
St Oswald's Church Newsletter

Open Daily

St Oswald's Church is open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

St Oswald's Church

School Lane
Ashbourne DE6 1AN
Tel: 01335 343052

Sunday Services

10:30 Holy Communion
18:30 Evensong



Dates for your Diary

- 11th May, 10:00 - Ramblers Group
- 12th May, 16:00 - Ossie's Kitchen
- 13th May, 10:00 - Carers Count, Fairways
- 19th May, 13:00 - Ossie's Potters
- 19th May, 14:30 - Mothers Union
- 26th May, 16:00 - Ossie's Kitchen
- 30th May, 09:30, Walking Group

Verse of the Day

“You are the light of the world - like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden”.

Matthew 5:14

Ministry Thought for the Week

‘I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.’

There are few other places where the ministry and mission of Jesus is stated so clearly. Not just to have life, not just survival, not just existence – but to have life in abundance, to have flourishing, thriving, joy.

But what is abundant life? Let me be clear that this is not an argument for the prosperity gospel, which claims that God promises you great wealth and an easy life just because you happen to believe in Jesus. (That kind of theology is either a terrible misunderstanding or a deliberate abuse of scripture).

So, how would you define an abundant life?

- Maybe a certain career?
- Accomplishments?
- A large house?
- Money?
- Family?
- Being happy?
- Being able to travel?

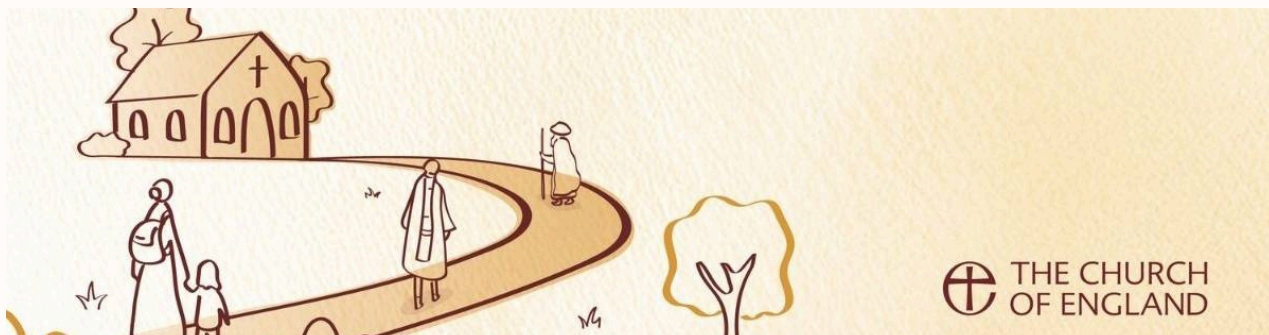
I don’t think those contemporary criteria are what John’s gospel suggests. And the meaning of an abundant life is a critical question for our time – a time when even the basics of life are denied to many.

Abundant life isn’t simply a promise about some distant eternal future, but is a concrete invitation to discover life right now by extending it to those around us... as we commit ourselves to the wellbeing of all God’s children and, indeed, the world God loves so much.

And that’s led me to do a lot of praying and wondering about how we support those who are the weakest among us, those are the margins of our society.

So, some questions for us all to ponder:

What opportunities is God presenting to us right now?
What is breaking open in you?



WRITTEN BY DWAYNE ENGH



What are you learning?
How is our understanding of God changing?
As a church, what is important to us?
What might we want to change?

How are we part of God's redemptive activity in the world here in Ashbourne and the surrounding villages?

Dwayne

Get in Touch

The Parish Office is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 10:00 to 12:00.

Telephone: 01335 343052

If you need a priest urgently call 01335 664159

Upcoming Events



New Curate Welcome Tea

Sunday 21st June



Diocesan Choral Festival

Sunday 14th June

Pew News

Annual Meetings - Elections

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Meetings on Sunday 19th April. It is so good to be part of a church where nearly 50 people gather for those meetings. We were all pleased that Rev'd Dwayne was able to chair the meetings as part of his phased return to work.

At those meetings: Paul Elliott and Anne Ford were re-elected as Churchwardens – to spontaneous applause! Peter Walker is a member of Diocesan Synod and as such remains a member of Deanery Synod Roger Harrison and John Elwell were re-elected to Deanery Synod Jeanette Hart (Mapleton), Michael Smith, Ash Toombs and Lindsay Walker were elected to PCC.

The first meeting of the new PCC is on Monday 11th May, and PCC Officers for the year ahead will be appointed then. Thanks expressed in the Annual Report were amplified at the meetings, but a special 'Thank you' went to Sue Damesin who is retiring as Minutes Secretary, and to Celia Dickinson who has fulfilled the vital role of Parish Safeguarding Officer for many years.

