

Ashbourne Church News 09/08/2026



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

The Road Ahead

By the time you read this, we'll probably be making our final preparations for our annual summer holiday. This year we're swapping the south of France for northern Italy.

Debbie as always, will be calmly and efficiently packing all the essentials for both her and the children. I on the other hand will almost certainly be doing what I do every year: packing my suitcase the night before, despite repeated (and entirely justified) requests not to leave it until the last minute. Some traditions it seems, are harder to break than others!

Soon the car will be loaded with far more luggage than seems physically possible, enough snacks to survive a small apocalypse, and a sat-nav confidently predicting an arrival time that will almost certainly disappear after the first toilet stop, a few roadworks and the inevitable "Are we nearly there yet?"

Our route takes us down through France. This journey has become wonderfully familiar over the years. We recognise many of the towns, know where the better service stations are, and have almost mastered the art of navigating the French toll booths without causing too much of a delay behind us.

There is something reassuring about travelling familiar roads. They remind us of where we have been and give us confidence about where we are going.

But this year, France is only part of the journey.

Eventually, those familiar roads will give way to the unknown roads of Italy. The signs will change, the scenery will change, and no doubt there will be at least one moment when the sat-nav cheerfully announces, "Turn left," while pointing towards what appears to be someone's driveway.

As I was thinking about this journey, I realised how much it reflects our journey of faith.

When Jesus called His first disciples, He simply said, "*Follow me.*" He didn't hand them a map, a timetable, or a list of everything that would happen along the way. There was no "estimated arrival time" for the Kingdom of God and certainly no option to select the scenic route.

They simply trusted the One who was leading them.

At first, much of their journey would have felt familiar. They knew the villages, the fishing boats, the lakes and the dusty roads of Galilee. But before long, Jesus led them far beyond what they knew. They witnessed miracles they could never explain, faced storms they thought would overwhelm them, asked questions they didn't always understand the answers to, and discovered that following Jesus was both the greatest adventure and the greatest challenge of their lives.

Our own faith often follows a similar pattern.

Much of life is familiar. We have prayers we know by heart, favourite hymns, Bible stories we've heard since childhood and routines that bring us comfort. These are like those familiar roads through France—they remind us of God's faithfulness and reassure us that He has brought us safely this far.

Yet every so often, God gently leads us beyond the familiar.

Perhaps into a new chapter of life, a difficult conversation, an unexpected opportunity, or perhaps into circumstances we would never have chosen ourselves.

Those are the moments when faith really begins to grow.

Because faith isn't about having the whole journey planned out. It isn't about knowing every twist and turn before we leave home. Faith is about trusting the One who has already travelled the road before us.

The disciples didn't always know where they were going, but they always knew who they were following.

And that's enough.

As we prepare to leave the familiar roads of France and venture onto the unfamiliar roads of Italy, I hope I'll remember that lesson myself. God often calls us to leave what is comfortable so that we can discover something even greater. After all, the best views usually aren't found in the car park—they're found after we've had the courage to keep travelling.

So wherever your journey takes you this week—whether it's across Europe, across Derbyshire, or simply through the ordinary routines of life—may you have the confidence to enjoy the familiar, the courage to embrace the unknown, and the faith to trust the One who is always travelling with you.

Ash



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!

Summer Recitals at St Oswald's

We have all been impressed, surprised and enthralled by the sheer breadth of talent that has been demonstrated over the recital season this year. Ben's recital was no exception. His warmth and character shine through his work. We had classical piano repertoire, rhythm and blues and a full understanding of the range of stops on the organ. It was a very varied programme which in some ways reflected the variety of music heard since the end of May. Thank you Ben.





And then there was St Oswald's Day when the church was packed with choristers and congregation. It was all truly moving: wonderful music beautifully delivered and enjoyed, pearls of wisdom, interaction, great refreshments and surprises too. All in all, it was a fantastic day with so much that enhanced the worship, prayer and spiritual renewal. Thank you!











The RSCM Youth Choir has a richly deserved national reputation for excellence. We are talking about 24 choristers from all over the country. We are so fortunate that they have chosen to come to our beautiful church for a free concert for you from 4.00 till 5.00 this Saturday 8th August. Donations will be for the work of the Royal School of Church Music and St Oswald's church. I cannot recommend this enough for you. Please make sure that you ensure a full church for this special occasion.

With best wishes,

Michael

A vertical poster for a Summer Concert. The left side has a dark brown background with the words 'SUMMER CONCERT' in large, white, serif capital letters. Below this, in smaller white text, is 'SAT 8 AUGUST 16:00' and 'Free with retiring collection'. The right side features a photograph of four young women singing in a choir, wearing black robes and blue lanyards. Overlaid on the top right of the photo is the 'RSCM Youth Choir' logo, which consists of a stylized sunburst icon and the text 'RSCM Youth Choir'. Below the logo, in white text on a dark blue rectangular background, is 'Come & enjoy inspiring choral singing' and 'Directed by Lucy Joy Morris'. At the bottom right of the photo, in white text, is a list of composers: 'MUSIC BY ELGAR, BYRD BALFOUR GARDNER HAGENBERG, WILLIAMS ROTH, FAURÉ & WHEELER'. At the very bottom right, also in white text, is the venue information: 'ST OSWALD'S CHURCH 5 SCHOOL LANE ASHBOURNE DERBYSHIRE DE6 1AN'.

