



Sinfin Moor Church

Arleston Lane, Sinfin Moor, Derby DE24 3DH
A Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) serving
Sinfin Moor and Stenson Fields

May Newsletter

(Published Sunday 10th May 2026)

Welcome to our Monthly Newsletter

A reminder that at any of our Church Services, please be considerate to others and ensure your phone is set to silent or switched off. Thank you for your consideration.



11.5



Hearing aid users should switch to the 'T' position (if so fitted) or adjust your hearing aid as required.

Hi everyone

You will see in this months newsletter a new section called '**COMMUNITY NOTICES**', this is a part of the newsletter that you can let everyone know of anything going on in the local community i.e. charity events, that you feel could benefit from being made more widely known. This section can also be used for items which are happy, sad or just informative (like this month). If you have anything you would like to be included in next months newsletter please either email jehughes5@hotmail.com, newsletter@sinfinmoorchurch.co.uk or you can hand it to me. If you want to know anymore please do not hesitate to ask me.

Thank you

Joy

Paul's Piece

As a church community we are giving fresh attention to worship—on Sundays and in our small groups. That has made me ask a simple question: what is my attitude to worship?

When I was a child, Sunday often felt like duty. I went to the Methodist chapel two or three times on a Sunday, services and Sunday School. Looking back, I can see it did me good—but at the time it sometimes felt like something to get through rather than something to receive with joy. I was obeying my parents directions and my attitude tended towards just to 'tough it out'

I wonder if we sometimes feel the same when we hear Jesus' commands: "Love God" and "love one another." Do they sound like demanding rules we must keep, rather than the life of worship we are invited into?

Someone* put it like this: Jesus sums up obedience in one word—love. And Jesus gives love a shape: "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

In this country we can quickly hear those words and think of wartime sacrifice—especially the First World War. We rightly honour courage and remember those who died. But Jesus was not pointing us to the battlefield. He was pointing us to the death and life event of His cross. If we mix up those two stories, we can miss what Christian love really is. The cross is not about taking power; it is about giving ourselves away.

So what might this look like for us this week? Love is not getting our own way; it is lifting others up. Love is not holding tightly to what we have; it is giving—time, attention, kindness, money, forgiveness, prayer. Love does not always shout; often it is quiet, steady faithfulness. And here is the gentle challenge: where might Jesus be asking me to lay something down so that someone else can be blessed? As we worship—whether on Sunday or in a living room—may God soften our hearts, and help us to love as Jesus loved us. To worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4.24)

* *Ian Galloway: Called to be Friends*

Community Meals

After a busy winter of weekly Community Meals, it was a real encouragement to join the wider Warm Welcome movement in a national celebration at Evensong in St Paul's Cathedral, London. Ten of our team travelled together by train, representing the many volunteers who quietly offer hospitality week by week.





Following the service, we were welcomed to a reception in St Paul's Chapter House, where we heard more about the reach and impact of Warm Welcome Spaces—now numbering over 6,000 across the country. Stories were shared of how these places are supporting people's wellbeing, reducing isolation and offering practical kindness at a time of real pressure for many households. It was also heartening to hear how the Warm Welcome network is helping to

raise the profile of this work and to inform national conversations about what communities need. Thank you to everyone who makes Community Meals possible.



Our Next Community Meal will be Monday May 25th

Children's Activities will be available from 11am

Following dates are

July 27th

August 3rd

August 10th

August 17th

August 24th

August 31st (*Bank Holiday*)

Please note that Connect will continue to meet weekly 10am -1pm

Bishop Malcolm's Retirement Service



On Sunday 19th April 2026 we gave heartfelt thanks as Bishop Malcolm retires from his ministry in the Diocese of Derby. His faithful leadership, steady encouragement and quiet commitment to sharing the gospel in everyday life have blessed parishes, schools and communities across the diocese. For us at Sinfon Moor Church he has actively supported us in visits to our Community Meals, Eco Church celebrations and the new housing pioneering, alongside one to one encouragement to ministers on numerous occasions. At his retirement service we gathered with gratitude—celebrating all that God has done through him, and commending him to the Lord for the next season of life. Please keep Bishop Malcolm and his family in your prayers: for rest and renewal, for joy in new rhythms, and for God's continued guidance and peace.

People's Emergency Briefing



For Nature & Climate - For God's Acre

God's creation is in trouble, and many of our brothers and sisters around the world are already feeling the effects. Here in the UK, climate and nature breakdown increasingly impacts food, health, homes and communities.