Furniture Donations for new curate!

Our new curate, Rachel Knight, will move into the diocesan property in Clifton in late May. She and her husband (Alan) are moving from a canal boat, so they will have no furniture. They won't need crockery or kitchen items, just large furniture (as all the furniture in a canal boat is fitted and secured to the walls).

Do you have any furniture sitting around that you might want to donate? This might be the time to consider refurbishing a room, getting that new sofa or new bed, and then donating the old one to Rachel and Alan!

Please let Nicola in the office know if you have anything you can donate. We'll work out how to pick that up/collect it once we have a comprehensive list closer to the date. Thank you for supporting Rachel as she joins us!

Car Boot and Table Top Sale

Saturday 4th July. St Oswald's church hall and car park. Car boot and table top sale. More information to follow.

Save the Dates

- Diocesan Choral Festival, Evensong, Sunday 14 June.
- Church of North India visit. Sunday 12 July.

Pilgrim Places, Holy Lives

We're going on

St Aelred's Pilgrim Trail

1st - 8th May 2026



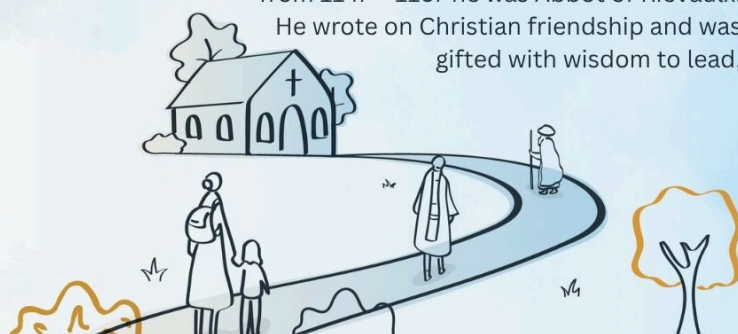
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Ashbourne Group
of Churches

PILGRIM PLACES, HOLY LIVES

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.



This summer, the Church of England offers a new reflection campaign centred around pilgrimage. Christian pilgrimage has roots in the earliest centuries of the church, when believers travelled to places linked with Jesus and the apostles and, later, saints. At the heart of being a pilgrim is our journey through life, on which we are strengthened by visiting special sites where others have prayed and worshipped before us. Running from the day after Pentecost (25 May) to 21 June, readings and reflections will explore eight places which were important in the spread of Christianity in England, and the stories of the saints who lived there.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to join the East Midlands Young Adults Pilgrimage for those aged 18-35 to Taizé, please contact Rev'd Dwayne Engh or the Parish Office to register your interest.



Ramblers Group
Next walk: 11th May



Walking Group
Next walk: 30th May

MAY 2026



**Ashbourne Group
of Churches**

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

Messy Church

St Oswald's Church

24TH MAY
16:00 - 18:00

We were really excited to welcome so many of you to the launch of our new Messy Church service. Our next service, for the whole family, will be on Sunday 24th May at 4.00pm in the Church Hall. Messy Church is fundamentally about people just coming in all their messiness with all their messy lives! A fun and vibrant new community with crafts, games, stories, and a free meal for all ages. No experience of crafts (or church) necessary, just bring your curiosity!

Messy Church

Our next Messy Church at St Oswald's takes place on Sunday 24th May from 4-6pm.

Messy Church is an all-age worshipping community that focuses on creativity, hospitality, and celebration.

It offers a relaxed, hands-on way for families to explore Bible stories through crafts, games, and food, aiming to make faith accessible to everyone.

All are welcome!

Follow Us

Find us on Facebook and Instagram - @ashbournechurch.

Keep up to date with all the latest news.

Messy Church

St Oswald's Church

Messy Church
Sunday 24th May, 16:00

Ashbourne Group of Churches

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

Breakfast Church
Sunday 10th May, 09:00

Belfry Spring Clean

It may have been Low Sunday, but that didn't stop 12 of St Oswald's bellringers from climbing high into St Oswald's Church tower to carry out a much needed spring clean.

Taking advantage of a rare Sunday with no evening service, we spent over 2 hours sweeping, polishing, vacuuming and tidying both the clock room (which until the 1930s was the ringing room) and the belfry, which houses our ring of eight bells and the Sanctus bell.

