



St. Edmund's Church

£1.00

News from the Parish

May 2025



www.stedsandstmatts.co.uk

www.facebook.com/stedmundsalleestree

St. Edmund's May 2025

While COVID has diminished in terms of its impact on us as a nation, we recognise that there will be some people who have still to be careful because they are vulnerable. If you feel you need to wear a mask, we encourage you to do so. We also gently request that if you are unwell, especially if you have COVID, you stay away to avoid infecting anyone who might be vulnerable.

For communion, normal practice has resumed regarding going to and from the rail. Please follow any directions given by the day's welcomers. At the rail you will be given three options regarding bread and wine. You may either indicate - by nodding your head - that you wish the wafer to be intincted for you, by the person carrying the special intincting chalice, or you may accept the wafer only and then drink from the chalice brought after by the server. Or you may choose to just have the wafer.

There are halved grapes available for children at the rail so they join in this special feast, they will be given a prayer of blessing as normal. And if you do not feel communion is appropriate for you we encourage you to come to the rail, leaving your hands by your sides, so that we may pray a prayer of blessing over you.

Please stay for coffee or tea in the Church Hall after the service, it's a great opportunity to get to know new friends and to catch up with old ones.

FOOD BANK - The first Sunday of the month, 4th May 2025. Please leave your donations in St Edmund's Church or St Matthew's Fellowship Room by Tuesday 6th.

FRONT COVER: Easter Sunday 10.00am service at St.Edmund's.

BACK COVER: Plant Sale being held Saturday, 17th May, in St Ed's Choir Vestry.

This month's colour cover is sponsored by Mike & Shirley Dawson to mark Mike's special birthday in May.

Can you support St Edmund's by sponsoring the colour cover in memory of a loved one or to celebrate an event? If you are interested please contact one of the editorial team or a Churchwarden. The cost is £35.00.

Open All Year: St Ed's and St Matt's are open regularly throughout the spring and summer months. Do pop in for some peace and space, and invite others to do the same. If you are there and people come in, please make them welcome.

Planning a Church, Community or Charity Event?

We would be delighted to receive information regarding events taking place in our parish. Email text/photos to steds.stmatts@outlook.com and/or fiona.fraser@burnsgraphics.co.uk by the 20th of a month to be in the next issue. Our Parish magazines are also on our website:- www.stedsandstmatts.co.uk.

The Rev'd Rachael Writes

At the end of this month, we'll celebrate Ascension Day. The day when Jesus returned to his Father in Heaven. This is the official end of Easter season in the church - we need longer than just Easter Sunday itself to celebrate the joy of the resurrection!

None of the disciples expected Jesus to rise from the dead, so they all took some convincing. Doubting Thomas wasn't the only one who needed to see for himself. But Jesus patiently appeared to them, in ones and twos, and to a crowd of 500; answering questions, helping them understand how this was foretold in their holy Scriptures: that God became man and was the only one who would be able to defeat sin and death because he was the only being able to resist the temptation to choose self over others; that sin and death were the real enemy.

The disciples went from being shattered to full of hope. Jesus really was the Messiah come to usher in God's kingdom. It just didn't look anything like they'd expected. It was rooted in love, not force. It was not geographical, like a country, but in the hearts of those who chose to bow the knee to Jesus as their king. It grows one person at a time, and in every Jesus-centred choice his followers make. When asked what the greatest law was, Jesus named two. 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind...love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Love for God. Love for our fellow humans. If we get this right, we're living in the way that God intended us to from the start. And it looks like Jesus. Putting others first.

Loving, not hating.

As I look at events across our world: at tariff wars instigated from greed and resentment; at wars between and within nations because of the lust for power and control; at hunger and want on an epic scale despite there being enough resources to go around if we all shared them out equally, at environmental degradation caused by overconsumption, as I look at all of these it's tempting to despair.

But then I remember hope. The hope grounded in what Jesus HAS done. And I pray, 'come Lord Jesus, build your kingdom here, transform our hearts and our world. Start with me.'

Rev'd Rachael Brooks
Associate Minister, St Edmund's



The congregation awaiting the start of the Easter Sunday Service.

Churchwardens' View

A Regular Update by Ann Miller and Paul Smith

This Joyful Eastertide...

And here we are, after Easter, in this amazing season giving us hope and renewal in all aspects of life: in the Easter message of the Christian church, in our gardens, fields and hedgerows and in general life as daylight lengthens and temperatures warm up.

At St Ed's - sometimes joining with St Matt's - we've experienced a wonderful range of reflections and services. Some highlights include Maundy Thursday, with Revd Rachael's deeply moving and thought-provoking delve into the mind of Judas Iscariot: were his motives and actions so very different from some of our own? Then at Good Friday's quiet and moving Hour at the Cross service, we experienced a dramatic presentation of the events of the first Good Friday as those who were, on the face of it, responsible for Jesus' crucifixion saw things. Again, there were some home truths in the 'explanations' of a Roman Centurion, Pontius Pilate, Caiaphas the high priest and Judas, all wonderfully acted. The joy of Easter Day services brought the celebration of the risen Christ. Life wins! Alleluia!

