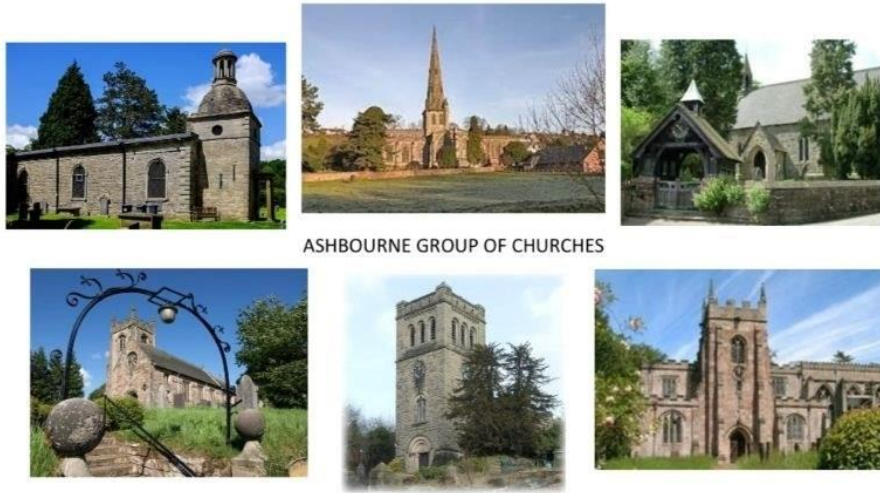


Ashbourne Church News



ASHBOURNE GROUP OF CHURCHES

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 using this link >> [Subscribe to weekly newsletter](#)

Ministry Thought for the Week

One thing that is said to me very often is “I really don’t know how to pray” It is often thought that Anglicans are not very good at “extempore prayer” perhaps because we have such a rich library of liturgy.

Al on Google tells us that” Extempore prayer is a spontaneous or unscripted prayer said "on the spur of the moment". It can be a heartfelt, personal expression that is either completely spontaneous or a result of significant preparation. This type of prayer is also called free, non-liturgical, or charismatic prayer and is often used in informal settings. “

Yet, note it says there can be significant preparation – think about our Intercessions at the 10.30am service at St Oswald's. An incredible amount of preparation is done by each intercessor each Sunday.

I found this thought from Tom Gordon which I think is extremely helpful in teaching us how to pray – whether we are writing intercessions, or just wanting to talk, listen and meet with God.

I pray when I am writing prayers.

I don't know how or why or what.

Just pray –

no words because they've not been written yet.

Just God and me

with time to think

and ponder images and shape and form and style,

and feel a rhythm in my soul that God put there

for me to find.

Just me and God in holy thought.

I pray.

God speaks.

I write.

And prayer is born anew.

Tom Gordon, from [Bare Feet and Buttercups](#)

Blessings

Maggie



The Power of a Mother's love

On Thursday evening, at St Mary's church in Wirksworth, Bishop Malcolm conducted a service of baptism, confirmation and then of communion together with the newly confirmed members of the Deanery of Carsington. Luke's Dad, Brian watched-on, steadfast in his love.



Luke, the nine year old boy who attends our church almost without fail, was prepared and presented for confirmation by the Reverend Nigel Rode. Earlier in the day, Reina his Mum and Brian his Dad invited Lindsay and I for a superb lunch while Luke was at school. We had the privilege of having known them since they arrived here in Ashbourne, and were to take them to the service that evening, along with other friends of the family, including our new priest. The poignancy of God's love expressed through the sharing of food was profound.

Reina undergoes major surgery next week, but she remains resolute that God's plan will prevail; His love she knows will guide her. Pray with me that His will be done.

Everyone had been made so welcome at St Mary's: the singing, the service, hot drinks and even the cold winter night meant we left having had a joyous time.

Peter





Weekly On-line Service

Each week a recorded service is prepared which can be streamed from the Ashbourne Group website.

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

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

[Morning Prayer for Christ the King from St Oswald's](#)

The next recording will be a Morning Prayer service and will be recorded on Thursday 20th November at St Oswald's Ashbourne starting at 10:30am prompt.

Everyone is welcome to join the recording.

