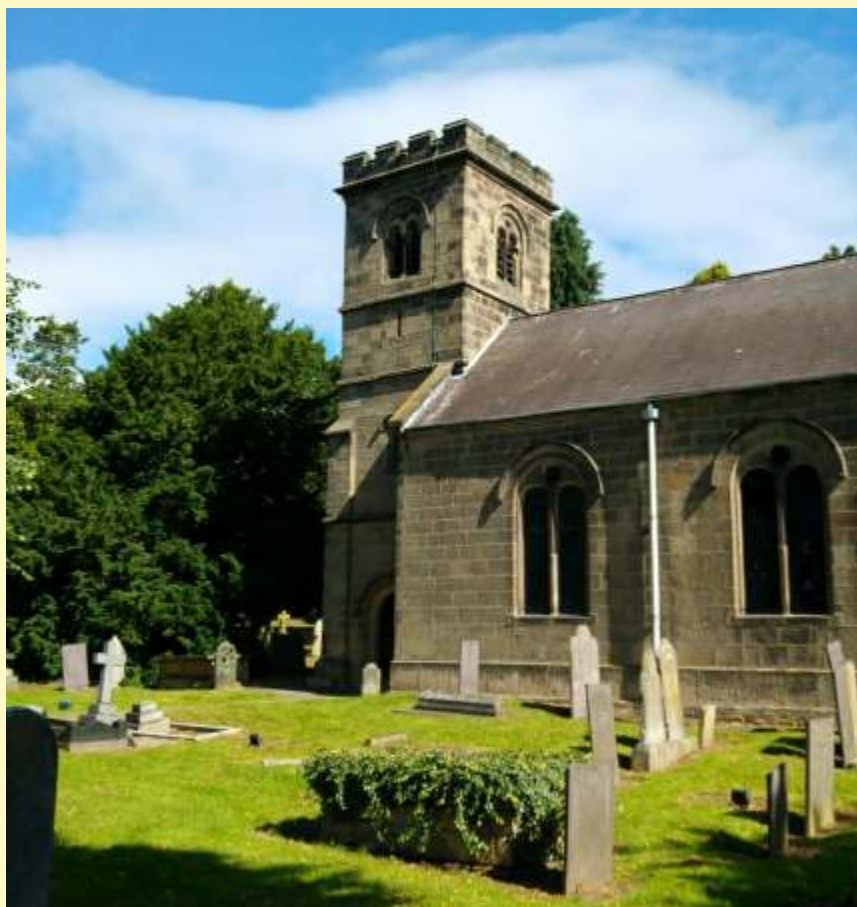




St Paul's
Little Eaton Church

Parish Magazine



Summer 2024

ST PAUL'S CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS



Vicar: REVD DR JAMES HUGHES

The Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Duffield. Telephone 01332 841867

e: vicar@littleeatonchurch.co.uk

Trainee Minister: JAMES ROLLIN

Telephone: 07485 027171

Churchwardens:

ANDY HARDWICK

01332 944100

LUCY BAILEY

07989 733168

PCC Secretary: LIZ HARDWICK 01332 944100

PCC Treasurer: SUE NICHOLSON 01332 843557

Parish Safeguarding Officer: LUCY BAILEY 07989 733168

Church Secretaries: DIANE WHITESIDE & LIZ HARDWICK 07564 561799



THE VICAR'S LETTER

JAMES HUGHES



Dear Friends,

This summer sees the return of the European Championships, and another June and July with additional football. You may be rejoicing in this, or you may not. You may be waiting for the Tour de France, or the Olympics, or hoping to avoid all three.

If you are planning to engage with the European Championships, what are you hoping for from them? Maybe you are looking forward to an England win, which does look more possible than it has for a while, although it is always best to prepare for the worst with England. (Which is where being an Everton fan really helps.) Or maybe you are just hoping to see a feast of football, to enjoy watching talented athletes play the beautiful game. Or perhaps you are hoping for a bit of a distraction from the realities of life.

Of course, if we're being realistic, we don't hope for too much from a football tournament, or from anything that we might class as entertainment. We know that they can be great experiences, they can give us great memories, they can be fun while they last; but, they don't last. This is as true of a film or a book as it is of a football game or going to the theatre. And then we come back to reality.

