



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

February 2026

We have several weddings booked in across our four parishes in 2026. Each one is a wonderful opportunity to walk with those couples who want to say their vows before God.



Church weddings follow a pattern that invites us to reflect on what marriage is for and what it entails, before the couple make profound commitments to one another: committing to love one another through the darkest times as well as the most joyous – for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health etc till death do us part, before exchanging rings. At their conclusion I wrap my stole around their clasped hands – tying the knot – and declare:



‘Those whom God has joined let no one put asunder’.

It's a dramatic moment, actions adding weight to the words, emotions running high, everyone present erupting in celebration.

Knowing and worshipping God and sharing His love

All this ceremony and drama, for what? It all starts with love; our desire to love and be loved. I wonder how many of you gave or received Valentine's Day cards at school? How many longed for the person you had a crush on to send you a card? How many were brave enough to send one?! The agony and the ecstasy of those days seem so innocent and simple compared with today when so much happens online. We're so connected and yet studies seem to show that younger people are lonelier than ever and struggle to find their special someone IRL (in real life).



Humans are hardwired for connection, being in relationship with others. There is an African word, ubuntu, which captures this perfectly, it means 'I am because we are.' It means that an individual's existence and well-being are tied to the community, promoting compassion, respect, and interconnectedness over individualism.

Relationship is at the heart of the Gospel too. We believe in God who is somehow Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God's plan for humanity is to take us from the estrangement of Eden lost to reconciliation between created and loving creator. And the imagery of marriage mirrors what God intends for us, the final book of the Bible, Revelation, telling us that we are the bride, Jesus is our bridegroom. I think what God is saying to us is he wants to share with each of us a close personal relationship, that oneness of heart and mind that underpins a good marriage.

By Reverend Rachael Brooks

1st February Theme: Fruits of the Spirit



St Nicholas Church



SUNDAY BREAKFAST @10

All-Age Family Service

1st Sunday of Every Month

BREAKFAST, COMMUNITY, AND A FRESH TAKE ON FAITH!

WITH A SHORT THOUGHT FOR THE DAY, FUN ACTIVITIES, AND SOMETHING
FOR ALL AGES

COME HUNGRY FOR FOOD AND FAITH!



Love God • Love One Another • Love Our Community

St Nicholas Church | 2 Lawn Ave, Allestree | stnickscyl@outlook.com

The Bible Course

NEW EDITION

**Want to
feel more
connected
to God's
word?**

Time - 2-3.15 pm

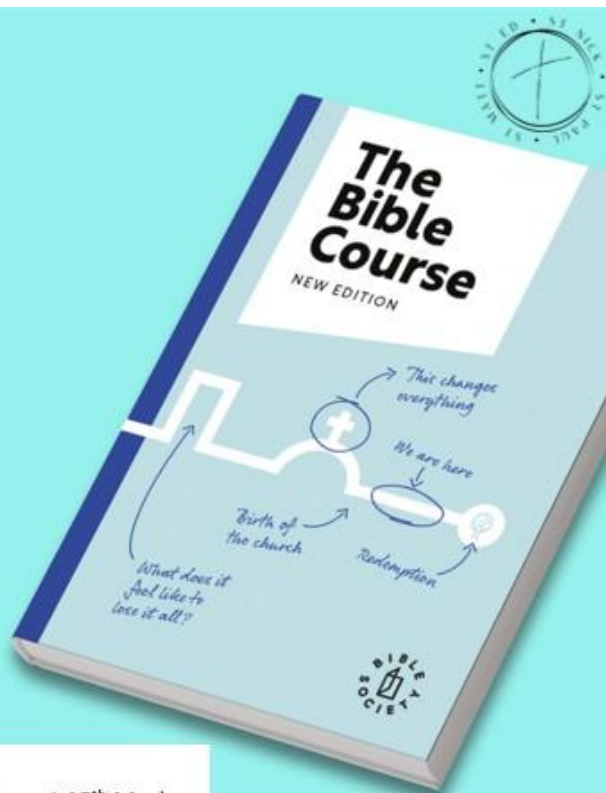
When - Sundays in Feb & Mar (*except 15th Mar*)

Where - St Matthew's Fellowship Room, DE22 1EY

Enquire - steds.stmatts@outlook.com or

stnickallestree@outlook.com

biblesociety.org.uk/thebiblecourse



Extra Worship opportunities

Fancy a mid-week communion service? Or an early evening service?

St Edmunds, Allestree have a Communion service 10.30am every Wednesday.

