



The church of St Paul Burton upon Trent



October 2025 Newsletter



CLERGY DETAILS

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Hon. Clergy Rev Preb Phillip Jefferies	pjjefferies@talktalk.net	Tel: 07964 892230

OFFICERS

Churchwardens	Colin Dawson	Tel: 01283 516714
	John Woolley	Tel: 01283 532748
PCC Secretary	Maureen Woolley	Tel: 01284 532748
Treasurer	Mike Mear	Tel: 01283 544652
Electoral Roll Officer	Rose Jefferies	
Safeguarding Officer	Sue Ganley	Tel: 07852 473250
Hall Booking enquiries	John Woolley	Tel: 01283 532748
	Colin Dawson	Tel: 01283 516714

SERVICES

<u>St Paul's</u>	Sundays	10.45am	Sung Mass
	Thursdays	12 noon	Holy Communion
<u>St John</u>	Sundays	9.15am	Sung Mass
<u>the Divine</u>	Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion

ST PAUL'S CHURCH IS OPEN 10.30am – 4.00pm MOST DAYS

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the clergy

Fr Simon's day off is Friday

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4195/>

Donations for St Paul's Church will be gratefully accepted+

Lloyds Bank

P C C St Paul's Burton

Sort code 30-91-47

Account number 01542702

SERVICES

SUNDAY	10.45am	Sung Holy Communion at St Paul's
MONDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer
TUESDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer
WEDNESDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer at St John's
	9.30am	Holy Communion at St John's
	10.45am	Holy Communion at St Modwen's
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer
THURSDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	12 noon	Holy Communion at St Paul's
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer
SATURDAY	10.00am – 12 noon	St Modwen's open for Coffee and private prayer



In one church of my experience, at the end of Mass, as our community of worshippers filed out for refreshments or to head home, I would wait for the score. The tally could range from as few as one to as many as five (even six, depending on the service). A couple of times the result came in: 'zero.'

The score being delivered was the number of hymns in the service that one member of the congregation had known. As I was responsible for selecting the hymns, this was the feedback that the person wished to deliver. I took it on board – hymns, psalms, chants and worship songs form an important element to our praise and prayer, especially at the main service of the week, whether on Sunday morning or afternoon, or on another day.

My music critic had a different experience of hymns and their use to mine. For some of us, there is the lingering familiarity of hymns sung in a school setting, reminders of assemblies or trips to church for particular services during the Church year like Easter, Harvest or Christmas.

Other people may have been steeped in traditional hymns having attended many years of services. Or experienced in singing in choirs, church or otherwise. Still others find the idea of standing up several times to try to sing unfamiliar words to unfamiliar tunes an alien concept if they haven't been involved in the life of Church before and are new to how some forms of worship operate.

There is a huge range of musical styles to consider, too. Some of us might love a real 'banger' of a revival chorus; others a more reflective hymn or chant; and not to forget the charismatic multi-chorus worship song.

They all have a place in our worship, especially when a particular hymn catches the essence of the theme of the worship, or shines additional light on a particular facet of a biblical passage. When I was training as a lay preacher in the Methodist Church, in which people traditionally sing their theology (hence the title of the recent Methodist hymn book, *Singing the Faith*), I had to learn that some hymns were like strategic instruments – they needed to be used carefully, judiciously and not so often that people became over-familiar with, for example, Charles Wesley's barnstormer *And Can It Be* (which I still love but try to select sparingly).

Whoever selects hymns and other music will never get it right all the time; we won't please all of the people all of the time, particularly as members of a congregation may be coming together from many different backgrounds and experiences.

However, it is really important that we include music in our worship. It enhances the experience of prayer and binds us together in a way that the spoken word may not manage. Think about scenes of football crowds singing *Sweet Caroline* or other popular songs as an act of togetherness.

My former bishop in the Diocese of Gloucester, the late Michael Perham, often encouraged us to sing parts of the liturgy where possible. As a man who actually 'wrote the book' on modern Anglican liturgy, his advice was very often sound.

