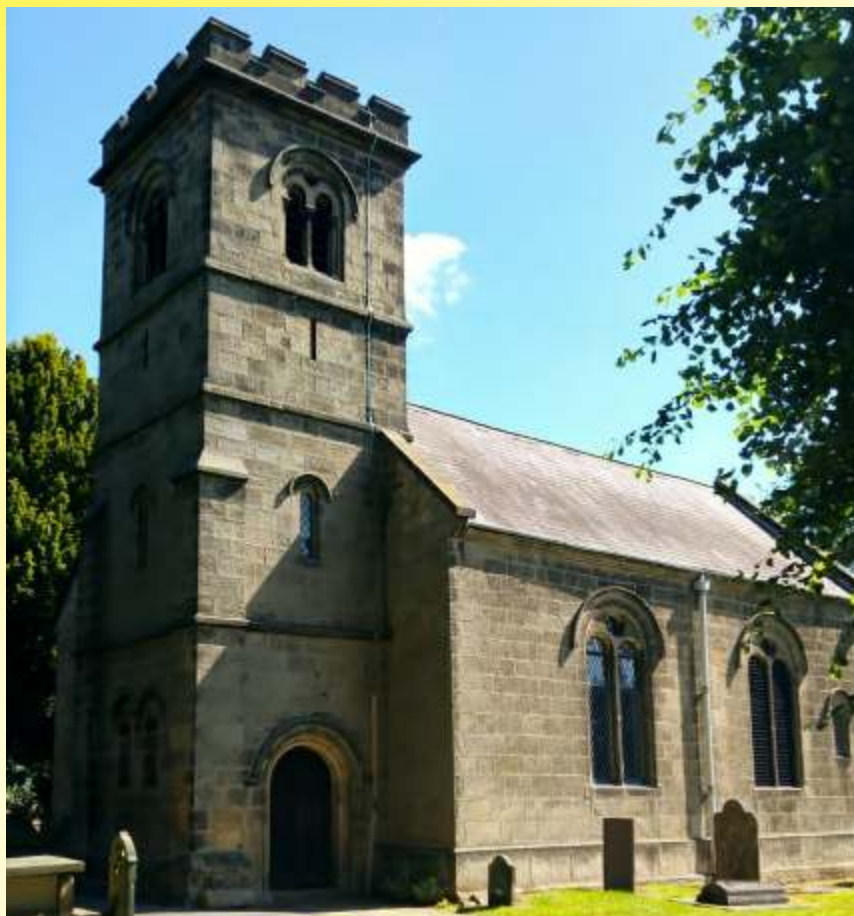




St Paul's
Little Eaton Church

Parish Magazine



Summer 2025

ST PAUL'S CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

JAMES HUGHES



Dear Friends,

I think June is one of the most hopeful and optimistic months of the year. Exams finish. We have the Carnival in Little Eaton. It's the longest day, with the promise of the summer holidays to come. The weather is usually okay, but even if it is not, there is still July and August to come. Which is good, because we need hope: it's very hard to live without it.

Of course there are different kinds of hope. There are the hopes we have that aren't grounded in much. Maybe we hope to win the lottery; if so, the odds are against us. Or maybe we are hoping for a sunny June. Or maybe we just have a hopeful sense about the future. The trouble is, because these hopes aren't grounded in anything, our hopes can very easily be disappointed.

So as we think about hope we might ask: what is the basis of our hope, or what do we trust in? We can put our hope and trust in things we know to be true, or likely. So, whilst we can't be sure what the weather will be like in June, we can be pretty confident that it will be warmer than January, and certain that it will contain the longest day. These hopes might not be as

exciting as winning the lottery, but they are a lot more likely.

Or we can make the basis of our hope a person, or people. We do this all the time, and we know both the joy and confidence being able to rely on other people can bring. We also know how devastating it can be when someone we trusted, someone we hoped in, lets us down. Sometimes people do this deliberately. Sometimes people aren't able to be everything we want from them. And then we start to wonder: can we really put our trust and hope in a person?

