

News from your Church of England Parish Church

Parish Office: Lynda Higgins info@stgeorgesaltrincham.org 0161 941 4037

Vicar: **Rev. Claire Corley** clairemcorley@gmail.com 07811 151 027 Curate: **Carol Brooks-Johnson** carol@stgeorgesaltrincham.org 07745 926 451

Children & Families: **Dee Owen** Dee@stgeorgesaltrincham.org Organist & Musical Director: **Russell Medley**: Russell@stgeorgesaltrincham.org

Church Wardens: **Robert Moscrop** robertmoscrop@icloud.com

Kevin Davis kevin.j.davis@hotmail.com

Ordinand: **Josie Hart** Josie@stgeorgesaltrincham.org

Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Liv Tattum** livtattum@aol.com

January Moments: Stepping into 2026 with Hope

After Christmas Day, when I enter the church early in the morning, it can almost feel as though the building itself lets out a quiet but contented sigh; a moment to breathe and rest after the joyful busyness of the season just passed. January is often a gentler month after the flurry of December's festivities, yet it is still rich with moments of proclaiming God's love and presence among us.

We began the month with Epiphany and the Chalking of the Doors. Have you noticed the markings on the door lintels? On that cold yet beautiful morning, they were placed there with prayer, and—weather permitting!—will remain throughout the year. They serve as a visible reminder of our prayer for God's blessing on our churches and homes: that they may be places of welcome, hospitality and grace in all that happens within them.

This term also sees the return of Messy Café. Held once each term, it's a wonderfully relaxed way for families with young children to explore some of the key Christian stories through crafts, storytelling and songs; all helped along by cakes and hot drinks!

January has also marked the return of our regular groups and activities after a well-earned Christmas break. It's easy to forget just how much these small communities mean to the people involved: the laughter, shared stories, food, and the simple gift of friendship and support. We are deeply thankful to everyone who gives their time and energy to make them possible.

If you haven't part of this before, you would be very welcome; just turn up and a warm welcome awaits!



Our Regular Services:

Said Services (no hymns):
Parish Eucharist (sung):

Website:
Socials

<http://www.stgeorgesaltrincham.org>
@StGeorgesAlty

Sunday 8am
Sunday 9.30am

Wednesday 10am

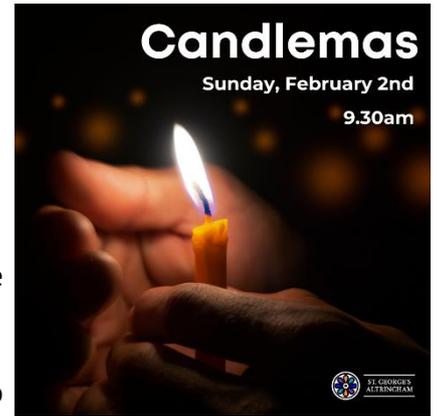




Candlemas

Sunday, 2nd February, 9.30am

Candlemas is a service that may be unfamiliar to many, but it holds a quiet, powerful beauty. At its heart are two elderly figures—**Simeon and Anna**—who had waited faithfully their entire lives for the coming of the Saviour. In their final years, they finally saw Him, held Him, as Mary brought Jesus to the temple. We remember this sacred moment in a church filled with candlelight—a stunning and moving service that brings warmth and light into the dark days of February. Why not come and experience it for yourself?



Pancake Party!

Sunday 15th February, 10.30am.

Not Ready for Shrove Tuesday Yet?

No worries—we've got you covered (even if we're celebrating a couple of days early! 😊). Come along for delicious pancakes, great company, and the best part? Someone else is doing the cooking *and* the washing up! What more could you ask for?



Ash Wednesday & Ashes to Go!

Wednesday 18th February, 10am & 7pm in church,

1.30 in Altrincham Town Centre

Have you ever wondered why, once a year, Christians are walking around with an Ash Cross on their heads?! It can look a bit odd but actually has some really important symbolism behind it.

It's a time when we remember that although there is much good in all of us, we're not perfect - that none of us are immortal and that we all

make mistakes. It's a chance for us to take time to 'spring clean' ourselves - check our motivations, aspirations, actions and decisions. And we do that in the light of Christ's love and forgiveness.

It can be a really freeing moment.

So if that sounds like what you need, why don't you come and be part of it?



