

Ashbourne Church News 19/07/2026



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

A time for silence

I was talking with someone recently about the value of silence as well as words in communication. In any conversation, periods of silence can allow for thought, understanding, acceptance or development.

When I was a Hospital Chaplain, most of my work was in A&E and Intensive Care.

Often I would be in the Relatives' Room with the family of a very sick patient as they anxiously waited for news. Sadly there were occasions when the patient died and a senior doctor or surgeon had the task of telling the family.

Some of them did this in a few gentle words, then stayed silent while the relatives tried to absorb the unwelcome news. This was followed by the assurance that when they were ready, they could ask questions or have further information.

There were occasions, however, when information about the patient's condition and the attempts made to resuscitate them was given, sometimes at some length, before the news of the death was reached. This pouring of words over the family before the main outcome was given could add considerably to their stress.

If we are listening to someone else talking to us about something happening in their lives, it is our responsibility to be as good a listener as possible, sitting still, concentrating on the speaker, letting him/her talk without interruption and allowing times of silence to fall naturally, while remaining silent ourselves apart from the occasional question or comment.

Silence in itself is very powerful. Many people find joy and spiritual strength in spending time silently in the countryside or garden, in beautiful buildings, with particular people or in meditation.

We have many examples in the Gospels of Jesus' need for times of silence. We read of him going up mountains, or other quiet areas on land, or on a boat, to enable him to think, rest, meditate and pray as well as sometimes using the time to teach in special ways to his disciples.

When he was surrounded by crowds of people very few of them would be able to hear what he said. He would have to try to spread his words by relying on those who did hear them, to remember them and pass them on later to others who had not heard them.

Jesus also used silence powerfully at his trials and his crucifixion. He said very little and thereby left those who were conducting the proceedings confused and unsure how to proceed.

Church services do sometimes seem to be very full of words. There is a tendency in all aspects of life for people to be rather fearful of silence and try to fill it with words as quickly as possible. Perhaps though, more short periods of silence would sometimes be helpful in services to allow for thought or reflection.

Finally, silence has an enormously important part to play in private prayer. However we organise our personal prayer life, I'm sure there will be words, printed or spontaneous. There will probably be thanksgivings, confession, intercessions and personal requests. We also have to remember to allow the silences; that is when God speaks to us.

I finish with a couple of quotes from Henri Nouwen, who was a Dutch Catholic Priest, Theologian and Spiritual writer. 'Nouwen's theology is marked by warmth, accessibility, and a profound emphasis on God's compassionate presence in ordinary human life.'

Pip

Somewhere we know that without silence words lose their meaning, that without listening speaking no longer heals - Henri Nouwen

We must ask ourselves how many times others would benefit more from our silence than from our words - Henri Nouwen



What's New

Director of Music Announcement

We are delighted to announce that Catherine Pettingale has been appointed to the role of Director of Music and will be joining us at St Oswald's in September.

Catherine brings a wealth of experience as a musician, choral director, and music educator with over fifteen years of experience leading choirs, playing the organ, and managing large-scale concert events.

She read Music at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where she held the Senior Organ Scholarship from 2008 to 2011, directing and accompanying the chapel choir and maintaining the college's music library. After graduating she spent three years in South Africa as part of an RSCM programme, conducting the boys' Chapel Choir at St Andrew's College, Grahamstown, and playing at cathedrals in Kimberley and Grahamstown.

Catherine comes to us from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Ashbourne, where she is Deputy Head of Performing Arts. She conducts the main school choir and chamber choir, directs the music for the annual school musical, and organises the school's concert programme.

For almost twenty years Catherine has worked as Concerts Manager for the Lichfield Festival, coordinating all performances in Lichfield Cathedral during the ten-day event and liaising with artists, clergy, and technical crews.

We hope that you will make Catherine very welcome as she continues to extend the strong musical heritage associated with St Oswald's Church.

Rachel's Licence Reading

The Rev'd Rachel Knight will read her licence at St Oswald's at the beginning of morning service on Sunday. She will do the same at all the Ashbourne Group of Churches.

New Roles

The Rev'd Anne Barker has received Permission to Officiate (PTO) from the bishop and will be included in the clergy rota. On 26 July, Lindsay Walker starts her ministry as Anna Chaplain.

Mother's Union Cream Tea

Bishop Francis learned more about the work of the Mothers' Union worldwide when he joined our MU at the afternoon cream tea at the home of Sally and Michael Halls. It was a lovely gathering on a rather hot day. Thank you Nancy, for organising this.



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.



The Ossie's Potters Group

What a fantastic and industrious day the Potters had on Tuesday afternoon in the glorious sunshine! Altogether there were 13 people who came along, including Rt Revd Francis Hansda, Bishop of Patna from the Church of North India, who is visiting us and also our new Curate, Rachel. 'Wow!' What a difference has been made!