During some of our United Benefice services, we have been spending quite a bit of time recently in Luke's gospel. It has a lot to say about hope: after all gospel means good news. Just recently we have been looking at the end of the gospel. Here are some words from Luke 24, the last chapter of the gospel, about hope, as some of Jesus's disciples travel to Emmaus:

*But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.
(Luke chapter 24 verse 21)*

These disciples are explaining to someone they don't recognise what has happened. How Jesus has been crucified and laid in a tomb. Their hope seems to be in the past. And yet the women have told of an empty tomb, and: ➔

→ *Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” (Luke chapter 24 verse 24)*

This passage is full of ironies, as we the readers already know that Jesus is risen, and that as they talk, these disciples on the road to Emmaus are talking to Jesus, who is about to explain everything to them. But Luke tells us of their doubts. The gospels recognise that if we want to have hope we need to trust someone or something, and that can be hard. And yet, as Luke testifies, trust is possible in the one who has

risen from the dead. Jesus, the risen lord, can be the object of our hope, and he won't let us down. We can have a hope that runs deeper than long hours of daylight and the joys of summer, even as we enjoy them.

I look forward to welcoming you to St Paul's, as we continue to explore what it means to hope in Jesus. If you want a copy of Luke's gospel to read, do let us know.

Yours in Christ,



**Did you know you can now have
twice the fun?**

TOTS

**Thursday mornings, 10am - 12 noon in St Paul's hall
and also**

Friday mornings, 10am - 12 noon in St Alkmund's hall

**Everyone is welcome to come, play and chat, sing songs, make a
craft, make a mess, and drink good coffee!**

Photo by Alice Peckham on Unsplash

Difficult Questions

Life is full of difficult questions, like “What’s for tea?”; “Who is that at the door?”; “Is it going to rain next week?” – you know the sort. We don’t always know the answers, but we can usually come up with some sort of an answer after a bit of thought and investigation, or maybe we might ask someone else or Google it, etc., whilst for some answers, we probably just have to wait and see and hope the answer will eventually reveal itself.

Life is after all, in many respects, one big learning curve, and with some questions we have, we just don’t know quite where to start. It was like this for me when I first started thinking about God and what Christianity actually means.

I had so many questions, some more difficult than others; for example: “Is there a god?”; “Who is Jesus?”; “If there is a god, why are there so many wars?”; “Why do people suffer so much?”, and so on. I eventually started asking a Christian friend about the Christian faith, who then invited me to St Paul’s church, where I began getting answers to my questions and started to piece it all together.

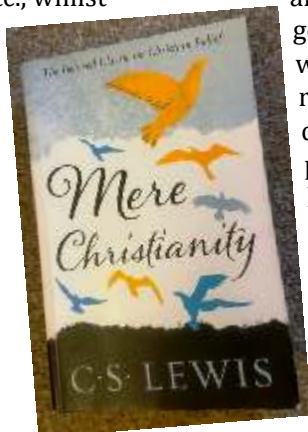


It was life-changing and everyone was so helpful and friendly. I asked a lot of questions, as I really didn’t know anything about any of it to be honest, but I started getting answers ... and life started making sense.

I found out how amazing our God is and what Jesus did for us on the cross, and also what the future looks like for me. I still have questions, we all do; but we figure out the answers with help

and support. There are some good books available too, which may help, and I would recommend the following couple of books as particularly interesting and helpful reads – *Mere Christianity* by CS Lewis and *If You Could Ask God One Question*, by Paul Williams and Barry Cooper.

And of course, I’m continually learning from the Bible at St Paul’s church. Each Sunday the sermon at church has a message for us; plus we have 1-1 groups available (you can contact the Church Office to talk about these, if you like) or groups with others, and various courses to attend throughout the year – all building up answers to all our many questions.



