

# Ashbourne Church News 20/03/2026



Welcome to this week's newsletter

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*Included in this newsletter is all the news, music and readings for this week, together with articles from some of our regular church groups.*

*If you have any comments about this newsletter or wish to submit any material to be included, please email: [parishoffice@ashbournechurch.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@ashbournechurch.org.uk)*

*If you have not already subscribed to receive an email reminder when a new update to the newsletter is available, you can [subscribe here](#).*

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## Church and Parish Office Opening Times

### **St Oswald's Church is open daily from 10am to 5pm**

- Bell Ringing Practice: Wednesday evenings from 19.30 to 21.00
- Choir Practice: Friday evenings from 19.00 to 20.00

### **The Parish Office is open**

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 to 12:00

Telephone: 01335 343052

If you need a priest urgently, please call 01335 664159.

## Pastoral Contact

If you would like to contact a member of the clergy team to discuss any pastoral matter please telephone 01335 664159.

[Find Us on Instagram and Facebook](#)

To keep up with the latest church news, please follow us on our [Facebook Page](#).

We now have a new [Instagram](#) account too.

## Electoral Roll Revision 2026

The Electoral Roll is the list of all those who want to be considered part of a church and allows you to take part in the Annual Meeting or stand for election to the Parochial Church Council of that church. This year we are just revising our Rolls so if you are already on an Electoral Roll, you need take no further action.

If you would like to join the Roll you need:

- to be baptised
- to be at least 16 years old, and
- either live in the (Church) Parish, or
- have attended worship in the Parish during the 6 months prior to enrolment.

Forms to fill in are available from Church, on [the website](#), or from the Parish Office (email: [parishoffice@ashbournechurch.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@ashbournechurch.org.uk), phone: 01335 343052).

The Rolls for St Oswald and St Mary's (Mapleton) will be revised between **23rd and 27th March**. The completed forms should be returned to the Office by **23rd March**.

*This revision also applies to Clifton, Norbury, and Snelston churches. Please ask the Electoral Roll Officer or Churchwarden of the respective church about their arrangements.*

## Spring Highlights

Well, the weather has been wonderful this week, a welcome change from the dull wet weather of January and February, the warm spring sunshine has certainly had an effect, plants and trees are in bud, and tulips and daffodils are everywhere.

But the highlight of my spring garden is my magnolia tree, it's a mature tree of about 20 foot in height, and year in year out it delights us with its beautiful blossom. The trouble is it's very difficult to get a photo of, in fact to see it properly you have to look down on it from a bedroom window. For it's beautiful blooms, point upwards, towards the heavens, and standing below we only get a glimpse of its beauty.

I think it's really amazing that every spring, this beautiful tree offers up its blossoms to the heavens. It echoes these verses from Psalm 148:1, 8-9, 13 NIVUK

*"Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above. lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding, you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendour is above the earth and the heavens."*

So yes, I struggle to get a photo of this beautiful tree but, each time I look at it, it comes as a reminder, that we too should offer up the best that we have in praise and worship of The Lord.

God Bless

Lynda

Read [Ministry Thought for the Week](#) on the website.



## Reader in Training Observational Placement

We are pleased to be welcoming Elizabeth Hitch to our services at St Oswald's starting next week for six weeks. She is training to be a Reader (Licensed Lay Minister) and will be with us in an observational capacity. Because she comes from a different church tradition and size, please do answer any questions she might have about how/why we do services the way we do. Please introduce yourself and make her feel welcome!

## Services

### Weekly Online Service

Each week a recorded service is prepared which can be streamed from the [Ashbourne Group of Churches website](#).

The service is normally recorded in one of the churches in the Ashbourne Group on the Thursday prior to the Sunday.

### **Recorded Services**

This week's recorded service can be downloaded using the following link:


[Morning Prayer for Lent 5 from St.Mary's, Mappleton](#)

**The next recording will be a Holy Communion service and will be recorded on Thursday 26th March at St Oswald's, Ashbourne starting at 10:30am prompt.**

Everyone is welcome to join the recording.