When you walk around you will notice that the entrance and the far end of the Car Park has really been tidied up and the big bag of sand removed, the path from the Hall to the Church swept, dead heading of flowers and also the Notice Board on Mayfield Road made more accessible.

And to top it all everyone joined in refreshments afterwards where, through lively interaction, it gave Bishop Francis the opportunity to get to know members of the group and also speak of his own upbringing and his career journey.

If you would like to come along and have a little potter - to do as much or as little as you wish - you would be most welcome! We meet fortnightly between 1pm and 3pm. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 28th July. See you there!



Summer Recitals at St Oswald's

Thank you so much to Bethan, Esther and Hugh for giving us such an accomplished performance of music for violin, cello and piano last week. The subtleties of the profound were not lost on the audience. We are rarely treated to hearing a cello played so sublimely three times in three weeks. Yet again we heard the violin with such exquisite detail. Our beautiful piano filled the church with such brilliant sensitivity through the hands of Hugh.

Without exception, everyone left wanting more. Thank you.

See you all again on Wednesday at 2.00.



Wednesday 22nd July at 2.00 pm: The Green Road, Folk Music

We are delighted that The Green Road are able to join us again this year. Your local folk group meets regularly at the Smith's Tavern. Enjoy traditional folk tunes from Scotland, Ireland and further afield.

Wednesday 29th July at 2.00 pm: Sophie Henderson, Soprano

A former pupil of QEGS, Sophie Henderson has recently graduated from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Her accompanist, Ashley Wagner, is currently Assistant Head of Music at Birmingham Cathedral and, next year, will be embarking on postgraduate study as a répétiteur at the RBC.

Sophie and Ashley are delighted to present a programme of richly-coloured late-Romantic art song by lesser known English female composers: Liza Lehmann, Rebecca Clarke and Amy-Woodforde Finden.

Enjoy "An Enchanted Garden".

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



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!



Ben Barrs
**SUMMER
RECITALS**
PIANO & ORGAN

5TH AUGUST 2026

2PM

ST OSWALD'S CHURCH,
ASHBOURNE DE6 1AN
FREE ADMISSION -
CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

Saturday 18th July at 7.00 pm



Ashbourne
Singers
Sing ★★

Ashbourne

SATURDAY 18th JULY 7.00pm
ST JOHN'S CHURCH, ASHBOURNE
Tickets at the door or from Natural Choice
£10 (u18s Free) Refreshments Available

www.ashbournesingers.org.uk Registered charity 1140285



Festival of Hymns - 23rd July



The Hymn Society
of Great Britain and Ireland
2026 Conference

A Festival of Hymns in St Oswald's Parish Church, Ashbourne

Thursday, 23rd July 2026, at 7.45 pm

The Hymns introduced by
Dr Noël Tredinnick

Organist: Hugh Morris

ALL ARE WELCOME!

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!



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

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

[Morning Prayer for Trinity 7 from St.Oswald's](#)

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.

July Services

ASHBOURNE GROUP OF CHURCHES

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

Day	JULY	Time	Church	Service
Sunday	5	9.15	St John's, Buxton Hill	Holy Communion
		9.15	St Peter's, Snelston	Holy Communion
		10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
		11.00	St Mary & St Barlock, Norbury	Morning Prayer
		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Evensong
Sunday	12	9.00	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Breakfast Church
		9.15	St Mary's, Mappleton	Holy Communion
		10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Choral Evensong
Sunday	19	9.15	St John's, Buxton Hill	Taizé
		10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Evensong
Sunday	26	10.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Holy Communion
		10.45	Holy Trinity, Clifton	Holy Communion
		16.00	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Messy Church
		18.30	St Oswald's, Ashbourne	Evensong

ON LINE SERVICES

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

ashbournechurch.org.uk

WEDDING and BAPTISM ENQUIRIES

Please call Parish Administrator 01335 343052

PASTORAL CONTACT

To speak to a member of the Clergy call 01335 664159

Music in July

Music for July 2026 Year A

Sunday 12th	Sixth Sunday after Trinity	Green
556	Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore him	6.30
379	As pants the heart...	O strength and stay/Thiman
413	Eternal Father strong to save...	405 Come my way..
	Glorious is thy name/Mozart	Psalm 63 Mag and ND D
278	Alleluia sing to Jesus	416 Father hear the prayer we offer...
418	Father Lord of all creation	Thou wilt keep him/Wesley
		20 Saviour again..
Sunday 19th	Seventh Sunday after Trinity	Green
409	Come ye faithful raise the anthem... ; vs 1,2 and 6	6.30
385	Be thou my guardian and my guide...	Jesu my way/Archer
411	Dear Lord and father of mankind	399 Christians lift up your hearts.... omit * vs
	Love divine/Willcocks	Psalm 67 Mag and ND E
396	Christ is the world's true light	401 Come let us join our cheerful songs...
417	Father in whom we live...	Achieved is the glorious work/Haydn
		17 O gladsome light

July Readings Notes

Sunday 19 July - (7th Sunday after Trinity - Continuous)

Genesis 28.10-19a

In his travels, Jacob falls asleep one night and has a dream. God makes a covenant with him as he did with his grandfather Abraham. Jacob set up an altar and named the place, 'Bethel' which means in Hebrew, 'House of God'.

