

Ashbourne Church News 13/02/2026



Welcome to this week's newsletter

Included in this newsletter is all the [news](#), music and [readings](#) for this week, together with articles from some of our regular church [groups](#).

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](#).

Church and Parish Office Opening Times

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

- 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 & 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.

Find Us on Instagram and Facebook

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

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

Unexpected Joy

Well, I was looking out of my kitchen window at the heavy grey rain clouds, when a tiny pink dot at the bottom of the garden caught my attention. It looked as though some rubbish might have blown in and I determined that, next time I went into the garden, I'd pick it up and get rid of it. A couple of hours later and it was still there. It was annoying me now so, as soon as the rain stopped, I went to sort it out.

The garden path was squelchy with wet moss, large drops of water were dripping off the trees, the grass was yellow and limp, the garden was looking in a sorry state under the grey sky.

Then I saw it, the little pink dot, and it wasn't rubbish, it was a pink camellia, the most exquisite little flower. Of course, I had to go back into the house to get my phone to take a photo of it, because it was just such a lovely surprise to find this gorgeous little flower on a dismal rainy day.

Life at this time of year can seem dismal, especially if the weather has been bad but, remember, the sun is just behind the clouds, and better, warmer days will soon be here. The little camellia was the reminder I needed to lift my spirits, and to expect the unexpected.

There's a wonderful Bible verse from Isaiah chapter 43 verse 19 which says

'Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already - you can see it now!'

This verse highlights the fact that we must always be on the watch for something new, something unexpected, something hopeful. For God is the creator of all, and great joy can be found in his creation, even on dark, damp, dismal days.

So, keep hopeful, hope filled, and maybe you, too, can spot a pink camellia.

God Bless

Lynda

Read [Ministry Thought for the Week](#) on the website.



Services

Weekly Online Service

Each week a recorded service is prepared which can be streamed from the [Ashbourne Group of Churches website](#).

The service is normally recorded in one of the churches in the Ashbourne Group on the Thursday prior to the Sunday.

Recorded Services

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

[Morning Prayer from Holy Trinity, Clifton](#)

The next recording will be a Morning Prayer service and will be recorded on Thursday 19th February at St Peter's, Snelston starting at 10:30am prompt.

Everyone is welcome to join the recording.

[Ashbourne Group of Churches - 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.

Sunday 15th February - Sunday Next before Lent

10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's, Ashbourne

18:30 - Evensong, St Oswald's, Ashbourne

Wednesday 18th February - Ash Wednesday

10:00 - Holy Communion with Ashing, St Oswald's, Ashbourne

Sunday 22nd February - First Sunday of Lent

10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's, Ashbourne

10:45 - Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, Clifton

18:30 - Evensong, St Oswald's, Ashbourne

Sunday 1st March

09:15 - Holy Communion, St Peter's, Snelston

10:00 - Holy Communion, St Mary and St Barlok, Norbury

10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's

18:30 Evensong, St Oswald's

Sunday 8th March

09:00 - Breakfast Church, St Oswald's

10:30 - Holy Communion, St Oswald's

18:30 - Choral Evensong, St Oswald's



JOIN US FOR
BREAKFAST
CHURCH
AT ST OSWALD'S, ASHBOURNE

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY FROM 09:00 - 09:45

Bacon butties, cereal, toast and
a short all age service

A warm welcome is awaiting you.

ashbournechurch.org.uk

THE SEASON OF

Lent

Holy Communion with Ashing
10:00 - Wednesday 18th February
St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne

LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY,
JOIN US IN A SEASON OF
REFLECTION.

Music at St Oswald's

February

Sunday 1st Candlemas; The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

10.30 Parish Communion

- 80 When candles are lighted... Omit *
360 Faithful vigil ended...
44 Angels from the realms of glory ...
A maiden most gentle/Carter
Light of the world/Harrison
516 Love divine all loves excelling...

6.30

- Like a candle flame/Kendrick**
360 Faithful vigil ended...
Psalm 122
496 Lead us heavenly Father lead us...
And the glory /Handel
80 When candles are lighted... Omit *

Sunday 8th Second Sunday before Lent

10.30 Parish Communion

- 555 Praise my soul...
599 Thine for ever...
251 All things bright and beautiful...
Brother James'Air/Jacob
278 Alleluia sing to Jesus...
267 Thou whose almighty word...

6.30 Choral Evensong

- Sunsion in A; Sanders responses**
Gaelic Blessing/Rutter
447 God of freedom, God of justice...
Psalm 148
489 Jesus Lord we look to Thee...
For the beauty of the earth/Rutter
13 Before the ending of the day...

