



## **St Nick's, Allestree & St Paul's, Quarndon**

*February 2025*

I'd like to start by saying a huge thank you for the welcome my family and I have already received since January. We are so excited to get to know you more in the coming months.

Over the majority of my curacy, I worked closely with students from Derby University and beyond. There are three things in particular which stood out about this that I'd love to share with you.

Firstly, it became apparent that this new generation (Gen Z, also known as Zoomers) experience of school and church was very different to previous ones because of the covid lock downs. It meant there weren't many "ready-made" Christians coming to the University looking for a church as they hadn't had the opportunity to go to youth groups etc. Our approach to student ministry going forward had to be very different to what had gone on before.

Rather than aiming simply to catch the Christians who already had a faith and help them grow in discipleship and evangelism skills, we had to be intentionally missional from the beginning.



Myself and the student team decided we were going to be bold and visible, showing the students walking past the building that the church is alive. We opened up the church hall-esque space all week. We offered free cake, drinks, welcome packs and a warm space for students to just come and hang out. Something crucial as these young people leave home and are trying to work out who they are and make new friends. Over 150 students come in over the week plus some who came multiple times and brought their new friends.



My second interesting observation was how spiritually open this generation is. As someone who went to university in the early 2010s new-atheism was all the rage. It was easy for churches and Christians to assume that young people just aren't interested in religion anymore, an attitude I've noticed persists amongst many of those who were in ministry back then. However, we quickly realised that whilst the students may not be interested in "organised religion" 99% of them described themselves as "spiritual" in some way. Out of 150 students only 2 said they weren't interested at all for now. How encouraging!

In the hang out space we had some prayer spaces dotted around the venue which most students engaged with. Even if it took a little bravery on the part of the team and volunteers (who by the way included a retired person, someone who had never been to university and someone who came to help during their work lunch break) to point them out and introduce the concept. Again, 99% of them engaged and loved writing down their hopes, prayers and wishes for the year ahead. They enjoyed pinning their home towns to the UK and World maps we had so we could pray for their home cities and countries. They even used it as an opportunity to ask God to intercede in conflicts and climate change.

Finally, whilst many were sceptical of the damage done by a rising tide of Christian nationalism and past abuses by the church, they were actually hugely interested in the person of Jesus. They found it hard to reconcile what they perceived as inconsistencies and lack of integrity between the Church and how Jesus treated people. Many of these students had only had Christian contact through their schools thanks to amazing normal every day church goers “who weren't vicars or youth workers or whatever.”

Church: the harvest of young people and children open to Jesus is plentiful! But the workers are few. As promised in Isaiah 43:19:

‘See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.’

So, let's ask ourselves: What is God asking us each to do personally and as a whole church to reach, nurture and disciple these next generations?

Reverend Cathie Watson.



## Lent Series at St Nicks and St Pauls

During Lent, we are doing a short preaching series around topics of discipleship.

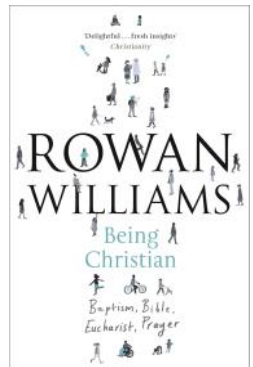
Rowan Williams book, Being Christian (link below) covers the key topics. Sarah is encouraging us to use this book to reflect on during Lent.

|                        |                  |  |
|------------------------|------------------|--|
| 9 <sup>th</sup> March  | <b>Baptism</b>   | Romans 6:1-11<br>Luke 3:15-22                                |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> March | <b>Bible</b>     | 2 Timothy 3:10-17<br>Luke 4:1-15                             |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> March | <b>Eucharist</b> | Acts 2:37-47<br>Luke 22:7-23                                 |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> March | Mothering Sunday | Lectionary readings  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> April  | <b>Prayer</b>    | Colossians 4:2-6, 1<br>Thessalonians 5:16-28<br>Luke 11:1-13 |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> April | Palm Sunday      | Lectionary readings  |

We hope to pick up on the theme of discipleship for another series later in the year.

Rev'd Sarah W

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Being-Christian-Baptism-Eucharist-Prayer/dp/0281071713/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?nsdOptOutParam=true&s=books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Being-Christian-Baptism-Eucharist-Prayer/dp/0281071713/ref=sr_1_1?nsdOptOutParam=true&s=books)



## Extra Worship opportunities

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

St Edmunds, Allestree have a Communion service 10am every Wednesday.

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

This months 6pm services are:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 2nd February  | St Matts — Evensong, led by Melonie Hambly      |
| 9th February  | St Eds — Choral Evensong, led by the choir      |
| 16th February | St Matts — Choral Evensong, led by Clive Lemmon |



<https://www.stedsandstmatts.co.uk/diary>—for more information on upcoming services.