Songs of Praise, St Peter's, Snelston



 *Songs  
of  
Praise*  
*St Peter's Church, Snelston*  
*Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 4:00 p.m.*

St Peter's, Snelston, invites you to a joint Songs of Praise with the Ashbourne Group of Churches on 22nd March at 4 :00 p.m. Please come and join us for a joyful service with tea, coffee and cakes afterwards.

### **Ashbourne Group of Churches - Services**

#### **Find Services and Events in the Calendar**

All of the Ashbourne Group of Churches services can be found on the website in the [Calendar](#). You can also see forthcoming events taking place in Church and in the Church Hall.

## ASHBOURNE GROUP OF CHURCHES

Everyone is WELCOME at any of the Services in our Churches

Day	APRIL	Time	Church	Service
Wednesday	1st	18.30	St Oswald's Ashbourne	Compline
<b>Maundy Thur</b>	2nd	19.00	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion / strip altar
<b>Good Friday</b>	3rd	14.00 19.00	St Oswald's, Ashbourne St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Last Hour at Cross Music Reflection
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	5th	6.00 8.00 9.45 10.30 11.15 16.00 18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne St Oswald's, Ashbourne St Peter's, Snelston St Oswald's, Ashbourne St Mary St Barlock, Norbury Holy Trinity, Clifton St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Sunrise Eucharist Holy Communion (BCP) Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Service Choral Evensong
<b>Low Sunday</b>	12th	9.00 10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Breakfast Church Holy Communion
Sunday Easter 3	19th	10.30 18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion Evensong
Sunday Easter 4	26th	10.30 10.45 16.00 18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne Holy Trinity, Clifton St Oswald's, Ashbourne St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion Holy Communion Messy Church Evensong

### ON LINE SERVICES

Daily Morning & Evening Prayer and Sunday Morning Service available on :

[ashbournechurch.org.uk](http://ashbournechurch.org.uk)

### WEDDING and BAPTISM ENQUIRIES

Please call Parish Office 0303 300 0498

### PASTORAL CONTACT

To speak to a member of the Clergy call 01335 664159

### Sunday 22nd March

10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's

16:00 - Songs of Praise, St Peter's Snelston

(There is no evening service at St Oswald's)

### Sunday 29th March - Palm Sunday

10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's

18:30 - Tenebrae, St Oswald's

### Monday 30th March - Easter Monday

18:30 - Compline, St Oswald's

### Tuesday 31st March

18:30 - Compline, St Oswald's

### Wednesday 1st April

18:30 - Compline, St Oswald's

### Thursday 2nd April - Maundy Thursday

17:30 - Reflective family walk up Thorpe Cloud, St Leonard's Church, Thorpe, DE6 2AW

19:00 - Holy Communion, stripping of the altar

### **Friday 3rd April - Good Friday**

12:00 - Walk of Witness, meet at Sainsbury's Car Park

14:00 - Last Hour at the Cross, St Oswald's

19:00 - Music Reflection, St Oswald's

### **Sunday 5th April - Easter Sunday**

06:00 - Sunrise Eucharist, St Oswald's

08:00 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's

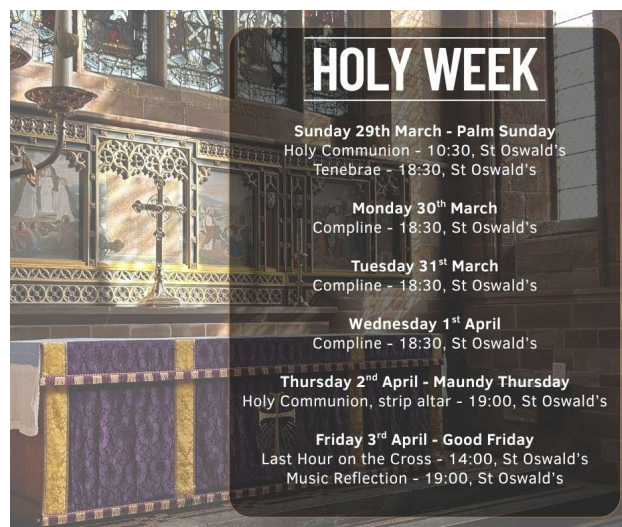
09:45 - Holy Communion, St Peter's, Snelston

