



St Nick's Church Allestree

- July / August 2019

In the end is the beginning.

- Nick Denham

The school cloakroom is now mostly empty. Just a few stray items of kit inhabit the corners of the room and will end up in lost property. The last school buses can be seen from the classroom window pulling out of the bus parking area. A few students are still waiting at the school gates for a lift home, happy yet stepping into the relative unknown of the school holiday. The daily and weekly routines are now abandoned and a great freedom awaits all who have come to another end of term.

All of us will have memories such as this. Some will be more recent than others. There will be particular end of terms which stand out in our memory for special reasons, perhaps particularly those when we changed or left school or college. Also, for some of us there were those times when the end of term was not quite the end, because we still had some weeks to wait for exam results. This is the time of year when many are in such a situation of stressful anticipation.

Then there are those of us who have faced another end of term - retirement. For those who are like me retired, then school is out permanently. Perhaps we also await 'exam results' in the sense of assessing what we have done so far with our lives.

But the end of term is not the end, only the expected end of one stage. There always remains the question of 'What next?' What do we do after school? - in the holidays or in work or college? What do we do after retirement? The question of 'What next?' creates some uncertainty, but also a sense of fresh adventure. When I was

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young, the first day of the school summer holidays often seemed to offer a new beginning and freedom. That was also true when I was a teacher!

In fact, life as a whole seems to be a series of stages, each with its own end of term and then with a new beginning. We see this in the larger picture of the history of creation as God guides it towards his planned fulfilment. It is not so long since we followed that familiar pattern of endings and beginnings in the seasons in the Christian year: Good Friday followed by Resurrection, then Ascension followed by Pentecost. This story with its pattern reminds us of the history of the origins of our faith, but it is incomplete and still awaits another end of term when the present 'age of the Holy Spirit' comes to an end and Jesus returns.

In Revelation 21v1 it speaks of the coming of 'a new heaven and a new earth'. Then 'creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay', as Paul writes in Romans 8v21. Meanwhile we continue to be in 'term-time' and live and work in the light of the end of term to come and what lies beyond. The life and ministry of Jesus showed how we should do that; in him the kingdom of heaven, the kingdom which will rule in all the cosmos when Jesus returns, was at hand and just flowed out of him. We have the Holy Spirit to lead us and strengthen us until the day of the new creation, and so we should live now as part of that new creation, being renewed bearers of the image of God. As we pray 'thy kingdom come', so we should live that prayer today. As we look to the end of term, we should live in the light of that final new beginning.

God's Invitation

During a worship song in the Morning Praise service at St Nick's on June 16th, a member of the congregation saw the figure of Jesus walking up the aisle turning from side to side greeting everyone.

He walked up to the chancel, turned around, raised his hands in praise and said,

"Let us worship God together, Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

There was a sense that a choice was being offered: inviting Jesus into our worship or turning down and ignoring that invitation.

Are we open to God leading and guiding us or following our own ways?

ST NICK'S SUMMER FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON!

Don't miss it!

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF EXCITING ACTIVITIES!

SATURDAY 13TH JULY, 2-4PM

INFLATABLE SLIDE

ICE CREAM STORE

VINTAGE TEA AND CAKE SHOP

FACE PAINTING

HOOK A DUCK

TIN CAN ALLEY

CRAFT CORNER

BOTTLE TOMBOLA

GLITTER TATTOOS

BOOK STALL

CAKE STALL



**WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:
ANA, ELSA, AND OLAF!**



pastoral care

Becky and the team have been in the process of looking at how we 'do' pastoral care as a church—what we're good at, not so good at, and who leads which bits. After prayer and discussion it was felt that Anna Hopewell Ryan is the right person to take on the role of Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, and we welcome her to this position!

