
Glossop Parish Church of All Saints

Newsletter: October 2026

Prayer

Abundant God,
Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to seek reward,
except that of knowing that I do your will.
Amen.

St. Ignatius Loyola

Services

Sunday 4th October — Harvest Festival
10.30 am Family Eucharist — All donations to the foodbank

Thursday 8th October
10.30 am Mid-week Eucharist

Sunday 11th October
10.30 am Family Eucharist

Thursday 15th October
10.30 am Mid-week Eucharist

Sunday 18th October
10.30 am Family Eucharist

Thursday 22nd October
10.30 am Mid-week Eucharist

Sunday 25th October
10.30 am Family Eucharist

Thursday 29th October
10.30 am Mid-week Eucharist

Vicar's Voice

Autumn – the ‘season of mists and mellow fruitfulness’ – is upon us.

Some of you may know that I enjoy going out and taking photographs. One of the great joys of the onset of autumn is the abundance of fungi emerging. Fungi are really a photographer's dream. Unlike animals (which move) and flowers (which sway in the breeze), fungi keep perfectly still – but they offer a wonderful richness of colour, shape and texture.



A benefit of going out with the intention of taking pictures is that it makes you much more aware of what is around you. Being vigilant and observant opens up whole new

visual and auditory depths in nature, which are so easily missed. And we are increasingly aware of the health benefits this brings.



There is something quietly restorative about slowing down: noticing a tiny toadstool beneath a fallen leaf, listening to birdsong, or watching the light shift through the trees. These small discoveries invite us to pause and give thanks for the beauty of creation – beauty, of course, that is there whether or not we happen to capture it in a photograph.

Autumn also reminds us that change is part of life. The year's growth gives way to falling leaves and shorter days, yet even in this season of decline, nature is full of colour and new life. Perhaps that is a gentle encouragement to trust that God is with us through every season, bringing hope and renewal in ways we may not immediately see.

So, if you can, take a little time to step outside this autumn. Look closely, listen carefully, and let the world around you draw you into a moment of wonder and gratitude.

(attached are a couple of photos from a recent walk in Snake Woods. Depicted are the distinctive Fly Agaric toadstool and Yellow Stagshorn - which brightens the dark conifer floor)

David

Letter from Bishop Jackie

Dear Friends,

September is often a busy time of the year, with new things starting up, so thank you for all you are doing to serve your communities and to share the good news of Jesus.

When I am at my home church on a Sunday (Holy Trinity, Stratford-upon-Avon) I bring the Diocese of Derby on my heart and in my prayers. People there want to know how it is going and are praying for us, which is wonderful. When I was last there at the beginning of September the theme was 'Let your light shine' from Jesus' words in Matthew 5:

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.'

The preacher spoke about the sun and the moon – how in early understanding these were seen as 'the great light' by day and 'the lesser light' by night. What we now know is that the moon has no light of its own, it is reflecting the light of the sun. We let our light shine, to give glory to God – we reflect the light that is Jesus in the way we live our lives. I

thought of our Diocese, with our peaks and valleys, our city, towns and villages, and imagined the light shining out of each place. I remembered a friend once telling me that even the smallest tealight, on a dark night, could be seen from up to two miles away. Let us not hide our lights away, in a world that needs the light of Christ more than ever. Let us shine as lights in the world, to the glory of God the Father.

Giving and stewardship: One mark of our Christian faith and discipleship is generosity. This generosity is being expressed in our communities through the giving of time and energy, gifts and skills, and the financial giving that supports the ministry of churches across the county. I am delighted that the Diocese of Derby has received several contactless giving devices from the National Church Institutions for free distribution to churches serving some of our lowest income communities. Alongside all forms of giving, these devices will help enable local mission and ministry, ensuring that every gift, however small, can contribute to building community and growing church. With support available through our Living Generously Advisor to help churches install, use and make the most of these tools, we are already seeing our diocesan vision take shape through the generosity of God's people. I encourage churches to continue exploring where God is at work in their communities and to join in with confidence, knowing that every act of generosity reflects the generosity of God.

For more information regarding enabling contactless giving please contact Steve Johnson: steve.johnson@derby.anglican.org

Common Fund: As the Parish Support Team prepare to ask for your contributions for the common fund, I want to recognise, with gratitude, the financial giving across the diocese.

