

Ashbourne Church News 02/08/2026



Welcome to this Week's Newsletter

Church and Parish Office Opening Times

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

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- *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.

Ministry Thought for the Week

Fruit of the Spirit

As far as Nigel and I are concerned, one of the nicest things about summer is that we can have fresh fruit for breakfast. It's that wonderful season when everything feels alive and abundant—and let's be honest, there's nothing quite like eating fruit in season, when it's at its juiciest and most flavoursome.

That image of fruit is exactly what Paul had in mind when he wrote to the early Christians in Galatia. In Galatians 5, one of my favourite passages, he describes the "fruit of the Spirit"—not raspberries or strawberries, but qualities that grow in us when we stay connected to God's love and Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Just like the strawberries and raspberries, these fruits flourish when the conditions are right. But here's the thing—life isn't always sunny. There are times when we feel more like a winter greenhouse than a summer orchard. Yet Paul reminds us that these fruits of the Spirit can still grow, even "out of season." Sometimes, kindness looks like a quiet word to someone who's struggling. Joy might be found in the smallest moment—a smile, a shared cup of tea, or simply noticing the beauty around us, even on a grey day. Peace may feel elusive, but God promises it's still available when we lean on Him.

So as the sun continues to shine I leave you with a prayer from Iona

May long summer days speak to you of God's enduring light.

May bright summer flowers speak to you of God's unending beauty.

May fresh summer fruits speak to you of God's continuing kindness.

May warm summer nights speak to you of God's enfolding comfort.

May early summer dawns speak to you of God's renewing hope.

Now and Always Amen

Simon Taylor, from [Summer](#)

Blessings

Maggie



What's New

Invitation to join our upcoming Confirmation Course

We are delighted to invite you to join our upcoming Confirmation Course to be confirmed in late October when Bishop Jackie comes to St Oswald's Church for a Deanery Confirmation Service! Confirmation is a wonderful opportunity to explore your faith, ask deep questions about God, and publicly affirm your baptismal promises as part of our church family. During the course, we will gather to learn, pray, and discuss the foundations of the Christian faith in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

Please RSVP to Nicola at parishoffice@ashbournechurch.org.uk or direct any questions to any of the clergy by late August.

We look forward to taking this next step in your spiritual journey with you!

Anna Chaplaincy

Last Sunday I was Commissioned as an Anna Chaplain during the morning service here at St Oswalds amongst friends, family and visitors. A very special day.

Dwayne our Vicar sensitively began the Commissioning Liturgy with words from Isaiah 43.19

'I am about to do new things: now it springs forth – I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert'.

I have completed my Anna Chaplaincy training and am now licenced as a Chaplain here at St Oswald's, Church Ashbourne. Anna Chaplaincy is outward facing ministry, it's all about acknowledging the gifts older people have regardless of whether they have a faith or belief. Understanding people's needs, their richness and experience, the sense that they (we), whatever our age, are on a journey and for many, a Pilgrimage towards God.

I bring to this role my personality, life experience, love and commitment to do my very best.

May I ask you to join me in this beautiful prayer.

Heavenly God, send down your Holy Spirit on your servant whom you have called to this ministry.

Help her to listen patiently, respond wisely and pray faithfully.

Give her courage to speak up for those whose voice may not otherwise be heard.

May her hands do your work.

May her eyes be open to recognise those in need.

May her ears hear soft spoken words of pain and sorrow.

May her voice speak of healing and peace.

May her feet walk the extra mile with those who falter. and may

She always be aware of your presence guiding her and your loving protection around her in all she does.

Amen.