The Evening Service (Evensong) at 6 pm on a Sunday alternates between St Edmunds and St Matthews, Darley Abbey, and always follows the Book of Common Prayer.

This months 6pm services are:

Sunday 1st	St Matt's: Evensong led by Melonie Hambly
Sunday 9th	St Ed's: Choral Evensong
Sunday 16th	St Matt's: Choral Evensong led by Clive Lemmon
Sunday 23rd	St Ed's: Choral Evensong led by Rev Rachael Brooks

Visit:

www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

for more information on upcoming services.





When: Every Thursday (term time), 10-11.30am (other than the 2nd or 3rd Thursday of the month when we meet for Nature Tots.

Where: St Edmund's Church Hall, Allestree (DE22 2FN).

What: St Edmund's Baby & Toddler Group is a small friendly group where parents & carers can enjoy a tea or coffee with a biscuit whilst their little people (up to pre-school age) can play with a variety of toys or head to the craft table. There is squash and fruit for them to enjoy too. We always wrap up the session with a story and some songs including the Hokey Cokey. Suggested donation £1.

Check the diary for more details -
www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

Please pray for: For a session filled with fun and laughter.



Spotlight on Growing Faith



When: Either the 2nd or 3rd (if we've just had a holiday) Thursday of the month.

Where: Allestree Park. Park in the main carpark off the A6 (DE22 2EU) and a member of the team will meet you.

What: Nature Tots is a pre-school playgroup with a difference, connecting children with nature; encouraging them to learn, play and have fun outdoors. Parents and carers are welcome to bring their travel cup and enjoy a tea, coffee and a biscuit. There is also squash and fruit to enjoy. We end the session with a story and singing including the Hokey Cokey which is a firm favourite. Suggested donation £2.

Check the diary for more details -
www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

Please pray for: For fine weather for our next Nature Tots session.



When: Every Tuesday (term time), 9:30-11am.

Where: St Nick's Church Hall (DE22 2PE).

What: Play & Praise Toddler Group - Join us every Tuesday during term time from 9:15–11am for Play & Praise, a welcoming toddler group for children aged 0 to school age. It's a warm and friendly space where little ones can play safely, explore a wide variety of toys, enjoy snacks, sing songs, and end the morning with our ever-popular ride-on time! Suggested donation £2 - it goes towards snacks for the sessions.

For more details visit - www.stnicksallestree.co.uk

Please pray for: As we start 2026, we want to pray for all our families returning to PnP after the Christmas, seeing new and regular faces. Also we pray this year for new helpers to come forward to expand our team.

Holiday at Home

Each August, Broadway Baptist Church with the help of various Allestree churches host Holiday at Home. The aim is to provide a mini break with good food, activities and entertainment for the more senior members of our congregations and community who may not be able to get away, but with the comfort of going back to their own homes at night.

This year's 'holiday' will take place from the 4th - 7th August and the theme will be Beside the Seaside.

At this stage we are looking for volunteers to help with the planning of the event and aim to have the first planning meeting in early March. If you would like to get involved then please let me know either directly or via the church office.

Closer to, we will be asking for volunteers to help set up on the Monday, at the event itself and to provide cake, so I will be in touch then as well as with the details of how you can book a place to attend.

Jan Calladine

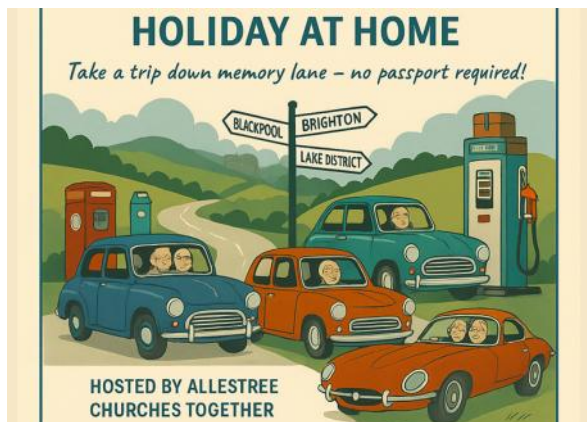


Image: from last year's event.

Thank you

Thank you so very much for your kind donation to the Christmas Connection 25 appeal at Derby City Mission. Each year, we have had an increase in applications for support with providing Christmas gifts for children; we should not be amazed that every year, we are able to meet this need. As applications came in this year, the Christmas Connections team became increasingly concerned that there may not be sufficient funds to be able to provide for every child.

But, God made sure that all of the 924 applications were fulfilled!