Sunday 15th Sunday next before Lent

10.30 Parish Communion

- 1 Awake my soul... part one and doxology
248 'Tis good Lord to be here...
380 At the name of Jesus...
Love divine/Willcocks
505 Lord Jesus Christ ...
435 Glorious things of thee are spoken...

6.30 Evensong

- Cantate Domino/Pitoni**
2 Christ whose glory fills the skies...
Psalm 84
474 Immortal invisible God only wise...
Flocks in pastures green/Bach
14 Glory to Thee my God this night...

Ash Wednesday 18th

10.00 Parish Communion

- 385 Be thou my guardian and my guide ...
95 Forty days and forty nights...
97 Lord Jesus think on me...
View me Lord/Lloyd
96 Jesu lover of my soul...

Sunday 22nd First Sunday of Lent

10.30 Parish Communion

- 95 Forty days and forty nights...
Psalm 32 vs 1-6
496 Lead us heavenly Father lead us...
Panis angelicus/Franck
324 Sweet sacrament divine ...
578 Stand up stand up for Jesus...

6.30 Evensong

- Make me a clean heart O God/Ley**
416 Father hear the prayer we offer
Psalm 50 vs 1-7
95 Forty days and forty nights...
Lord for thy tender mercies' sake/Tye
376 And can it be that I should gain...

Choral Scholarships

Music is an important part of the life of St Oswald's church in Ashbourne, especially through the musical ministry of the choir. We are proposing a **new set of choral scholarships**.

Ideally, **4 students** ('scholars') will have mentored places in the choir, alongside more experienced singers. This will optimally be one per voice part (soprano/alto/ tenor/bass); the expectation is that you will be Y10 and upwards (i.e. age 15-18).

Scholars will be expected to regularly attend choir practice, and at least one of the two services on Sunday. You will **gain experience** of a vast range of repertoire, improved choral singing skills, teamwork with adults, regular gold standard music in services and excellent sight-reading skills. This gives you experience to enable you potentially to apply for a choral scholarship at university, and to add to UCAS forms when applying for university/college. In return, we will offer scholars 30 minutes of **tuition**, at the end of choir practice. This will cover sight reading, aural skills, and general music perception. A basis for this will be the RSCM *Voice for Life Singing Awards* – St Oswald's has had a good track record of young singers gaining Bronze, Silver and Gold awards (NB the Awards are about to be submitted for OFQUAL accreditation giving them value on a UCAS form).

You will receive an honorarium of **£100** for the year plus **£1 for each practice and service** attended. St Oswald's church choir has an excellent reputation for good music sung in our church as well as for weddings elsewhere, services in cathedrals (including York Minster, Salisbury and Hereford) and concerts too. Please find out more by contacting Michael Halls (Director of Music) on 07976708449 or mvaehalls@gmail.com Application forms will be sent to you after the initial contact. I shall look forward to hearing from you soon.

Readings

February Readings

February reading notes

February 1st Presentation

Malachi 3.1-5 The prophet, whose name means 'my messenger', warns his listeners that God will shortly come to judge the nation which has broken his Laws. They must repent.

Luke 2.22-4

After the birth of a child, the parents had to visit the Temple to present the baby to God and make an offering, dependent on their wealth (Levit.12:8). On this occasion, the devout old man, Simeon and the prophetess Anna, recognised the significance of the baby. Simeon praised God, but warned Mary of the sorrows that lay ahead.

February 8th 2 before Lent

Romans 8.18-25 Paul warns his readers that though they suffer for their faith now, they must wait patiently for what is to come.

Matthew 6.25-34 *Jesus taught his disciples*

In his great 'Sermon on the Mount' Jesus told his disciples that worry about the future was unnecessary. He pointed to the natural world and to the splendours of King Solomon, renowned for his wealth. Worry was only the response of Gentiles!

February 15th Next before Lent

Exodus 24.12-18 The account of how Moses receives the Law and the covenant is made with God is full of symbolism. The shedding of blood signifies a binding agreement, fire represents the presence of God, and the shared meal seals the promises.

Matthew 17.1-9

Matthew's account of the Transfiguration drew closely on Jewish traditions as recorded in Exodus 24 when Moses met God on Mount Sinai - God spoke to his people, the covenant was made, and the Law was given.

*February 18th Ash Wednesday

2 Corinthians 5. 20b - 6:10 Paul assures the Christians in Corinth that despite the suffering that he himself has also endured, they must also remain faithful.

Matthew 6:16-21 *Jesus said to his disciples*

Fasting was a religious practised by many devout Jews, but some made sure that others were made aware of their piety by putting ash on their heads. God would reward the truly faithful.