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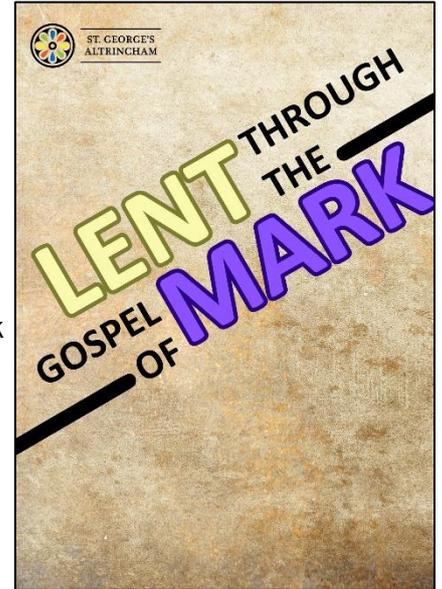
Lent Reading

It's traditional for Christians to take on something meaningful during Lent. Often that involves giving something up (chocolate is a popular choice!), but it's also a time to go deeper in faith—to pray more intentionally, reflect more deeply, or attend additional services as a way of walking with Christ through His final days.

Here at St George's, we mark Lent by journeying together through a book of the Bible. Last year we read Luke; this year, we'll be reading **Mark**.

It's just a few verses each day, just a few minutes that are easy to read, but rich with meaning. Some of us then gather to talk it through – ask questions and discuss how it can impact our daily lives.

Because, who knows – it might just change your life for the better.....



Home Communions

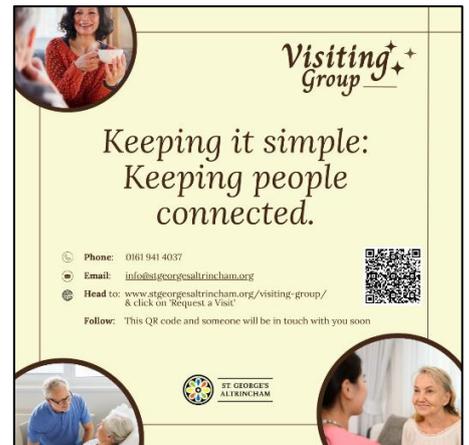
If you can't get out and about easily, life can feel very isolated, and it can be easy to feel as if you no longer 'belong' to a church. Do you know that we have a team who take out Home Communions to those who can't make it to church? We will share consecrated elements together and also update you on the latest news!

Get in touch if you'd like a visit, it would be a privilege to do so.



Visiting Group

We're conscious that Mothering Sunday can be a hard time for many of us, and indeed, life can often be a slog and rather relentless. If you'd appreciate someone being a listening ear, and perhaps enabling you to get to the right help, or just someone to share a coffee with, then do get in touch. We'd love to support you. More information here: [Visiting Group - St Georges Church Altrincham](#)



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Reflection on the season: Candlemas

I need to be honest: the first time I celebrated **Candlemas** was just last year, in 2025. I'd vaguely heard of it before arriving at St George's, but I'd never had the opportunity to attend a service—and then, my travels to India always seemed to clash with the date.

But Candlemas was a service I had long wanted to experience. It speaks so deeply of *light in the midst of darkness*, of *frustration*, and of what can feel like *endless waiting* for something to change.

Candlemas, celebrated on **2nd February**, marks the **Presentation of Christ in the Temple** (Luke 2:22–40).

At the heart of this moment is the encounter between the infant Jesus and two elderly prophets—

Simeon and Anna—who had waited faithfully their whole lives for God's promise to be fulfilled. When

Simeon sees the child, he declares the words we now know as the *Nunc Dimittis*:

*"My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel."* (Luke 2:30–32)

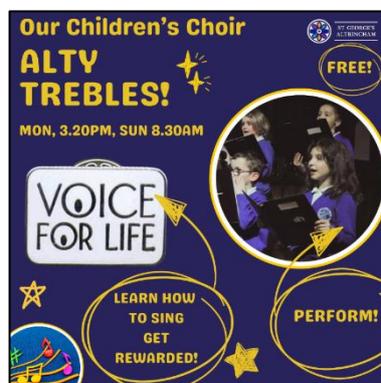


Candlemas is a feast of light—both literal and spiritual. Churches are filled with candlelight to symbolise **Christ, the Light of the World** (John 8:12), shining into the darkness. It's a turning point in the Church calendar, drawing a close to Christmas while pointing us towards Lent and the path to the cross.