10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's

11:15 - Holy Communion, St Mary and St Barlock, Norbury

16:00 - Family Service, Holy Trinity, Clifton

18:30 - Choral Evensong, St Oswald's



# EASTER SUNDAY

## 5TH APRIL

- 06:00 - Sunrise Eucharist, St Oswald's
- 08:00 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's
- 09:45 - Holy Communion, St Peter's, Snelston
- 10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's
- 11:15 - Holy Communion, St Mary St Barlock, Norbury
- 16:00 - Family Service, Holy Trinity, Clifton
- 18:30 - Choral Evensong, St Oswald's



Walks of Witness and Reflection - Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

We walk in unity – many different people, one faith, united in Christ.

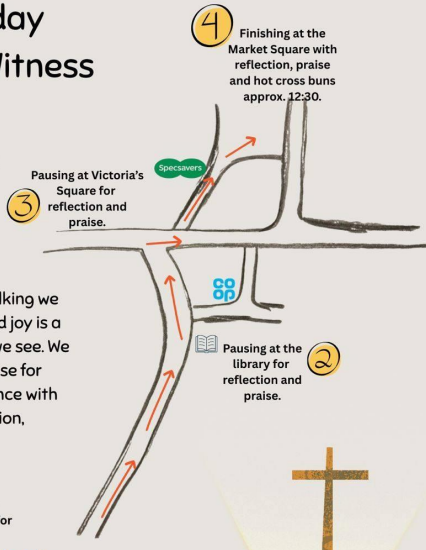
We walk in love – celebrating God's love shown to the world.

We walk in hope – the hope Jesus gives, freely offered to all.

### Good Friday Walk of Witness

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
 Time: 12pm  
 All are welcome

Whilst we are walking we hope our love and joy is a witness to those we see. We do plan to pause for moments of silence with each reflection,




**1** Starting at Sainsbury's for 12pm

**Sainsbury's**

**2** Pausing at the library for reflection and praise.

**3** Pausing at Victoria's Square for reflection and praise.

**4** Finishing at the Market Square with reflection, praise and hot cross buns approx. 12:30.



# Easter



## Lent Lunches

Date: Wednesdays through  
lent

Time: 12pm

Meeting Place:

All Saints, DE6 1AT

Information: Soup Lunch with  
a devotional to seek the Lord.

## Good Friday

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Time: 12pm

Meeting Place:

Sainsburys Car Park

Map of walk attached

Information: Walk to  
witness to our town the  
love and sacrifice of  
Jesus that we remember  
at Easter time.

## Maundy Thursday

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Time: 5:30pm


Meeting Place: St Leonard's


Church, Thorpe, DE6 2AW

Information: Reflective  
family walk up Thorpe Cloud.



### Get in touch

 [ashbournect@gmail.com](mailto:ashbournect@gmail.com)

 [@AshbourneChurchesTogether](https://www.facebook.com/AshbourneChurchesTogether)

## Breakfast Church



 Ashbourne Group  
of Churches

JOIN US FOR  
**BREAKFAST  
CHURCH**  
AT ST OSWALD'S, ASHBOURNE

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY FROM 09:00 - 09:45

Bacon butties, cereal, toast and  
a short all age service

A warm welcome is awaiting you.

[ashbournechurch.org.uk](http://ashbournechurch.org.uk)

## Launch of Messy Church at St Oswald's

We are really excited about the launch of our new Messy Church service for the whole family on Sunday 26 April at 4.00pm in the Church Hall.

Messy Church is fundamentally about people just coming in all their messiness with all their messy lives! A fun and vibrant new community with crafts, games, stories, and a free meal for all ages. No experience of crafts (or church) necessary, just bring your curiosity!