## St Nicks Community Café

Good news our new community café is progressing well.

The team have been working very hard behind the scenes. We have had electricians in, plumbers and a fabulous team of volunteers unpacking the new furniture that Sarah, Clare and Chris carefully selected to be both comfortable and functional in the Church room. We hope to open soon on a Wednesday initially, once all the work is complete — watch this space!





The new set up was given a test run, 12th January for the farewell to Phil.

Phil has been a wonderful lay reader and so much more during his time with us. Always willing to lend a hand or an ear to all. He will be missed and we all wish him well. Come and visit any time.

And hello to Cathie and Rachel.

An exciting time as Cathie and Rachel start their new roles, we wish them both God's blessing as they and their families join us.



# A SCHEMING MIND

## A MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT

WITH ROD REPTON

The murder squad will be sworn in and given the facts of the true unsolved murder of Julia Wallace, by the Senior Investigating Officer Rod Repton. They then will decide “Whodunit”, this is an interactive presentation



**14th March**

**Doors open 7pm**

**£10 a ticket**

Tickets on sale via the church office  
or using the QR code



**CHARITY FUNDRAISER FOR ST NICKS CHURCH**

Tickets can also be purchased using the give a little machine on the giving station @ St Nicks Church. Once purchased collect your tickets from the giving station.



## **A little about our host**

Rod Repton is our host for the evening. He has led a very interesting life and is well qualified to help you solve the case!

Formerly a Detective Chief Inspector for New Scotland Yard  
Presently a Private Investigator.

During his 34 years in the police service Rod progressed through the ranks to Detective Chief Inspector. He has developed an interest in some of the world's leading criminal minds who committed both detected and undetected serious crime

His presentations build upon his unrivalled police experience, and his work as a private investigator, and have enthralled audiences worldwide.

From basic down to earth policing to the introduction of DNA and beyond, Rod will take you through the whole gambit of criminal investigations, and in some cases, their social history and even the possible corruption involved.

On his retirement from the police Rod set up his own Private Investigations Company, Repton Consultancy Ltd, which has a sister company in New York.

During the past ten years he has presented on the following cruise lines

P&O, Celebrity, Princess, Royal Caribbean, Marella, Saga, Fred Olsen and Ambassador.

NB. Full article available on our website.

## Peace on Earth

Peace on earth, how we all long for it! Yet, there continues to be war, oppression and injustice. In our country we hear daily about murder, rape, pornography, child abuse, drugs and corruption. We yearn for peace, love and compassion in a world where selfish desires rule, power is king, money is god and the weak and vulnerable are preyed upon.

Where is the peace on earth, good will to all people that the angels sang about when Christ was born in Bethlehem! The fact is that if we have God's peace in our hearts we can bring peace to others. Christ died for our sins in order that we should have His peace in our hearts and in the world. There is an overwhelming need for people to know Christ's love and forgiveness in their lives, but Christian teaching is sidelined, and most people do not know the difference Christ makes to all who come to Him and obey His laws of love.



As Christians we cannot neglect the marginalised and ignore their cry for justice and be in a right relationship with God. We feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the task, but we must find ways of helping. What can we do? The one thing each and every one of us can do is pray. Through prayer God can work through us to change others.



So let us now pray fervently for God's Kingdom to come on earth to solve the problems of the world caused so often by lack of love and care for others and let us ask for forgiveness for the times we have been unloving and unforgiving to others. Let us pray for peace in our world, in our country, in our churches, in our families, and in our hearts, so that we can honestly pray 'Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me'.

By Daphne H

### **COOP support**

Coop Allestree have selected St Nicks Community Cafe as one of their community groups which their members can select to raise money for as they shop. If you are a member of Coop (Park Farm) please select St Nicks as your chosen group to support as every supporter helps. It only takes a moment if you have the app and are a member.

Alternatively, you can use the QR code below or search Coop membership to join (Blue Coop).

If you would like to become a new member of the Coop and help raise funds for St Nicks please be aware it costs £1 to join.

Please note, it is the Coop at Park Farm (Blue) not the other Coop's in Allestree (Yellow).



# VENUE FOR HIRE

## St Nicks Church



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

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

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

Large car park on site

# **VENUE FOR HIRE**

# **ST PAULS CHURCH**

## **Village Hall**

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

### **CONTACT US**

**hallstpauls@outlook.com**  
**or 07973702002**



# QUARNDON PRESCHOOL



## Quarndon Pre-School

### 2 YEAR OLD FUNDING PLACES AVAILABLE

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

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

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



01332 556611 / 07708906743



quarndonpre-school@hotmail.co.uk

<https://quarndonpreschool.org/index>



## Jigsaw Ministries

We are looking forward to welcoming Tim and Kate from Jigsaw ministries to speak at St Nicks, 9th February during the service. St Nicks have supported Jigsaw ministries for many years and they have kindly agreed to come and speak about the work the group does and the difference it makes in childrens lives.