Ashbourne Group Services

Thursday 27th November

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

Sunday 30th November

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

18:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Advent Carol Service

Thursday 4th December

10:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Morning Prayer (Recording)

Sunday 7th December

09:15 St John's Buxton Hill - Holy Communion

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

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

11:00 St Mary & St Barlok, Norbury - Holy Communion

14:00 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Pet Service

18:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Evensong

Thursday 11th December

10:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Morning Prayer (Recording)

Sunday 14th December

09:00 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Breakfast Church

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

15:00 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Civic Carol Service

16:00 St Peter's, Snelston - Carol Service

18:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Compline

Saturday 20th December

18:00 St Mary's, Mappleton - Carol Service

Sunday 21st December

09:15 St John's Buxton Hill - Carol Service

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

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

11:00 St Mary & St Barlok, Norbury - Lessons & Carols

16:00 Holy Trinity, Clifton - Carol Service

18:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Nine Lessons & Carols

Wednesday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

16:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Crib Service

23:30 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Midnight Mass

Thursday 25th December (Christmas Day)

08:00 St Oswald's, Ashbourne - Holy Communion (BCP)

09:15 St Mary's, Mappleton - Family Holy Communion

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

Sunday 28th December

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

BREAKFAST CHURCH

St Oswald's Church Centre
Sunday 14th December
9.00am



Start your Sunday with
Breakfast Church!
Join us for a delicious
breakfast of cereal, toast,
coffee and your choice of
bacon or sausage butty.
Enjoy a warm and welcoming
atmosphere as we gather
for worship and fellowship



Please come and give it a try.
To help with catering, please
book your place in advance by
contacting Andy Wright,
Email admandjewright@gmail.com

St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne
AN ADVENT SEQUENCE



Advent Carol Service
Sunday 30th November at 6.30pm

Welcome to St. Oswald's We hope that this and other services
help you to understand more fully the way in which
the Advent message enlightens us all

Please join us also for the
Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
at 6.30pm on Sunday 21st December

Christmas Day Family Communion
at 10.30am, on Thursday 25th December

and the

Epiphany Carol Service
at 6.30pm on Sunday 4th January

Music at St Oswald's

Sunday 23rd Christ the King

10.30 Parish Communion

163 All hail the power...
372 All praise to Thee...
311 Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour...
Rejoice the Lord is King/Archer
320 Praise we now the word of grace...
380 At the name of Jesus...

Green

6.30 Choral Evensong Stanford in Bb Smith responses
King of glory/Bach
490 Jesus shall reign...
Psalm 72 vs 1-7
172 The head that once was crowned with thorns...
Lift up your heads/Mathias
15 God that madest earth and heaven...

Sunday 30th Advent Sunday

10.30 Parish Communion

87 Hail to the Lord's anointed...
24 Come thou long expected Jesus...
32 O come O come Emmanuel...
People look east/Stainer
308 Just as I am...
31 Lo he comes...

Purple

6.30 The Advent Carol Service: From darkness into light
A tender shoot/Goldschmidt
How lovely are the messengers/Mendelssohn
In darkness held/Shephard
O radiant dawn/Macmillan
Sleepers awake/Mendelssohn
There is no rose/Joubert
This is the truth/arr. Vaughan Williams

Hugh Morris, member of the choir and music team at St Oswald's, but also Director of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), will be playing the organ for a marathon *25 hours in 2025* to mark Play the Organ Year on 21st-22nd November. This will be streamed on live on the RSCM