## Anna Chaplaincy in Ashbourne Group of Churches

We are very pleased that Lindsay Walker has felt a calling and will soon begin training to become an Anna Chaplain, based out of St Oswald's, Ashbourne. It will help support our aim to combat loneliness and anxiety - and demonstrate how much we value some of our more mature congregation members. A wise person in the congregation said: 'They have a lifetime of love; a lifetime of living; experiences profound and wisdom for sure - a gift to us all - if only we can learn to listen.' Thank you to Lindsay for her call to this ministry, and for writing the following brief explanation to provide more background for us:

What is Anna Chaplaincy?

Anna Chaplaincy is one of the leading UK charities offering training and networking in older people's ministry. A ministry of BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship) Ministries, it enables local churches to offer high-quality spiritual care to older people in the community who may be of strong, little, or no faith.

The title "Anna" is inspired by Anna in Luke's Gospel - an older, faithful widow who, with Simeon, recognised the baby Jesus as the Messiah. Her story reflects the heart of this ministry: offering

hope, compassion, and a prophetic voice, especially to those who have experienced loss or bereavement. Fittingly, the name Anna means gift or grace.

Anna Chaplains are accountable to their Church or Ministry Team and work alongside existing church initiatives. They serve older people of all backgrounds with person-centred care, including listening, enabling, and honouring the wisdom and experience that older people may have to offer in their lives.

Many Anna Chaplains feel a clear sense of calling, often later in life. As I begin my training in April, I would be grateful if you would remember me in your prayers.

Lindsay Walker

## Music at St Oswald's

Music	March	2026	Year A
SUNDAY 1st	Second Sunday of Lent		Purple
10.30	368 Psalm 524	All my hope on God is founded 121 My God I love thee <b>I lift my eyes to the quiet hills</b>	6.30 497 Psalm 8 116 495
	383 606	<b>Be still for the presence of the Lord</b> Thy hand O God has guided (omit * verses)	Let all the world O dearest Lord Lead kindly light
			<b>Turn thy face from our sins/Attwood</b> Mag and ND E <b>O Saviour of the world/Goss</b>
SUNDAY 8th	Third Sunday of Lent		Purple
10.30	467 Psalm 469	How sweet the name of Jesus sounds 95 I heard the voice of Jesus say <b>My song is love unknown/Archer</b>	6.30 424 Psalm 16
	524 557	<b>My God I love thee</b> Prasie to the holiest in the height	<b>Choral Evensong</b> Stanford in Bb Stewart responses <b>Through the day/Morley</b> Fill thou my life 42 vs1-7 What a friend we have in Jesus (sheet) <b>Like as the hart/Howells</b> Hail gladdening light
SUNDAY 15th	Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday		Purple
10.30	253 362 377	For the beauty of the earth Tell out my soul Angel voices ever singing <b>Ave Maria/S.Lindley</b>	6.30 618 Psalm 238
	598 Psalm 516	<b>There's a wideness in God's mercy</b> <b>23</b> Love divine	When in our music God is glorified Mag and ND F For Mary mother of our Lord (omit *) <b>Purest and highest/Stanford</b> O strength and stay
SUNDAY 22nd	Fifth Sunday of Lent		Purple
10.30	411 Psalm 571	Dear Lord and Father of mankind 130 Soldiers of Christ arise * omit vs 3 <b>Ave verum corpus/Mozart</b> <b>Pie Jesu/Faure (solo)</b> <b>Clare Benediction/Rutter</b>	4.00
	468	Lord of the dance	<b>Songs of Praise at Snelston</b> (No evening service at St Oswald's church)
SUNDAY 29th	Palm Sunday		Purple
10.30	128 129 433	All glory laud and honour Ride on ride on Give me joy in my heart <b>Palm Sunday antiphon/Morgan</b>	6.30
	127 499	<b>When I survey</b> Lift high the cross. (omit * verses)	<b>Tenebrae</b> Taize chants, hymns, readings and candles

On Sunday 22nd, we are pleased that 18 choristers from St Anselm's School at Bakewell are joining us for our 10.30 service. We have enjoyed a long association with the school which works well for us and for them. They will be bringing parents too so do please come and make them welcome whilst enjoying a full choir. Just to make it all extra special, please support the Songs of Praise service at Snelston at 4.00 which is a joint service for all six of our churches. There are seven good hymns to suit all tastes. Just remember that there will be no service at St Oswald's in the evening.