Thank you for your teaching and example which enables such generosity. The offering of our whole selves to God, including our financial giving, is the essence of our spiritual life in response to God's generosity to us. 'All good gifts around us come from heaven above,' as we often sing at this time of year. When parishes contribute to the common fund, we are enabling the mission and ministry of our own church and ensuring that the most deprived communities in our diocesan family also receive ministry and care. The common fund also enables, for example, a good standard of housing for clergy, training for laity and ordinands, and essential services like safeguarding support.

After Diocesan Synod on October 17th, you will receive more information about Common Fund for the coming year. Please receive this prayerfully and respond generously.

Safeguarding and the INEQE Audit 2027: Safeguarding remains a key priority for the Diocese. Every Diocese in the Church of England has either had, or will have, a very thorough safeguarding audit, undertaken by an independent company called INEQE, a safeguarding and child protection organisation. It will be our turn in June 2027, and

preparation of the audit is already underway. As we prepare, we want every parish, benefice and worshipping community to feel equipped and confident in demonstrating their safeguarding practice. The INEQE audit provides an important opportunity to reflect on our safeguarding culture, celebrate good practice and identify areas for further development.

Everyone will be invited to participate in a diocesan survey from February, and some individuals may be invited to interviews, to attend focus groups or may receive requests for evidence relating to safeguarding within your parish or ministry setting. We encourage everyone to engage with the process – the audit will be incredibly helpful to us as a Diocese.

The Safeguarding Team will be providing more information in the coming months, including resources and practical support to help clergy, parish officers and volunteers prepare for and participate confidently in the audit.

Guidance for Holy Communion: I have noticed that there is a variety of practice regarding the administration of Holy Communion, particularly intinction. If intinction is your practice, I would like you to restore the common cup as the norm at Holy Communion. This is established Church of England practice. For those who would prefer not to receive the common cup, be assured that receiving in one kind is a full receiving of Holy Communion.

As Common Worship says, ‘Communion should normally be received in both kinds separately, but where necessary may be received in one kind, whether of bread, or where the communicant cannot receive solid food, wine.’ There is no provision for individual cups (though an LEP may have different protocols.) I am setting out the norm for you, and am trusting in your pastoral wisdom as to when and how you make this change if it is not already your practice. Thank you.

For your prayers:

Thank you for enquiries about Bishop Libby’s health. Bishop Libby continues to be on long term sick leave, and is glad of your prayers. I am happy to continue as your Acting Bishop whilst needed.

Please pray for the Dioceses Commission on 29th September, when the Diocesan Secretary and I attend, hoping to gain approval for the appointment of a new Bishop of Repton. If permission is given, the process of discernment and appointment is expected to take at least six months.

Thank you for all you are doing, please be assured of my prayers, and my commitment to journey with you for this season.

With love in Christ and all blessings,

The Rt Revd Jackie Searle
Acting Bishop of Derby



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Thank you to all who have contributed to our Season of Creation reflections and actions.

The feedback that we have received has been very positive.

It has been inspiring to read the daily scripture reading and then think of our own relationship with water.

Living Water

Holy God, whose Spirit hovered over the waters at the beginning, we gather as part of your community of all creation, thirsty for your grace. give thanks for the gift of water, the veins of our common home, that sustains the cedar and the whale, the pasture and the city. We are grateful for the local waters that nourish our homelands and our fellow creatures. We give thanks that in your well-watered garden, every drop is a sacred testament to your love. Yet, we confess that we have treated this gift as a mere commodity. We have choked the seas with our waste and watched the warming tides rise in judgment. We lament the cracked earth of the drought-stricken and the salty tears of the climate refugee. Melt our frozen hearts, O God, and let the waters of repentance flow.

Lord of all Life, you promised that wherever the river flows, everything shall live. Stir

in us a calling to care for the waters — to protect the watershed, defend the rights of water, and honor the dignity of the thirsty. May your Word be a spring within us, gushing forth for the healing of the nations. May God our Father who brought water from the rock sustain us in the desert. May Christ our Lord who is Living Water refresh us for the work of restoration. And may the Holy Spirit carry us on currents of grace until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

<https://seasonofcreation.org>

Fairtrade Fortnight

As we come to the end of Fairtrade Fortnight I hope you have taken the time to look at the Fairtrade display board in church. The theme for Fairtrade Fortnight 2026 has been "Do it Fair - for People, for Planet and for Fair Pay", to highlight the farmers and workers that produce our tea. Fairtrade pays a premium that helps communities of Fairtrade workers to build schools and hospitals and improve their sanitation.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Fairtrade refreshment afternoon when an amount of £175.00 was raised for the Fairtrade Foundation from a raffle (all Fairtrade of course) and donations to tea, coffee, cake and chocolate tasting (again all Fairtrade).