However much we live in a culture which wants to pretend that life can always be happy, that is not the reality. Everybody experiences joys, and sorrows. That is a lesson the last four years have taught us, and one that we do well to remember. We know that our joys don't always last, and we can't always avoid sorrows.

So what do we do about it? In the Book of Psalms, a book of songs and laments written before Jesus was born, the Psalmists wrestle with these realities. One of the most famous Psalmists, King David, writes this about trouble and sorrow:

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. (Psalm 23, verse 4)

Notice that David still experiences trouble; but he finds comfort in knowing that God is with him. My encouragement to you this summer—whether you are watching the football, or seeking to do your best to avoid it—is to find out more about the God of comfort and compassion, who walks with us through all the experiences of life.

I look forward to seeing you at St Paul's.
Yours in Christ,



Cafe Church

at St Paul's Little Eaton

4.30 - 5.30pm
Every 1st Sunday

A casual service with refreshments
around tables in the church hall.
Everyone is welcome.



Come for coffee
Stay for Jesus



TOTS

St Paul's Church Hall
Little Eaton

Fridays, 10am-12 noon.

How Jesus changed my life

I wasn't brought up as a Christian and can honestly say I grew up knowing nothing about God or Jesus.



In 2013 somebody had upset me and I just couldn't let it go; it was constantly bothering me. One day a friend at work, who is a Christian, said to me, "Why don't you just forgive them and move on". I will never forget that moment ... I felt a wave of relief at how easy and liberating that felt, and for some reason which is hard to explain, I instantly wanted to know more and more about Jesus and what he has done for me. I later learned that I was experiencing the Grace of God.



Another friend of mine regularly attended St Paul's in Little Eaton and so I began asking her about the church.



One Sunday morning in May 2014 (aged 51) I announced to my husband that I was going to church; he just looked up at me in amazement and said, "Oh, OK, have a nice time." I've never looked back. I had such a warm welcome from everyone, and so much help learning about who Jesus is and how he has changed my life.

I remember feeling the relief knowing that someone else was in control of things and finally life began making sense. I didn't have to worry anymore, and the peace and happiness I felt was and is wonderful.



St Paul's offers various courses for different stages of understanding/learning, or for some, just listening on Sundays and having a look at what Christianity means, no pressure. I began attending some courses and my faith and understanding grows daily.



I also love listening to UCB2 radio station (on DAB); it's a fantastic Christian radio station with great uplifting music and interesting talks from people from all walks of life, sharing stories and explaining how God is active in their lives. It's well worth a listen too; give it go. Or just come along to church on Sunday at 4.30pm. It could change your life forever.

Caroline Walker

Youth and Children in Little Eaton and Duffield



St Paul's
Little Eaton Church



St Alkmund's
Duffield Parish Church



Our Children & Youth Workers

James Munro



Adam O'Dowd



Here at St Alkmund's and St Paul's, we have lively and welcoming groups of young people exploring the Bible and Christian life together. Everyone is invited and questions are warmly encouraged. Here's what's happening across the benefice:

SPARKS



St Alkmund's Children's Church | Sunday 10am service | Age 3-11

After Easter if you're between the ages of 3-11, come along and join us at Sparks, as this term we look at what it means to be living as part of God's family. We meet every Sunday 10:30am during the morning service in the hall for games, biscuits and story.

EXPLORERS



St Paul's Children's Church | Sunday 4.30pm service | under 14s

Our church family in Little Eaton welcome you to a group for young people under 14 who are eager to learn more about the Bible and what it means for their own relationships with God.

We follow a whole church curriculum to encourage our youth to interact and share encouragements and challenges with our older church members who stay in the service. With lessons focused on Micah, we look forward to exploring the topics raised in these passages with our regular enthusiasm, games, drama and of course bible discussion.

Family Events



Occasional events across the benefice | All welcome!

During a term we organise events to bring together Christians of any age, with the goal of evangelism and spending time as a church family. Some of these events have included: Holiday Clubs, Quizzes, Boardgame Nights, Murder Mystery Events. These events are a perfect opportunity to invite friends to a church event they might not normally come to.

This term we are planning to run our HoliDAY club as well as a potential event during carnival, so please ask around as more details are to come...

IGNITION

On Tour! | Wednesdays 7.30-9pm | School Years 7-13

Ignition is our chatty and welcoming youth group meeting in term time for games, big questions, and fast and furious ping-pong. We also love a film night and chance to escape for our weekends away.