Caroline Walker



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

sanctuary

Drop-in Cafe

Come along and be creative or just
have tea and chat

Thursdays from 1.30 to 3pm

St Alkmund's Church Hall



St. Alkmund's
Duffield Parish Church

It's Anniversary Time!

*In recent issues of our parish magazine, we've been considering 'Why We Do What we Do' in church; for example, why we say the Creeds, which include the 'Apostles' Creed' and the 'Nicene Creed'. In this article, **Richard Nicholson** looks in more detail at the background, content and history of the Nicene Creed and what it means.*



2025 is a special anniversary. Now I'm sure you agree that smaller anniversaries like being married for one year are worth celebrating, but 25 years or 50 years or longer of wedded bliss are worth celebrating even more. So, how about a 1,700-year anniversary? Now that's an achievement! But what is it we are celebrating?

In AD 325 in Nicaea, a Greek city in the north-western Anatolian region of Bithynia (now part of Turkey), nearly 200 Bishops gathered and agreed a statement of belief – now called the Nicene Creed. That the Bishops reached agreement seems a miracle, but that's now dwarfed because the Creed they agreed on has been a central statement of Christianity ever since.

OK, it was drafted because there was confusion creeping in – and that's polite code for erroneous doctrines. Today, we don't need to think so much about the error they corrected, but about what they all agreed on, because that agreement itself will stamp out other wrong ideas we might generate. It's a creed – a statement of belief, and today it is recited in churches regularly – especially at key services like a celebration of the Lord's Supper (or Holy Communion if you are

more comfortable with that title for the activity).

So, what was agreed?

The creed says:

- (A) We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- (B) (i) We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

(ii) For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

- (C) We believe in the Holy Spirit, the →

→ Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

(D) We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Broadly, there are four beliefs being stated. Although not in the real text, I've added A, B, C, and D to help see the sections. A is about God, and B(i) about Jesus Christ being equal with God, followed by B(ii) what Jesus did for our salvation and that it is 'in accordance with the scriptures' – that is, it is all foretold in the early part of the Bible. The Creed also speaks of what Jesus will eventually do –

come again as judge and begin his everlasting kingdom. Then it turns to the Holy Spirit (C), declaring that the Holy Spirit is also part of the godhead, i.e. the concept of the Trinity. Finally, there are statements (D) about the church.

Given it was written so soon after Jesus' life and the Apostles' ministry, it reliably captures the core issues of the church's teaching. The fact that it is still in use and has had many generations of later theologians who have pored over it shows that it has passed the test of scrutiny.

It's certainly worth thinking through its condensed belief statements, especially noting that Jesus came, "For us and for our salvation". If you need salvation (which all of us do), then find out about Jesus. This Creed points to Him and His role in our salvation. At St. Paul's, we have many opportunities to understand Jesus' work for our salvation – come and see.

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

Benefice 'Album Club'

Our Benefice 'Album Club', which includes members drawn from both of our churches, St Paul's Little Eaton and St Alkmund's Duffield, has been continuing to meet month by month to enjoy listening to music together over snacks and a drink or two. First launched in October 2024, the Album Club has now been running for nearly nine months and counting.

For our sixth Album Club gathering in March, *Can't Buy a Thrill* by Steely Dan was our record of choice, selected by Paul Sheppard, who explains why he picked that particular album: *"I first discovered Steely Dan over 50 years ago back in 1972 when 'Reeling in the Years' came on my car radio. It totally blew me away! I have always loved guitar bands and Larry Carlton's solo on this song was extraordinary. I'd never heard anything like it before. I immediately went down to Derby's premier record store in Sadler Gate, "R.E.Cords", but they didn't have a copy, and hadn't even heard of the band, so I decided to check out the New Musical Express and there I found a newly formed mail order company called Virgin records – Richard Branson's first commercial venture, and there it was! I can't recall how much I paid, but it can't have been more than a few pounds!" →*