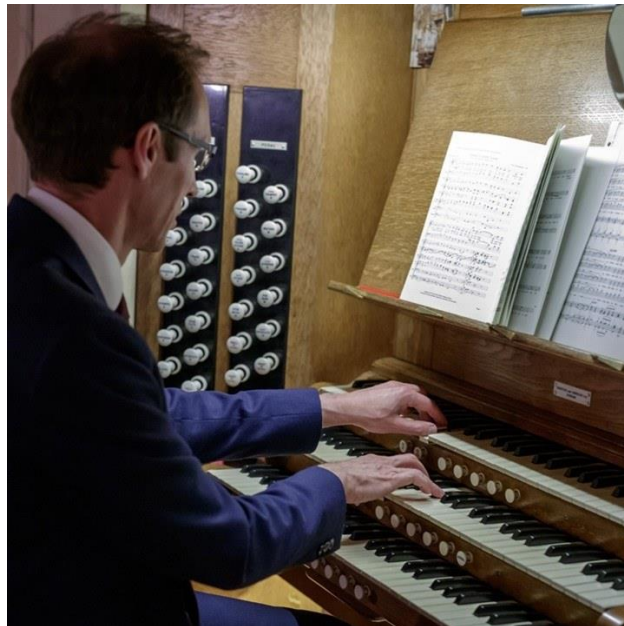
[YouTube channel](#) raising funds to support RSCM's work with young people, vital to the sustainability of church music at all levels.

There will be a mix of organ music and hymns, with a series of special guests and choirs appearing at intervals.

Any sponsored support would be appreciated. If you have a favourite hymn or a hymn that means something to you, a member of your family or someone else who has played a significant role in your life, now is your chance to have it included in Hugh's challenge. Follow the link below to sponsor your choice! You can even request a time slot for Hugh to play it...

<https://www.rscm.org.uk/whats-on/directors-challenge/>

Thank you.



News from the choir....

You will see elsewhere that Hugh Morris is going to be playing the organ for 25 hours raising money for the Royal School of Church Music. You will note that at 2.00 on Saturday 22nd, he is asking that Handel's Largo is played in as many churches as possible. It will be played in St Oswald's so if you are in the area and have a few minutes, pop into church to check it out.

Think of Hugh; he started playing at 17.00 hours on Friday and will play through to 18.00 on Saturday representing the year 2025. If you can sponsor him, he will be very pleased.

We do hope to see the church full for the Advent Carol Service on the last Sunday of November at 6.30, marking the beginning of the season of Advent. It is arguably the best of the Carol services we offer, but all three are very different and very special. Thank you.

Readings

Readings at Ashbourne Group of Churches

Holy Communion Services

| Date | 1 st Lesson | Gospel |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 23 rd November @10:30 | Colossians 1:11-20 | Luke 23:33-43 |
| 30 th November @10:30 | Isaiah 2:1-5 | Matthew 24:36-44 |
| 7 th December @10:30 | Isaiah 11:1-10 | Matthew 3:1-12 |
| 14 th December @10:30 | Isaiah 35:1-10 | Matthew 11:2-11 |
| 21 st December @10:30 | Isaiah 7:10-16 | Matthew 1:18-25 |
| 24 th December @23:30 | Isaiah 52:7-10 | John 1:1-14 |
| 25 th December @08:00 | Isaiah 52:7-10 | John 1:1-14 |
| 25 th December @10:30 | Isaiah 9:2-7 | Luke 2:1-14 |

Evensong Services

| Date | 1 st Lesson | Gospel |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 23 rd November | 1 Samuel 8:4-20 | John 18:33-37 |
| 7 th December | 1 Kings 18.17-39 | John 1.19-28 |
| 14 th December | Isaiah 5.8-30 | Acts 13.13-41 |

23rd November: Christ the King.

Colossians 1:11-20

Paul warns the Christians in Colossae against false teaching about Jesus. They must be strong in their faith in Jesus who has rescued humanity through his death.

Brothers and sisters, may you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do

not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.” The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.” There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Something to think about

The accounts of the crucifixion of Jesus in the gospels are powerful and were written to express the horror of Jesus’s followers at what they had witnessed. Only Luke recorded the conversation between the two thieves and Jesus.

Collect

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Post Communion

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please support (if you can) Luke Hammond, our faithful candle-bearer at the Gospel reading, who is to be confirmed on Thursday 20th November at 7pm in St.Mary’s Church, Wirksworth.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

Those who are unable to be with us in church, including Linda Torr and Arthur Williams.

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

The recently bereaved..

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

Our local churches.

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

Activities at St Oswald's



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: 0303 300 0498

If you need a priest urgently call 01335 664159

Community Café in Ashbourne

OSSIE'S KITCHEN



Why eat alone ?