## Tenebrae - Palm Sunday 29th March, 6.30 p.m.

This is a short evening service full of dramatic moments to bring a fuller understanding of the Passion of Our Lord to us. It very reflective and meaningful to those who are there and helps us find a deeper connection of the events of Holy Week. Please do come along.

## Readings

### March Readings

#### March readings 2026

March 1st           Lent 2

Romans 4:1-5,13-17 Paul writes to the Christians in Rome before he visits them. He reminds them that Abraham, the great hero of faith in the Hebrew Scriptures, was chosen by God, not because of his deeds but his faith.

John 3.1-17

John, alone of the Gospel writers, recorded the visit of Nicodemus, a Pharisee, who asked Jesus a question. The conversation that followed relied heavily on their knowledge and use of the Hebrew language. The word for 'again' sounded very similar to the one for 'from above'. The 'lifting up' of Jesus on the cross was a parallel to Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness to save the people from a plague of serpents.

March 8th           Lent 3

Exodus 17.1-7 When the people complain that their life in the wilderness is very difficult, Moses strikes a great rock and water gushes out.

John 4.5-42 (shortened)

Contact with women and with Samaritans was forbidden to devout Jews, therefore the Samaritan woman was astonished at Jesus's request for water. Their conversation, only recorded in John's gospel, became a 'theological discussion' on the nature of belief and of God's life-giving Spirit. As a result, she became an early evangelist, witnessing to Jesus.

March 15th           Lent 4

Mothering Sunday

Colossians 1:3-7

Paul writes to the Christians in Colossae commending them for the strength of their faith.

John 19:25b-27

In his account of the crucifixion, John alone of the four Gospel writers recorded Jesus's words to his mother and to his 'beloved disciple'.

March 22nd           Lent 5

Ezekiel 37:1-14 In his vision, Ezekiel finds himself in a valley of dry bones. God's Spirit, his breath which gave life to creation, will now give new life to the Jews in exile.

John 11.1-45 (shortened)

Jesus's act of raising Lazarus (like his meeting with the Samaritan woman) is only recorded by John. Jesus had known the family so it was natural that they turned to him when Lazarus fell ill. Jesus's surprising delay ensured that he could reassure the family of what was to come, and of how God's life-giving power was at work in all that would take place.

March 29th           Palm Sunday

(reading for the Blessing of the Palms)

Luke 19.28-40 Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey, the crowds greet him excitedly, hoping he is the hoped-for Messiah.

OTHER PARISHES:

Philippians 2:5-11 Paul writes to the Christians at Philippi in words they may have known as a hymn as he describes the humility and obedience of Jesus to his father's will.

Matthew 26:47 - 27:54

This gospel reading, especially when read dramatically, needs no additional comments

## 22nd March: Lent 5



### **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

*In his vision, Ezekiel finds himself in a valley of dry bones. God's Spirit, his breath which gave life to creation, will now give new life to the Jews in exile.*

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11 Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

### **John 11.1-45 (shortened)**

Now Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha was ill, so the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' When Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does

not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer where he was. After this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been dead for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' When Mary heard it, she went to Jesus and kneeling at his feet, said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was deeply moved and said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep.

Then Jesus, greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I know that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

### **Something to think about**

Jesus's act of raising Lazarus (like his meeting with the Samaritan woman) is only recorded by John. Jesus had known the family so it was natural that they turned to him when Lazarus fell ill. Jesus's surprising delay ensured that he could reassure the family of what was to come, and of how God's life-giving power was at work in all that would take place.