Duke of Norfolk School Harvest

Harvest Reflection

The Duke of Norfolk school celebrated their Harvest Festival in Glossop Parish Church on Tuesday morning, 29th September.

The theme of the Harvest was sharing.

Fr. David spoke about the things that we enjoy and sometimes take for granted especially our food, and how Harvest is very important to us as it is a time when we thank God as our creator and provider of all food and life.

The children had made a collection of tins of food which will be donated to Glossopdale Foodbank.

We give thanks to God for our food.

“All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;

Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.”

(Matthias Claudius 1782)

Heritage Open Days

On the first two Saturdays in September we celebrated Heritage Open Days.

Heritage Open Days are a National, voluntary, cultural and community-led festival, offering free access to historical sites, hidden buildings, and events.

We welcomed many visitors into our church.

Ours thanks to Fr. Norman who organised the display of our vestments, Paul Bush and Fr. Fred for cataloguing our history, the Bellringers for organising a morning of Tower Tours and the flower ladies for the beautiful flower arrangements.

The Reredos: Glossop Parish Church



The reredos to the high altar was the gift of Mrs. Harriet Jackson and marks the final phase of the rebuilding of the Parish Church with the completion of the chancel.

The design draws on two principal sources of inspiration. Its overall style draws on one to be found in some mediaeval Flemish and north German churches, whilst the figures themselves are based on those at Wells Cathedral.

The central theme is the Passion of Jesus very much in the manner of the figures found on rood screens with the crucified Christ and his mother Mary and the beloved disciple standing grieving at the foot of the cross. Overhead the two central angels hold a crown to symbolise the kingship of the risen Jesus, flanked on each side by angels whose shields bear reminders of the Passion story.

The angel (top left) carries a shield which bears symbols of the pillar and the scourge.

On the next shield is the crown of thorns and the nails. The next angel's shield bears symbols of the wounds Jesus suffered.

The final angel's shield shows the crown of thorns, a hammer and pincers, a spear and the cane with a sponge soaked in sour wine offered to Jesus to quench his terrible thirst.

The reredos also tells the story of the parish, once one of the largest in England and encompassing more than 50,000 acres.

St Helen the Roman empress who is said to have found the wood which once formed the cross of Jesus reminds us of Glossop's links to a Roman past, although we have no evidence of any Christians here during those 400 years of occupation.

When St Oswiu became king of Anglo-Saxon Mercia he made it a Christian realm and in 556AD appointed St Chad as the Bishop of Mercia.

In 564AD Chad moved his cathedral to Lichfield. With the arrival of Vikings from Denmark Glossop became part of the Danelaw and by 877AD the boundary between the Danelaw and the Anglo-Saxons had been established along the rivers Etherow and Goyt, rivers which along with Black Brook would later define Glossop's parish boundary.

In this vast area there were later two chapelries, one at Hayfield, where the church is dedicated to St. Matthew, depicted writing his Gospel, and one at Mellor dedicated to St Thomas. In an early tradition Thomas was said to have been an architect. Here he carries his builder's square.

As workers migrated to serve in the new textile industry and the trades associated with it the population of the parish increased in many areas and new parishes were made. Many of the mill owners became involved not only in helping to build Anglican churches but also in supporting other denominations. St George's New Mills was the first in 1831. The Vicar of Glossop is still the patron of the living. The population of the settlements in that area (Thornsett, Whitle, Beard, and Ollersett) was by then more than 3000.

St James's Whitfield followed in 1846 with the support of the Wood family and a National School was opened the following year. St James carries his pilgrim's staff and wears a cockle shell in his hat.

St John's Charlesworth followed three years later but not without some opposition from the Independent Chapel. Charlesworth had for a long time been one of the more important settlements and the monks had built a chapel refuge on the track across the high ground. This had been acquired by the Presbyterians during the Commonwealth and after the restoration of the monarchy Lord Howard had allowed them to remain in possession.

Hadfield St Andrew's followed some years later in 1874 with Holy Trinity Dinting being dedicated the following year. It is interesting that two churches originating in the same parish at the same time should be so very different in style.

The Vicar at this time, John Dickinson Knowles, also built the church at Bugsworth (again dedicated to St James) with the Church of St Mary to follow at Chinley. St Luke's Church in the Parish of Whitfield was consecrated in 1905.