Come and join us for a three course meal

In the company of others

Family friendly

Open to All

between 4pm and 6pm

on Tuesdays

7th & 21st October, 4th & 18th November,

2nd & 16th December

St Oswald's Church Centre, School Lane, DE6 1AN



Suggested donations of

£4 per adult and £2 per child

For enquiries & to request transport

call Ossie's Kitchen on 07437 377345

St Oswald's Church, Derbyshire CC & FareShare



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, have been **pottering** around the Church and Church Hall.

They meet on alternate Tuesdays to tidy flower beds, plant up new areas and make the surroundings 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're pottering?**

You would be very welcome.

They will be meeting on

14th & 28th October

11th & 25th November

From 1pm until 3.00pm



Connect Group

Do Join us for Advent!

Connect Group could welcome 2 more people if you would like to join us for Advent.

We meet in one of two houses at 7.30pm on a Thursday evening.

We will be using 'Do Nothing: Christmas is coming' (available on the bookstall) as a prompt for discussion

Contact Janet Wright (je96wright@btinternet.com 07484198936)

Pastoral Contact

If you would like to contact a member of the clergy team to discuss any pastoral matter please telephone 01335 664159

Future Events

Dates for Your Diary

- Tuesday 25th November @ 13:00 - St Oswald's Church - Ossie's Potters
- Monday 1st December @10:00 - Ashbourne Library - St Oswald's Book Club
- Tuesday 2nd December @ 16:00 - St Oswald's Church Hall - Ossie's Kitchen
- Friday 5th December @ 18:30 - Ashbourne Lantern Parade
- Saturday 8th December - St Oswald's Church Ashbourne - Christmas Tree Festival
- Tuesday 9th December @ 13:00- St Oswald's Church - Ossie's Potters
- Tuesday 16th December @ 16:00 - St Oswald's Church Hall - Ossie's Kitchen
- Thursday 25th December @12:30 - St Oswald's Church Hall - Christmas Party

Christmas 2025



Christmas Tree Festival 2025

St Oswald's Christmas Tree Festival in 2025 will take place from Saturday 6th December.

This year there will be 25 Christmas Trees and will be decorated by a variety of schools and local organisations.

Rumour is that there is going to be a reindeer trail this year.

ST OSWALD'S CHURCH ASHBOURNE CAROL SINGING IN THE COMMUNITY

Thursday 11th December – St Oswalds Hospital @ 6.00pm

Tuesday 16th December – Dove House @ 11.00am

Thursday 18th December - Ashbourne Lodge @ 2.30pm

Friday 19th December – The Leys @ 2.00pm

Everyone welcome to come and sing. We are always made so very welcome.

Please sign up on signing up sheet in Church at the west door in Church

For more details see Lindsay Walker

lindsay.walker@hotmail.co.uk



*Please Join
Ashbourne Churches Together
For A*

Christmas Party

Celebrate joy, laughter and holiday cheer
with friends and family in a festive
Christmas Party, filled with love and magic

25 DECEMBER 2025

DOORS OPEN 12PM

LUNCH SERVED 12.30PM

St. Oswald's Church Hall

Suggested Donation

£10 Adults £5.00 Children

(Welcome, but not required)

To book or for more information,
call 01335 664159

Or book on Eventbrite:

<https://AshbourneChristmasParty.Eventbrite.com>



**FREE PARKING
FROM 2PM**
in all council
car parks this
December

Lantern Spectacular

Friday 5th December | from 5pm

FREE EVENT in Ashbourne Town Centre

HUNDREDS OF CANDLE-LIT LANTERNS WILL
BE CARRIED THROUGH ASHBOURNE'S STREETS

- Shops open until late
- Street entertainment
- Craft fair & food stalls
- Lantern Parade sets off at 6:30pm
from St Oswald's Church to
the Market Place



SCAN QR CODE
for more details



St Oswald's Book Club

December's read is to be 'Orbital' by Samantha Harvey. A Booker Prize Winner and Sunday Times best seller. –