## Play n Praise

Would you like to help out at the very successful Play n Praise which is for preschoolers and their adults @ St Nicks on a Tuesday morning (term time only).

We are looking to set up a team of volunteers on a rota. You would not be required every week, but every 4-6 weeks.

If you would like to know more, why not pop along on a Tuesday 9.30-11am and meet the current team and families who attend? Coffee and cake available.

## Online donations @ St Nicks

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

Thank you.



## Church Prayer @ St Nick's

**Pre-church prayer** takes place in the chapel from 9.30am to 9.45am on a Sunday morning. We pray for the service to follow and anything else the Holy Spirit prompts us to bring to our Father.

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

26th February 7.30pm

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



## St Nick's Prayer Circle

St Nick's have a prayer circle as part of their pastoral care set up. For those unfamiliar with the practice, it is simply a circle of people who are committed to phone along a chain when people request prayer, or a situation arises that needs communicating and praying for. You can rest assured that you are being covered in prayer when you approach someone who is on the contact list.

***If you would like to be added to the prayer circle, please get in touch with the church office.***



## **Pastoral Care Update.**

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

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

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



## **Prayer Requests:**

***Please pray for:-***

- For those that are unwell and unable to get out at this time.
- Church vision and the plans for the church café.
- Message Trust visiting Woodlands school on 5th February to share their message 'No More Knives'.
- Pray for Jigsaw Ministries as they come and visit St Nicks and their work in Philippians.

## Coffee & Chat @ St Nick's

A reminder that Coffee & Chat takes place every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, in the Church Room, 10:30am -12noon. All are welcome to join in and enjoy this lovely social, which is much appreciated after a time of not being able to gather.



## St Nick's Pub Lunches

Join us after church for a pub lunch social once a month.  
12 noon @ The Markeaton pub.

Future dates:

16th February and 16th March

*Please speak to Christine Penny for more info.  
All are welcome!*



## Knit & Natter @ St Nick's

Meetings are held in the Church Hall on the 1st, 3rd, and where there is a 5th Wednesday of the month, 2-3:30pm.

*Membership fee* £5 each quarter, then £1 per session.

Contact Sandra on 557114

Come and join us for tea, biscuits, and chat.

**Please get in touch if you'd like to organise a Baptism at St Nick's or St Paul's, or would like to get married or celebrate a special anniversary with the renewal of wedding vows.**

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

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

Thank you all as always for your support and kindness.

### **Newsletter Information - Deadline!**

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

**Children's and Youth Leader:** Rachel Kennedy

**Email:** stnicksCYL@outlook.com

**Mobile :** 07407797405

**Office Email:** stnicksallestree@outlook.com

**Websites:** [www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Paul-Quarndon](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Paul-Quarndon)  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Nicholas-Allestree](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Nicholas-Allestree).

[www.stnicksallestree.uk](http://www.stnicksallestree.uk)

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



### **Handy Contacts for both churches:**

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

#### **St Nick's**

**Church Warden:** Paul Taylor      **Contact:** 01332 556020

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

**Telephone:** 07448607129

**Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)** Bruce Innis

#### **St Paul's**

**Church Warden:** Mike Annable      **Contact:** wardenstpauls@outlook.com

**Safeguarding Lead:** Mary Pitt

**Contact:** psostpauls@outlook.com

or Diocesan Safeguarding Team: 01332 388678

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



## Upcoming Services — February

Priest in Charge: Reverend Sarah Watson and Associate Priest  
Reverend Rachael Brooks. Curate: Reverend Cathie Watson

| Dates/Services   | Readings                                       |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Sunday 2nd February</b><br/>St Nicks: 10am Informal Worship<br/>St Pauls: 10am Informal Holy Communion</p>                         | <p>Malachi 3:1-5<br/>Luke 2:22-40</p>          |
| <p><b>Sunday 9th February</b><br/>St Nicks: 10am Together @ the Table<br/>St Pauls: 10am Service of the Word</p>                         | <p>1 Corinthians 15:1-11<br/>Luke 5:1-11</p>   |
| <p><b>Sunday 16th February</b><br/>St Nicks: 10am Morning Praise<br/>St Pauls: 10am Holy Communion</p>                                   | <p>Jeremiah 17:5-10<br/>Luke 6:17-26</p>       |
| <p><b>Sunday 23rd February</b><br/>St Nicks: 10am Bible Study<br/>              3pm Holy Communion<br/>St Pauls: 10am Morning Praise</p> | <p>Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-end<br/>Luke 8:22-25</p> |

