



St Nick's, Allestree & St Paul's, Quarndon Newsletter

January 2026

As we enter 2026, we do so with gratitude and excitement for all that God is doing among us. Looking back over 2025, it is clear that God has been stirring hearts in quiet and remarkable ways.

Isaiah reminds us:

"See, I am doing a new thing!" (Isaiah 43:19).

We have seen glimpses of this newness throughout our communities, and we step into the new year encouraged.

- The Curzon School has been a joy to partner with, from their many visits to St Paul's to their wonderful Christingle service in November.
- The Worship Crew at Curzon, now proudly calling themselves The God Squad, continues to bring enthusiasm and creativity to collective worship.
- We also saw Lawn and Portway Infant school come to St Nick's over the Christmas period to celebrate their school Christmas Concerts welcoming well over 1000 children and parents across the two schools. Followed by families coming along for the different services at Christmas hearing the message of the precious gift of Jesus.



Knowing and worshipping God and sharing His love

- Play n Praise has grown steadily, welcoming new families almost every week. At Christmas at the Bring and Share Christmas Party, 21 Nativity storybooks were gifted to children and several families have begun engaging more deeply in church life.
- Allestree Youth Club continued to thrive with lively games, food and faith conversations.

In recent weeks, as I walk to Curzon and around the streets of Allestree, I have noticed the tiny coloured top of a crocus pushing through the cold ground. It is perfectly normal and a well-known characteristic for crocuses to appear and bloom in the winter, sometimes even through frost or snow.



These small and resilient flowers are beautifully adapted to thrive in cold conditions. They remind us that life can begin to emerge long before the warmth of spring arrives. In the same way, we are beginning to see the first signs of what God is doing across the churches in Allestree. May we not lose heart or resilience as these first signs appear. Let us be filled with joy and continue to work hand-in-hand with God and all He is doing. May we be people in 2026 who offer spiritual water, sunlight and good ground, trusting that God will ultimately bring the grow in all these exciting new things in the year ahead.

Across our churches, we continue to hear stories of people walking through our doors simply because they felt prompted to come to return to church and to God. We truly believe God is moving in this generation, drawing people back to Him in ways only He can, so may we have welcoming hearts to all those who come.

As we begin 2026, may we continue to be expectant, prayerful and ready for all that God has in store in this new season and exciting time ahead. Wishing you a blessed and hope filled New Year.

Rachel Kennedy

Children's and Youth Lead.

Allestree Youth Group

A big thank you to Park Farm Butcher's for providing sausages each week for the Youth group to enjoy. Youth group provides a warm, friendly space for secondary aged children to come together. Being able to provide the children with a hot meal each week is amazing.



Christingles Shine at St Paul's!

On Monday the 24th of November, a sight to behold,
168 friends came, young and old!
Children, teachers, and parents too,
All ready to make Christingles shiny and new.

We learned each part had a special story:
The orange the world God made in all its glory.
The ribbon—red—showed Jesus' love so true,
And the sweets were the gifts He gives me and you!

Some had three sticks, some had four,
A little twist to think and explore.
All the good things we have, we can share,
Spreading love and kindness everywhere!

Now for the light, what could go wrong?
145 children singing a song!
We skipped the fire (a wise choice, indeed),
And made our glowsticks shine for this good deed.

We ended the service with voices bright,
Singing This Little Light of Mine, what a sight!
Actions, fun, laughter in the air,
Christingles glowing everywhere!

A few special thank-yous we must say:
Katy Davies collected 185 oranges that day,
Wrapped the red tape, made the sweet sticks too,
Without her hard work, this joy wouldn't be true.

And the Worship Crew from Curzon School, oh what a team!
Helping tell the story, guiding each gleam,
Building, praying, singing along,
They made the Christingle magic strong.

What a sparkling start to the festive season,
Filled with joy, love, and Christingle reason!





COMING ON SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY 2026...