You can find our term card on the website or pick up a paper copy in church. **Please email adam@stalkmundsduffield.co.uk** to say hello get on our mailing list. We would love to welcome to you to our church family.

FUEL

St Alkmund's Church Youth | Sunday 10am | Year 7-9

Our younger youth also nip out during the sermon for our Bible time and big questions with our amazing leaders (and a terribly unhealthy breakfast). Come and see!

ASSEMBLIES



Primary School | Assemblies and Services

If you attend William Gilbert Primary or Little Eaton Primary, we look forward to seeing you each Monday as we learn about Israel in Exile and what we can learn from these stories that apply to Christians living today.

Our assemblies offer a great chance for learning not just the narratives of the Bible but also developing an understanding of the biblical concepts.

We also occasionally offer school RE lessons and larger school service talks throughout the year.

PATHFINDERS

Little Eaton Primary | BI-WEEKLY Wednesday Lunchtime Club

Our newest group this term, "Pathfinders" has been a roaring success.

This is a fortnightly lunchtime club where children can ask James questions. At Pathfinders, we open up The Jesus Storybook Bible, alongside games and activities, to build a picture of the Bible's overall story. With an open question time for the kids.

If you're interested in joining us at Pathfinders, talk to James or come and try it out Wednesday lunchtimes.

For any additional information or any questions, please get in touch:

adam@stalkmundsduffield.co.uk

munro@stalkmundsduffield.co.uk

Review: 'Murder in Provence'

St Paul's church recently staged another 'Murder Mystery' event.

GEMMA HOLLAND-LLOYD *looks back on a fun evening . . .*

With its picturesque villages and sun-kissed beaches, the French Riviera exudes glamour and sophistication, but scratch the glitzy surface and you'll find a hidden, seedier side to the playground of the rich and famous; one of drug cartels, smuggling and murder.

Our victim, Claude LeGrande, is dead, killed by a gunshot wound to the head with what would appear to be all the hallmarks of a suicide. But Claude was a millionaire shipping magnate, with a privileged and extravagant life... seemingly, he had everything to live for. As we will discover, Claude had a secret life and had amassed many enemies. He was a mafia crime boss whose business was a mask for an extensive drug smuggling operation; he was a shameless playboy in a loveless marriage and had a ruthless brother vying to take over as head of the family crime syndicate.

Our murder mystery begins at the crime scene, Claude's luxury yacht, where only hours before he had met for dinner with a group of his closest family and friends. As the newest recruits of the French drug enforcement agency, we were tasked to assist Marseille's chief of police, the hapless Jean Dumas, to unravel the mystery of Claude's death, identifying the culprit, the method of murder and the motive.

Firstly, hats off to Andy Hardwick for superb writing—the plot was brilliant and original, interwoven with twists that

would give Agatha Christie a run for her money! It was a highly enjoyable evening, with a great cast of actors who were both engaging and dynamic, showing stoic commitment to their characters and their French accents—it made for great entertainment and some hilarious interrogation by our team of budding amateur sleuths.

At half time, Andy delivered a short and poignant talk, drawing parallels between the crime we were investigating and that committed on the very first Easter when Jesus was brutally murdered. Our quest to discover Claude's murderer had led us to question who had stood to gain most from his death. Unlike Claude, Jesus had led a blameless life and had done nothing to deserve the sentence imposed on him, and yet he willingly suffered death on the cross to atone for undeserving sinners. Ultimately, all humanity stands to gain from Christ's sacrificial death.

At the start of the second half of the night we were given a further update from our Chief, Jean. This offered us crucial new evidence, alongside a few red herrings, that kept us guessing who the murderer was right until the end. My team were well off the mark with the solution, of course, but we still had a fantastic time trying to figure it out! Thank you to all involved for organising such a great night, with a special shout out to Duffield Fish & Chips for the delicious food.



Cast of the murder mystery (l to r): Mick McNaught (*Captain Alain DuPont*), Andrea Parkin (*Eloise Legrand*), Paul Wiggins (*Deputy Chief of Police Jean Dumas*), Sandra Barber (*Charlotte Dubois*), Lee Parkin (*Pierre Legrand*), Margaret Jackson (*Margot Legrand*), James Munro (*Jules Ducasse*), Andy Hardwick (*writer of the drama*)



Welcome!!