Anna's main focus will be co-ordinating a team of volunteers in care of the sick, elderly, and infirm. This will include (but is not limited to):

- ***Visits in hospital or home***
- ***Assistance in the provision of meals where necessary***
- ***Help to organise transport for appointments / church attendance***
- ***Arrange or accompany appointments as required***
- ***Make a phone call or visit when a member has not been seen for a few weeks***
- ***Welcome newcomers***

There's also opportunity to support people in transition—whether it's a new home, new baby, or going through divorce/separation, the potential for this team to reach into situations and offer practical help is boundless.

This team will work closely with Becky and Dawn to make sure the pastoral needs of the church are met, and of course both Becky and Dawn are on hand to minister pastorally as well.

If you know anyone who may need some pastoral support, or you feel you could benefit from some of the things mentioned above, please speak to Anna to see if we can help.

Also, please remember and make use of the Prayer Ministry Team that are on hand during our 10am services—these folks would love pray with you and talk through anything concerning you, or conversely would love to rejoice and celebrate in thanksgiving with you!

Becky has recently been on a safeguarding course regarding Domestic Abuse—her door is always open and confidential if there's a need to speak to her regarding this. You will see more literature around church surrounding this issue in the next few weeks.



Getting to Know You!

The wonderful people who make up our family here at St Nick's

We're looking at some of the lovely people who do jobs in and around our church, and this month we'll be hearing from Sarah Tupling, who runs Derby Deaf Church.

How long have you been coming to St Nick's, and what made you walk through the doors?

20 years ago I was feeling lost and was looking for God, as it were. I went to different churches in Allestree and felt so sad; this one wasn't right, the other one was a no, and then I walked into St Nick's and there were two or three people who greeted me with a wonderful smile. I felt 'I'm home'. I've been coming to St Nick's ever since.

When did you give your life to God?

Looking back through my life I think I did so without realising; through going to Sunday School, being taken to church with mum (and sitting through the boring one hour long sermons! I found it difficult being deaf as I had to lip read). But throughout all of that I felt His presence. As I've gotten older, matured and become more bold with different faith and discipleship courses, both for deaf and hearing, I just want to offer more and more of my life to Him each day.

What do you find most challenging about being a Christian?

Other people! Sometimes I'm teased by my lovely family 'Oh mum! Oh my God!' – I find the blaspheming difficult. They know I'm a committed Christian, and they see Him through me, but I don't rub it in their faces.

Who do you find inspirational?

A person who inspired me for many years is a dear deaf friend of mine who has been a Christian for 50 years. She gave her life to Jesus when she was 17. Her knowledge and wisdom is astounding, and she brings the Bible alive in her signing. When she preached in deaf church, it was just so inspirational. Also another friend – our National Advisor for Deaf Ministry, Canon Gill Behenna. She inspires me because I have watched her lead deaf churches, and how she delivers services in a deaf focussed way can make it accessible, even though she is a hearing person herself. I understood and absorbed so much from both of them.

Do you have any favourite Bible verses/worship lyrics?

*“God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.*

*Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging”*

Psalm 46:1-3

These verses helped me in hard times, when I’ve felt low, particularly dealing with divorce.

Peak Pilgrimage

Fancy joining us for a walk in the beautiful Peak District?

Over a number of weeks, we’re completing the Peak Pilgrimage. All are welcome to join us for as much or as little as able to.

Have a look at the dates at the back of church to see location and routes.

Who knows?

There might be a cheeky ice cream in it for you...



Holiday at Home: Messing About on the River

*Holiday at Home takes place at Broadway Baptist Church,
August 6th –9th, 10:30am-3.30pm.*

A hot lunch is provided, with morning coffee on arrival and tea and cake before going home. There’s entertainment, games and crafts or you can spend time chatting or reading. On August 9th lunch will be taken whilst out on a boat trip.

The cost is on the booking form; these are available from the back of church, or speak to Helen I.

