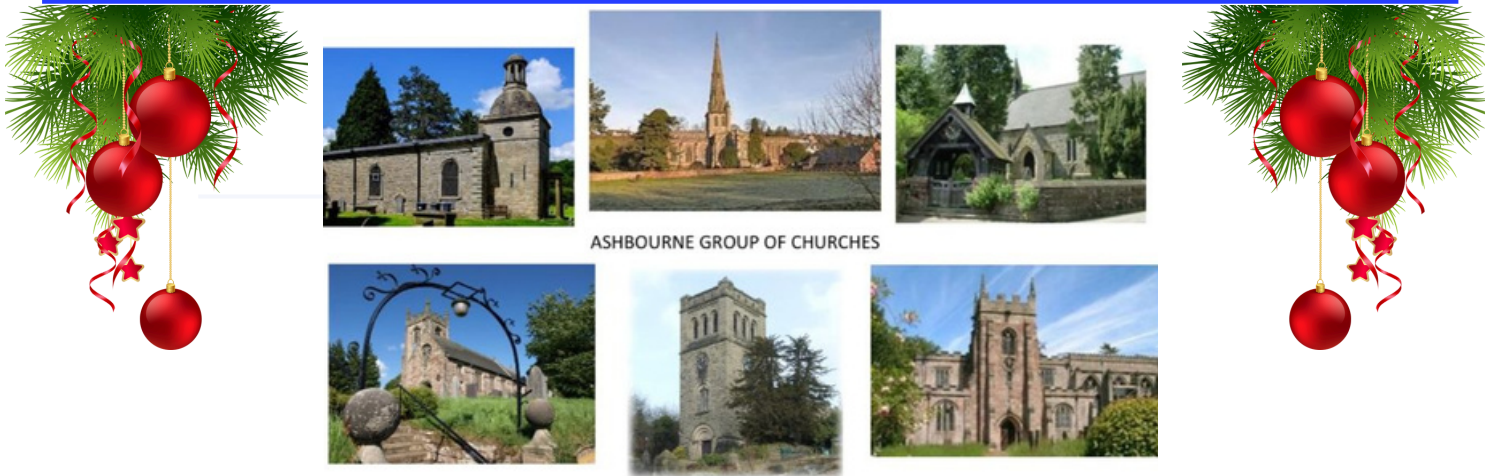


NEWS FROM ASHBOURNE GROUP OF CHURCHES



Everyone is **WELCOME** at any of the **Services** in our Churches

This Sunday is the beginning of the season of Advent, the start of the Church year and the beginning of a season of generosity; of the giving and receiving of gifts with loved ones, and of course the most generous gift of all, that of Jesus Christ. It is in this season of Advent that we are asking our congregations, the town and villages, and all those who cherish our churches to ask themselves how they can give generously to support us in ensuring that more people can benefit from the life and work of our churches, both now and in the future.

In asking oneself that question, we should also be thinking of the generosity of God and reflect on our many blessings; perhaps starting with the abundantly generous God as evidenced in the magnificent generosity shown in creation?

At the start of this Advent season we should not be thinking first about how much we give. Instead, we should take time to reflect on how much God has given us, to open our eyes and to see that all that we have comes from Him. It is only when we get the context of an infinite God who owns all the riches of the universe yet loves us, that we can place our response in perspective.

May God bless you this week as you seek a deeper understanding of God's generosity. Perhaps some may remember the old hymn:

Count your blessings, name them one by one
 Count your blessings, see what God has done
 Count your blessings, name them one by one
 And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.

Below this piece are the links to ways in which you can give, but if you need any further information, then please email giving@ashbournechurch.org.uk stating which of our churches you wish to support. With thanks and blessings, Nigel



St Oswald's church is open every day of the week. If you would like to make a donation to the work of St Oswald's Church you can do so from the Give a Little website using the following link:
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/fe31ado6-1a7e-48cf-a239-871c41a4f052>



If you would like to set up a regular payment to St Oswald's Church then you can do so through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS).. You can find out more information on the PGS website at:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/>
where you can also set up a regular payment.

Alternatively you can telephone the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1260 to set up a payment.