As always, huge thanks to clergy and readers, to all those involved in making things run smoothly, and in providing the beautiful flower arrangements and music to enhance our experiences of the Easter story.

How are you on deadlines? Our ground force team leaders, Jane and Steve, suggest that it would be lovely to have more snowdrops growing around the church. We know next February seems far away, but the urgency is of course that snowdrops need transplanting in the green. Have you a few spare snowdrops you could give, please?

Don't miss out on St Ed's events coming up soon: 5th May at 3.30pm VE Day picnic, celebrating peace in Europe after WW2; and 17th May at 10.00am Plant sale. There's lots more too, so keep an eye on our calendar!

Could You Do More to Support Our Church?

As wardens, it's our priority to support Rachael so that her ministry in this place is as powerful, glorious and life-changing as possible. We're asking you to support her, and us, by considering whether there is more YOU could do to help run this ancient church that we all love. We DO need new volunteers and here are the most pressing vacancies:

- **Welcomers:** We struggled with the welcomer rota for April to June. We've gained some new welcomers (thank you so much!) but not as many as have stood down. It's so important that any visitor, and indeed our regulars, are warmly welcomed every time they attend worship. We really need more help here: you, your smile, and your friendly greeting, could really make someone's day, especially if they live alone.

Churchwardens' View continued

- **Prayer Leaders:** we are lucky to have several people who write beautiful prayers and lead intercessions on behalf of us all. It would be great if we could add two or three more people to that list!
- **Environmental Co-ordinator:** the Church of England is committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030. We really need someone to act as a point of focus here at St Edmund's, especially as we weigh up the best options for replacing our church and hall boilers which are now reaching the end of their useful lives.
- **Prayer Initiative Contact:** we are supporting a new project to pray systematically for every individual address in our area. It would be lovely if someone would feel called to be the named contact for our church within this exciting initiative. The project begins on 11th May - See page 6 for more information.

If you feel you might be able to help with any of these opportunities, please speak to one of us: you can do so in confidence and on a no-obligation basis. We'd love to hear from you over the next few days, our contact numbers are on the directory page of this magazine. And a big thankyou to those of you who have recently joined our much-valued volunteer team!

Ann & Paul
Churchwardens

PS. Don't forget that we'd love to welcome you to join us for coffee and biscuits on Sundays 11.00am in the church hall and Wednesdays 10.45am in church.



Allestree Flower Group - 20th May 2025

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 20th May at The Evergreen Hall, Cornhill, Allestree. " Members do Golden Dems".

Theme 1975 Dress accordingly, quiz and refreshments.

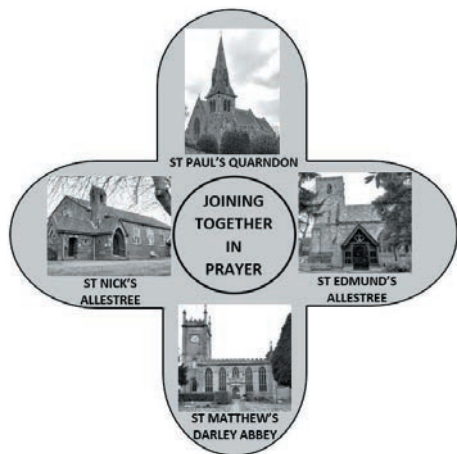
Time: 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Members £5.00 Guests £9.00

All welcome FOC. For further details telephone 07968 237457



Launch of Our Four Churches Prayer Initiative



As you will know over the last year we have been working together across our four parishes, seeking where we can support one another in our ministry and mission whilst valuing our distinctiveness as individual parishes. We have an exciting opportunity to work together to pray for each street and homes across the parishes.

Starting at Pentecost we invite you to join with us in this prayer Initiative which will last approximately two years. Each week both in our individual prayer life and in our intercessions together on a Sunday we will pray for different streets across the parishes with each area and home being prayed for several times. More information about how this will work will follow.

As a result of the PCC away day in the summer one of the things that many felt called to was a deeper sense of prayer across the parishes. This is an amazing opportunity for us to come together and play our part as the body of Christ in our area lifting up our neighbours in prayer. We hope this Initiative will not only serve to bring us closer together in praying for one another, but we would see God's love and transforming power at work in our communities.

So let's come together in unity and faith to pray for God's blessing upon the homes, streets and people of our parishes, with faith and expectation of what God will do.

The Rev'd Sarah Watson & The Rev'd Rachael Brooks

JOINT COMMUNITY PRAYER

St Nick's
St Paul's
St Edmund's
St Matthew's

Churches moving forward together in Prayer

WHY?

Because God shows the vastness of His love for us through Christ, we want to respond in love.

HOW?

Pray for everyone living in our parishes.
Introduce God's love to them.

WHAT DOES THIS INVOLVE?

- * Daily prayer using the Prayer Calendar
- * During 2 years, delivering 3 cards to every household, telling of God's love.
- * Dividing our parishes into 64 areas.