Volunteers are required for this event, and help is appreciated for as many days or hours you can manage! There’s a sign up list in church; maybe look to see what you could do, and sign up to help? It’s good fun and the elderly guests enjoy and appreciate these days supported by Allestree Churches Together. They help those unable to have holidays feel they are getting away and having a special break.

Learning in Faith

Learning in Faith is our Diocesan programme of learning opportunities for 2019. We are really excited to be able to offer a huge range of courses and training events in venues across the Diocese. Every event, bar one, is free and we hope that you will take advantage of all the different things on offer. **Booking is essential** and is done via Eventbrite. **Coming up this month:**

Fresh Expressions 2: Growing Disciples in Fresh Expressions

Mon 8th July, 7-9pm, St Thomas, Brampton

Mon 15th July, 7-9pm, Holy Trinity, Mapperley

This workshop is designed for those churches that already have a fresh expression but want to move to the next stage with it. The workshop focuses on two particular areas; making and growing disciples within your fresh expression and growing your fresh expression by replicating it. Although it follows on from 'Fresh Expressions 1', the workshop doesn't assume that you have attended this first.

Church Buildings

Tues 9th July, 7-9pm, St Mark, Winhill

Mon 15th July, 7-9pm, St Oswald, Ashbourne

This session has a specific focus on buildings—using buildings for mission, introduction to the Diocesan Activity Committee (DAC) and faculty process, church insurance, health and safety.

Mental Health First Aid for Clergy, Youth & Children's Leaders

Thurs 11th July, 7-9pm, Church House

Would you like to know how to spot the signs of mental health issues in a young person? A look at statistics and stories with some general guidance as to how to respond appropriately, and where and how you might signpost a young person for further help.



Kid's Summer Fun Club!
Tues 30th July—Fri 2nd August,
09:30-12:00

Join us for fun and games this year!
Our fantastic Holiday Club is back again
- pre-booking is essential due to
popularity, so make sure you
register soon!

Booking form available at www.stpaulsquarndon.org.uk

All volunteers have been DBS checked.

All pre-schoolers must be supervised by an adult.

Suggested donation £1 per child per day.

On Friday 2nd August there will be a picnic lunch from 12.30 until 1.30 (we'll supply drinks and hopefully cake, but children must bring sandwiches).

Dawn's Ordination and Welcome Party!

Thank you to all who went to the Cathedral Service on Sunday 30th June to support Dawn and her family, and thank you to all who came to bring and share lunch afterwards. We had a fantastic time welcoming Dawn into the St Nick's & St Paul's family!



There was an amazing spread at lunch time, and we all enjoyed coming alongside each other in fellowship to recognise how special the day was.



We look forward to seeing Dawn in both churches as she spends her curacy with us—please say hello and encourage her when you are able to! She's lovely and we're very excited about all she has to bring.

PRAYER — and — PRAISE

The next Prayer & Praise will be on **Sunday 25th August**.

In January we launched a new 7pm service on the fourth Sunday of each month. We're advertising this as an informal service with contemporary worship songs, time and space to reflect on a Bible passage, open prayer, and the opportunity to be still in the presence of God.

All are welcome, and we hope this will be a great space for you to come and be refreshed in spirit.



Service of Healing & Wholeness Sunday 28th July, 7-8pm

Led by our wonderful Rev. Becky - maybe you're carrying some heavy burdens at the moment, or your health isn't great. Maybe you're not at peace mentally or emotionally and need to fix your eyes on Jesus once again. This space is open for all to receive from our perfect Saviour, who beckons you to draw near, and be still.

**The Family Fun Afternoon on Saturday
13th July, 2-4pm, still needs lots of help!**

FAMILY FUN

We currently need:

- Bottles for the 'mystery bottle tombola'. These could be soy sauce, pickle, wine, sauce, or sweet jars / bottles.
- Cake donations for the cake stall
- Second hand books
- Children's prizes/ sweets for the various games

Please sign up at the back of church to help / commit things/ drop off bottles!!