Even if we may not be familiar with them immediately, the words and tunes of hymns stick in our memories. As I take the Eucharist to the people of four of the care homes in this benefice, I never cease to be moved by some residents who have seemed to be barely communicative but who join in with the hymns we sing together, often without needing printed words. The same is true of the Lord's Prayer for them.

Music is an essential part of the spiritual life. In the Hebrew Scriptures, King David invited the people to come before God with songs of praise. Choirs fill cathedrals and the churches that have them with (hopefully!) glorious sound.

Singing is a profound way of connecting with the Divine. Pope St John Paul II is quoted as saying: “When we sing, we experience God’s presence in a new way.”

In worship, music goes beyond mere performance. It can elevate our hearts and minds towards the beauty of God and might even help us – to quote another phrase of Bishop Michael Perham – to ‘grasp the heel of heaven’.

There is a saying attributed to St Augustine of Hippo that ‘whoever sings, prays twice.’ Those words are not found anywhere in his writings, but the quote is traditionally thought to come from his teaching on love and worship. St Augustine recognized the deep connection between singing and a heightened form of prayer, noting that when we sing in worship of God we not only *praise* God, we also *love* God who we sing about, or to, or for.

So, when we lift our voices in song – however well or poorly we think we sing - we’re not just following ritual or habit. We’re engaging in an act of love, which deepens prayer.

And we should also give thanks for the organists and other musicians who enable us to sing out and sing up to God.

Fr Simon

PARISH NOTES

Thanks to Stephen Taylor for doing the organists rota. We are grateful to Richard., Karen and Stephen playing the organ for us on Sunday mornings.	The painting of the ceiling tiles in the church hall is still in progress. Thanks to Tom, Sue G, John, David and Mike for taking on the task.
The radiator near the kitchen has been replaced.	We have been invited to the Oak and Ivy to sing carols on Tuesday evening 23 rd December at 7.00pm

John & Mike had a table at the Rolleston Car Boot sale on Saturday 13th September selling our jigsaws. It was worthwhile.	Stephen Taylor has put together a party of volunteers to clear out the cellar.
Fr Simon is taking part in 'Sober October', abstaining from alcohol for the month, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. If you would like to support his fundraising, any donations will be gratefully received, or can be made online at https://gosober.org.uk/users/simon-archer-2.	The trial of praying Morning and Evening Prayer in our churches runs until the clocks go back on 25th October. So the praying of the Office in church will end on Thursday 23rd October.
Confirmation preparation sessions will be held at Red Lion House at 7.30pm on Wednesdays 15th, 22nd and 29th October. If you would like to join in, please let Fr Simon know. Separate sessions will be run for our youngest people who wish to be confirmed. The Confirmation service on 25th January 2026 will be a joint benefice service at 9.15am at St John's Horninglow with Bishop Matthew.	
All Souls Day - 2nd November. There will be a list in the baptistery for you to add names of your departed loved ones to be remembered during the 10.45am service.	Isaac and Fr Simon will be doing the annual sleepout for YMCA and would appreciate sponsorship.
We are having an average 1000 hits a week on our website which is a fantastic number of people interested in our church.	Exciting news! We now have a contactless paying machine which enables visitors to make a donation. You will find the machine on the cupboard in the baptistery.

Macmillan Coffee Morning – thank you to those who supported this event. We welcomed representative of Wellings Funeral Directors. We raised the brilliant sum of £250.

Crafts, Knit & Natter – We had a good turn out for our September get together. Halloween decorations were the topic of the day. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 28th October at 10.00am.





Lilian Keen has knitted these delightful Christmas decorations. Lilian is happy to take orders. Donations to church funds. Thank you!

Meeting of the Tutbury Rural Deanery Synod held on Wednesday, 11th September at The Old Grammar School, Rolleston-on-Dove (next to St Mary's Church).

The rural dean, The Rev Prebendary Dr Robin Trotter, bade welcome to all who had assembled in this rather quaint and ancient old schoolroom situated to the rear of the churchyard at St Mary's, Rolleston-on-Dove and led us all in prayer.