Romans 8.12-25

Paul reminds the Christians that by the Spirit of God they are God's children and have been made free.

Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

Once again, Jesus told a parable, and his listeners would have understood the setting. It was fairly unusual for Jesus to offer an explanation but on this occasion, he was drawing parallels with what would happen at the end of 'human time', when God would proclaim judgement on the world.

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

Readings - 19th July: Trinity 7

Genesis 28:10-19

In his travels, Jacob falls asleep one night and has a dream. God makes a covenant with him as he did with his grandfather Abraham. Jacob set up an altar and named the place, 'Bethel' which means in Hebrew, 'House of God'.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

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, including Diana & Edmund Urquhart, Linda Torr, Arthur and Barbara Williams.

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

The recently bereaved, especially the relatives and friends of Trevor Taylor, Gary Baker, Andrew Millward, Richard Fitzherbert-Yudin, Margaret Shenton, Pauline Smalley, Alan Turner and Christopher Land.

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

Our local churches.

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

Dates for your Diary

- 13 July, 10:00: Ramblers Group
- 14 July, 13:00: Ossie's Potters
- 14 July, 14:30: Mother's Union Cream Tea , at Sally's
- 15 July, 14:00: The Morris Family Recital
- 21 July, 16:00: Ossie's Kitchen
- 22 July, 14:00: The Green Road, Folk Music
- 23 July, 19:45: Festival of Hymns
- 25 July, 09:30: Walking 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

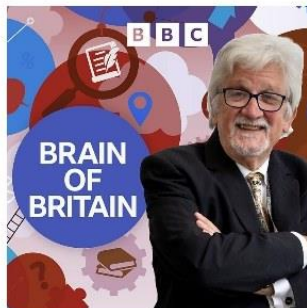
Parish Support Team for the Diocese of Derby, Derby Church House, Full Street, Derby DE1 3DR
01332 388650 | Website: derby.anglican.org | Email: enquiries@derby.anglican.org

Derby Diocesan Board of Finance: Company number 229700 England. Registered Charity number 249767



Free Tickets - Brain of Britain

Free tickets to attend the recording of Brain of Britain can be booked [here](#).



Location

The Bradshaw Hall
Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, 200
Jennens Road, B4 7XR

Getting there: Car Parking at
Millennium Point Multi Storey Car Park
(adjacent to the Royal Birmingham
Conservatoire).

[Maps](#)

BRAIN OF BRITAIN - THE FINALS

Post

BBC Radio 4's Brain of Britain reaches its climax! Hosted by Russell Davies, the UK's oldest quiz competition has been crowning the country's sharpest minds since 1953. Watch our four finest survivors battle through the semifinals and the final of this year's contest, their wits tested against a vast array of general knowledge questions, covering everything from Ariana Grande to Ariadne, and from baryons to baritones.

Ages 14+. Those aged 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult 18 or over.
Recordings last approximately 2 hours with an interval.

WHEN:

Saturday 25th July - doors at 5:00pm (Semi-Final)

Sunday 26th July - doors at 12:00pm (The Final)

Date

Jul 25 at 5:00 PM

Tickets

1

Get Free Tickets →

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 13th July 2026 - 10:00 a.m. start at the little train station at Rudyard reservoir.

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

- Saturday 25th July 2026

Gill

Email : paulgillelliott@outlook.com

Ramblers Report

This week, 9 members of the ramblers group met at Rudyard Lake. Rudyard was built in 1796 to act as the feeder for the Caldon canal. The group set off on the east side of the lake on the old railway line, giving wonderful views of the lake and boats in the sunshine.

Once we reached the car park at the far end, a sign for a coffee shop at the sailing club on the west shore encouraged all to complete the circuit. However, when we arrived for the coffee, the shop had changed its opening arrangements and was closed on Mondays!

We took advantage of their seats to have the drinks and snacks in our bags and watch some stand up paddle boarders launch. The path continued on a higher level giving views down to the lake and across the surrounding countryside. We then descended to the lake where we finally found a coffee shop that was open!

A lovely walk and a beautiful spot.



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.