I am taking small steps and you can find me, from 20th August, in:

The Cornerstone Cafe, Thursday mornings 10.00 - 12.00 noon

Friday mornings in The Lady Chapel in St Oswald's, 11.00 - 12.00 noon

Lindsay Walker

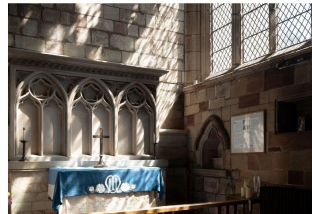


POP IN
for
PRAYER



Join Lindsay on
Thursdays from
10:00 am - 12:00
noon at the
Cornerstone Café

Join Lindsay on
Fridays from
11:00 am - 12:00
noon in St Oswald's



An Update From The St Francis Malawi Trust

You may well remember a little while ago members of our congregation were so kind and busy either knitting or sourcing good condition pre-loved baby clothes in preparation for Hannah's journey to Malawi mid-July. Sheila and Bernard (Hannah's parents) duly collected the clothes for her, and since then they have made their way to Malawi and been carefully sorted to gain the most effect from the distribution within the community that Hannah is supporting. As part of the distribution within the community Hannah has also been working in the local schools. All the children are so thankful for all the help and goodies they have received they have sent you a love and thank you message through the attached photograph.

Isn't it wonderful just how far the arms of kindness will reach.... Even across the world!

Anne



Ossie's Potters

There was a lovely turn out this week at Ossie's Potters including a number of young helpers who made a big difference.

Areas we worked on this week included the borders near the Priest Door and Boilerhouse. The edges of the car park were mown and tidied. So much energy, so much fantastic work done and all finished off with welcome refreshments. The group was buzzing.

If you would like to pop along, you would be really welcome. We meet on alternate Tuesdays from 13:00 until 15:00. Please check the [Calendar](#) for full details.



1 - Our willing young helpers

Messy Church Returns in September



MESSY CHURCH RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER

**We will be back in September
after the school Summer holidays.**

There will be no Messy
Church in July or August.



Summer Recitals at St Oswald's

Yet again, we were so impressed by the talents of a young soloist. Sophie Henderson gave us 45 minutes of complex repertoire, serious in part but delightfully amusing as well. The whole was delivered completely from memory which really added to the dramatic interpretation. Beautiful soaring notes and breadth of expression were there in abundance. Thank you, Sophie. See you all again on Wednesday at 2.00 pm.





Sunday 2nd August

10.30 St Oswald's Day Festival Communion

Psalm 150/Stanford

How lovely are thy dwellings fair/Brahms

How lovely are the messengers/Mendelssohn

6.30 Festival Choral Evensong

Stanford in A canticles Smith responses

Glory love and praise and honour/Harris

We praise thee O God/Stanford

A Clare Benediction/Rutter



ST OSWALD'S

patronal festival

Sunday 2 August 2026

10:30 Patronal Festival

O praise God in his holiness/Stanford
How lovely are thy dwellings fair/Brahms
How lovely are the
messengers/Mendelssohn
God is here as we his people

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE
CHURCH HALL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE**

18:30 Patronal Choral Evensong

Canticles/Stanford in A
Glory love and praise and
honour/ Harris
We praise thee O God/Stanford
A Clare Benediction/Rutter

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE IN
CHURCH FOLLOWING EVENSONG**



Wednesday 5th August at 2.00 pm : Ben Barrs, Piano and Organ

Ben Barrs, another alumnus of the choir of St Oswald's Church, is back to provide a rich tapestry of beautiful music for piano and organ. Ben has a wealth of happy memories here, worshipping here when his work permits. Let's finish the series with a full house!



I have to say that I have been overwhelmed by the number of people who have said they would like to be in church on 2nd August, whether as a member of the congregation or as a member of the enlarged choir.

At this moment in time, it looks as if a choir of more than 40 is there at 10.30 am. At 6.30 pm, numbers around 65 in the choir look likely.

There will be refreshments for everyone in the church hall after the morning service as usual. There will also be refreshments in church after Evensong to allow time for conversations.

I am really looking forward to this special day and I hope you are too! My last actual services in charge will be Sunday 30th August but, of course, the choir is still on holiday then, hence the musical offerings on St Oswald's Day.