We were graced with a full compliment of clergy for the first time in some while.

Our guest speaker for the evening, Rev Prebendary Jeanette Hartwell, Lichfield Diocesan Director of Ministry, took to the floor and imparted a brief overview as to her oversight regarding the various aspects of ministry throughout the diocese.

Jeanette is blessed with a sturdy, dedicated and reliable team heading up the different operations:-

- Learning Development Office: creating learning opportunities, diocese-wide
- Initial Ministry of Development (IMD): channelling and developing vocations
- Pastoral Partnerships
- Safeguarding Team: playing a vital role in the parishes
- Ministry at local level: occasional readers and worship leaders: often delegated to rural deans and parish clergy

There are two basic strands of ministry: Lay Ministry and Licenced Ministry and it was important that a good balance was needed to fulfil the various appointments that arise and she explained the extent of her own responsibility in ensuring that the parishes in the diocese were given sufficient provision of capable and gifted personnel in order to sustain continuity of mission.

Ministry at local level was discussed along with the role of occasional readers and worship leaders.

Synod was then asked to debate the general question often posed when we discuss the fundamental purpose of our mission in the church:

‘What do we mean by vocation ?’

Responses: ‘A calling from God’ - ‘Something within us that will not let go’,

Within the parishes, what is our mindset? are we looking for people to fill vocations or to fill roles?

It was generally felt that as a church we should be trying to find out what God wants us to do and to find joy in doing it. Are we spending too much time thinking about things we haven't got and becoming obsessed with scarcity?

We were challenged to go back to our parishes and pose the same questions as to what our vocation as a church is and what 'we' are about.

Dr Hartwell then asked when parishes last undertook an audit as to resources and to generally assess whether or not certain roles are necessary and have individuals been fulfilling them for too long.

Most important: God will not forsake the church ! 'All things come of You and of Your own do we give You' (1 Chronicle 29, verse 14).

A 'quiet revival' is taking place in the church with a steady stream of young people finding their way into the various places of Christian worship and it is indeed our job to welcome them.

A plethora of mission resource material was available from the diocesan website but two sources were of particular note:-

- The Chad Foundation Programme: a basic introduction to theology enabling people to follow a ministry
- 'The Priesthood': A publication by Simon Cook seeking to rediscover the purpose of the clergy

The lay co-chair Dr Doug Brown reminisced that when he began his lay ministry in Tutbury Deanery 50 years ago there were 17 stipendiary clergy and 3 curates!

Dr Hartwell was thanked for her thought-provoking address and was warmly applauded by all present.

Reports

- **Treasurer:** The treasurer has resigned – Carol Webster (reader, St Mary's Rolleston) has agreed to act in the interim but generally speaking the synod's finances were sound.
- **Deanery Standing Committee:** Met to discuss the structure of the September meeting and to agree on composition of future meetings.

- **Diocesan Synod:** Report (copy for inspection) was submitted of the meeting on 1st July, 2025 at Aldridge Church Centre. Highlights:-
 - Presidential address by Lichfield diocesan bishop Very Rev Michael Ipgrave
 - Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) presented by Jonathan Hill
 - National Developments: An address given by Sam Rushton
- **Stoke Archdeaconry:** Dr Doug Brown informed synod that £900.000 was intended to be set aside for assistance to poorer parishes within the diocese but details had yet to be finalised but it is likely that any sums allocated will be spread out over a number of years.
- **Pastoral Matters:** Anslow, Rolleston and Tutbury are still in interregnum
- **Common Fund:** 95% has been paid of what has been asked for – parishes were thanked for their diligence.
- **Safeguarding:** Parishes were asked to ensure that all DBS checks and safeguarding training were up to date.

Dr Doug Brown thanked all attendees and the meeting was concluded with The Grace (2 Corinthians 9, verse 8).

Next meeting: Thursday, Nov 13th at St Paul's Church Hall.