In today's world—marked by war, injustice, and deep uncertainty—Candlemas is more than tradition. It is a powerful reminder that hope is not lost. Like Simeon and Anna, we still wait: for peace, for healing, for justice. And in Jesus, that hope is real—embodied, faithful, and eternal.

So as we gather in candlelit churches this February, may we not only remember their faith—but carry that light into our communities, our homes, and into all the places where hope is still needed.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)



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Wednesday 10am



Can you help support the life and work of the church?

We wonder if you've ever considered making St George's a charity that you support regularly? As you can see from this bulging newsletter, we work hard to serve our congregation, school and community, and all that we do can only happen thanks to the support of our congregation and friends and supporters. It costs us £3406 to run the church each week – might you be willing to be part of it by contributing to it? No matter how small your donation, every little bit makes a huge difference.



Plant Sale returns!

Our wonderful church, along with all the services and events we offer, depends entirely on donations to keep going. Because of this, we're always looking for fun and creative ways to raise the funds we need to continue our work! Last year, the plant stall was by far the biggest fundraiser at the Summer Fayre—and we'd love to see it do just as well this year! Whether you're an experienced gardener or keen to try your hand at something new, please do start planting now in preparation for the Summer Fayre in July!

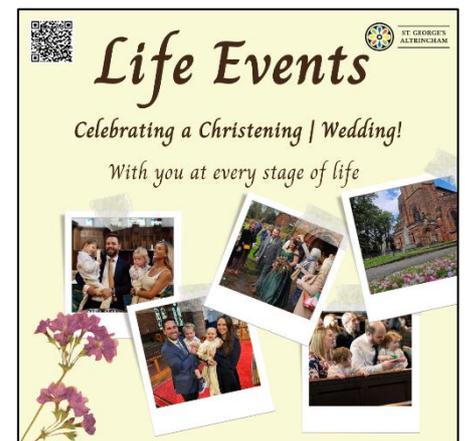


Life Events!

In Church of England speak, we call them Life Events — those meaningful moments in life you want to mark, remember, and share. They're the occasions that bring family and friends together — sometimes in celebration, sometimes in sorrow — but always with love and significance.

Whether you're thinking about a Christening, Wedding, Confirmation, or Funeral, we're here for you. Whatever stage of life you're at, and whatever your connection to church, you are always welcome.

Just get in touch — we'd be honoured to walk with you.



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Lent & Easter 2026



ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM



Sun
Feb 15th
10.30am

Pancake Party!



Ash Wednesday

Weds, Feb. 18th:
10am & 7pm Church
1.30pm Altrincham Town Centre

Palm Sunday

Sun, March 29th 11.15am

Maundy Thursday & Stripping of the Altars

Thurs, April 2nd: 7pm

Three Hours at the Cross

Fri, April 3rd: 12 Noon

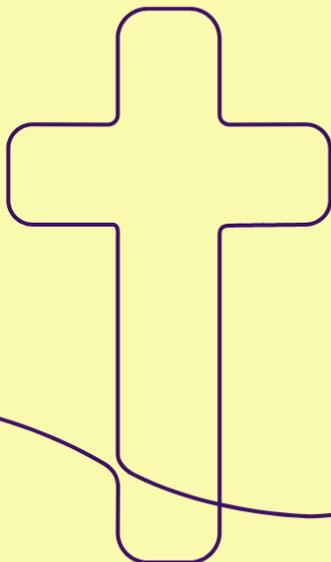
Fri
April 3rd
10am

Easter Crafts!



Easter Eve & Bonfire

Sat, April 4th: 7.30pm



With
confetti!



Easter Day Celebration!

Sun, April 5th: 10am

Our regular services:

Sund services (no hymns):

Sunday 9am

Wednesday 10am

Parish Eucharist (sung):
<http://www.stgeorgesaltrincham.org>
@StGeorgesAlty

Sunday 9.30am

Website:
Socials





Come and be a part of it



ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM

Mon

Alty Trebles

Tues

Tots & Tales
Tea & Tales
Parlez Vous
Francais?