WHY 64 areas?

For card deliveries to be manageable – the average area has 128 households.

HOW many households are there?

There are 8202 households:
St Nick's 2705 households
St Paul's 992 households
St Edmund's 3148 households
St Matthew's 1357 households

HOW are the parishes divided?

St Nick's parish	21 Areas
St Paul's parish	8 Areas
St Edmund's parish	25 Areas
St Matthew's parish	10 Areas

WHAT will the cards tell people?

- 1st Card: We are praying for them and God loves them beyond measure.
- 2nd Card: Referring to 1 Corinthians 13, show how God loves them.
- 3rd Card: With testimonies, show how God's love changes lives.

HOW will the cards be delivered?

Mainly by people from each parish who volunteer to be part of a delivery team. Some cards will be posted (eg. households in areas 21 and 54 are not accessible; also many households in Quarndon Village are difficult to reach).

WHAT is the timetable?

There will be 6 periods of 18 weeks:

12.05.25 – 14.09.25	PRAYERS
15.09.25 – 18.01.26	PRAYERS
19.01.26 – 24.05.26	PRAYERS & DELIVERIES (1 st Card)
25.05.26 – 27.09.26	PRAYERS
28.09.26 – 31.01.27	PRAYERS & DELIVERIES (2 nd Card)
01.02.27 – 13.06.27	PRAYERS

Followed by Prayers of Thanksgiving, DELIVERIES (3rd Card)

HAVE you any ideas or suggestions?

Feedback is very important. Please make your thoughts, ideas or suggestions known to your Minister. Everyone plays a vital part in bringing God's love to our communities.

From the Registers of St Edmund's Church

BAPTISMS

30th March 2025

Baptism of Nellie Dot Thompson,
pictured here with her parents, Sammy and Jake,
and The Rev'd Rachael Brooks



FUNERALS

10th April - Funeral of Patricia Irene Halliday

11th April - Funeral of Joane Margaret Fraser

BURIAL OF ASHES at St Edmund's

16th March - Burial of ashes of Miriam Harvey

9th April - Burial of ashes of Rev'd Geoffrey Johnston



Save Your Stamps for Charity during 2025

We would be most grateful if you could continue to save stamps this year. Please cut stamps leaving a centimetre edge all round and place them in the box at the back of church.

Elizabeth Jack

Dates for your Diary May 2025

Saturday 26th April

9.30am - St Matthew's - Churchyard Working Party - Come & help to make the churchyard clean and tidy

9.30-12 noon - St Matthew's carpark - Refills on the Road

Sunday 27th April - 2nd Sunday of Easter

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Adrian Thorpe

10.00am - St Matthew's - Morning Prayer, led by Melonie Hambly

6.00pm - St Edmund's - Evensong, led by Clive Lemmon

Monday 28th April

7.30pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Handbell Practice

Wednesday 30th April

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Geoffrey Marshall

Thursday 1st May

10.00am - St Edmund's Church Hall - Baby & Toddler Group

Saturday 3rd May

9.30am - St Edmund's - Groundforce

Sunday 4th May - 3rd Sunday of Easter

Food Bank Sunday - *Please leave any donations in St Edmund's Church or in St Matthew's Fellowship Room by Tuesday 6h May. Thank you.*

10.00am - St Edmund's - Morning Prayer, led by The Rev'd Rachael Brooks

12 noon - St Edmund's - Burial of ashes of Clifford Dobson

10.00am - St Matthew's - Holy Communion, led by John Rice

6.00pm - St Matthew's - Evensong, led by Clive Lemmon

Monday 5th May

3.30-5.30pm - St Edmund's Church Hall - VE Day 80th anniversary picnic with music from the Handbell Group

Tuesday 6th May

2.00pm - St Matthew's Fellowship Room - Medical Detection Dogs by Harold Palmer

7.30pm - Zoom - St Edmund's Standing Committee Meeting

Wednesday 7th May

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by John Rice

Thursday 8th May

10.00am - St Edmund's Church Hall - Baby & Toddler Group

Saturday 10th May

9.30-12 noon - St Matthew's carpark - Refills on the Road

Dates for your Diary May 2025 continued

Sunday 11th May - 4th Sunday of Easter

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion & the baptism of Phoebe Moriarty,
led by The Rev'd Rachael Brooks

10.00am - St Matthew's - Morning Prayer, led by Clive Lemmon

6.00pm - St Edmund's - Choral Evensong, led by the Choir

Monday 12th May

2.00pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Bookworms: 'Wish You Were Here'
by Jodi Picoult

7.30pm - Ascension Prayer Group at Catherine McAuley House Community Room

7.30pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Handbell Practice

Tuesday 13th May

12 noon - St Edmund's Church Hall - Luncheon Club

7.30pm - St Edmund's Conference Room - PCC Meeting

Wednesday 14th May

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Lee Martin

11.30am - St Edmund's - Burial of ashes of Dorothy Hilda Perry

Thursday 15th May

10.00am - St Edmund's Church Hall - Baby & Toddler Group

Saturday 17th May

10-12 noon - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Plant Sale

7.00pm - St Edmund's Church - Dalesman Male Voice Choir - There is no admission charge but there will be a retiring collection.