St Paul's Church Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2025 (Teams4U)



A giving church is a living church !!!!!

Once again at St Paul's you are all warmly invited to participate in the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2025, where, in partnership with the Teams4U registered charity we endeavour to bring a little festive cheer to some of the world's poorest children/families by sending a

few basic necessities which will be particularly appreciated due to the poverty stricken and often war-torn environment in which these unfortunate children/families have to live.

In 2024 we responded magnificently to this noblest of causes and many impoverished families and children were able to celebrate the Christmas season cheered by your kindness and generosity.

If you take a shoe-box and a leaflet (available in the Church Hall) it will list the basic items required for both boys and girls and also a 'Home Box' which can be shared by families.

Also Included in the leaflet are stickers to attach to the top of the boxes signifying the intended recipients i.e. Boy/Girl 3-5 years, 6-11 years, 12+ years, Home(for families) and we invite a small (voluntary) financial donation towards transportation costs.

Should you need any boxes collecting we will gladly do so (please let us know).

Could we please have all boxes in by **Sunday, 16th November** ('Shoebox Sunday') where they will be presented and blessed at the 10.45 am mass before they are sent to the various destinations in Eastern Europe: Likely to be either Bosnia, Ukraine or Moldova (will be announced on Sunday 16th Nov).

Very best wishes to you all. Kind regards, Tom Foster

Burton St. Paul's Flooded Cellar!

See the notice board for the before and after!

Some readers may not be aware that there is a large cellar under St. Paul's church in effect in three parts which is constantly damp and often flooded. My initial main concern was that the dampness was affecting the organ which is still having a few problems despite the success of last year's fundraising efforts.



The Quinquennial Inspection Report of 2024 noted "The cellar is in two sections, one part of which sits outside the external footprint of the Church. Drainage is suspect and the existing sump [but there is no sump! ST] and pump appears undersized. It is clear that the roof deck, which is buried beneath the external

ground level is in poor condition and has failed. Water ingress is a regular occurrence and there is much rotted timber within the cellar which should be removed. Previous small-scale repairs have proved ineffective and a more major scheme of intervention should potentially be investigated to expose the buried roof and renew with a new waterproof covering."

It is also stated that this requires attention within the next 18-24 months and that timespan is nearing its conclusion. The architect's 'guesstimate' was that this would cost c. £14,000.

To initiate some action, the large amount of unwanted clutter needed to be removed from the cellar as the sodden wood itself was helping to retain the moisture. The possibility of drilling out a sump was being considered and a new pump had been donated fairly recently to add to another pump to remove water on a regular basis. A meeting was held to discuss this possibility but it is currently on hold with some viewing this as a negative idea.

The main aim is to discover from where the water is entering the cellar. From the full containers, it is clear some enters from above but another issue is the level of the water table which has risen in recent years (and affects the cellar in the Town Hall too where water is regularly being pumped out).



The section of the cellar under the grass was built c. 1900 to house a very large organ blower (part of which remains in situ). We are having to consider the possibility of cracked drains and tree roots breaking through the concrete as possible causes of the water ingress.

Working parties were organised during September to remove piles of debris from the cellar. John Woolley and I started work on 20th September to prepare the area for the

following Saturday when a team met to bring much of the debris up the awkward steps to the churchyard for later disposal. This created an enormous heap of wood and other items. This work is near completion but is on-going!

So far it has taken four trips to the recycling centre (otherwise 'the tip') in Shobnall to clear the churchyard, special thanks to Tom Foster who arranged the van transport, with more stuff to be transported!



I would like to thank all who have helped in various ways with this project: Trevor Avaan, Colin Dawson, Bradley Dunn (builder), Mervyn Eaton, Tom Foster, David Sweeney, Vic Trigwell (retired civil engineer) and John Woolley who have worked alongside me. Once all the clutter has been taken away, the next task is to see if we can find the source(s) of the water ingress! Tackling the drains near the cellar and surveying the lawn above the cellar will be challenging but we hope to find the extends of the cellar roof (no plans are known to exist – just to make our task even more difficult!) before the winter sets in. All able volunteers welcome!