As followers of Jesus, we're called to face this moment with courage and to act with hope. Join Christians from across Derby for an in-person screening and guided discussion of The People's Emergency Briefing (film is approx. 50 minutes) - a clear, accessible public information film produced by the National Emergency Briefing.

In November 2025, a National Emergency Briefing was delivered at Westminster Central Hall to an invited audience of over 1,200 politicians and national leaders. The event was opened by broadcaster and campaigner Chris Packham, and ten leading UK subject experts set out the risks and solutions.

St Alkmund's Church, Derby, DE22 1GU

15 May 2026 7pm - 8.30pm

After the showing there will be guided discussion, prayer, and reflection as we ask together: What does faithful response look like in this moment? What practical steps can Christians in Derby take together with compassion and hope?

All are welcome, whatever your starting point.



Join Christians across Derby to watch,
pray and discuss together

St Alkmund's Church, Derby, DE22 1GU
15 May 2026 7pm - 8.30pm

Free Tickets: www.greenerlittleover.org.uk/neb
email: neb@greenerlittleover.org.uk



www.nebriefing.org

www.greenerlittleover.org.uk



Each week we meet to pray together for our church and local community for around 30 minutes at the Church Centre on Thursdays 9am. All are welcome to join and you are not required to pray aloud.

We follow the Celtic Daily Morning Prayer that has some written prayer that we say together, some short bible readings, then we hear a reflection, meditation and move into a time of 'open prayer' for current needs and concerns, and life in the surrounding area, including praying for the church and its activities. You are welcome to join.

Other opportunities to share together in prayer are through the

Prayer List in this newsletter - Contact Glen roeglennard@gmail.com with any requests

at Heath Court on Thursdays 10:00am in the Quiet Room

and with the CoDA (School) prayer group - the next meeting is **May 18th 2.00pm** in the Church Centre Welcome Area. contact Fiona fiona@sinfimoorchurch.org.uk

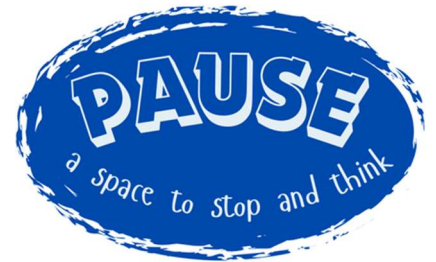


Rev Fiona's Update



"Be still and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10

You will find me every Thursday at lunchtime in our reflective space at Ash Croft Primary Academy! A group of about 6 children spend ten minutes doing an activity that aims to encourage them to pause and think about how they feel. It's not long but limiting it to ten minutes enables at least four groups to come in and spend some time stepping away from the busyness or maybe even the pressures and challenges of the day for some space to just be.



This summer term we have been reflecting on Creation - and how we care for creation. We've had a world map and found out where our favourite foods come from and reflected on how we can make good choices when buying food that will help save the planet. We've thought about how important bees are in creation, with some interesting facts about bees - did you know that a bee flaps its wings approximately 200 times a second!!! When the first group came in to make their bee on its hive - just as we sat down

a bee flew into the classroom, over our table and then straight out the other window! Just checking in on what we were doing, we thought.

It is such a blessing to be able to go into school, to build relationships with the children and staff from all faiths and none and to offer a safe space for them to talk or just take some time out whilst encouraging them to reflect on themselves, on others and on the world in which they live. An opportunity to love our neighbours and share God's love through all we do.

With every blessing,

Fiona

Deacon and Priest – what's the difference?

Rev. Gael Browne

Next month, at **4pm on Saturday, 20th June, at Derby Cathedral**, I will be ordained a priest in the Church of England. Of course, you are all very welcome, and I'd love to see as many of you there as possible!

As I take this next step in my vocational journey, I wanted to share a little about what it means.



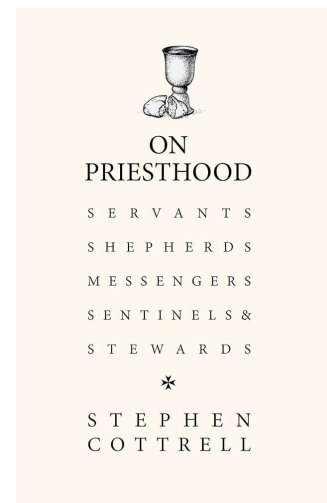
The whole process, as illustrated, from discernment to ordination as priest, has taken six years!! Two years of discerning, interviewing, placements, testing, before four years (so far) of theological education and curacy training. It is thorough!!