What's on at St Nick's

*The following are regular activities that take place here,
and you are more than welcome to join in with them!*

Activities		Dates/Venues	
Women's Fellowship	2:15pm - 4:00pm	Wed. 7th August	Church Room
Coffee & Chat	10:30am -12noon	Fri. 12th July, 9th August	Church Room
Knit & Natter	2pm - 3:30pm	Wed 10th, 24th July	Church Room
Prayer & Praise	7pm	Sun 25th August	Church
Prayer Together	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Wed 10th July	Chapel
Pub Lunch	12 noon	TBA <i>(see sign up sheet at back of church)</i>	The Markeaton
Playtime Toddlers	9:15am - 11am	Every Tues term time	Church Hall
Morning Prayer	8:30am	Every Mon term time	Chapel
Mid-week Communion	12:30pm	Every Wed term time	Chapel

Deadline for Newsletter Information

Please be aware that the deadline for any information wished to be included in the following months Newsletter is always the 16th of each preceding month.

Any info should be sent to the church office on stnicksallestree@outlook.com

Birthdays

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

Please speak to Christine C who coordinates church birthday cards.



Something to read:

“We intend that no one should blame us about this generous gift that we are administering, for we intend to do what is right not only in the Lord’s sight but also in the sight of others.”
- 2 Corinthians 8:20-21

Something to think about:

Do you like to travel?

Would you be willing to risk life and limb in boats driven by sails and oars on the windy Aegean Sea, without either travel insurance or life insurance?

Titus and Paul took enormous risks to bring good news in tangible and monetary as well as spiritual form. In this letter, Paul’s love shines through his passion for accompanying the proclamation of good news with a relationship of trustworthiness, and a distribution of financial gifts.

The Church at Corinth has been known for its sexual misconduct, its cosmopolitan geography and culture. And Paul isn’t afraid to challenge those things.

But it doesn’t deflect from his main passion and purpose. He still sees this same Church as a place that inspires confidence.

Did you ever wonder how the first disciples ensured good governance, while they were trying to distribute assistance to the poor?

Are you ever tempted to withdraw giving from certain organisations because you aren’t sure they are making the best use of the money?

Something to do:

Ask whether the same questions of good governance and integrity apply to the manufacturers of the goods you purchase as apply to the recipients of your giving.

Are you more generous to the faceless corporations than to the organisations working for a better world?

Something to pray:

God, help and protect those who handle monies and power out of love for Christ, and the poor, that they may overcome temptations and be quick to admit failures. And make us as reticent to spend on unfair trading practices as we are to give to fallible aid agencies.

Contributor: Rev Cheryl Meban, Presbyterian chaplain to Ulster University, with a care for justice, human rights and international economic transformation.

Upcoming Services

The Chapel is open for prayers from 9:30am on a Sunday before the service .

Dates/Services	Leaders	Readings
Sunday 7th July 8am Holy Communion 10am All Age	<i>Becky M</i> <i>Phil M</i>	Galatians 6:1-6 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
Sunday 14th July 10am Together@TheTable	<i>Becky M</i>	Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
Sunday 21st July 8am Holy Communion 10am Morning Praise	<i>Becky M</i> <i>Shemil M</i>	Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-end
Sunday 28th July 10am Holy Communion 7pm Healing & Wholeness	<i>Nick D</i> <i>Becky M</i>	Colossians 2:6-15, 16-19 Luke 11:1-13
Sunday 4th August 8am Holy Communion 10am All Age	<i>Becky M</i> <i>Phil M</i>	Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21
Sunday 11th August 10am Together@TheTable	<i>Lee M</i>	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40
Sunday 18th August <i>NO 8AM HOLY COMMUNION</i> 10am Morning Praise	<i>Phil M</i>	Jeremiah 23:23-29 Luke 12:49-56
Sunday 25th August 10am Holy Communion	<i>Lee M</i>	Isaiah 58:9-14 Luke 13:10-17