Sunday 18th May - 5th Sunday of Easter

10.00am - St Edmund's - Morning Prayer led by Dwayne Engh

10.00am - St Matthew's - Holy Communion, led by The Rev'd Rachael Brooks.
The APCM will follow the service.

6.00pm - St Matthew's - Choral Evensong, led by The Rev'd Rachael Brooks

Monday 19th May

7.00pm - St Matthew's Fellowship Room - PCC Meeting

7.30pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Handbell Practice

Wednesday 21st May

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by The Rev'd Rachael Brooks

Thursday 22nd May

10.00am - St Edmund's Church Hall - Baby & Toddler Group

Friday 23rd May

8.30-10.30am - St Matthew's Fellowship Room - Community Café

Dates for your Diary May 2025 continued

Saturday 24th May

9.30-12 noon - St Matthew's carpark - Refills on the Road

Sunday 25th May - 6th Sunday of Easter

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by John Rice

10.00am - St Matthew's - Morning Prayer & the baptism of Lucy Elvie Lydon, led by Rachael Brooks & the All Age Team

6.00pm - St Edmund's - Evensong, led by Clive Lemmon

Monday 26th May

7.30pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Handbell Practice

Tuesday 27th May

12 noon - St Edmund's Church Hall - Luncheon Club

Wednesday 28th May

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by John Rice

Saturday 31st May

9.30am - St Matthew's - Churchyard Working Party - Come & help to make the churchyard clean and tidy

10.00am - St Edmund's - Brass Cleaning followed by tea, coffee and biscuits

3.00pm - St Matthew's - Wedding of Lois Wilkinson & Dempsey White

Do Tell Us of Future Events or Celebrations

PLEASE CONTACT the Parish Administrator, Caroline Audley, with details of future events for them to be included in the Diary Dates:- email: Steds.stmatts@outlook.com or telephone her on 552031.

Office opening hours:-

Monday & Wednesday

9.30am - 3.00pm

Tuesday

Closed

Thursday

11.30am - 3.00pm
(after Baby & Toddler
Group)

Friday

9.30am - 1.00pm

If out of hours please leave a message; the answer phone is checked daily.

Allestree W.I. Meeting - 20th May 2025

Allestree W.I. will meet on Tuesday 20th May 2025, 2.00pm at Woodlands Church, Blenheim Drive, Allestree, Derby. DE22 2GP.

The Talk is 'My Journey to become a Celebrant' by Mrs. Anna Wright and the Competition is 'A Celebration Hat'.

Visitors welcome, £5.00pp. Enquiries to Mavis on 01332 556012.



ST EDMUND'S



Sunday services at St Edmund's in May



Sunday 4th	10 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 11th	10 am	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Choral Evensong
Sunday 18th	10 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 25th	10 am	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Evensong

All welcome



ST EDMUND'S



Join us for Holy Communion



**Every Wednesday in May
St Edmund's
10am**

All welcome



ST MATTHEW'S



Sunday services at St Matthew's in May



4th May	10 am	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Evensong
11th May	10 am	Morning Prayer
18th May	10 am	Holy Communion
		<i>followed by APCM</i>
	6 pm	Choral Evensong
25th May	10 am	Morning Prayer

All welcome

The Derwent Singers
Musical Director Dexter Drown

Songs of Light & Land

Holst: Twelve Welsh Folk Songs
Vaughan Williams: Five English Folk Songs
MacMillan: O Radiant Dawn
and music by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Bax and Ireland

7.30pm on Saturday 14 June 2025
St Matthew's Church, Church Lane
Darley Abbey, Derby DE22 1EF

Tickets £15 via the website
& on the door by cash or card

www.derwentsingers.org.uk
www.facebook.com/derwentsingers
general@derwentsingers.org.uk

Book Review

“CAILLEACH” by LOUISE MASKILL

Pub softback 2023 via KDP by Hagthorn Press, Market

Place, Crich DE4 5DD ISBN 979 887 553 318 1

Available via Author and Amazon



Louise Maskill has some years' experience and a great deal of skill in writing non-fiction, all of it extremely interesting, centred at first on Derbyshire: this includes favourite walks, local accents and dialects, and traditions more widely across the East Midlands. More recently she has written on local language in Cornwall and East Anglia. In her volunteer role, she is a stalwart of the quarterly Crich Standard magazine, contributing mainly

as chief proof-reader. This 123-page story is her first substantial foray into fiction.

And a complete contrast it is. We are quickly transported to somewhere in Ireland, in an unspecified period that is possibly the very early 20th century, and into a world of waxed paper, women and winter weather. We are in a small community dependent on milking goats, working a smallholding and foraging for some foods such as wild mushrooms.

The family consists of a slightly unlikely heroine, older daughter Ailleán, her younger sister Marthe, their mother Dearbhail (“Mam”) and father Cormac (“Da”). Cormac is often in his forge behind the small house, and employs a small number of apprentice blacksmiths there; despite his periodic complaining outbursts, he seems a good and caring employer. But in the house, where the tale is largely set, the emphasis is on women, their work and relationships.