In the Church of England, the first ordination service involves being made a deacon. The word *deacon* comes from a Greek word meaning "servant," and this stage of ministry is rooted in service; sharing Christ's love in practical ways, especially among those in need, and helping the Church stay connected to the life of the wider world.

After about a year, many are ordained priest. Priests continue this calling to serve, but with particular responsibility for leading worship, presiding at Holy Communion, preaching, and offering pastoral care.

As Archbishop Stephen Cottrell writes in *On Priesthood* (a brilliant, accessible book for anyone wanting to understand what priests priesthood is not about status:

- The whole Church shares in Christ's priesthood (ordained priests minister to and with a priestly people)
- Ordained priests don't replace the church – they serve nurture it (not set apart from the people, but set among)
- Priesthood is about enabling others, not elevating (being within the Body, not above it)



are/do),

and
them)
oneself

I'd really value your prayers as I prepare to enter this phase of ministry. I'm sure it will be a new, profound joy to lead you in communion as my sisters and brothers in Christ, as I continue to learn and grow in curacy. And thank you for all your encouragement and support so far – it is appreciated!

Don't worry about lifts - we can liaise and sort those out. It will be a very joyful outing! Please consider coming or get in touch with me for more details 😊

What is Worship?

Rev. Gael Browne

Our current Holy Habit for exploration is 'Worship'. When we hear the word *worship*, many of us think of Sunday morning: singing, prayers, a sermon, perhaps a favourite hymn. And that *is* worship... but it's only part of the picture.

In the Bible, worship is much bigger. It's about giving worth to God with our whole lives. In Romans 12, Paul writes about offering our bodies as a "living sacrifice" - in other words, offering our everyday lives to God. That means worship doesn't stop when the service ends.



At the same time, Christians have always gathered and expressed worship in different ways. Some find meaning in structured, liturgical services with set prayers and ancient rhythms; others in more informal gatherings with contemporary music and spontaneous prayer. Different traditions and denominations emphasise different styles - but all are seeking to honour the same God. No 'style' of gathered worship is wrong, and we are richer when we recognise God loves all of it!

Just as a parent receiving a (questionable) picture from their child, how funny we must look standing together and singing to the creator of the universe our songs each week, and how beautiful it must be to Him at the same time. What hubris to think that we could ever give God something He needs or offer Him something meaningful, and yet, He takes what we have - our words, our songs, our standing up and sitting down, and He sees the heart of wanting to honour Him, and He accepts it and makes it meaningful. He takes our funny human ways, we who are so small in the universe, and He sticks it to his cosmic fridge like a proud parent. He feels our love. Just like a parent feels the love of their child as they present them with... wait for it... the most precious, perfect, straightest stick they could find... "but mummy, it's got little buds on it and the end is so smoooooth!"

All that is to say, God loves what we offer him. Whether it's loud or quiet. Modern or traditional. Set liturgy or spontaneity. The whole feast is good. And we miss the point when, like children, we begin to squabble over whose precious stick is the best, and which one God might prefer...

In your everyday life, have you ever felt you haven't "done anything for God" in a busy day? Perhaps if you reflected on the small things: listening patiently to a friend, preparing a meal to nourish the body God has given you, noticing the beauty of creation on a walk, you might see it differently. What if these, too, were acts of worship? Not separate from faith, but expressions of it. Noticing, having gratitude, and mirroring something of God to people. When every act we do is offered up to God as gift: worship.

Gathering on a Sunday matters deeply. It shapes and nourishes us, reminding us of *who we are* and *whose we are*. But it also sends us out to live lives of worship in the world.

Worship, then, is not just something we *attend*, nor just one style we prefer. It is something we *become*: a life turned towards God, in many forms and settings, offering all that we are (and all our precious collection of stones and sticks) back to the One who gives us everything.



Food for Thought - Heath Court

Hi, my name is Philip and I attend the home group at Heath Court, called Food for Thought.

I joined this group by accident. I was sat in the lounge when the group were setting up for their meeting. Being new to Heath Court, I asked what the group was about and stayed.

I am still attending 😊

I enjoy the food and the company and I like that we read the Bible from different translations. I am learning a lot from the discussions about God and it's great getting to know new people.

It is very welcoming .

Philip

If you would like to join, please speak to Jean Desborough.

Contact 07415 671004 / reader-jean@sinfimoorchurch.org

MONTHLY PRAYER LIST MAY

Hi Everyone,

Thank you, Father for always being there to hear our prayers. Thank you that Gael is enjoying her time at Redwood School, pray as the relationship grows. Thank you for all the good things that have happened during April and all the wonderful celebrations of Easter and the reminders of all You suffered for each one of us. Thank you as we enter this month of May especially the warmer weather, birds singing, flowers blooming and all the reminders of what a special Father we have in You.