Thank you so very much for the part you played in making sure every one of the 924 children was able to open a good selection of gifts on Christmas Day.

This is the response we received from one grateful parent:

A HUGE THANK YOU,

You've provided nice gifts to put under our Christmas tree.

I don't know how you know the kids but your

gifts chosen are exactly what they need and would be happy to have.

It'll be a magic Christmas for us.

Such an enormous support we've got from you.

With the kids, we wish you a beautiful Christmas and Happy New Year.

God bless,

Helen Homes

Derby City Mission Limited





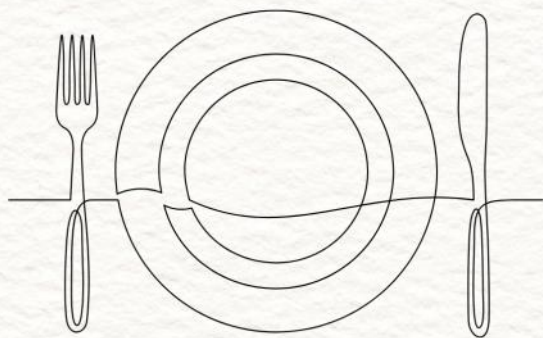
*Ash
Wednesday
Service*

18th February

11.30am

St Nick's Church, Allestree

Let's do
LUNCH



Come along and join us for a lovely time of fellowship over a tasty meal at our local Ember Inn pub - The Markeaton. For more details contact Christine on 07729371373 or read our latest newsletter for the next date (usually 3rd Sunday of the month). Everyone is welcome

St Nicks Church monthly Pub lunches
12 Noon @ The Markeaton

Upcoming dates: 15th Feb & 8th Mar

Baptism and Confirmation

Rev Sarah and Rev Rachael will be running sessions in the new year for those who are considering being baptised and/or confirmed. If you would like more details or would like to attend please speak to either Sarah or Rachael. Thank you.



Social media

For those of you who regularly use social media why not give us a follow? Our social media accounts are updated weekly with information on services. All events are highlighted and photos shared where possible.

If anyone would like to be involved/star in any videos for social media highlighting ongoing in either church please contact Emma in the office.



Search:

www.facebook.com/stpaulsquarndon

www.facebook.com/stnicksalvestree

stnicks_ Alvestree

stpaul_quarndon



VENUE FOR HIRE

**St Nicks
Church**



For more details
contact our
church
administrator:
stnicksallestree
@outlook.com
550431

We have a large
hall available to
hire for a single
event or a
regular class..
Ideal for
birthday parties
and concerts

For smaller
groups we have
rooms available
for up to 40
people with
access to small
kitchens perfect
for making
refreshments.

Large car park on site

VENUE FOR HIRE

ST PAULS CHURCH

Village Hall

Ideal for Childrens
birthday parties, dance
classes, music
ensembles or local
community groups.
Car park on site .

CONTACT US

hallstpauls@outlook.com
or 07973702002



QUARNDON PRESCHOOL



Quarndon Pre-School

2 YEAR OLD FUNDING PLACES AVAILABLE

Have you checked to see if your child is eligible for 2 year old funding ?

We are now accepting applications, Please contact Dawn for more information.

Please note: Additional costs for extras such as consumables and non-funded hours are chargeable. Funded only sessions will have a set consumables charge applied



01332 556611 / 07708906743



quarndonpre-school@hotmail.co.uk

<https://quarndonpreschool.org/index>



Online donations @ St Nicks

We have a QR code for online giving for those tech savvy people amongst us who feel more comfortable giving in this way.

Thank you.



St Nick's and St Pauls are committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults from harm. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO). Our Diocese of Derby's safeguarding pages contain vital links and information including contacts for the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor who advises our PSO. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the PSO's by email: psostnicks@outlook.com or psostpauls@outlook.com

Church Prayer @ St Nick's

Pre-church prayer takes place 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.

Church prayer will be held in the Chapel or on Zoom depending on the weather on:

25th February 7.30pm

Contact Graham if you are interested in joining us in prayer.



St Nick's Prayer Circle

St Nick's have a prayer circle as part of their pastoral care. We have now set up a WhatsApp group so that prayer requests can be relayed more quickly than ringing each individual member. There is still provision for those who prefer to hear by phone. Please rest assured you are being covered in prayer.

***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.***

Pastoral Care Update.

Are you going through a difficult time at the moment and would like some emotional, spiritual or physical help? Then please let Clare Stacey know.