Thank you for being a part of my musical journey at St Oswald's and indeed at St Matthew's, Darley Abbey, too. It has been interesting, rewarding, encouraging and supportive. Music has always been a major factor in my spiritual journey and that will not change.

The future starts here so it is time to hand over to Catherine Pettingale with such happy and amazing memories. Thank you!

With best wishes,

Michael



Summer Fun Day - 1st August - a gift to the community. Please help if you can!

The day is a fantastic opportunity for us as churches across Ashbourne, to serve our community together, build relationships and demonstrate the love of Jesus in a practical way.

Help is needed from noon - 6pm (event 1-5pm) on Saturday 1st August 2026 at Ashbourne Recreation ground. You will be allocated a time slot. There are lots of roles (e.g. supervise a Bouncy Castle, host a game, steward, face painting, set up or take down).

If you can help, please contact Janet Wright (je96wright@btinternet.com), who will take some details and record the times you are available.

Do join our great team of volunteers!



Join the Pilgrims at St Oswald's - 15/16 August

A group of Franciscan Pilgrims are staying at St Oswald's along their [pilgrimage route](#). You are invited to meet them for discussion on the theme of pilgrimage (Church Hall) or at Evening Prayer or Eucharist (Church).

Pilgrimage Discussion: Saturday 15th August, 11:00 - 12:15

Evening Prayer: Saturday 15th August, 18:00

Eucharist: Sunday 16th August, 08:00

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SATURDAY
15 AUGUST 2026

Rest day
Ashbourne

MEETING POINT

St Oswald's Church,
Ashbourne
Postcode: DE6 1AN

WHAT3WORDS

orchids.scuba.overtones

*"Peace is always
beautiful."*

WALT WHITMAN

SUNDAY
16 AUGUST 2026

**From Ashborne to
Somersal Herbert**

distance: 9 mi
total ascent: 258 m
total descent: 266 m

MEETING POINT

St Oswald's Church,
Ashbourne
Time: 8:00 for 8:30
Departure
Postcode: DE6 1AN

WHAT3WORDS

orchids.scuba.overtones

*"Peace is the only battle
worth waging."*

ALBERT CAMUS

New Chairs for the Chapel

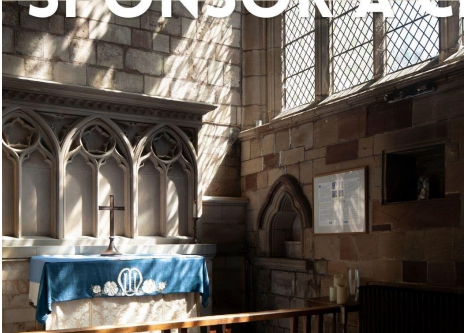


As part of the efforts of the Tourism Working Group, we are planning to purchase between 8-10 new chairs for the St Oswald's Chapel (2 with arms and 8 without arms). We invite you to consider purchasing a chair for the chapel, either in your name or in memory of someone special. The cost is about £150 per chair, depending on the model. This is a thoughtful way to

support our community and honour those you care about. If you wish to participate, please contact Anne Ford, Andrew Burns, Paul Elliott or the Rev'd Dwayne Engh to reserve your chair, or express an interest on the website by [completing the online form](#). Thank you!

SPONSOR A CHAIR

at St Oswald's



St Oswald's is asking individuals, local businesses and community groups to support the church by sponsoring a chair in St Oswald's Chapel.

This is also an opportunity to remember a loved one, a special occasion or ensure your own legacy.

Each sponsored chair will bear a plaque with the sponsor's chosen name.

If you would like to sponsor one or more chairs, please ask a Churchwarden for more details and a form or visit our website: ashbournechurch.org.uk



01335 343052

Church Services, Readings and Music

Weekly Online Service

Weekly Online Service

Each week a recorded service is prepared which can be streamed from the church [YouTube channel](#).