Help us to share our faith with others. Thank you for all the outreach and the connection with others over this wonderful season and for the joy we have when the children share in our service. Thank you for Astley's baptism and the very special time that was.

Pray for each of our church leaders that God will guide and protect them in all they do. Pray for their families too as all the outreach they do affects each member of their family. Pray for patience and grace for their families as they release them to do the work the Lord ordained for them.

Pray for continued growth of relationship with Redwood School as they are looking for ways to work together with Gael and for the assemblies Gael has been invited to lead. Pray for other schools in the area. For each of the Churches within Sinfin that we build on relationships, connections and support for others.

Pray for all those within our church family that are struggling with ill health, physically and emotionally.

For all who are struggling financially give them the help they need and the peace to know You are our provider.

Pray for members of our church who are no longer able to attend our services. Pray that they will know they are still in our thoughts and prayers.

Pray for Keith Jennison's family as they come to terms with their loss.

For all the young people that they will seek you as they struggle with many areas of their life.

Pray that God will put the right people around them.

Pray for Rita and John, for their determination to attend church even though they are without transport at this time.

Could we please hold Jacqueline in our prayers as she is still waiting for her operation. Pray that it happens soon and that Father God gives her peace & relaxation as she waits for her next appointment.

Prayer is our most powerful tool when we pray in true faith even faith as big as a mustard seed, how do I know? It's because the Bible tells us so.

Thank you for your commitment to pray. Let us keep seeking the Lord in all we do.



Please remember to get in touch for any prayer requests

My contact for any prayer requests is, Glenn Roe Mobile 07949654286 email, roeglenard@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report May

As this is written (29th April), we have still not received the grant for the Solar Panels from the Derby Methodist Circuit, the problem lies with TMCP in Manchester and not the Circuit.

Happily, since installation, the Solar Panels have significantly reduced our electricity bills although we have not yet received any money for the electricity we export to the National Grid. I am not sure how often this is done yet but the amount we are owed is growing nicely.

Since March 2026, we have largely been self-sufficient with electricity thanks to batteries we had fitted. During the winter months this has not been the case but it is what you would expect from the short day and long nights.

Our financial situation has improved in the past couple of months. We were strapped for cash in February where we were unable to pay our Assessment to the denominations on time although they were still paid before the end of month.

Finally, thanks go to those who, in the past couple of months have increased the amount they give each week/month. April and May are a good time to review your giving because it is the usual time when pensions and salaries get increased.

Thank you for reading.

Ian Sant

Annual General Meeting Report

This took place as planned after Morning Worship on Sunday 26th April and was attended by 24 people with a further 10 sending their apologies. We were pleased to welcome Jenny Kilgour to the meeting as the appointed Circuit Meeting Representative.

We had a minute's silence at the beginning in memory of members and friends who had died since the last AGM, these are Hazel Carvell, Jean Matthews, Keith Jennison, Ivan Vickerstaff.

The Reports were accepted without comment and thanks were expressed to those groups/people who took the time and made the effort to tell what their year was like.

Unfortunately, due to an administrative error, the Electoral Roll could not be accepted and it was deferred to a later date.

The elections took place for those willing to serve as follows:

Church Secretary: No nominations received.

Church Treasurer (for 2027):No nominations received.

Church Stewards Melanie Sant - Joy Hughes - Lauren Foster. There are three vacancies.

Church Council Pam Burrows - Christopher Froggatt - Glenn Roe - Wendy Roe. There are two vacancies.

Derby Anglican Deanery - Wendy Roe.

Methodist Circuit Meeting - David Macdonald.

URC Synod - Ian Sant.

The Minister, Rev'd Paul Desborough gave an update using the five Marks of Mission.

Ian Sant as Treasurer gave a brief update on our financial position which has improved a little.

The meeting closed by saying the Grace to each other.

The minutes taken at the meeting are available if anyone is interested in receiving a copy, please let me know.

Ian Sant

Heath Court Services

You are invited to a time of worship at Heath Court at **2.00 pm** (note the start time is now 2.00 pm) on the first Friday of every month.

You can be certain of a warm welcome, and there are always some lovely refreshments afterwards.



Biscuits Needed

We are in need of biscuits for after the Morning Service, it seems that they keep being eaten! If you are able, we need packets of biscuits, please give them to those serving refreshments on any Sunday Morning. Thank you to those who do bring biscuits occasionally, they are very gratefully consumed!