Apart from their menial everyday tasks such as food preparation, they focus almost entirely on their quiltmaking. Both Mam and Marthe are quite proficient at this, but Ailleán despairs; her skill is poor, her hems irregular and the needlepricks to her fingers all too evident via the tiny spots of blood on her material. The competitive spirit of all this quiltmaking is naturally accentuated by the prospect that the Cailleach will arrive in the next few weeks, to judge the quilts of the whole small community. This somewhat mysterious figure regularly visits villages, picks one of the best quilts and improves it, and in so doing she aims to promote what we'd now call “social cohesion” – help a marriage to be more likely, end hostilities, encourage friendships and so on (though word-of-mouth has it, “always at a price”).

There is surprise – the Cailleach arrives sooner than expected, at a time not long after Christmas (“Jul”), which we might call Candlemas. She has travelled overnight, and

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Book Review continued









sets up her quilting-frame in a local barn. Even more unexpectedly, Ailleán's patchwork quilt, of which she is so ashamed, is one of two Chosen. The women's reactions vary – some resentful, some pleased for her, some just puzzled. Most difficult for Ailleán is Marthe, who is much more skilled, whose recent output is two quilts, not just the usual one, and who has to be talked round by Mam.

You will need to read the rest of the tale to understand the full significance of being "Chosen" and appreciate the ending, but this world of the close village female population is extremely well observed. The scenes between the women in the house are beautifully written, and those with the wider small population assembled in the barn for the judging by the Cailleach also well painted in, with areas of detail small and large: "the flickering lantern-light", "the other women were moving, shuffling and pushing in a slow dance as they all tried to see ...".

This lovely little book is a short, quiet read with, in time terms, a long reach. Be prepared for an altogether slower pace of life (as you might prepare for a week on a canal narrowboat, perhaps). The story is fascinating, comforting and at the same time just a little magical. Warmly recommended; I will gladly lend our copy autographed by the author.

Kate Smith

Mid-September 2024

  <p>ST EDMUND'S</p>   <p>We collect for the Hope Centre on the first Sunday of every month. Donations can be left in St Edmund's Church. Thank you</p>	  <p>ST EDMUND'S</p>  <p>VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrate Peace With Us</p>  <p>Monday 5 May, 3.30-5.30 pm St Edmund's Church Hall</p> <p>Bring your picnic St Edmund's Handbell Group will be ringing</p>
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Rita's Recipe: Elderflower Cordial

A very seasonal recipe, elderflowers can be collected on a walk in Allestree Park. Citric Acid can be bought from the chemist.

Ingredients - 30 fresh flower heads
2lbs caster sugar
2oz citric acid
2 lemons (zest & juice)
2.5 pints boiling water



Method

Combine all the ingredients together in a large container, stir until the sugar is dissolved and then cover. Leave to stand in a cool place overnight before straining through a fine sieve. Store in the fridge for a few days or a top tip is freeze in small batches. Dilute to taste, serve chilled with a few elderflowers for decoration.

My thanks to my niece for giving me her recipe. Do you have any recipes to share?

Rita Wrigley

An alternative recipe from House of Fraser's Recipe box is:

Ingredients - 25 fresh flower heads
The juice of 4 oranges and 1 lemon
2 ¾ lbs caster sugar
2oz tartaric or citric acid
2 pints boiled and cooled water

Method

Place all ingredients in a large bowl. Stand for 2 days, stirring occasionally. Strain into bottles. Keep chilled in the fridge or can be frozen. Dilute to use. Can be used in elderflower and gooseberry sorbet.... now, there's a possible recipe for June...

The Repair Café is open 3rd May

The volunteer-run Derby Repair Cafe is held on the first Saturday of every month at the West End Community Centre, Mackworth Road, DE22 3BL. Bring your broken household items along to our Repair Cafe Saturday 3rd May 1.00-4.00pm. No specialist repairs (eg clock, antiques) and nothing too big.

Cash and electronic donations are accepted to keep our Repair Cafe going. Don't forget that we can only take cash for donations and refreshments. Full details can be found on the Repair Café Facebook page.

IF YOU CAN'T FIX IT, YOU DON'T OWN IT.



Aurelia, a small-scale farmer in Guatemala, holding hope in her hands – fertile soil she has produced after receiving local advice from a Christian Aid-supported organisation helping farmers cope with sudden changes to their climate. She is one of those who have done least to cause climate change but are suffering the worst of its consequences.

This year, the week's publicity will focus on rural life in Guatemala, central America, where food production in a tropical, apparently fertile area is increasingly disrupted by instability of the climate. The once-regular dry and rainy seasons are now more intense and erratic, making it difficult for farmers, often operating very locally and at subsistence levels, to know when to plant and how to protect their crops sufficiently to feed their families and have some spare to sell.