February 22nd Lent 1

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 In this older account of creation, the writer describes how, after creating the world, God created human beings, setting them in his garden to be its stewards. They were warned they must not eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil

Matthew 4.1-11

After his baptism Jesus retired to the wilderness, a place of solitude and potential danger. There, he struggled with the temptations set by 'the Satan', the prosecuting adversary of Job 2:1-8. Jesus answered with quotations from the Hebrew scriptures and Satan left, defeated.

15th February: next before Lent

Exodus 24.12-18

The account of how Moses receives the Law and the covenant is made with God is full of symbolism. The shedding of blood signifies a binding agreement, fire represents the presence of God, and the shared meal seals the promises.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.' Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Matthew 17.1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

Something to think about

Matthew's account of the Transfiguration drew closely on Jewish traditions as recorded in Exodus 24 when Moses met God on Mount Sinai - God spoke to his people, the covenant was made, and the Law was given.

Collect

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives:

put right our crooked hearts,

and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:

may we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,

that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Evensong

2 Kings 2.1-12

Elijah Ascends to Heaven

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you;

if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Matthew 17. 9-23

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.' And the disciples asked him, 'Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?' He replied, 'Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands.' Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.

When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him, and said, 'Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him.' Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him here to me.' And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, 'Why could we not cast it out?' He said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there", and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.'

As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, 'The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised.' And they were greatly distressed.

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, the Reverend Joe and Mrs. Gillie Lister..

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

The recently bereaved, especially the relatives and friends of Georgina Nicholson, David Startin, Jennie Mitchell and Dorothy Tougher.

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

Our local churches.

Our Ministry Team: Dwayne, Maggie, Nigel & Lynda

See [Readings and Prayers](#) on the website.

Activities at St Oswald's



There are many men and women in our community who are caring for a loved one and it is very seldom realised just how little recognition they get for fulfilling such an important but lonely role.

If you, or someone you know, is caring for a loved one, for whatever reason, and would like the chance just to have somewhere you can have an hour or so respite with coffee and chat with people who understand the challenges you face daily, then come along to 'Carers Count'.

'Carers Count' meet on the first Wednesday of every month between 10am and 12 noon at St Oswald's Church Hall in School Lane, Ashbourne where you are assured of a warm welcome, a friendly face and a listening ear.

We work with Derbyshire Carers Association who give advice regarding practical support to which one might be entitled. They also support our meetings with the occasional special event.

For more information and to let us know that you would like to come along, then call Maggie or Nigel on 01335 664159



Ossie's Potters



A group of people who enjoy being in the fresh air
with other people,
'potter'

around the Church and Church Hall
on alternate Tuesdays.

They tidy flower beds, plant up new areas and
make the surrounding of the Church
look more colourful, loved and cared for.
They always finish with a cup of tea.

Would you like to be a Potter too?

Why not come and see where
they are pottering?

You would be very welcome.

They will be meeting on
27th January & 24th February
From 1pm until 3pm.



1 - `

Notices

Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 24th February @ 13:00 - St Oswald's Church Hall - Ossie's Potters
- Saturday 28th February @ 09:30 - St Oswald's Walking Group
- Tuesday 3rd March @ 16:00 - Ossie's Kitchen
- Wednesday 4th March @ 10:00 - Carers Count
- Tuesday 17th March @ 16:00 - Ossie's Kitchen

Get Involved

- Saturday 7th March @ 10:00 - Hulland Ward Millennium Hall - Visioning Awayday
- Sunday 22nd March @ 14:00 - St Oswald's Church - Retreat in Daily Life closes
- Saturday 1st August - Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taizé

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

The Children's Society

Many of you will remember this as The Church of England's Children's Society. There were at that time three homes run by the charity in Derbyshire, including St Monica's in Ashbourne.

As we know all too well, times and needs change. Today, the emphasis is much more on support in the home and locality as a measure of prevention. Working in collaboration with other national children's organisations, they actively lobby in the press and political circles for positive change to improve protection for the most vulnerable in our communities. There is a link [here](#) for you to see the latest newsletter from them giving you a taste of the current situation.

In the current financial year, we have sent £590 from the good people of St Oswald's church, most of which is through the box collections for coins and notes. Gift Aid brings that total to an amazing £762. I seem to remember money boxes when we were younger entitled 'From little acorns do mighty oak trees grow'. If you would like a collecting box, please take one from the south transept in church or ask me. Lent is a good time for such things when you actively consider how better to help others and in so doing make yourself a better person. No amount collected in a box is too small or too large; it all helps. I can also advise on how you can make a bank transfer and it be counted as part of the St Oswald's annual giving.