Christingle

An All Age service where you can build your own Christingle! Everyone welcome to celebrate and explore the meaning behind the orange!

Breakfast starts from 9:45am, come along for some food and a great morning together

St Nicks Church | 2 Lawn Avenue, Allestree | DE22 2PE

Love God • Love One Another • Love Our Community

Oranges donated by:

PAK
FOODS

The Children's
Society

St Nick's Church | 2 Lawn Avenue, Allestree | DE22 2PE

Love God • Love One Another • Love Our Community



Join us on Sunday 1st February 2026

As we start a new series on...

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

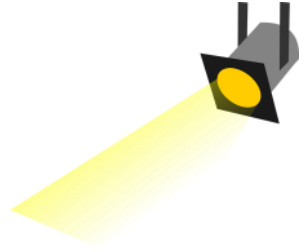
At our All Age Sunday Breakfast@10

Breakfast starts from 9:45am come along for some food and explore this exciting series!



Spotlight—New feature

From next month, Sarah and Rachael are planning a 'Spotlight' feature across the magazines and newsletters of the four parishes.



The first theme will be *Growing Younger*, a diocesan priority.

Each month a different area will be the focus for the feature, with the work in all four parishes being included. The article will have a common format of 'who, what, when' and 'please pray for..'

So, look out for next month's 'Spotlight'.



Joint Community Prayer.

Please continue to pray for the roads, people and homes across the four parishes. The third cycle of prayer and deliveries of the first card will commence on 19th January.



Joint Service dates 2026

31st May— hosted by St Nick's

30th August— hosted by St Paul's

29th November— hosted by St Edmund's

27th December— hosted by St Matthew's



Extra Worship opportunities

Fancy a mid-week communion service? Or an early evening service?

St Edmunds, Allestree have a Communion service 10.30am every Wednesday.

The Evening Service (Evensong) at 6 pm on a Sunday alternates between St Edmunds and St Matthews, Darley Abbey, and always follows the Book of Common Prayer.

This months 6pm services are:

Sunday 4th Jan	St Matt's: Evensong led by Clive Lemmon
Sunday 11th Jan	St Ed's: Choral Evensong led by Clive Lemmon
Sunday 18th Jan	St Matt's: Choral Evensong led by Clive Lemmon
Sunday 25th Jan	St Ed's: Choral Evensong led by Rachael Brooks

Visit:

www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk
for more information on upcoming services.



A Suffragette talk with Rod Repton.

Back in November St Nick's hosted a charity fundraiser with proceeds being shared with UHDB Neonatal Unit and St Nick's Church. As well as the always entertaining and informative Rod, music was provided by a group of young musicians. What a privilege it was to listen to some very talented young people. Thank you to Rod for once again arranging a wonderful evening and for Clare and Richard for the excellent refreshments and support.

The night was made possible by the sponsorship of three local businesses; Rally Motors, Browns Builders Merchants and Repton Security. Thank you!

One final thank you; to all those who attended. God Bless.





St Nick's Nativity Festival

Last month, thanks to Averil and her wonderful team of volunteers, the local community were invited in to St Nick's to view a collection of Nativity scenes from around the world (and a little closer to home). Children were also challenged to find how many angels and sheep they could find on display in the church.



The three day festival was a wonderful event. If you were not able to come and see the scenes visit: www.stnicksallestree.co.uk/nativity-festival-2025 to see photo's from the event.

Thank you to all those who visited and to the team for organising such a fabulous event.