A local co-operative group is spreading advice and training on effective methods of dealing with

this situation, allowing small-scale farmers to plant climate-resilient crops, produce fertiliser and collect rainwater in sufficient quantities to make production possible during intensely hot dry seasons. All this work continues against a background of violence and crime.

Support for local and self-help co-operative groups around the world has long been a mainstay of Christian Aid's work, the 80th Anniversary of which is marked this year. These long-term projects continue alongside the emergency appeals, which currently include those in response to the Myanmar earthquake, the displacement of populations in Sudan, conflict in the Middle East and ongoing war in Ukraine.

We will again be mounting publicity to encourage people both in the parish and around the wider Allestree area to support the work of Christian Aid during the Week and a few of us will be out in the community to appeal to people more directly. New volunteers are welcome to join us. Donations can be made in person or through caweek.org/givestar. Thank you for your continuing support.

Geoff Bailey

Some Good Walks Revisited - Panoramic (4)

CASTLETON AND MAM TOR

The village of Castleton, overlooked by both Peveril Castle and the distinctive profile of Mam Tor guarding the old route out of the valley, justifiably claims one of the most impressive locations in the county. With the bonus of its spectacular caves, the area yields plenty of archaeological and historical interest. A suggested walk links the village with Mam Tor's summit by a well-graded disused road, passing some of the famous caverns. Return is by the Great Ridge, one of the country's best (and most accessible) ridge walks, separating the Edale and Hope Valleys. The basic circuit is 5 miles, with the option of a longer route of 8½ miles which returns along the bank of Peakshole Water.

Castleton is a rare example in the Peak District of a planned medieval settlement, with its market place and adjacent church laid out below the once-dominant castle. It also has surrounding earthworks dating from the Anglo-Saxon period. **Peveril Castle** was founded in 1080 by William Peveril (an illegitimate son of The Conqueror) to underline the Norman domination of the region, replacing an earlier castle at Hope. Consequently, it became one of the main administrative centres for the Royal Forest of the Peak and a prison for forest law offenders, although after the Middle Ages its status began to decline. Initially the castle was a wooden stockade, then rebuilt in stone by Henry II circa 1176; it is the only 'surviving' Norman castle in Derbyshire. Below the castle and extending 2000ft underground lies **Peak Cavern**, approached via a short narrow gorge.

Mam Tor, or Mother Hill, with its prestige location at 1720ft, was once an important tribal centre and the largest of a chain of Peak District hillforts (although small in comparison with others such as Maiden Castle in Dorset). It remains the only one to have been excavated, having extensive Iron Age earth ramparts within which are shallow depressions marking the sites of numerous circular dwellings, linked by radiocarbon dating to an earlier Bronze Age period; plus two hilltop barrows probably of an even older



Castleton & Peveril Castle



The Great Ridge & Mam Tor

Continued on page 17

Some Good Walks Revisited - Panoramic (4)

CASTLETON AND MAM TOR continued



Back Tor & Lose Hill



Peakshole Water

methods. Nearby are **Treak Cliff** and **Blue John Caverns** where the famous and unique variety of fluorspar has been worked from the 18thc., producing jewelry and ornaments, many of which grace stately homes and palaces. The public can visit the illuminated caves with their spectacular examples of rock formation. Further down the hill is **Speedwell Mine** where the entrance tunnel is in the form of an underground canal with passenger access by boat.

The Route starts from Castleton Visitor Centre. Cross the main road and follow the Peak Cavern path alongside Peakshole Water, then turn R on a back road up Goosehill. Continue on the curving f/p to Speedwell Cavern entrance, then straight across the Winnats road towards Treak Cliff Cavern*; just before the entrance drop down steps to the old road and follow it L, rising slowly past the old Odin Mine. The road swings sharply round under the face of Mam Tor (with optional short cuts L) and can be followed safely across the collapsed sections. Past the Blue John Cavern entrance take a

settlement. The original track was rerouted and paved in the 1990's due to the threat of increasing erosion to the ramparts. Near the top of the ascent can be seen a defensive ditch, with a maximum depth from the top of the bank of 30 ft, believed to have been dug in the Iron Age. On the steep eastern side the remains have been destroyed by landslips due to constant movement caused by water seepage – hence its nickname of ‘Shivering Mountain’. This problem resulted in the partial demolition and closure in 1979 of the well-graded road along the mountain's flank, created in 1812 as part of the then-new Sheffield-Manchester turnpike. Ironically, this had replaced the old Winnats Pass trade route which consequently had to be reconstructed and upgraded to form the current through road.

Odin Mine on the slopes of Mam Tor is the oldest named lead mine in the county (circa 1280). Its heyday came in 1706 when a new richer seam was struck due to deeper mining and improved drainage

Some Good Walks Revisited - Panoramic (4)

CASTLETON AND MAM TOR continued

f/p R pointing to the summit of Mam Tor, which is finally reached via stone steps. Continue E along the Ridge to Hollins Cross where old routes pass between the two valleys; turn R on one of these, descending towards a farm road leading back into Castleton. For the longer route continue on the ridge over Back Tor to the cone of Lose Hill; then drop down the track towards Hope village. Where the track splits at a stile, cross to the other side of the fence but continue SE towards the church. Cross the main road to Pindale Lane; when the lane starts to rise take a f/p R signed Castleton, following Peakshole Water back to the start.