Thank you so much.

Michael Halls



'Pilgrimage'
The outer & inner journey'
Led by the Rev'd Fr Alasdair Kay
Saturday 28th March 2026
St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne

*Pilgrimage encourages us to go deeper into our relationships.
The pilgrim seeks to let go of everyday distractions and interior attachments, to be open to new insights into self and the Beloved and, allowing all this to integrate, draws ever closer in union. On my own journeys I realised I had not so much sought the Beloved, but that the Beloved has sought me',*
(extract from *The Kentigern Way* by Stephen Wright, Wild Goose Publications, Glasgow, 2019 p.92)

The quiet day begins at 10.30am, refreshments will be available from 10am. The day begins with worship and will include three short talks and times of silence. The day ends with a time for questions and finally closing worship. Those attending are asked to bring a packed lunch. The speaker for the day is Rev'd Fr Alasdair Kay MA SCP (The Anglican Greyfriars) who will lead the day on the theme of the 'Pilgrimage an inner and outward journey'. There is no charge for the day, those attending are invited to make a donation. Please book your place by emailing Cameron Butland – cameron.butland@derby.anglican.org

Programme

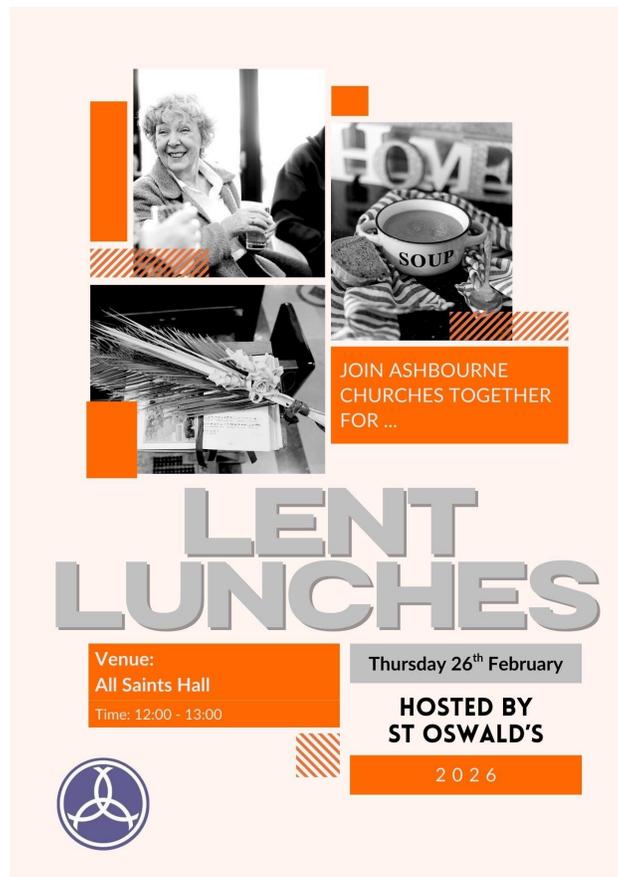
10-10.30am Arrive, (*refreshments available on arrival*)
10.30am Morning Prayer
11.00am **First talk**
followed by quiet time of reflection
12noon **Second talk**
followed by quiet time of reflection
1.00pm *Lunch, please bring own packed lunch, drinks provided*
2.00pm **Third talk**
followed by quiet time of reflection
3.00pm Closing Prayer

The venue is St Oswald's Church Hall, 5 School Lane, Ashbourne DE6 1AN Ashbourne. There is a small car park and parking on the road outside the church.

Glendalough Pilgrim Prayer

I beg assistance, God of my journey, to accept that all of life is only on loan to me, to believe beyond this moment, to accept your courage when mine fails, to recognise the pilgrim of my heart, to hold all of life in open hands. Amen

Lent Lunches



[Lent Lunches](#) start this Thursday in All Saints Hall, Bellvue Road. All Saints have kindly offered their Hall for the next 5 weeks as everywhere else is either fully booked or having work done.

Each week will be hosted by a different Church. Please support the Lunches every Thursday from 12 noon, but especially St Oswald's on 26th February.

HELP PLEASE on that day

Please contact me if you can help on the day.

Maggie: phone 01335 664159

[Lent Lunches - Dates](#)

Thursday 19 February - Methodists

Thursday 26 February - St Oswald's

Thursday 5 March - Methodists

Thursday 12 March - Elim

Thursday 19 March - Elim

Thursday 26 March - All Saints

Visioning Awayday



Ashbourne Group of Churches
**Visioning
Awayday**

Saturday 7 March | 10am - 3pm
Hulland Ward Village Hall

Join us. Everyone is Welcome!