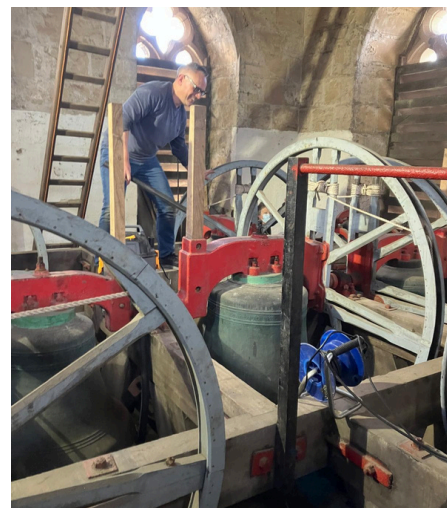
Getting into the tower is quite complicated - involving ascending a spiral staircase through the organ loft, crossing both the chancel and North Transept roofs, squeezing through three small doorways and ascending a wooden ladder. Doing this whilst carrying brushes, vacuum cleaners and buckets of water was hard enough, but navigating the route with a 30 piece scaffolding rig so that David - our Steeplekeeper - could repair and service the ceiling pulleys was quite a challenge!

Once all the work was done, we rewarded ourselves with a well earned cup of tea and a splendid array of homemade cakes. Thoroughly cleaned, the tower is now ready for the installation of our new bellropes which will be fitted in the next couple of weeks ready to be dedicated on Sunday 17 May.

By a happy coincidence, this is also Bell Sunday, being the closest Sunday to St Dunstan's Day, which falls on 19 May. St. Dunstan is known as the Patron Saint of Bellringers due to his experimentation in the forging of bells in the tenth century.

A big thank you to all those who helped with the belfry clean, and also to all those in the congregation, the town and beyond who tell us how much they enjoy hearing the bells rung each week.

Andrew Burns



Thursday 25th June Coach Outing to V&A at Wedgewood



Continuing to Trentham Gardens



The coach will leave Ashbourne at 9.30am and return at approximately 4.00pm

Cost - £25 to include the coach and admission to Trentham gardens

Please email gillianelliott@live.co.uk for a place.

V&A at Wedgewood

Thursday 25th June.

Coach outing to V&A at Wedgewood and then onto Trentham Gardens for lunch. Stroll round the gardens, explore the lake and Wire Fairies, take a trip down the lake on the boat or just sit and watch the world go by. Don't forget you can also look around the shopping village and explore the garden centre.

Coach will leave Ashbourne at 9.30 and return approx. 4.00. Cost - £25 to include the coach and admission to Trentham gardens. Email gillianelliott@live.co.uk for a place.

Follow Us

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Keep up to date with all the latest news.



Bell Ringing Practice
Wednesday, 19:30 - 21:00



Choir Practice
Friday, 19:00 - 20:00

Join us at Fairways Garden Centre

CARERS COUNT

13th May
10 am until 12 noon
in the restaurant

If you care for a loved one and would like to meet others in a similar situation for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee, you would be so welcome. Just pop along.



We were delighted to, once again, invite back to our Carers Count meeting local author Simon Mahoney accompanied, on this occasion, by his sailing companion, Terry Sheils. Simon and Terry gave a lively talk regarding their involvement with Sailability, an initiative that offers the experience of sailing to all, regardless of ability or altered ability.

Their positive approach ensures that through careful consideration and assessment there are ways and means to overcome altered abilities for everyone to enjoy time sailing on the water. Not only do Simon and Terry sail locally at Carsington Water, but they do take their skills - entering competitions - further afield in this country and even worldwide.

They both continued to expand in their talk that it is a recognised aspect that 'getting on the water' has a huge therapeutic benefit for everyone who takes part and, in particular, those who suffer from stress or depression.

As the Simon and Terry 'double act' continued with anecdotal stories, this was interspersed by photographic evidence in the slideshow.

All the attending Carers showed great interest in the venture and asked lots of questions to such an extent that Simon and Terry have offered the group members a taster session of the Sailability facility!

Before conclusion of the meeting, well earned refreshments that included a good slice of Simnel cake was thoroughly enjoyed by all! If you care for a loved one and would like to meet others in a similar situation for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee, you would be so welcome. Just pop along.

Usually the meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month in The Church Hall, 10 am until 12 noon. But, due to holidays, our NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 13th MAY at Fairways Garden Centre, 10 am until 12 noon in the restaurant. See you there! Anne Ford.

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
May 12th and 26th
St Oswald's Church Centre, School Lane, DE6 1AN

Suggested donations of
£5 per adult and £2 per child
For enquiries and to request transport
call Ossie's Kitchen on 01335 664159



St Oswald's Church
Derbyshire CC
Fare Share

Walking with St Oswald's

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 (All rambles start at 10am)

- Monday 11th May

Walking Group Dates (All walks start at 9:30am)

- Saturday 30th May

Parish Giving Scheme

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 telephone the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1260 to set up a payment. The PGS code for St Oswald's Church is 120612186



Ossie's Potters
Alternate Tuesdays
13:00 - 15:00
Next: 19th May



Ossie's Kitchen
Alternate Tuesdays
16:00 - 18:00
Next: 12th May

Ossie's Potters

A group of people who enjoy being in the fresh air with other people, and '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
19th May, from 1pm until 3pm.