Amy came back to Ashbourne to share with all her friends the special farewell to Michael as he retires as Musical Director from St Oswald's







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

CNI Patna - Bishop Francis's Visit

A big thank you to all those who contributed to the success of the visit of Bishop Francis in July. Our special thanks go to Liz and John (who planned most of the trip) and to Cathie and Crispin (who hosted Bishop Francis and handled the day-to-day running of the visit).

A variety of activities were arranged as part of the programme, including services at St Oswald's, Ashbourne Methodist Church, Norbury Church of England Primary School, the Welly Club, Ossie's Potters, Mothers Union, the Food Bank, and more. While he enjoyed all the activities, he

greatly appreciated meeting and talking with a wide variety of people, exchanging ideas and experiences. This is an essential part of our Partnership.

Hopefully, Bishop Francis' visit will mark the start of revitalising the ACT/Patna Partnership.

Talking with the Bishop has given us some ideas for the future, but these need further development and are more long-term. For the immediate future, we plan to send 3 illustrated newsletters to the Diocese each year - Christmas, Easter and Harvest. To do this, we will need volunteers from each church to collect photographs with some explanatory text. Initially, we would be happy to collate all the material into a newsletter. Eventually, we hope there might be someone to take over as editor. Please let us know!

Crispin is planning to visit the Diocese of Patna in November. If anyone is interested in joining him, please get in touch with him, Liz, or John.

Thank you once again for making the visit a success.

Ashbourne Churches Together

Thank you, to all the volunteers at the very successful 'Summer Fun Day' on the Park last Saturday.

It was so good to see volunteers from different churches working together for our community - and who knew that our new curate, Rachel, is a dab-hand at face painting!

Janet Wright

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Macmillan Coffee Morning in St Oswald's Church on Friday 25th September from 10.30 - 12.30.

We are hosting our Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Church this year. There will be a cake stall, tombola, tea and coffee. We are looking for people to help, to make cakes and biscuits and provide some prizes for the tombola. If you would like to help, or would be able to make a contribution in some way, please give your name to Lindsay Walker/Chris Haycock/email into the Parish Office.

It's going to be a fun morning!



You're invited!

Join us for the cause, the chatter or the tasty treats.

Your generosity will help raise vital funds so that Macmillan can continue to support people with cancer, whoever and wherever they are.

When: Friday 25th September 10:30 - 12:30

Where: St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (606). Also operating in Northern Ireland. MAC20487_CH Invite Poster Photography

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:

[Morning Prayer from St.Peter's](#)

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.



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 Day		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Choral Evensong
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	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
SUNDAY	16th	The eleventh Sunday after Trinity	Green
10.30	362	Tell out my soul	6.30 489 Jesus Lord we look to Thee
	188	O Holy Spirit Lord of grace	Ps 82
	417	Father in whom we live	477 In Christ there is no east or west
	429	Forth in the name of Christ we go	456 Happy are they
			617 When all thy mercies O my God

August Readings Notes

Sunday 9 August – (10th Sunday after Trinity - Continuous)

Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28

The so-called 'Joseph saga' stretching from- Genesis 37 -50, recounts an account of the birth of Joseph . He becomes his father's favourite which arouses his brother's jealousy. They try to get rid of him

Romans 10.5-15

Paul continues to struggle with his own understanding of how his previous Jewish faith relates to his present faith in Jesus Christ.

Matthew 14.22-33

Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two

Jesus went away from the crowds, while the disciples were caught in a storm on the lake. As Jesus came to them, Peter asked to join Jesus but lost his faith. The disciples were astonished and declared their faith in Jesus as God's son.

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

Readings - 9th August: Trinity 10

Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28

The so-called 'Joseph saga' stretching from - Genesis 37 -50, recounts an account of the birth of Joseph. He becomes his father's favourite which arouses his brother's jealousy. They try to get rid of him

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to 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

- 10 August, 10:00 - Ramblers Group
- 11 August, 13:00 - Ossie's Potters
- 18 August, 16:00 - Ossie's Kitchen
- 29 August, 09:30 - Walking Group

Get Involved

- 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



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!



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

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



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: Starting from Warslow. Grid ref 086 586, near to Warslow church.

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

- Saturday 29th August 2026

Gill

Email : paulgillelliott@outlook.com

And, finally ...





One morning this week an Air Ambulance landed in the field next to the Church Hall. The paramedics were attending a local resident and the Air Ambulance had been requested. We understand the patient was treated successfully, and the Air Ambulance was not required. A few of us watched as the helicopter took off, and the crew waved goodbye.

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.