The PGS code for St Oswald's Church is 120612186

December

1 st Sunday	9.15	St Peter's, Snelston	Holy Communion
	9.15	St John's, Buxton Hill	Holy Communion
	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
	11.00	St Mary & St Barlok, Norbury	Holy Communion
	18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Advent Carols
5 th Thursday	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Morning Prayer (Record)
8 th Sunday	9.00	St Oswald's Church Hall	Breakfast Church
	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
	14.00	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Pet Service
	18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Evensong
12 th Thursday	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Morning Prayer (Record)
15 th Sunday	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
	16.00	St Peter's, Snelston	Crib Service
	18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Evensong
19 th Thursday	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion (Record)
21 st Saturday	18.00	St Mary's, Mappleton	Carol Service
22 nd Sunday	9.15	St Peter's, Snelston	Holy Communion
	9.15	St John's, Buxton Hill	Carol Service
	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
	11.00	St Mary & St Barlok, Norbury	Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
	16.00	Holy Trinity, Clifton	Carol Service
18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols	
24 th Tuesday	16.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Crib Service
	23.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Midnight Mass
25 th Wednesday	8.00	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.15	St Mary's, Mappleton	Holy Communion
	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
28 th Thursday	NO RECORDING		
29 th Sunday	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion

Music at St Oswald's for December

Sunday 1st Advent Sunday

10.30 Parish Communion

- 29 Hills of the north rejoice...
 24 Come thou long expected Jesus...
 32 O come O come Emmanuel...
People look east/Stainer
 308 **Just as I am...**
 31 Lo he comes...

6.30 The Advent Carol Service

- From Darkness into Light
 Hymns, readings and anthems.
Matin Responsory/Palestrina
Lo how a rose e're blooming/ Praetorius
O Radiant Dawn/Macmillan
O Thou the central orb/Wood
Sleepers wake/Mendelssohn
How beautiful upon the mountains/Stainer
In darkness held/Shephard

Sunday 8th Second Sunday of Advent

10.30 Parish Communion

- 58 Long ago prophets knew...
 26 Hark a thrilling voice is sounding...
 393 Brother sister let me serve you...
A Tender Shoot/Goldschmidt
 33 **O day of God draw near...**
 591 The Kingdom of God is justice and joy...

6.30 Evensong

- 24 Come thou long expected Jesus...
 Psalm 42 vs 1-7
 93 When Jesus came to Jordan...
At thy feet/Bach
 28 Hark what a sound...

Sunday 15th Third Sunday of Advent

10.30 Parish Communion

- 34 On Jordan's bank...
 607 Thy kingdom come O God...
 581 Take my life...
As Joseph was a walking/traditional
 476 **In a world where people walk...**
 27 Hark the glad sound...

6.30 Evensong

- 26 Hark a thrilling voice is sounding...
 Psalm Benedictus
 37 The Lord will come and not be slow...
How lovely are the messengers/Mendelssohn
 25 Creator of the starry height...

Sunday 22nd Fourth Sunday of Advent

10.30 Parish Communion

- 24 Come thou long expected Jesus...
 209 Lord be thy word my rule...
 362 Tell out my soul...
The Angel Gabriel/traditional
 505 **Lord Jesus Christ...**
 31 Lo he comes...

6.30 The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

- I saw three ships/Marshall**
Myn Lyking/Terry
O little town/Chilcott
Sans Day Carol/Rutter
Sure on this shining night/Lauridsen
The Marvellous Birth/Chilcott
Peace to every neighbour/Diplock
There is no rose/Joubert

Tuesday 24th Christmas Eve

11.30 Midnight Mass (Carol sheets)

- 25 It came upon the midnight clear...
 3 O little town of Bethlehem...
 12 Hark the herald angels sing...
 13 O come all ye faithful...

Wednesday 25th Christmas Day**8.00 BCP Communion**

- 10 While shepherds watched...
3 O little town of Bethlehem...

10.30 Christmas Day Family Communion

- 13 O come all ye faithful...
18 Ding dong merrily on high...
4 Once in royal David's city...
In the bleak midwinter/Darke
Hallelujah Chorus/Handel
12 Hark the herald angels sing...

Sunday 29th First Sunday of Christmas**10.30 Parish Communion (no choir)**

- 74 What child is this... (Greensleeves)
55 In the bleak mid winter
69 Silent night... (first version)
48 Christians awake...