### **Collect**

True and humble King,  
the crowd hailed you as Messiah then turned against you:  
may our praise last longer than a day;  
may we be found beside you on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

### **Post Communion**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### **Evensong**

There are no readings for Evensong as there is no service at St Oswald's because there is Songs of Praise at Snelston, at 4pm, instead.

### **Please remember in your prayers this week**

Those who are unable to be with us in church, including Diana & Edmund Urquhart, Linda Torr, Arthur and Barbara Williams, the Reverend Joe and Mrs. Gillie Lister..

Those who are ill, especially Graham Price, Pam Phillips, Reina Hammond and Neil Burns.

The recently bereaved, especially the relatives and friends of Alan Wibberley and Thomas Limer.

Areas of conflict: the Ukraine, the Middle East and too many others.

Our local churches.

Our Ministry Team: Dwayne, Maggie, Nigel & Lynda

## Activities at St Oswald's



There are many men and women in our community who are caring for a loved one and it is very seldom realised just how little recognition they get for fulfilling such an important but lonely role. If you, or someone you know, is caring for a loved one, for whatever reason, and would like the chance just to have somewhere you can have an hour or so respite with coffee and chat with people who understand the challenges you face daily, then come along to 'Carers Count'.

'Carers Count' meet on the first Wednesday of every month between 10am and 12 noon at St Oswald's Church Hall in School Lane, Ashbourne where you are assured of a warm welcome, a friendly face and a listening ear.

We work with Derbyshire Carers Association who give advice regarding practical support to which one might be entitled. They also support our meetings with the occasional special event.

For more information and to let us know that you would like to come along, then call Maggie or Nigel on 01335 664159

## Notices

### Dates for your Diary

- Sunday 22nd March @ 14:00 - closing session for Retreat in Daily Life
- Tuesday 24th March @ 13:00 - Ossie's Potters
- Tuesday 31st March @ 16:00 - Ossie's Kitchen
- Wednesday 1st April @ 10:00 - Carers Count

### Get Involved

- Sunday 22nd March @ 14:00 - St Oswald's Church - Retreat in Daily Life closes
- Saturday 1st August - Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taizé

See [Forthcoming Events](#) on the website.

### [Palm Sunday Dramatised Reading](#)

On Sunday, 29th March we will be following our Palm Sunday tradition of a dramatised setting of the Gospel read by members of the congregation as part of our morning service. This year, it is based on the Gospel according to St Matthew. Anyone is welcome to take part and a sign-up sheet will be available in the South transept on Sunday, 1st March for those interested.

I plan to hand out the scripts on Sunday, 15th March after Morning Service and also arrange a brief practice before coffee on 22nd March. If you have any questions in the meantime, do please speak to me at church or contact me on 07969 989818.

Look forward to seeing you!

Debbie Ashton-Cleary

### [Bookstall](#)

With spring in the air and Easter fast approaching the bookstall has had a fresh range of cards added – please do take a look!

The biggest selection of Easter cards we've had, plus age specific birthdays, baptism and more. Support your church and bring joy to your family and friends!

Many thanks

Sarah Morris

### [Candlelight Experience at St John's](#)

Following the recent Lumos concert, a Hans Zimmer Candlelight Experience is planned at St John's Church on Saturday 18th April with two performances - 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Tickets are available [online](#).





**‘Pilgrimage  
The outer & inner journey’**  
*Led by the Rev’d Fr Alasdair Kay*  
*Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2026*  
*St Oswald’s Church, Ashbourne*

*Pilgrimage encourages us to go deeper into our relationships.  
The pilgrim seeks to let go of everyday distractions and interior attachments, to be open to new insights into self and the Beloved and, allowing all this to integrate, draws ever closer in union. On my own journeys I realised I had not so much sought the Beloved, but that the Beloved has sought me’,*  
(extract from *The Kentigern Way* by Stephen Wright, Wild Goose Publications, Glasgow, 2019 p.92)