For various understandable reasons, many people find it difficult to reach out and ask for help but if you are aware of anyone who is struggling at the moment, please let us know. It could include for example, help with shopping, a home visit or merely a friendly chat on the phone. If we don't know, then it's difficult to help.

We are part of your church family and have been DBS checked and have completed the Diocesan Safe Guarding Training.



Prayer Requests:

Please pray for:-

- For those that are unwell and unable to get out at this time.
- For upcoming discussions on our churches working together.
- For the family of Joyce Taylor as they mourn her loss.

COFFEE & CHAT

ST NICKS CHURCH ROOM

TAKES PLACE EVERY 2ND AND 4TH
FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.

10:30-12 NOON

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN
AND ENJOY THIS LOVELY SOCIAL



KNIT AND NATTER

ST NICKS 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.



If you are looking to organise a baptism or would like to get married or celebrate a special anniversary with the renewal of wedding vows at St Nicks or St Pauls please contact: stnicksallestree@outlook.com to arrange all life event services.

Polite notice to St Nick's congregation, hall hirers and visitors.

Please could everyone be mindful when parking on the roads surrounding St Nick's and be considerate to residents. In particular ensure we are not parking across driveways and allow residents space to reverse in and out of their drives.

Thank you all as always for your support and kindness.

Newsletter Information - Deadline!

Please be aware that the deadline for any news you'd like to be included in the next Newsletter is the 20th of the month before.

Handy Contacts for both churches:

Church Office Emma Patterson **Contact:** 01332 550431.

Office Email: stnicksallestree@outlook.com



Children's and Youth Leader Rachel Kennedy

Email: stnicksCYL@outlook.com

Contact: 07895051941



St Nick's

Church Warden: Paul Taylor

Contact: 01332 556020

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

Telephone: 07448607129

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) Bruce Innis

St Paul's

Church Warden: Mike Annable

Contact: wardenstpauls@outlook.com

Safeguarding Lead: Mary Pitt

Contact: psostpauls@outlook.com

or Diocesan Safeguarding Team: 01332 388678

Church Hall Bookings: Val Annable **Contact:** hallstpauls@outlook.com

Websites: www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Paul-Quarndon
www.stnicksallestree.co.uk

Office Hours: Monday 9.00-3.00 Tuesday 9.00-3.00 Wednesday 9.00-3.00
and Friday 9.00-11.00

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



ST EDMUND'S, ST MATTHEW'S, ST NICK'S & ST PAUL'S CHURCHES

Service	When	Where
Palm Sunday Service	29 th March 10am	St Edmund's, St Nick's & St Paul's
Palm Sunday All Age	10am	St Matthew's
Evening Prayer	30 th , 31 st March & 1 st April 7pm	Online
Stripping Altar	2 nd April 7.30pm	St Edmund's
Hour at the Cross	3 rd April 2pm	St Edmund's
All age informal	3 rd April 3pm	St Nick's
Good Friday reflective services	7pm 7.30pm	St Nick's St Matthew's
Easter Day Holy Communion	5 th April 10am	St Matthew's
Easter Day Holy Communion All age	10am	St Edmund's, St Nick's & St Paul's



Now Open

Daily Bread Community Cafe

Open to all.
10am till 2pm every Wednesday during
term time.

We look forward to seeing you.



**St Nick's Church Room. 2 Lawn Avenue,
Allestree, Derby. DE22 2PE**

Upcoming Services —

Priest in Charge: Reverend Sarah Watson and Associate Priest
Reverend Rachael Brooks. Ordinand: Colette Desborough.

Dates/Services	Readings
Sunday 1st February St Nicks: Sunday Breakfast @ 10 St Pauls: 10am Holy Communion	Malachi 3:1-5 Hebrews 2:14-end Luke 2:22-40
Sunday 8th February St Nicks: Sunday @ 10 with Holy Communion St Pauls: 10am Service of the Word	Romans 8:18-25 Matthew 6:25-end
Sunday 15th February St Nicks: Sunday @ 10 St Pauls: 10am Holy Communion	2 Peter 1:16-end Matthew 17:1-9
Wednesday 18th February St Nicks: Ash Wednesday Service @ 11.30	Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-18 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 John 8:1-11
Sunday 22nd February St Nicks: Sunday @ 10 Sunday @3pm Holy Communion St Pauls: 10am Morning Praise	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

Advanced Notice: Bishop Libby Lane will be joining us for the Joint service
at St Nick's on Sunday 31st May.

Sponsored by:

Phone: 01332 409182 or 01773 300974
Email: info@jbarlowfuneralservice.co.uk


J BARLOW & FAMILY
 Funeral Service