October Registers

Weddings

Saturday 5th
Stefanie Clarke &
Andrew Brown
St Oswald's

Funerals

Friday 11th	Christine Dawson	85	St Oswald's
Wednesday 16th	Majorie Waring	82	Clifton
Friday 18th	Robbin Mudford	92	St Oswald's

St Oswald's Church is OPEN daily from 10am to 5pm

The Parish Office is open Monday 9am-10.30am
Open Wednesday & Friday
from 14:30 to 16:30

Telephone: 01335 343052

If you need a priest urgently call 07891887845

December readings notes

December 1st Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Although the Jews were living under the threat of attack from the Babylonians, Jeremiah reassures them that God will appoint a king, a descendant of King David, to rule in accordance with God's righteous nature.

Luke 21:25-26 Jesus said to his disciples

The later books of the Old Testament warned the Jews that the coming of God's rule on earth would be preceded by calamities and by fear. The figure of the 'Son of Man' as foretold by Daniel (Dan.7;13-14) would then appear in glory. The people must be ready, and prepared for his coming.

December 8th Advent 2

Malachi 3:1-4 In the last book of the Old Testament, Malachi warns that God is his messenger who will cleanse the nation so that the people would be ready to present their offerings at the time when God would rule over them.

Thus says the Lord God

Luke 3:1-6

When he began to write his Gospel, Luke carefully set out the historical background for Jesus's ministry. He reminded his readers that the work of John the Baptist had been foretold in the Old Testament and quoted the passage in which Isaiah had reassured the exiled Jews of his day that they must prepare a royal road along which God would come to their aid.

December 15th Advent 3

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Zephaniah prophesied in the days when the Jews were living under the threat of invasion by the Assyrians. He assured them that when they repented, God would come again in their midst and rescue them.

Luke 3:7-18

Matthew and Luke offer quite a detailed account of the ministry of John the Baptist and the reactions of different members of Jewish society to his message. The baptism he offered to those who came to hear him, was not common practise amongst the Jews except as an initiation rite into some small groups like the Essenes, who lived an ascetic life in the area of the Dead Sea. Spoke spoke to them of the coming of Jesus who would baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire, a symbol of the might and the cleansing power of God.

December 22nd Advent 4

Micah 5:2-5a The insignificant village of Bethlehem where the great King David had been born, is to become the birthplace of the new ruler who would be a true shepherd to God's people, bringing them peace and security.

The Lord says to his people

Luke 1:39-45

After Mary received the message from Gabriel that she would bear a son, she left Nazareth to visit her cousin, Elizabeth who lived near Jerusalem. Like Mary, Elizabeth's pregnancy was unexpected since she was past the age of child bearing. Elizabeth recognised the significance of the two coming births which mirrored similar events in the Old Testament, like Isaac's birth to the old couple, Abraham and Sarah. (Gen. 18:9-14)

December 24th Christmas Eve

Isaiah 52:7-10 In the midst of the horrors of exile in Babylon, the prophet reassures the Jews that God's messenger will come with the news that God will comfort his people and redeem Jerusalem. All nations will see God's saving acts.

John 1:1-14

The prologue to John's gospel is unique among the gospels. John introduces some of the major themes which he develops as he recounts the mission and ministry of Jesus. God's Word was creative and a source of light and life. John the Baptist came to bear witness, but the Word would be rejected. Those who believed in him would see the fulness of his glory.

December 25th Christmas Day

Isaiah 9:2-7 In days of political uncertainty Isaiah reassures the people that despite the darkness of their lives, God will send a new ruler with a new name, a descendant of King David. He will bring peace and justice to the land.

Luke 2:1-14

It was important to the gospel writers that Jesus had been born in Bethlehem the home of King David, not Nazareth, his family's home. This fulfilled the promises of the prophets. Luke's concern for the poor and those who lived on the edges of society is evident in his account of the coming of the shepherds as the first visitors to the new born child.

December 29th Naming and circumcision

Numbers 6:22-27 The book of Numbers offers an account of the years the Hebrews spent wandering through the wilderness under Moses' leadership. This lovely blessing was to be pronounced by Aaron, Moses' brother, over the people, bestowing God's favour and peace on them.