Recorded Services

Join us in the service. This week's recorded service can be downloaded using the following link:

[Patronal Festival for St.Oswald's](#)

Our Recorded Services Online

Back in 2020, at the height of Covid when the church was closed (remember it?), Duncan (our priest-in-charge at the time) decided to provide some sort of worship for our congregation. He set up his and Ellie's kitchen table as an altar and conducted a communion service in front of his smartphone. It worked, but he was not happy with the result. When it came to Easter, with additional footage of the Easter Fire outside the church, he asked me to help with editing. I had software which he didn't. From that grew the idea of recording a service in church, using my video equipment and experience.

So it is that every Thursday for six years, with occasional hiccups, we have recorded a service, most often Morning Prayer with Holy Communion once a month.

We? Yes, I have a loyal band of lesson readers and intercessors who turn out to help, very reliably. Not always in St.Oswald's by any means. We now operate in St.Mary's, Mappleton; Holy Trinity, Clifton and St.Peter's, Snelston as well, on rotation. This puts an extra burden on our clergy, of course, and I am most grateful to them for what they do. We've managed to lighten the load for them a bit by pressganging the churchwardens, who now conduct a hefty proportion of the Morning Prayer services.

From the beginning the intention has been that it should be possible for viewers to feel that they are taking part in the service. So we don't do a "live stream", where the camera just watches what goes on like an onlooker would. Instead I put the words of the liturgy on the screen: white for the leader's words, green for the congregation to join in. That way we hope that the people viewing at home have a real chance to participate.

The results have been slightly surprising. The actual viewing figures are quite small: between 10 and 20, usually. The surprise is in where the viewers come from. We have had "subscribers" (no money involved) from Singapore, Birmingham . . . and Ashbourne, of course. It's impossible to know who's watching at any one time, but we do know that some elderly folk feel it's their service, and total outsiders watch too. Evangelism? Maybe.

My only concern is that getting to our service does demand a certain amount of technical expertise. You have to be able to use a smartphone or iPad or computer to click on the link that will take you to the service on YouTube. That link appears in the weekly newsletter (which some people don't get), and also on the parish website, where there's a heading 'Online service', an instruction 'Click below to watch this week's Online Service' and a button labelled 'Watch the Service'. It should say "Join us in the service"!

Tony Wilmore

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.

August Services

ASHBOURNE GROUP OF CHURCHES

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

Day	August	Time	Church	Service
Sunday	2	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion (United Service)
St Oswald's		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Choral Evensong
Day				
Sunday	9	9.15	St Mary's, Mappleton	Holy Communion
		9.15	St Peter's, Snelston	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	Spoken Evening Prayer
Sunday	16	9.15	St John's, Buxton Hill	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Spoken Evening Prayer
Sunday	23	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Evensong
Sunday	30	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
		10.45	Holy Trinity, Clifton	Holy Communion
		16.00	St Mary + St Barlok, Norbury	Songs of Praise
		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Choral Evensong



Music in August

Sunday	2nd	St Oswald	Red
		PATRONAL FESTIVAL	
		230 Ye watchers and ye holy ones	Patronal Choral Evensong
		Ps 150 O praise God in his holiness/Stanford (choir)	Canticles/Stanford in A Responses/ Smith
		226 Palms of glory raiment bright	Glory love and praise and honour/ Harris
		546 O worship the Lord	6.30 221 How bright these glorious spirits shine
		How lovely are thy dwellings fair/Brahms	Psalm 121
		How lovely are the messengers/Mendelssohn	217 Glory to thee O God
		301 God is here as we his people	We praise thee O God/Stanford
		232 For all the saints	A Clare Benediction/Rutter
			626 Ye holy angels bright
SUNDAY	9th	The tenth Sunday after Trinity	Green
10.30		260 Morning has broken	2 Christ whose glory fills the skies
		474 Immortal invisible	Ps 47 vs 1-7
		490 Jesus shall reign	233 Jesus calls us oe'r the tumult
		505 Lord Jesus Christ	542 O love that wilt not let me go
			495 Lead kindly light

August Readings Notes

Sunday 2 August – (Patronal Festival of St Oswald's)

Genesis 18.1-10a

Abraham entertains three unknown visitors, offering them hospitality. Sarah overhears the conversation and laughs at the idea that she would bear a child at her age.