St Paul's church (next to the park) will be open again this year on Carnival Day - please do come in and have a look round!



FEAR IN FAITH



St Alkmund's
Duffield Parish Church

Holiday Club 2024



St Paul's
Little Eaton Church



Ever wanted to understand what faith really is and what it looks like? Want to spend time with friends doing games, crafts and making a mess? Then come join us this summer for the day!



**Friday 30th August | 9am - 3pm | Little Eaton Church
Hall | Bring a packed lunch | Snacks provided**

**Interested in joining us for a day of
excitement and learning?**

Email us today: holidayclub@stalkmundsduffield.co.uk



WE NEED YOUR FURNITURE DONATIONS

Hope City Furniture is an independent charity in Derby providing good quality furniture and household items free of charge to those who have been rehoused due to experiencing a sudden or unexpected crisis, and who find themselves in the position of having to furnish a new home from scratch without the means to do so. We receive referrals from various organisations working with people in crisis across Derby. Through these referrals hundreds of items of furniture are given away each year. Those we help include women and families rehoused due to fleeing domestic violence, refugees, the homeless, those moving on from supported accommodation, and victims of human trafficking.

Please help us continue this vital service. We welcome furniture and household donations, including white goods and appliances if they are in good, clean working order, and run a free collection service for this purpose. To find out more please see our website. The items that we are particularly in need of at the moment are: chests, wardrobes (children's, single and double), small tables and chairs (to seat 2 or 4), fridge freezers, washing machines, microwaves, toasters, kettles, hoovers, double and single beds.

Web: www.hopecityfurniture.org.uk

Tel: 07340 244416

Email: info@hopecityfurniture.org.uk

‘Why do we do what we do?’

— Going to church on a Sunday —



As part of the training course I’m currently undertaking to become a ‘Licensed Lay Minister (LLM)’ (or ‘Lay Reader’) within the Church of England, I recently had to undertake a six-week ‘placement’. Said placement involved attending another church of a very ‘different’ style and tradition to my ‘home’ churches at St Paul’s Little Eaton and St Alkmund’s Duffield, and having encountered a very different style of church service whilst on placement, and at times been curious as to why the church ‘did’ their services in a certain way, I thought it might be helpful to reflect, in a periodic series of articles in the magazine, why we here at our United Benefice of Duffield & Little Eaton ‘do what we do’ at our Sunday services.

I begin in this article by, firstly, briefly setting out ‘why Christians go to church’ on Sundays.

1. Christians are ‘called’ to be part of a church community or ‘church family’

The Bible is filled with examples of Christian believers meeting regularly together; for example the end of chapter 2 of the book of Acts describes the early Christian church meeting together for fellowship, prayer and teaching. There are also many exhortations in the Bible for Christians to ‘keep on’ meeting together; for example Hebrews chapter 10, verses 24–25: “...let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another...”.

We meet as Christians Sunday by Sunday to grow in our faith and to learn together,

specifically to learn from the Bible, which Christians believe to be God’s inspired word. Teaching from the Bible is central to our Sunday services at St Paul’s Little Eaton (and St Alkmund’s Duffield); whether we come as longstanding Christians, ‘new believers’ or those simply wanting to investigate and ‘find out more’, we all need to regularly hear the ‘good news’ of the Gospel—what God’s done for us through Jesus and His death and resurrection, in order that we can be reconciled with God to have a restored relationship with Him and what that means for our lives.