The quiet day begins at 10.30am, refreshments will be available from 10am. The day begins with worship and will include three short talks and times of silence. The day ends with a time for questions and finally closing worship. Those attending are asked to bring a packed lunch. The speaker for the day is Rev’d Fr Alasdair Kay MA SCP (The Anglican Greyfriars) who will lead the day on the theme of the ‘Pilgrimage an inner and outward journey’. There is no charge for the day, those attending are invited to make a donation. Please book your place by emailing Cameron Butland – [cameron.butland@derby.anglican.org](mailto:cameron.butland@derby.anglican.org)

**Programme**

10-10.30am Arrive, (*refreshments available on arrival*)  
10.30am Morning Prayer  
11.00am **First talk**  
*followed by quiet time of reflection*  
12noon **Second talk**  
*followed by quiet time of reflection*  
1.00pm *Lunch, please bring own packed lunch, drinks provided*  
2.00pm **Third talk**  
*followed by quiet time of reflection*  
3.00pm Closing Prayer

The venue is St Oswald’s Church Hall, 5 School Lane, Ashbourne DE6 1AN Ashbourne. There is a small car park and parking on the road outside the church.

*Glendalough Pilgrim Prayer*

*I beg assistance, God of my journey, to accept that all of life is only on loan to me, to believe beyond this moment, to accept your courage when mine fails, to recognise the pilgrim of my heart, to hold all of life in open hands. Amen*

[East Midlands Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taizé](#)

The Diocese of Derby, along with the Dioceses of Leicester and Lincoln, has come together to offer a Pilgrimage to Taizé for young adults aged 18-35, which will take place from August 1-9 this year.

[Taizé](#) is an ecumenical Christian community in Southern France which produces the beautiful contemplative worship music familiar to many. Its mission is to reach young people throughout the world.

If you are interested in spending a week camping with a global and monastic community, we will be making this pilgrimage together, travelling and camping as a group from across the East Midlands. The trip will cost approximately £350, and priority is given to young adults aged 18-35.

For more information, contact the Rev'd Dwayne Engh by email: [vicar@ashbournechurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@ashbournechurch.org.uk).

To book, [click here](#).

**save the date!**

Diocese of Derby  
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF LINCOLN

Join the East Midlands  
Young Adults Pilgrimage to

**TAIZÉ**

**August 1 - 9, 2026**

*For those aged 18-35, from across the East Midlands and beyond, with limited seats on the coach for those over 35! To find out more contact: [vicar@ashbournechurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@ashbournechurch.org.uk)*

## Walking and Rambling with St Oswalds

St Oswald's has a choice of two walking groups.

The Ramblers group meets on the 2nd Monday of the month, starts walking at 10.00am and covers approximately 5 miles.

The Walking group meets on the last Saturday of the month, starts walking at 9.30am and covers approximately 10 miles.

### **Ramblers Group Dates (All rambles start at 10 a.m.)**

- Monday 13th April 2026

### **Walking Group Dates (All walks start at 9:30 a.m.)**

- Saturday 28th March 2026

Gill

Email : [paulgillelliott@outlook.com](mailto:paulgillelliott@outlook.com)

### St Aelred's Pilgrim Trail

The walking group have decided on their challenge for 2026. We are going to walk the St Aelred's Pilgrim Trail from 1st to 8th May 2026. This is a 41 mile pilgrimage linking the 9 churches of Upper Ryedale and Helmsley with Rievaulx Abbey.

Aelred of Hexham was a Cistercian monk and from 1147 – 1167 he was Abbot of Rievaulx. He wrote on Christian friendship and was gifted with wisdom to lead.



## Giving and Donations

### Donate to St Oswald's

*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](#) 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).*



### Give a Little

*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](#).*



## Easyfundraising

*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 £400, and that is with only 27 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 our easyfundraising page by [>>> CLICKING HERE](#)*



## 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, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

Mobile: 07754 883935

If you have concerns about a member of the clergy or an employee of the church please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding. 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.