Luke 2:15-21

After receiving the message of Jesus' birth from heavenly messengers, the shepherds rushed to Bethlehem, where, despite their lowly position in society, they spread the news with delight. After eight days, Jesus was initiated into the Jewish faith and given his new name, 'Jesus': in Hebrew, 'Joshua', which means 'God saves'.



Starting from St Oswald's Church

Are you ready for the Lantern Spectacular next Friday

A huge thank you to everyone who shared, liked, and commented on our last post about lantern carriers! It's amazing to see so many people excited to visit and get involved in such a special event.

With just a week to go, if you need more information that isn't on the leaflet or our social media posts, feel free to send us a message – we're happy to help!

Save the date!

Lantern Spectacular

Friday, 6th December, from 5pm

Free parking from 2pm in all council car parks

Ashbourne Town Centre

BREAKFAST CHURCH

St Oswald's Church Hall

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER

START YOUR SUNDAY WITH BREAKFAST CHURCH! JOIN US AT 9:00 AM FOR A DELICIOUS BREAKFAST OF CEREAL, TOAST, COFFEE, AND YOUR CHOICE OF BACON OR SAUSAGE BUTTIES. ENJOY A WARM AND WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE AS WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP."

**Please do come and give it a try.
To help with catering, please book
your place in advance by contacting
Andy Wright, email:
admandjewright@gmail.com.**





The Ossie's Potters have been busy once more! Two workshops have taken place to make a number of happy and cheeky elves.... And if you look really hard and explore all the areas of our Church you will find a number of named elves. Take all the capital letters of each name and it spells something very special for the elves.....can you work out what the letters spell? Our younger visitors would be especially good at this challenge, however this puzzle is open to everyone..... so happy hunting!





JOIN US FOR JOYFUL CAROL SINGING!

LET'S SPREAD SOME FESTIVE CHEER BY SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS TOGETHER AT OUR LOCAL CARE HOMES AND ST OSWALD'S HOSPITAL! WE WARMLY INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN US FOR THIS HEARTWARMING EXPERIENCE.

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE SIGN-UP SHEET NEAR THE SOUTH CHURCH DOOR.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE FESTIVE DATES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH DOVE HOUSE AT 13:30
&
ST OSWALD'S HOSPITAL AT 18.00
(WITH THE ASHBOURNE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH THE LEYS AT 14:00

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH ASHBOURNE LODGE AT 14:30

For more information contact Peter and Lindsay Walker
07968483572/07971802671





The W. W. Worthington Memorial Trophy

This trophy was first awarded in June 1978, the winning team being the Leicester Diocesan Guild. It was given by the Worthington family who were brewers in Burton on Trent and members of St Paul's Church in Burton. The trophy is awarded on an annual basis to "The Best Church 10 Bell Ringing Team".

Initially the contests were always held at St. Paul's but they now move around the Midlands area and this year 2024, St. John the Evangelist, Ranmoor, Sheffield was the venue. They have a fine ring of bells cast by Gillett and Johnston in 1934, the heaviest bell (the Tenor) being 16 cwt (750kg).

On Saturday 18th May, seven teams journeyed to Ranmoor representing the following Churches/Guilds:

Beeston.

Derby.

Leicester.

Nottingham.

Sheffield.

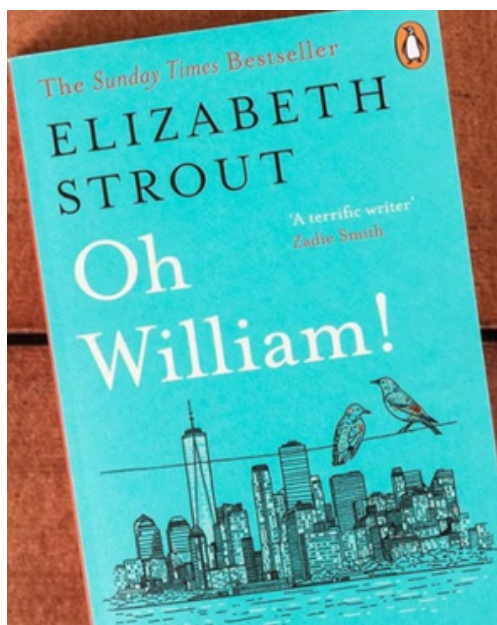
York – Two teams, Seniors and Juniors.

The competition piece was a course of Yorkshire Surprise Royal which is 360 changes taking about 13 mins to ring.