1 Peter 4.12-19

The writer encourages readers who are facing persecution, that God is with them in their suffering.

John 18.29-33

John's account of Jesus's crucifixion differs from some of the other Gospels in some of its details. The water and blood flowing from Jesus's side were a potent reminder of the Christian sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist. John also added that Joseph of Arimathea - a secret disciple, and Nicodemus, a Jewish Rabbi who visited Jesus by night and spoken with him were also there. (Jn.3:1-16)

OR for our other churches not celebrating that patronal festival:

Sunday 2 August – (9th Sunday after Trinity - Continuous)

Genesis 32.22-31

As Jacob travels home, he meets a stranger. In their struggle Jacob's hip is damaged. Jacob demands the stranger to bless him. The man gives him a new name, Israel, 'man of God' - the name of the Hebrew nation from ancient times. Jacob calls the place 'Peniel' meaning 'God's face'

Romans 9.1-5

Paul continues to write of his problems in reconciling his former Jewish upbringing, of which he was proud, to his new faith in Jesus Christ.

Matthew 14.13-21

Jesus and John the Baptist were related through their mothers, so Jesus was distressed when John was beheaded by Herod. When Jesus saw the crowds who had followed him and their needs, like Moses in the wilderness, he fed them. He took the bread, broke it, and gave it to them - actions we recognise each time the Eucharist is celebrated.

For all the readings notes this month, please [visit the website](#).

Readings - 2nd August: Trinity 9

Genesis 18.1-10a

Abraham entertains three unknown visitors, offering them hospitality. Sarah overhears the conversation and laughs at the idea that she would bear a child at her age.

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.

For all the readings this week, please visit this week's [Readings and Prayers](#) on the website.

Please remember in your prayers this week

Those who are unable to be with us in church.

Those who are ill.

The recently bereaved.

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

Our local churches.

Our Ministry Team: Dwayne, Maggie, Nigel, Rachel, Anne, Ash & Lynda.

Dates for your Diary



- 1 August, 13:00 - Summer Fun Day
- 2 August - St Oswald's Patronal Festival
- 4 August, 16:00 - Ossie's Kitchen

- 5 August, 10:00 - Carers Count
- 5 August, 14:00 - Ben Barrs, Piano and Organ
- 10 August, 10:00 - Ramblers Group

Get Involved

- Saturday 1st August - Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taizé
- Saturday 12 September - Diocese of Derby Lay Conference

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

Generous faith.
Diocese of Derby Lay Conference 2026
Saturday 12 September 9.30am-4.30pm
at Cliff College

Speakers and Workshops include:
Rt Rev Sophie Jelley - Bishop of Coventry and national episcopal lead for lay ministries
John Allister - Neurodiverse Church
Carrie Myers - National Lead for Lay Ministry
Bob Goody - Rural Missions
with more to be announced

A day of worship, speakers, workshops, prayer, networking and fellowship for those involved in lay ministry across the Diocese of Derby.
Hot drinks, light breakfast, and lunch provided.
Free but need to book.
This conference is aimed at: Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers), Churchwardens, Parish Safeguarding Officers, and all lay volunteers and teams.
All are truly welcome!

Book now at bit.ly/layministryconference26

Parish Support Team for the Diocese of Derby, Derby Church House, Full Street, Derby DE1 3DR
01332 388650 | Website: derby.anglican.org | Email: enquiries@derby.anglican.org
Derby Diocesan Board of Finance: Company number 229700 (England). Registered Charity number 249767

Diocese of Derby
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Church Groups

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 10th August 2026

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

- Saturday 29th August 2026

Gill

Email : paulgillelliott@outlook.com

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 via the Parish Office.

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.

Footnotes

If you have any comments about this newsletter or wish to submit any material to be included, please email: 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](#).

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

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