got a big birthday coming up, maybe 80, 90..... 100?! We'd love to know so that we can celebrate with you!

Speak to Sarah Tupling, who keeps our birthday records up to date.

## **Highfield Happy Hens**

Do you remember the farm that we used for Alpha Away days and was a lovely place to visit with children?

Well, the past owner Roger Hosking has written a book (available on Amazon) telling the story of the farm and how it was used for God's work, and what has happened after it closed. The book is called 'I want you to meet my Jesus' by Roger Hosking MBE.

(From the newsletter I'm looking at it seems that part of farm is under the ownership of Roger's daughter and is continuing to work with special needs students )

Graham



## Upcoming Services

<b>Dates/Services</b>	<b>Leaders</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Sunday 2nd April (Palm Sunday)</b> St Nick's: 10am Informal Service St Paul's: 10am Holy Communion	<i>Anna</i> <i>Lee</i>	Psalm 118:19-24; Matt 21:1-11
<b>Sunday 9th April (Easter Day)</b> St Nick's: 10am Together@ Table St Paul's: 10am Holy Communion	<i>David</i> <i>Dawn</i>	Acts 10:34-43; Matt 28:1-10
<b>Sunday 16th April</b> St Nick's: 10am Morning Praise St Pauls : 10am Holy Communion	<i>David</i> <i>Dawn</i>	Acts 2:14; 22-32; John 20:19-end
<b>Sunday 23rd April (Dawns Leaving)</b> Joint Service at St Paul's: 10am	<i>Dawn</i>	Acts 2:14;36-41 Luke 24:13-35
<b>Sunday 30th April</b> Joint Service at St Nick's 10am	<i>ArchDeacon</i> <i>Matthew Trick</i>	Acts 2:42-end John 10:1-10

### **Handy Contacts for both churches:**

**Church Office**    Anna Oldknow    **Contact:** 01332 550431

#### **St Nick's**

**Church Warden:** Paul Taylor    **Contact:** 01332 556020

**Safeguarding Lead:** Miriam Chappell **Contact:** stnicksallestree@outlook.com

**Licensed Lay Reader:** Sarah Tupling **Licensed Lay Reader:** Phil Moncur

**Licensed Lay Reader:** Bruce Innis

#### **St Paul's**

**Church Wardens:** Mike Annable **Contact:** mike@stpaulsquarndon.org.uk

Jan Calladine **Contact:** jan@stpaulsquarndon.org.uk

**Safeguarding Lead:** Rebecca Hanson **Contact:** psostpauls@outlook.com

**Church Hall Bookings:** Val Annable **Contact:** valeriejm@hotmail.co.uk

**Please get in touch if you'd like to organise a Baptism at St Nick's or St Paul's, or would like to get married or celebrate a special anniversary with the renewal of wedding vows.**

**We are always happy to respond to enquiries.**