Weds

Twist & Tales
Mid-week
Communion
Coffee Break
Women's
group

Thurs

Knit & Natter
Soup Lunch
Alpha
Mettle

Fri

Pathway
Youth Group

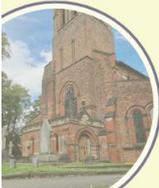
Sat

Seasonal
socials

Sun

8am Service
9.30am Family
Service with
Junior Church

Weddings | Christenings | Confirmation | Funerals
Visiting | Home Communion | Festival Services & Events



COMMUNITY GROUPS
ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM

Coffee Break

Wednesdays 10:30am

Come and take a break:
see old friends and
meet new ones

ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM

SCHOOL RUN CUPPA

A GOOD WAY TO START YOUR DAY!

Monday:
Parent Talk

Exploring the Tricky
art of parenting!

Starts Mon
16th Sept

Thurs:
Open House

Come & enjoy a
coffee!

Starts Tues
3rd Sept

Friday:
Harbour

For parents of
children with SEND

Starts Fri
20th Sept

TERM TIME
9AM-10.30ISH

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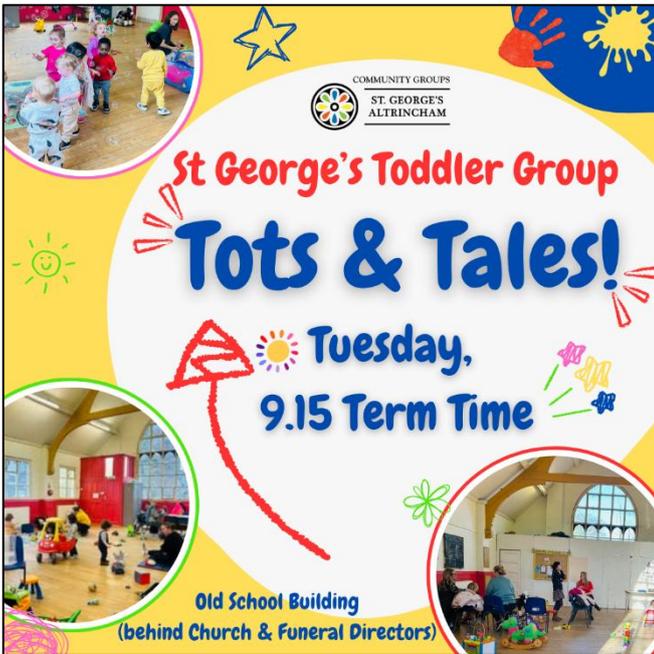
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Wednesday 10am





COMMUNITY GROUPS
ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM

St George's Toddler Group
Tots & Tales!

Tuesday,
9.15 Term Time

Old School Building
(behind Church & Funeral Directors)