Duty Rotas

Please can anyone help cover the coffee rota, if you would like more information just ask. We have lost 2 people and this is going to make it harder to cover on a Sunday morning, it may come to us setting up but you may have to help yourselves.

Also, if anyone is interested in helping on any of the rotas below, please ask for more information of what you have to do. Welcome rota, greeting people, Intersession Prayers, Bible Readers and help with setting out the chairs for Sunday services.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out on Wragley Way

Location: Wragley Way, between Deep Dale Land and city boundary

Works: Resurfacing to carriageway and replacement of worn-out ironwork and road markings

Dates: Tuesday 5th May for 2 weeks - weekdays

Hours: 7:30am to 5:30pm

Traffic Management: Road closure

Diversion Route: Deepdale Lane-Farmhouse Road-Arleston Lane

The road will re-open to traffic outside of working hours

Scam emails and texts

A number of scam emails and texts continue to be received claiming to be from the church or ministers. **No requests for money** are ever made from the church via emails or text. Please check your emails before replying that they are from the known email addresses.

Here is further advice from the Government

Report internet scams and phishing

Report misleading websites, emails, phone numbers, phone calls or text messages you think may be suspicious.

Do not give out private information (such as bank details or passwords), reply to text messages, download attachments or click on any links in emails if you're not sure they're genuine.

Emails

Forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk

The [National Cyber Security Centre \(NCSC\)](#) will investigate it.

Text messages

Forward suspicious text messages to 7726 - it's free.

This will report the message to your mobile phone provider.

Smile Time (or grimace)

Kids in Church

A Sunday School teacher asked her children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

3-year old Reese: "Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is his name. Amen."

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it, I'm having a real good time like I am."

A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments. They were ready to discuss the last one. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off the neighbours wife."

CHURCH MINISTER AND CONTACT DETAILS

Enabling Minister*	Rev'd Paul Desborough	01332 756336 07958 618507	paul@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Assistant Curate*	Rev'd Fiona Barber	07966 520390	fiona@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Assistant Curate*	Rev'd Gael Browne	07405 922557	gael@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Lay Minister*	Jean Desborough	07415 671004	reader-jean@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Secretary*			
Stewards*	Lauren Foster	Melanie Sant	
	Joy Hughes	Ian Sant (Treasurer)	finance@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
	Melanie Sant		
Church Council	Pam Burrows	Christopher Froggatt	
	Joy Hughes	Glenn Roe	
	Wendy Roe		
<i>*Are also members of the Church Council</i>			
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Rev Paul Desborough (interim)		safeguarding@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Room Bookings	Melanie Sant	01332 721927	bookings@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Webmaster	Rev'd Paul Desborough		
Connect Group	Wendy Roe	01332 762664	
	Jean Desborough	01332 756336	
Prayer Diary	Glenn Roe	07949 654286	roeglennard@gmail.com
Property Steward			
Newsletter Editor	Joy Hughes	07428 132799	jehughes5@hotmail.com

Diary Dates - May

Sunday 10 th	10.00 am	Sunday Morning Worship
Monday 11 th	10.00 am	Connect Group (all welcome).
Sunday 17 th	10.00am	Sunday Morning Communion
Monday 18 th	10.00 am	Connect Group (all welcome).
Sunday 24 th	10.00 am	Sunday Morning Worship
Monday 25 th	10.00am	Connect Group/Community Meal (all welcome).
Sunday 31 st	10.00am	Sunday Morning Worship

Thursday 4th June Closing date for items to go in the June 2026 Newsletter.

Normal Weekly Meetings

Monday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm	Connect Coffee Morning
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	5.30 - 6.45 pm	Beavers (Term time)
Tuesday	9.15 - 10.00 am	Yoga Group
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	1.30 - 2.30 pm	Seated Exercise Group
	6.30 - 8.00 pm	Cubs (Term time)
	8.15 - 9.15 pm	Footlights Stage School Adult Fun Tap
Wednesday	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Sinfin Moor Church Friendship Club
	6.30 - 7.00 pm	Brownies (Term Time)
Thursday	8.00 am and 9.30 am	Slimming World
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	5.30 - 6.30 pm	<u>Squirrels (Term Time) in Middle Bay</u>
	5.30 - 6.45 pm	Beavers (Term time)
	7.00 - 8-30 pm	Scouts (Term time)
Friday	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Footlights Stage School - Ballet

Please advise the Editor when there are changes to ANY of the above