The Rambler

Goose Hill, Castleton

* An alternative from here is to take a rising footpath along the fellside behind the Treak Cliff entrance, curving round to the Blue John entrance and bearing R up to the Mam Tor road.

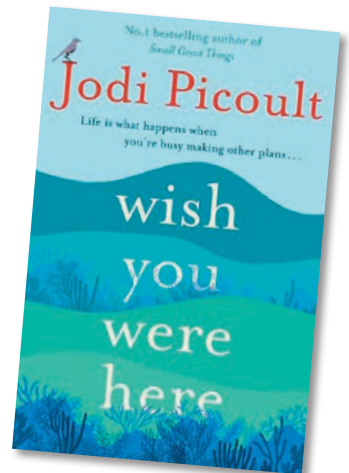
Bookworms Meeting: 12th May '25

Bookworms meet in St Edmund's choir vestry once a month on a Monday afternoon at 2.00pm. We will be discussing

'Wish You Were Here' by Jodi Picoult at our next meeting on Monday 12th May.

The reading list continues on the following months:-

- 9th June 2025 Maggie O'Farrell - The Hand That First Held Mine
- 14th July 2025 Rose Tremain - The Colour
- 11th Aug 2025 Rachel Joyce - The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry



For further details please ring or text Cyra Buxton on 07719 776501

or email her on cyrabuxton@gmail.com.

90th Birthday Celebration

Come and join me after the Morning Service on Sunday, 4th May, in St Edmund's Church Hall. As well as the usual 'after-service' refreshments, there will be 'Cake and a Tipple', ably administered by Michèlle Aspinall. I look forward to seeing you there.

Richard Wood

Snowdrops for Groundforce!

We hope you will agree that the churchyard has been looking lovely now the spring flowers have made an appearance. However, we thought that for future years it could be enhanced by the addition of some more snowdrops. The flowering season is now over, so this is the time to transplant them while the leaves are green. Therefore we wondered if anyone has any snowdrop bulbs to spare that they could donate for the Groundforce team to plant.

If so, please contact us on either jandsburton@btinternet.com or 07914884197. We would love to hear from you.

Many thanks

Jane and Steve Burton



Community Pop-in Café

Coffee **Tea** **Toast**

**Fellowship Room, St Matthew's Church
Darley Abbey**

Friday 23rd May 2025 from 8.30am to 10.30am

All welcome
Share time with friends

Flowers at St Edmund's Easter Sunday Service

St Edmund's church benefits from a terrific flower team. In readiness for Easter Sunday, they worked with enthusiasm and efficiency during Saturday afternoon preparing the flower arrangements inside the church. They also enjoyed coffee and cake!

Michèlle Aspinall.





Church Brass Cleaning - 31st May 2025

Spring clean with a good deed and socialise at the same time. The next Brass cleaning team session is on 31st May at 10.00am inside St Edmund's - polishing the Church brasses and having a chat. Tea, coffee and biscuits available.

Ann Miller

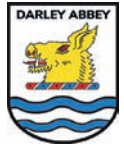


Darley Abbey Scout Hall Saturday Social on 17th May

At a loose end? Fancy a natter over a cuppa with a piece of Easter cake in a lovely, warm space? Like to play some games or browse our papers and magazines?

Then come along to Darley Abbey Scout Hall (DE22 1DT) on 17th May 2025, 1.30-3.30 p.m., and join in the fun! If you have never been before then you should know that we have a small car park and the Hall is fully accessible to wheelchair and mobile scooter users.

Every third Saturday of the month, free of charge thanks to the Co-op and its customers. Next dates: 21st June; 19th July.



OPEN HOUSE COFFEE AT ST. EDMUND'S

Join us for coffee - everyone welcome.

We'd love to see you!

We serve coffee and biscuits on Sunday mornings between 11.00am and 11.45am in St Edmund's Church Hall.

Please come and join us for a chat.

On Wednesday mornings there's coffee inside the church at 10.45am - again, do pop along.



St Edmund's Church
St Edmund's Close
Allestree, DE22 2DZ

Derby City Deanery Report for APCMs 2025

Every parish in the deanery is represented on the Deanery Synod by its Clergy and Lay Representatives – the number being proportional to those on the parochial electoral roll.

In 2024 the Deanery Synod met three times – at each meeting there were reports from Diocesan and General, alongside updates in Safeguarding, Growing Faith and Finance, followed by speakers and/or workshop carousels on the main theme of the evening. Each meeting ends with Compline.

The February meeting of synod was online when elections to the Deanery Leadership Team were conducted and we looked at Growing Faith and Safeguarding.

In May Bishop Libby and Bishop Malcolm conducted a Prayer Pilgrimage around the Deanery as part of 'Thy Kingdom Come' - we worshipped together, visited new housing areas and new worshipping communities and met church-led communities across the Deanery.