Peru



Japan



South American



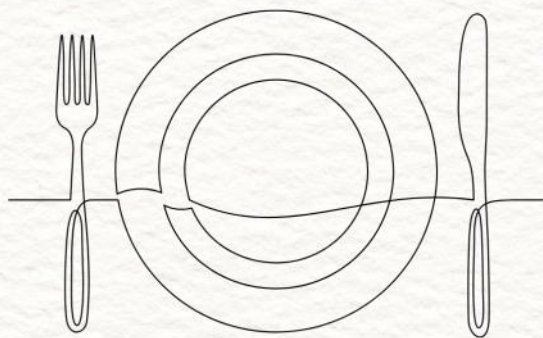
France



Slovakia



Let's do
LUNCH



Come along and join us for a lovely time of fellowship over a tasty meal at our local Ember Inn pub - The Markeaton. For more details contact Christine on 07729371373 or read our latest newsletter for the next date (usually 3rd Sunday of the month). Everyone is welcome

St Nicks Church monthly Pub lunches
12 Noon @ The Markeaton

Upcoming dates: 18th Jan, 15th Feb & 8th Mar

Baptism and Confirmation

Rev Sarah and Rev Rachael will be running sessions in the new year for those who are considering being baptised and/or confirmed. If you would like more details or would like to attend please speak to either Sarah or Rachael. Thank you.



Social media

For those of you who regularly use social media why not give us a follow? Our social media accounts are updated weekly with information on services. All events are highlighted and photos shared where possible.

If anyone would like to be involved/star in any videos for social media highlighting ongoing in either church please contact Emma in the office.

Search:

www.facebook.com/stpaulsquarndon



www.facebook.com/stnicksalvestree

stnicks_ Alvestree

stpaul_quarndon



VENUE FOR HIRE

**St Nicks
Church**



For more details
contact our
church
administrator:
stnicksallestree
@outlook.com
550431

We have a large
hall available to
hire for a single
event or a
regular class..
Ideal for
birthday parties
and concerts

For smaller
groups we have
rooms available
for up to 40
people with
access to small
kitchens perfect
for making
refreshments.

Large car park on site

VENUE FOR HIRE

ST PAULS CHURCH

Village Hall

Ideal for Childrens
birthday parties, dance
classes, music
ensembles or local
community groups.
Car park on site .

CONTACT US

hallstpauls@outlook.com
or 07973702002



QUARNDON PRESCHOOL



Quarndon Pre-School

2 YEAR OLD FUNDING PLACES AVAILABLE

Have you checked to see if your child is eligible for 2 year old funding ?

We are now accepting applications, Please contact Dawn for more information.

Please note: Additional costs for extras such as consumables and non-funded hours are chargeable. Funded only sessions will have a set consumables charge applied



01332 556611 / 07708906743



quarndonpre-school@hotmail.co.uk

<https://quarndonpreschool.org/index>





Would you like to help out at the very successful Play n Praise which is for preschoolers and their adults @ St Nicks on a Tuesday morning (term time only).

We are looking to set up a team of volunteers on a rota. You would not be required every week, but every 4-6 weeks.

If you would like to know more, why not pop along on a Tuesday 9.30-11am and meet the current team and families who attend? Coffee and cake available.

Online donations @ St Nicks

We have a QR code for online giving for those tech savvy people amongst us who feel more comfortable giving in this way.



St Nick's and St Pauls are committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults from harm. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO). Our Diocese of Derby's safeguarding pages contain vital links and information including contacts for the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor who advises our PSO. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the PSO's by email: psostnicks@outlook.com or psostpauls@outlook.com

Church Prayer @ St Nick's

Pre-church prayer takes place in the chapel from 9.30am to 9.45am on a Sunday morning. We pray for the service to follow and anything else the Holy Spirit prompts us to bring to our Father.

Church prayer will be held in the Chapel or on Zoom depending on the weather on:

22nd January 7.30pm

Contact Graham if you are interested in joining us in prayer.



St Nick's Prayer Circle

St Nick's have a prayer circle as part of their pastoral care. We have now set up a WhatsApp group so that prayer requests can be relayed more quickly than ringing each individual member. There is still provision for those who prefer to hear by phone. Please rest assured you are being covered in prayer.

***If you would like to be added to the prayer circle,
please get in touch with the church office.***

***For more details, please see the poster at the back of
St Nick's.***

Pastoral Care Update.