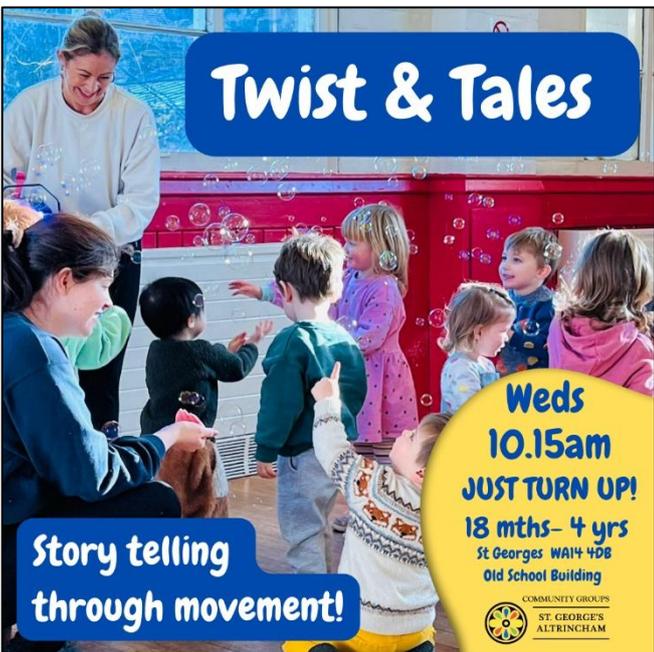


TEA & TALES

ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM

Tuesdays:
3.30-4.30
Term Time

Stories, Crafts
Songs, Games,
Toast &
Crumpets

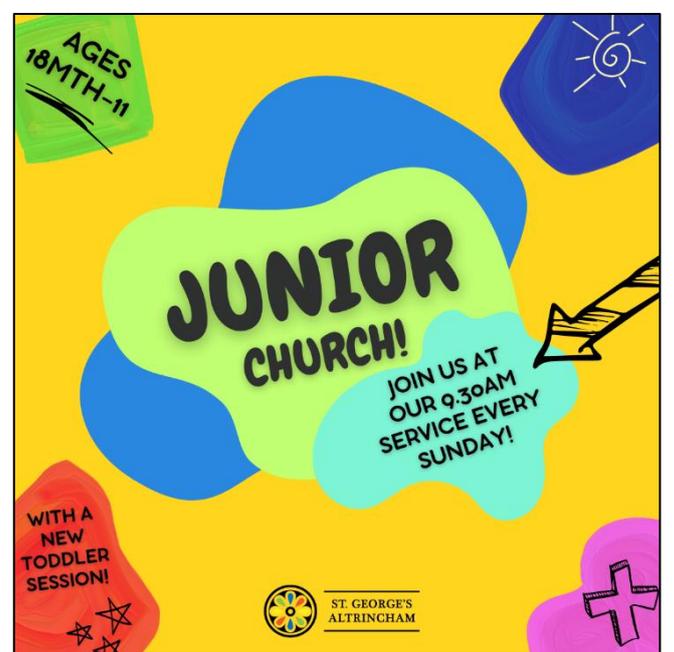


Twist & Tales

Story telling
through movement!

Weds
10.15am
JUST TURN UP!
18 mths- 4 yrs
St Georges WA14 4DB
Old School Building

COMMUNITY GROUPS
ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM



AGES
18MTH-11

**JUNIOR
CHURCH!**

JOIN US AT
OUR 9.30AM
SERVICE EVERY
SUNDAY!

WITH A
NEW
TODDLER
SESSION!

ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM



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GOING DEEPER



Joyce Hill is an Emeritus Professor of Leeds University. She is a Christian who specialises in Anglo-Saxon Benedictine Reform and its impact on ecclesiastical and cultural life, and regularly delivers lectures.

One of the saints celebrated this month is St Anskar, ‘the apostle of the north’ — ‘the north’ in this case being Scandinavia, particularly Sweden and Denmark. His feast-day falls on 3 February, the date of his death in 865 as Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen, which at the time held archiepiscopal authority over large parts of northern Germany and the whole of Scandinavia, then still very much in the process of being converted to Christianity.

The period of Christian conversion and consolidation in Scandinavia lasted a long time. In each country the conversion ‘moment’ was (and is) considered to be the year when the leading men in each society decided to abandon their pagan practices and follow Christian rites only, although that doesn’t amount to a general conversion as we would understand it, nor does it indicate widespread ecclesiastical organisation. In Denmark this ‘moment’ happened in the 960s under King Harald Gormsson; in Norway it can be assigned to the reign of Olaf Tryggvason, 995-c.1000; in Iceland it occurred in 999/1000; and it happened about the same time in the Faroes and Greenland. Paganism persisted the longest in Sweden. While most of the ruling dynasty was being baptized from about 1000, the great pagan temple in Uppsala was still being used in the 1070s, and at around that time the Christian king was ousted by a pagan kinsman, who then ruled for a few years. So you may well wonder how Anskar, dying in 865, fits into this rather drawn out and somewhat haphazard narrative. Fortunately, we know quite a bit about him because of his responsibilities as Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen, and because Rimbert, who succeeded him there, wrote an account of his life.

Anskar was educated at the great Benedictine monastery of Corbie in France, the land of his birth, and then went as a teacher to the monastery of Corvey in north-west Germany. When Harald Klak, king of Denmark, converted to Christianity in 826 at the court of the Holy Roman Emperor, Louis the Pious, Anskar was recommended by the Archbishop of Reims and the Abbot of Corvey to undertake missionary activity in Denmark. But King Harald was expelled soon after, so Anskar then travelled to Sweden where, with the Swedish king’s agreement, he founded the country’s first church. In 831 he was consecrated as the first bishop of Hamburg and in 832 was appointed by Pope Gregory IV to be in charge of the missions to Scandinavia and the Slavic lands. Anskar himself focussed on Denmark, entrusting the Swedish mission to a colleague. Louis the Pious granted the monastery of Turnhout in Flanders to be a source of revenue and a training centre for the Scandinavian mission, but it suffered a setback in 845 when Hamburg was plundered by Viking raiders. Two years later Anskar was appointed to the see of Bremen, which was then almost immediately united with Hamburg. This allowed him to renew his missionary efforts: he founded churches in Schleswig, Ribe and Sigtuna, and continued to provide more general archiepiscopal and missional oversight across Scandinavia.