We're excited to invite you to a special day when all our churches come together to share ideas and explore how we can work even better as one body in Christ. Your voice matters, and we'd love for you to be part of shaping the future of our shared mission.

To RSVP, please email:
ParishOffice@ashbournechurch.org.uk

East Midlands Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taizé

The Diocese of Derby, along with the Dioceses of Leicester and Lincoln, has come together to offer a Pilgrimage to Taizé for young adults aged 18-35, which will take place from August 1-9 this year.

[Taizé](#) is an ecumenical Christian community in Southern France which produces the beautiful contemplative worship music familiar to many. Its mission is to reach young people throughout the world.

If you are interested in spending a week camping with a global and monastic community, we will be making this pilgrimage together, travelling and camping as a group from across the East Midlands. The trip will cost approximately £350, and priority is given to young adults aged 18-35.

For more information, contact the Rev'd Dwayne Engh by email: vicar@ashbournechurch.org.uk. To book, [click here](#).

save the date!

Diocese of Derby
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF LINCOLN

Join the East Midlands
Young Adults Pilgrimage to



August 1 - 9, 2026

For those aged 18-35, from across the East Midlands and beyond, with limited seats on the coach for those over 35! To find out more contact: vicar@ashbournechurch.org.uk



St Oswald's Book Club

St Oswald's Book Club has been running for many years and gathers on the first Monday of every month at Ashbourne Library. We meet from 10.00 a.m. until 11.00 a.m. in the main library, overlooking Shrovetide Walk and encourage everyone to bring a mug and a tea bag, taking 'time-out' as we discuss our latest 'read'. We have 14 members as of January 2026.

The group is always looking for new authors to read, new titles to explore, old classics to re-visit. We liaise with our library representative Ruth to search for books that may be of interest to us, challenge us further, aware that getting numbers of copies may not always be possible. The group often shares copies, may download to a Kindle, resort to an audio book but we make it work for us.

The group is flexible, encourages discourse and offers fellowship.

For information about St Oswald's Book Club, please contact the [Church Office](#).

The group met on Monday 2nd February in Ashbourne Library to discuss January's read – Murder Before Evensong by Rev Richard Coles.

We all agreed that it was written well and we could identify with the familiarity of Church terms, identify certain personalities, have a giggle, but certainly nothing to do with 'murder'!! However, we all found that it dragged on and got confusing towards the end with so

many names and characters. Of course, the beauty of a book club is that we read a variety of books and in doing so get to know what what's out there, what we like.

Our February read is 'Homecoming' by Kate Morton. A journalist discovers a shocking connection between her family and a notorious unsolved murder case from the past, leading her on a journey to uncover the truth and confront the secrets that have shaped her life. Should be fun!

Rambling with St Oswalds

It was the Ramblers turn to meet at Chatsworth this week (making the most of the free parking). Meeting in the main car park at the house we were hoping for a dry walk. However the start of the walk had a few drizzly showers before it dried up for the rest of the walk.

We headed out in a northerly direction to cross the haha and up the hill towards the hunting tower. We were fortunate to see a stunning herd of deer at very close range and then the snowdrops by the tower were a fantastic sight. We passed the now full Swiss Lake and continued from the large wall stile to the moor. Picking up a path leading to Beeley Lodge we began the descent, the path was very muddy and the duckboard bridges made us think that it is never a dry route. Crossing the bridge over the Derwent we turned North towards the house and followed the river back. The low lying ground by the river was waterlogged and the weirs on the river were gushing - a wonderful sight and sound. 5.6 miles covered with good company and conversation.

Do join us if you fancy a 5(ish) mile stroll.

The next ramble will be on March 9th, start location to be announced nearer the time.







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 9th March 2026

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

- Saturday 28th February 2026
- Saturday 28th March 2026

Gill

Email : paulgillelliott@outlook.com

St Aelred's Pilgrim Trail

The walking group have decided on their challenge for 2026. We are going to walk the St Aelred's Pilgrim Trail from 1st to 8th May 2026. This is a 41 mile pilgrimage linking the 9 churches of Upper Ryedale and Helmsley with Rievaulx Abbey.

Aelred of Hexham was a Cistercian monk and from 1147 – 1167 he was Abbot of Rievaulx. He wrote on Christian friendship and was gifted with wisdom to lead.



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.

The contact details are:

Celia Dickinson, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

Mobile: 07754 883935

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.