Dr Stephen Taylor. To contact me please phone: 01283 712593 or 07519 153179

or e-mail: drswtaylor@btinternet.com

PRAYER DIARY OCTOBER 2025

1	St Teresa of Lisieux 1897	The situation in Ukraine
2		The people of Israel
3		The victims of street crime
4	St Francis of Assisi 1226	The people of Libya
5	HARVEST	those who have little to eat
6	William Tyndale martyr 1536	Survivors of natural disasters
7		Our Ploughman's lunch
8		Farmers
9	St Denys bishop and martyr c 258	People of France
10	St Paulinus bishop 644	The people in Somalia
11	St Ethelburga abbess 675	residents and carers at Amber House
12	TRINITY 17 St Wilfred 709 Elisabeth Fry prison reformer 1845	those in prison and those who visit or work with them
13	St Edward the Confessor 1066	Work of Reconnect
14		For freedom of belief
15	St Teresa of Avila 1582	For fellowship
16	Nicolas Ridley and Hugh Latimer martyrs 1555	People affected by war

17	St Ignatius bishop of Antioch martyr 107	The bereaved
18	St Luke	Doctors
19	TRINITY 18 Henry Martyn translator of the bible 1812	the Jesuits
20		Carmelites
21		those who are terminally ill
22	St Flora 5 th c	
23		for ourselves and our response to God
24		The Rural Dean, Robin Trotter
25	St Crispin and St Crispinian martyrs at Rome c 285	The work of the YMCA
26	TRINITY 19 Alfred the Great 899	Our parish
27		Our retired priests
28	St Simon and St Jude Apostles	Our Crafts, Knit & Natter group
29	James Hannington bishop and martyr 1885	Teachers
30		the non conformist churches in Burton
31	Martin Luther reformer 1546	those who are in despair

From the Anniversary of death book we remember this month Margaret Whittingham, Valerie Turner, Basil Clements, Jackie Anderson, Brian Sharratt, Winnie Bailey, Daisy Faint, Reginald Hawkes, Hugh Monkhouse, Leslie Cammack, Mary Keates, Geoff Tunnicliffe, Harold Pacey, Iris Sanders	<i>Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</i>
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A PRAYER FOR HARVEST

Almighty God,
Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts
we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days. Amen



forthcoming events:

Ploughman's Lunch Tuesday 7 th October 12 noon - 1.00pm	Crafts, Knit & Natter Tuesday 28 th October 10.00am - 12 noon
ADVANCE NOTICES:	
Advent Study Group Mondays 1 st , 8 th , 15 th & 22 nd December at 7.00pm at St Paul's	Carols at the Shobnall Community Centre Tuesday 9 th December
Crafts, Knit & Natter Tuesday 18 th November & 2 nd December at 10.00am	Coffee Morning 4 th November & 9 th December at 10.00am

Carols by Candlelight with the
Tutbury Band
Thursday 18th December
7.30pm

Carol Singing
in the Oak & Ivy
Tuesday 23rd December
7.00pm

Puzzle time

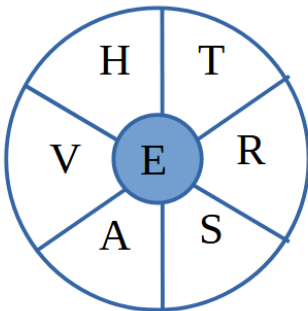
Answers to quiz about angels

1. Wolves	11. Seven
2. Zoar	12. Struck dumb
3. Jacob	13. Manna
4. Night	14. Two
5. Cake	15. Peter
6. Hagar	16. Galatians
7. In a burning bush	17. Spring
8. Balaam	18. Goat
9. Abraham	19. Messenger
10. Gideon	20. Numbered Israel