The winners were the Derby Diocesan Guild.

The Trophy, a Rosebowl, is now on show in St. Oswald's Church exhibition cabinet along with other ringing items which illustrate the various aspects of Church bell ringing.

This is possible because one of St. Oswald's band, Peter Dickinson, was in the ringing team so we have the Rosebowl here for 5 weeks during November/December. PWD



St Oswald's Book club met on the first Monday of November to discuss 'Love Untold', written by Ruth Jones. An excellent read that led to colourful discussion – love, mess, secrets: this story of four generations of women is full of warmth and wisdom. Almost the whole group said they would like to read it again!!

Novembers read is 'Oh William' by Elizabeth Strout. This story is full of depth, complexity and love. The Guardian quotes 'Miraculous...a novel about layers of feeling that accumulate between people over many years'.

Decembers read is already chosen, The Miniaturist by Jessie Burton. Her magnificent debut novel is an enchanting and exquisitely suspenseful story of love and obsession, betrayal and retribution, appearance and truth.

Next meeting, Ashbourne Library on Monday 2nd December 10.00am -11.00am (bring a mug).

For more details contact Lindsay Walker 07971802671

Stamps for USPG at Christmas.

Christmas is approaching and once again we are collecting stamps in support of the work of USPG. There's a box by the door in the South transept of St. Oswald's church,
This year, USPG have been helping the Diocese of Dhaka in Bangladesh to develop eleven clinics for mothers and children in areas where there are few hospitals, means of transport are very limited, and it is hard to make contact with trained medical staff. The lives of pregnant women and their babies are at risk, so the clinics are vital ensuring dependable care in both maternal and child health.



The stamp dealers' guidelines remain as follows:
pre 2008 stamps are seldom valuable
no stamps that are printed on an envelope
the margins of envelopes round the stamps should be about 1centimetre which allows the people who handle them space to hold the stamp more easily - this is harder to achieve with our bigger stamps, but please try!

With many thanks and wishing you a joyful Christmastide,
Deirdre Wilmore

United Service
St Peter's Church, Snelston

Crib Service

THE AIR IS FILLED WITH JOY AS FAMILIES GATHER IN THE CHURCH, SINGING BELOVED CAROLS AND WATCHING A HEARTWARMING NATIVITY PLAY. COME DRESSED AS A SHEPHERD, MARY, JOSEPH, OR YOUR FAVOURITE CHARACTER TO JOIN THE FUN!

Refreshments served after the service

4pm Sunday 15th December





YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

Christmas Carol Service

Holy Trinity, Clifton
4pm



St Oswald's Church

*Festival of Nine
Lessons & Carols*

Sunday 22nd
December
18.30



Join Us for a Christmas Celebration!

We invite you to the Ashbourne Churches Together Christmas Party on Christmas Day! Whether you're young or old, come along to enjoy a 3-course Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, fun games, exciting prizes, and festive joy for everyone!

Doors open at 12:00 PM - Lunch served at 12:30 PM

Location: Ashbourne Elim Church

Donations (£10 per adult, £5 per child) welcomed but not required

For more details or to book your spot, visit: >> ashelim.ch/christmas

Let's make this Christmas one to remember!



Charity Christmas Cards
available **now** on the
bookstall in church-come
and take a look!



St Oswald's Church is registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Since joining we have raised over £250, and that is with only 20 supporters.

Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find it by visiting the Easyfundraising page and search for St Oswalds Church, Ashbourne



SAFEGUARDING - KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE

We are committed to ensuring that our church is a safe place for everyone and take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. We adhere to safeguarding rules laid down by the Church of England and the diocese of Derby.

REPORT A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN

Protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of us all, whether they are in the communities in which we live or part of our Christian family. If you have a concern about a child, young person or adult who may be at risk of harm please speak to the parish safeguarding coordinator.

The contact details are:

Celia Dickinson (Safeguarding Officer), Tel: 01335 418341 Mobile: 07754 883935 Email: celiapeterd@gmail.com

If you have concerns about a member of the clergy or an employee of the church please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding or one of the Archdeacons. To confidentially report a safeguarding concern please complete the Safeguarding Concern Form or call 01332 388678. You can also report any concerns to the Police or Social Care. The important thing is that your concerns are shared with someone in a position to help.