Life on our planet as you've never seen it before

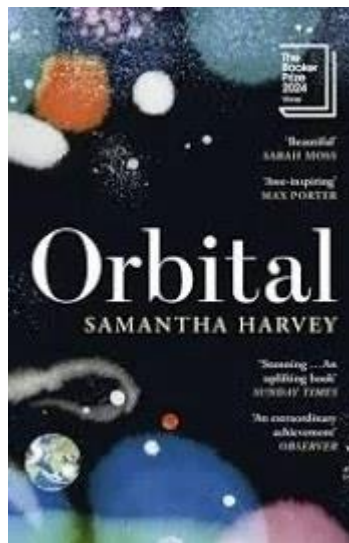
A team of astronauts in the International Space Station collect meteorological data, conduct scientific experiments and test the limits of the human body. But mostly they observe. Together they watch their silent blue planet, circling it sixteen times, spinning past continents and cycling through seasons, taking in glaciers and deserts, the peaks of mountains and the swells of oceans. Endless shows of spectacular beauty witnessed in a single day.

Yet although separated from the world they cannot escape its constant pull. News reaches them of the death of a mother, and with it comes thoughts of returning home. They look on as a typhoon gathers over an island and people they love, in awe of its magnificence and fearful of its destruction.

The fragility of human life fills their conversations, their fears, their dreams. So far from earth, they have never felt more part - or protective - of it. They begin to ask, what is life without earth? What is earth without humanity?

Next meeting Monday @ Ashbourne Library on 1st December 10.00am – 11.00am. Bring a mug and your books.

Lindsay x



Appeals

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Macmillan Coffee Morning 2025

This certificate is presented to
St Oswald's Church Ashbourne
and friends.

This year you fundraised £314.74

Congratulations on your fundraising.
Your kind support is helping to change
the lives of people affected by cancer.

Thank you,
Hannah
Hannah & the Coffee Morning Team

Your Coffee Morning
could fund better
cancer care for people
in Ashbourne

Macmillan is here for everyone living
with cancer in the UK. Our Macmillan
Professionals have worked in wards
and clinics right across the country.
We've helped 450,000 people
living with cancer with information
and support about their diagnosis,
treatment and care, via our Support
Line, Information centres, Online
Community, website, email support
and telephone Buddies service.

£322 could provide
emotional support to
one person living with
cancer for around eight
weeks, through regular
support sessions with
one of our Macmillan
Buddies.

*Angels are returning to Ashbourne this
Christmas*



But they won't get there without your help! Knitters and crocheters needed. I have patterns for both. Please help the angels to visit us again this year. Maggie (01335 664159)



Walking with St Oswalds

St Oswald's has a choice of 2 walking groups.

The Ramblers group meet on the 2nd Monday of the month, start walking at 10.00am and covering approximately 5 miles.

The Walking group meet on the last Saturday of the month, start walking at 9.30am and covering approximately 10 miles.

Ramblers Group Dates and Start Locations (All rambles start at 10am)

- Monday 8th December - Denstone Church (GR SK 100 409)

Walking Group Dates and Start Locations (All walks start at 9.30am)

- Saturday 29th November

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.

Would you like to join us?

You can walk all 41 miles, or join is with social trips to such as the Abbey or coffee somewhere beautiful.

There are also Petal walks available, these are 3 – 5-mile circular walks starting from each of the 9 churches on the route. So, there is plenty to keep everyone busy for a week.

The group is very social and enjoys tea and coffee at the end of the walks, picnics enroute, a bring and share supper and a celebratory meal at the end of the week.

We are currently looking for accommodation in the Helmsley area. We usually stay in shared cottages (small and large) or campsites.

If you are even slightly interested why not talk to one of the group for information, Micheal Smith, Sally and Michael Halls, Paul and Gill Elliott will all be happy to talk. Or you can email gillianelliott@live.co.uk with any questions.



St. Oswald's Church Ashbourne

M&S Mission Giving

Giving so far in 2025 has helped



to fund the purchase of
a defibrillator for the
use of the community



to donate £600 to the community project to
create, with embroidery and appliqué, artwork
featuring Ashbourne's eminent landmarks.



to donate £1000 to
QEGS for their
student hardship fund

Thank you for your continued generosity



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 using the following link:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/fe31ad06-1a7e-48cf-a239-871c41a4f052>



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 at:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/>

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



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 £385, 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.