Are you going through a difficult time at the moment and would like some emotional, spiritual or physical help? Then please let Clare Stacey know.

For various understandable reasons, many people find it difficult to reach out and ask for help but if you are aware of anyone who is struggling at the moment, please let us know. It could include for example, help with shopping, a home visit or merely a friendly chat on the phone. If we don't know, then it's difficult to help.

We are part of your church family and have been DBS checked and have completed the Diocesan Safe Guarding Training.



Prayer Requests:

Please pray for:-

- For those that are unwell and unable to get out at this time.
- For Joyce Taylor's family as they mourn her loss.
- For upcoming discussions on our churches working together.

COFFEE & CHAT

ST NICKS CHURCH ROOM

TAKES PLACE EVERY 2ND AND 4TH
FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.

10:30-12 NOON

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN
AND ENJOY THIS LOVELY SOCIAL



KNIT AND NATTER

ST NICKS CHURCH HALL

On the 1st, 3rd, and where there is a 5th Wednesday
of the month, 2-3:30pm.

Membership fee £5 each quarter, then £1 per
session.

Contact Sandra on 557114

Come and join us for tea, biscuits, and chat.



If you are looking to organise a baptism or would like to get married or celebrate a special anniversary with the renewal of wedding vows at St Nicks or St Pauls please contact: stnicksallestree@outlook.com to arrange all life event services.

Polite notice to St Nick's congregation, hall hirers and visitors.

Please could everyone be mindful when parking on the roads surrounding St Nick's and be considerate to residents. In particular ensure we are not parking across driveways and allow residents space to reverse in and out of their drives.

Thank you all as always for your support and kindness.

Newsletter Information - Deadline!

Please be aware that the deadline for any news you'd like to be included in the next Newsletter is the 20th of the month before.

Handy Contacts for both churches:

Church Office Emma Patterson **Contact:** 01332 550431.

Office Email: stnicksallestree@outlook.com



Children's and Youth Leader Rachel Kennedy

Email: stnicksCYL@outlook.com

Contact: 07895051941



St Nick's

Church Warden: Paul Taylor

Contact: 01332 556020

Safeguarding Lead: Miriam Chappell **Contact:** psostnicks@outlook.com

Telephone: 07448607129

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) Bruce Innis

St Paul's

Church Warden: Mike Annable

Contact: wardenstpauls@outlook.com

Safeguarding Lead: Mary Pitt

Contact: psostpauls@outlook.com

or Diocesan Safeguarding Team: 01332 388678

Church Hall Bookings: Val Annable **Contact:** hallstpauls@outlook.com

Websites: www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Paul-Quarndon
www.stnicksallestree.co.uk

Office Hours: Monday 9.00-3.00 Tuesday 9.00-3.00 Wednesday 9.00-11.00
and Friday 9.00-3.00

Upcoming Services —

Priest in Charge: Reverend Sarah Watson and Associate Priest
Reverend Rachael Brooks. Ordinand: Colette Desborough.

Dates/Services	Readings
Sunday 4th January St Nicks: Sunday Breakfast @ 10 Christingle St Pauls: 10am Holy Communion	Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday 11th January St Nicks: Sunday @ 10 Holy Communion St Pauls: 10am Service of the Word	Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-end
Sunday 18th January St Nicks: Sunday @ 10 St Pauls: 10am Holy Communion	1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42
Sunday 25th January St Nicks: Sunday @ 10 Sunday @3pm Holy Communion St Pauls: 10am Morning Praise	Acts 9:1-22 Matthew 19:27-end

Advanced Notice:

Bishop Libby Lane will be joining us for the Joint service at St Nick's on
Sunday 31st May.

Sponsored by:

Phone: 01332 409182 or 01773 300974
Email: info@jbarlowfuneralservice.co.uk



J BARLOW & FAMILY
Funeral Service