Answers to Cathedral Cities Codeword

Across: Shrewsbury, Exeter, Guildford, York, Canterbury, Lincoln, Ely, Wells

Down: Blackburn, Ripon, Derby, Peterborough, Truro, Southwell, Lichfield, Durham, Norwich



How many words of four letters or more can you make – each word must contain 'E'

Quiz about St Francis of Assisi:

(Answers will be given next month)

1. Francis of Assisi was born in the duchy of Spoleto which later became part of which country?
2. Was Francis actually first baptised Francesco?
3. What happened to Francis of Assisi in 1202?
4. Francis had a vision where he was told by a crucifix "Go Francis and repair my house". What did Francis do next?
5. The roots of the Franciscan Order began in 1208, when Francis heard a sermon from which gospel?
6. In 1209, Francis composed an instruction for his disciples known as the Primitive Rule. What is that rule?
7. With the help of a young noblewoman who also became canonised, Francis founded the second Franciscan Order in 1212. What name was given to it after her death?
8. In 1224, Francis had another vision where he received which visible wounds of Christ?
9. Which pope canonised Francis of Assisi in 1228?
10. Due to his miracles and love of all creation, Francis became the patron saint of which listed domain?

**Thanks to all who have contributed to the
newsletter**

HARVEST WORD SEARCH

There are 30 fruit and vegetables to find in this wordsearch. The blank spaces spell out a harvest hymn.

A	P	R	I	C	O	T	C	N	C	T	O	O
E	A	O	G	N	A	M	E	L	O	N	M	K
P	A	R	S	N	I	P	E	R	R	M	Y	R
E	P	O	T	A	T	O	R	F	N	T	E	A
H	P	O	U	I	A	A	N	K	I	W	I	L
K	L	T	R	F	C	A	B	B	A	G	E	T
B	E	A	N	U	C	H	M	U	L	P	N	O
K	E	M	I	L	A	V	O	C	A	D	O	O
A	K	O	P	E	A	C	H	K	L	P	I	R
L	E	T	E	A	P	E	P	P	E	R	N	T
E	O	P	A	L	R	A	D	I	S	H	O	E
W	O	R	R	A	M	E	R	S	W	E	D	E
C	O	Y	R	R	E	H	C	G	M	E		B

Apple	Cabbage	Leek	Onion	Plum
Apricot	Carrot	Lemon	Parsnip	Potato
Avocado	Cherry	Lime	Pea	Radish
Banana	Fig	Mango	Peach	Swede

Bean Beetroot	Kale Kiwi	Marrow Melon	Pear Pepper	Tomato Turnip
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READERS ETC FOR OCTOBER 2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Prayers</u>	<u>Offertory</u>
5th Oct HARVEST	Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Psalm 100 Philippians 4.4-9 or Revelation 14.14-18 John 6.26-35	Tom Foster	Clergy	Valerie Cammack & Sue Sweeney
12th Oct Trinity 17	2 Kings 5.1-3,7-15b Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2.8-15 Luke 17.11-19	Susan Monkhouse	Mike Mear	Rose Jefferies Margaret Merry
19th Oct Trinity 18	Genesis 32,22-31 Psalm 121 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 Luke 18.1-8	Valerie Cammack	Colin Dawson	Olwen & Alan Sharpe
26th Oct Trinity 19 OR Bible Sunday	Ecclesiasticus 35.12-17 or Jeremiah 14.7-10,19-22 Psalm 84.1-7 2 Timothy 4.6-8,16-18 Luke 18,9-14 Isaiah 45.22-25 Psalm 119.129-136 Romans 15.1-6 Luke 4.16-24	Mike Mear	John Woolley	Lilian Keen
2nd Nov Fourth Sunday bef Advent	Isaiah 1.10-18 Psalm 32.1-8 2 Thessalonians 1.1-12 Luke 19.1-10	Sue Ganley	clergy	Alfredo
9th Nov Third	Job 19.23-27a Psalm 17.1-9	Tom Foster	Pat	Svetlana

Sunday bef Advent	2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-17 Luke 20.27-38		Dawson Maureen Woolley	
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