It was not until the twelfth century that the three main Scandinavian countries were granted archbishoprics of their own: Denmark in 1103/4 (Lund); Norway in 1152/3 (Trondheim); Sweden in 1164 (Uppsala). From then on, with Scandinavia no longer owing allegiance to Hamburg-Bremen, the bishops of Orkney, the Faroes, Iceland and Greenland came under the Archbishop of Trondheim. Anskar’s undoubted importance was in laying the foundations for a Christian Scandinavia early on in this long process.

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SOCIAL EVENTS

Come & be part of it all!



ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM

Date	Events
Sat 6 th Sept	Quiz Night
Sat. 7th Sep	Back to Church Sun Cream Tea & Garden Games
Sun. 4th Oct	Harvest Supper & Barn Dance
Fri 31 st Oct	Halloween Light Stop
Sat 29 th Nov	Christmas Fayre
Sun 15th Feb	Pancake Party
Sun 29th Mar	Palm Sunday Lunch
3rd April	Good Friday Children's Crafts
Sun 26th April	St George's Day Toast
Sun 7th June	John Leigh Park Big Lunch
Sat 27th June	Altrincham Festival
TBC July	Teddy Bear's Picnic @ John Leigh Park
Sun 12 th July	Summer Fayre

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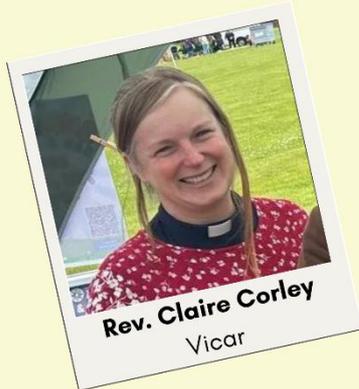


ST. GEORGE'S
ALTRINCHAM



St. George's

team.



Rev. Claire Corley
Vicar



Liv Tattum
Parish Safeguarding



**Rev Carol
Brooks-Johnson**
Curate



Mrs Lynda Higgins
Administrator



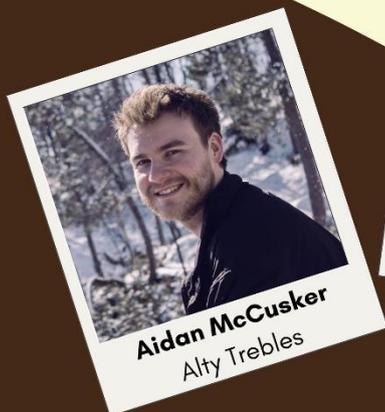
Dee Owen
Children & Families



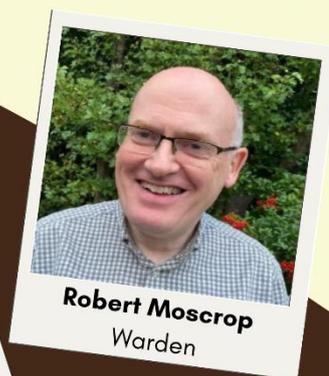
Russell Medley
Musical Director



Josie Hart
Ordinand



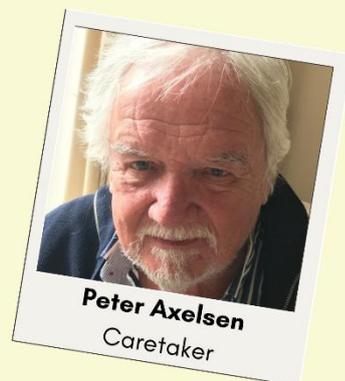
Aidan McCusker
Alty Trebles



Robert Moscrop
Warden



Kevin Davies
Warden



Peter Axelsen
Caretaker

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