2. A church community/family meets to encourage one other

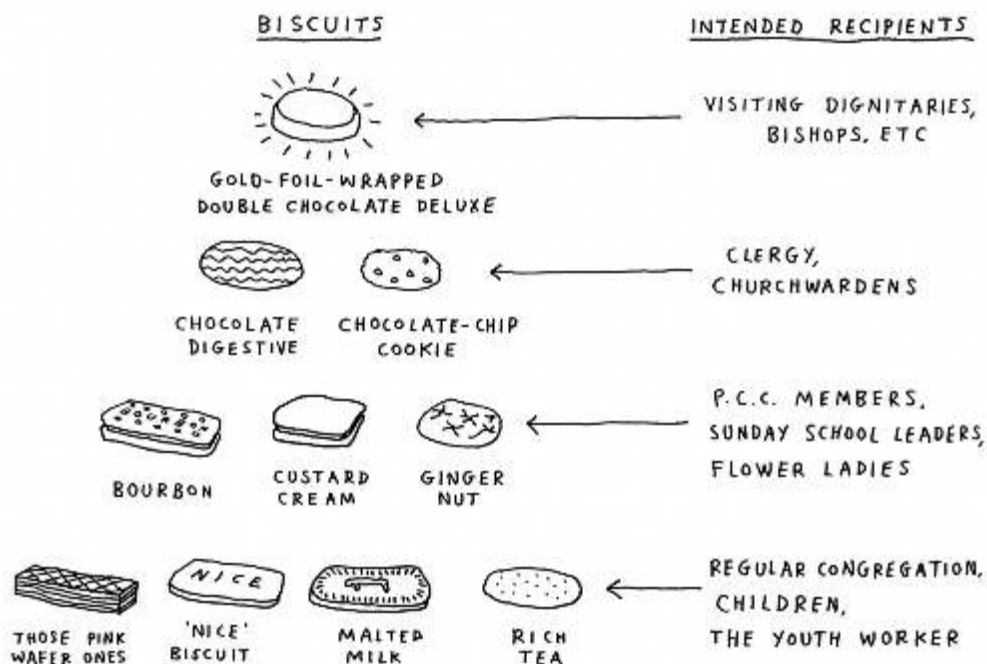
As well as a place to keep on learning and growing in faith, we also meet as a church to build each other up; to encourage, support and spur one another on as we seek to live as Christians and face all the many challenges that life brings. And, whereas many other walks of life (such as school or work), can often be comprised of a broadly 'similar' demographic, a church community, or 'church family', is perhaps relatively unusual in having (as families do) a very wide range of ages and backgrounds. From "*the enthusiasm of youth*" to "*the wisdom of the old*" (and more or less everything in between!) it's a community rich with people whom one perhaps wouldn't otherwise even have the

opportunity to meet, never mind make friends with.

You are most welcome to join us at any of our Sunday services here in Little Eaton, or any of our midweek activities (for example, we also have a shorter, more 'reflective' service held at St Alkmund's Duffield on Tuesday mornings in term-time). And there's absolutely no expectations if you do come along to church that you must be completely '*au-fait*' with all the words to all the hymns we sing, all the words of 'liturgy' we say, or fully 'clued-up' on praying, or whatever—and those things are all areas to explore in future '*Why we do what we do*' articles!

James Rollin

THE HIERARCHY OF BISCUITS



At a loose end?



Little Eaton Ladies Craft Group meets on the last Saturday of each month in the Church Hall, 2-4pm

Bring your knitting, sewing or other crafts, or simply join us for tea, cake and chat

s a n c t u a r y

drop in café

Come along and be creative or just have tea and chat

Thursdays from 1.30pm to 3pm

Currently meeting at Duffield Methodist Church, King Street.



St Alkmund's
Duffield Parish Church

Making a difference

There was a view of the sea
from the garden where we sat.
The hot sun filtered through the trees.
Disturbed by a sudden breeze they began
to whisper and sigh.
The sun blazed down immovably
out of a cloudless blue sky.

In the drowsy silence of that summer's afternoon
we were strangers, breathing in the perfume
of the garden and the salt smell of the sea.
For me it was a time of personal struggle,
many long days spent alone.
But your smile conveyed a sincerity
and warmth I had rarely known.

And as we spoke and conversed with ease,
I sensed you were gracious,
caring and compassionate.
A Christian showing kindness
and friendship to me.
You gave me hope and faith once more,
your smile was simply the key.

Anne Palmer
(Local Poet)



St Paul's Little Eaton Church

Vicarage Lane, Little Eaton, Derby DE21 5EA

You are very welcome to join us for our 4.30pm afternoon services, either in the church building, or alternatively online, via our Benefice YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/TheUnitedBeneficeofDuffieldLittleEaton>

Contact St Paul's at:

admin@littleeatonchurch.co.uk

www.littleeatonchurch.co.uk



St Paul's Church Little Eaton



[Linkedin.com/company/st-pauls-little-eaton](https://www.linkedin.com/company/st-pauls-little-eaton)



[@LEatonChurch](https://twitter.com/LEatonChurch)

If you don't regularly receive a copy of this magazine and would like to, please contact the church office and we can add you to the distribution list.