Our May synod focused on Eco Church with valuable examples and support from various churches in the deanery.

The final synod of 2024 in October featured the Derby City Greenhouse Team and new ways of being church, alongside carousels from the Mission, Evangelism and Parish Revitalisation Team, which varied from a how to of faculties to the use of digital giving machines.

The Deanery Chapter met regularly giving mutual support to the clergy and facilitating support for parishes in vacancy.

The Deanery Synod members elect members of the Diocesan Synod every three years and members of General Synod every five years. The Deanery leadership team member are:- Area Dean, The Rev'd Sarah Watson; Assistant Area Deans, The Rev'd Mina Munns, The Rev'd Susie Curtis; Lay Chair, Madelaine Goddard; Treasurer, Hugh Craig; The Rev'd Alisdair Kay and Alex Dann. The team and synod are also grateful to the work of the Deanery Administrator, Kelly Martin, who, due to reorganisation of administrative support across the Diocese, moved on to another role within Church House last Autumn.

The main task of the Synod reps is to be a link between congregations and the Deanery and Diocese – so please contact your reps with any matters you think should receive wider attention but above all please keep the members & mission of the Deanery in your prayers.

Madelaine Goddard
Lay Chair Derby City Deanery

The Rev'd Sarah Watson
Area Dean

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May 2025

Archdeacon Matthew writes...



On the day I wrote this article, the stock markets were down 11% as the impact of what President Trump termed 'Liberation Day' took hold on the global economy. As of April 2, the United States has imposed global tariffs on countries exporting goods and services to America. Some countries have already responded to Trump's move by imposing retaliatory tariffs on the cost to the United States of exporting their goods into those countries. Now, you might not follow the ups and downs of global stock markets and the twists and turns of the geo-politics, but part of the concern over these tariffs will be their effect on nearly all of us. The US President's move affects pensions, the cost of car purchases, family savings and more. And the language applied to the advent of these significant and far-reaching tariffs is 'Liberation Day'.

The heavy burden imposed on countries and individuals by these tariffs starkly contrasts with Jesus' message of salvation, liberation, and hope that we celebrate during the Easter season. Jesus took the full weight of human sin on himself on the cross and rose from the dead to offer us new life in Christ. Whereas President Trump's tariffs lead to hopelessness and despair, the liberation Jesus offers us brings hope. However, as we take our confidence in the Good News of Jesus, we must reconcile what we believe in faith with the world as we experience it; that is the challenge of being a disciple. It might strike you as hard to cling to a message of hope amid a fractured world, but that is the work we must do if we are to point people to Jesus.

Will Freemont-Brown's chapter in the Archbishop's Lent book 'Wild Bright Hope' suggests that for Christians, hope is not the same as optimism but inviting Jesus into the challenging and traumatic: the hopeless places of our lives and the world, we can reimagine those spaces with hope. The apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans (12.2) urges early followers of Jesus to 'not conform to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your [our] mind'. Therefore, the challenge for us as contemporary followers of Jesus is not to deny or play down the despair of tariffs and warfare but, through prayer, invite the Holy Spirit to help us reimagine our outlook on the here and now, in light of the liberation Jesus won for us on the cross and in the resurrection.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Trick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.


The Venerable Matthew Trick
Archdeacon of Derby City and South Derbyshire





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St. Edmund's Parish

Church Website: stedsandstmatts.co.uk

For all enquiries regarding weddings, baptisms, funerals and parish events contact the Parish Administrator, Caroline Audley: email: Steds.stmatts@outlook.com / telephone 552031.

Office opening hours:- Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 9.30am – 12.30pm
Wednesday: 9.30am – 3.00pm Thursday: 11.30am – 3.00pm

If out of hours please leave a message; the answer phone is checked daily.

In an emergency, please contact one of the churchwardens.

Directory

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Churchwardens:	Paul Smith	07792 569758
	Ann Miller	07831 506978
Parish Administrator:	Caroline Audley: Steds.stmatts@outlook.com	552031
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Electoral Roll:	Matt Cooper	07572 110185
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St. Edmund's Parish Magazine Editorial Team: Chris Willis, Claire Pegg and Fiona Fraser.

Please EMAIL magazine articles and photos to both fiona.fraser@burnsgraphics.co.uk and Chris Willis at c.willis246@btinternet.com

Magazine Distribution: Chris Willis 558136

Copy Deadlines: 20 May for the June issue and 20 June for the July issue.

Our Parish magazines are available as printed copies in Church and digitally on the website:-
www.stedsandstmatts.co.uk.



FOR SALE on Sat. 17th May - Donate Friday 16th

We are holding a plant sale on May 17th and would be very grateful for flower and vegetable plant donations of any quantity, shape or size! The St Edmund's Choir Vestry will be open on Friday May 16th 5.00pm - 7.00pm and a committee member will be there to receive donations. Alternatively plants can be brought before 10.00am on the 17th.

The plant sale will take place in/outside the Choir Vestry at St Edmund's on Saturday 17th May from 10.00am to 12 noon. Refreshments available.

Mary Pollett, Events Committee