Duke of Norfolk reception school visit

Wednesday October 7th 9:30 - Reception children from Duke of Norfolk School - Visit to hear about baptism.

Mothers Union update

150th Celebration at St Pauls

I was very lucky that in my capacity as the chair of trustees for Girls' Brigade I was invited to attend the 150th Anniversary Celebration at St Paul's Cathedral. I hadn't been into St Paul's for 35 years, the last time having been when I went on a school trip to London in 1991!

It was just spectacular and my seat was on the very front row directly under the dome. I was sat with Lois Bosatta the CEO of the Clewer Initiative who I have got to know quite well since working at MU and Shermara Hoyte who I didn't know but by the end of the service we had exchanged telephone numbers.

The service was such a joy and honour to attend. I received Holy Communion from the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Emily.

800th anniversary of the death of St Francis. c1182-1226

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

(Peace prayer of St. Francis of Assisi)

Swifts and wildlife

A huge thank you to everyone who supported Shepley's fundraiser for the Swifts & Wildlife project this afternoon. It was a wonderful team and communal event. As well as the fabulous scones and coffees, we sold gift cards and beautiful pottery by local resident, Matt. The exact total is yet to be determined but will be in the region of several hundred pounds.

Message from the Flower Ladies

"The flower team in Glossop Parish Church are happy to make a dedicated flower arrangement in remembrance of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.

Please talk to us in church or contact Bee on 01457 866019. You can leave a message and Bee will be in touch."

An Andrea Bocelli Candlelight Opera Experience In Glossop – Friday 2nd October

Fri 2nd Oct at 7:00 pm until Fri 2nd Oct at 10:00 pm

Glossop Parish Church

Lumos brings you enchanting concert experiences paying homage to world famous artists. We've partnered with spectacular locations & churches across the UK to deliver a concert experience that is nothing short of magical ✨

Key Information : 📅 Friday 2nd October 📍 Glossop Parish Church of All Saints, Church St S, Glossop SK13 7RU 🕒 2 Sittings: 1st Sitting: 7-8pm | 2nd Sitting 9-10pm 🗖 Entry: 1st sitting – Doors open at 6.15pm | 2nd sitting – Doors open at 8.30pm 🎵 Musical Theme: A Classical Andrea Bocelli Opera Tribute

October 17th - Glossop Community Monthly Litter pick

Meet at The Bureau, 10.30am for an hours litter pick followed by tea/coffee/biscuits

Prayer

Good and gracious God,
grant to our eyes wide horizons;
increase our vision to see beyond the obvious and into the depths.
Let us walk ways that are new where we do not know the destination.
Let us journey in joy and in hope among so many troubles and dangers.

Surround us with your protection and peace.
May we know heaven and earth are one,
that nothing separates us from you
and your abiding love in Christ Jesus.

David Adam (Island of Light)

For ***Peace and Quiet*** and more information of events, please visit:
[A Church Near You, Glossop Parish Church of All Saints.](#)

Peace and Quiet is offered online as an opportunity, whenever you need it, to take time out from the daily tasks, worries and fears which are our common experiences of life. Through words, music and pictures we encourage a time of calm 'mindfulness' and renewed hope.

Communication

How to contact us

Email - davidridley@btinternet.com

Telephone no - [07887 880272/07877 491456](tel:07887880272)

A church near you - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13286>

Facebook - Glossop Parish Church

Communication available

Weekly newsletter

Monthly newsletter

WhatsApp groups - Environmental concerns / Festive planning

A church near you - Peace and Quiet down loaded monthly.

Please contact us if you wish to receive either newsletter or you wish to join the WhatsApp groups.

Easy fundraising

Help raise much needed funds for Glossop Parish Church.

When you shop online with participating retailers, they'll donate part of what you spend to your chosen cause. Whether you shop on your phone, laptop or tablet, you can earn free cashback donations for your cause.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=17040&invite=3B8ZBP&referral-campaign=c2s>

***Home Communion:** If you know of anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion in their own home, please contact a member of the ministry team.*

Ministry Team

VICAR: The Revd David Ridley
(davidridley@btopenworld.com)

Tel: 07887 880272

Honorary Assistant Priest:

The Revd Norman Shaw

Readers:

John Roberts

Margaret Roberts

Vince Ryder

For more information about our activities please see [A Church Near You](#).

St Andrew's, Hadfield

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13287/>

All Saints', Glossop

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13286>