➔ In April, we listened to a fifty-year-old original vinyl pressing of **Led Zeppelin IV**, chosen by Peter Posner. Peter explains why he picked *Led Zeppelin IV* as his album of choice: ***“Like many people, it was ‘Stairway to Heaven’ which first introduced me to Led Zeppelin. The brilliant musicianship, lyrics with references to my favourite novel, Lord of the Rings, and even the famous folk singer Sandy Denny, ensured this was my first album purchase, and it’s a record I still play today.”***



Meanwhile, bringing the story up to date, in May we listened to *Sheer Heart Attack*, chosen by Chris Asker. Produced by Roy Thomas Baker and Queen, *Sheer Heart Attack* was recorded at Trident Wessex/Rockfield and Air Studios during July – September 1974 and released in November 1974. The album includes well-known tracks such as ‘Now I’m Here’ and ‘Killer Queen’ and reached No. 2 on the UK Album Charts. Chris explains why he picked this particular album: *“During the 70s, folk was my favourite music genre, but I was immediately drawn to Queen who exemplified my love of contrasting styles & arrangements. This is the album where the band perfected the eclectic mix of rock, pop, ballads, brilliant musicality and lyrics which typified their sound. It’s the one I return to on a regular basis”*.



Our Album Club will be continuing to meet monthly during the course of this year and new members are always welcome. If you'd like to find out more about the Album Club, then please contact the Church Office.

James Rollin

Church Services: June – September

Sunday Afternoon Services

4.30 pm St Paul's Church (Every Sunday, apart from Sunday 31st August, with Holy Communion usually on the 4th Sunday of the month)
(Refreshments are served before services, from 4 pm)

Holy Communion at All Saints' Chapel

8.30 am Hazelwood Road, Duffield (Usually the first and third Sundays of the month)
1st June (Easter 7, *John 17:20–26*), 15th June (Trinity, *Mark 1:1–13*),
29th June (2nd after Trinity – *Ven. Andie Brown*), [NO SERVICE ON 6TH JULY], 20th July, 3rd August, 17th August, 7th September & 21st September.

Tuesday Morning Prayer

9.30 am St Alkmund's Church, Duffield
3rd June (Holy Communion – *Nahum 3:1–7*), 10th June (*Nahum 3:8–15*),
17th June (*Nahum 3:15–19*), 24th June (*Galatians 1:1–5*), 1st July,
8th July, 15th July & 22nd July (*last before break for summer holidays; restart on 9th September*)

St Paul's Regular Events

Salt Cafe – Sundays in St Alkmund's Church Hall at 6.00pm. For any youth in school years 7–13. Chat, games, pizza and lots of fun.

Benefice Prayer Meeting – 1st Wednesday of the month, at 7.30pm, St Alkmund's Church Hall.

TOTS Group – Thursdays from 10am to 12 noon term time, in St Paul's Church Hall.

Ladies' Craft Afternoon – Last Saturday of the month from 2pm to 4pm in St Paul's Church Hall.

Board Games – 4th Saturday of the month, 1.30pm to 5.30pm in St Alkmund's Church Hall.



UK AND IRELAND

Langham®

PARTNERSHIP

St Paul's Church supports several people and organisations financially and in prayer who are faithfully teaching people around the world about the Christian faith. One of these is Langham Partnership.

Langham Partnership was originally founded in 1969 by Revd John Stott, who was then Rector at All Souls' Church, Langham Place in London (hence the name). John Stott frequently visited churches in the Majority World, (a more positive term than Third World or Developing World), encompassing Africa, Asia, South and Central America and the Caribbean. As he travelled, he understood the acute need for further biblical training for gifted local leaders.

Initially, a Trust was set up to sponsor young Christian leaders from the Majority World to study for doctorates at British universities, and to support them as they returned to teach at Bible colleges in their own countries. Those who received scholarship funding from the Trust became known as Langham Scholars, a worldwide family that has now grown to over 300.

Langham Partnership then expanded into producing Christian books that would be a resource for Majority World Scholars and pastors. In the UK we have a wealth of Christian literature, but these are in English and are written from a western perspective – that is, the

outworking of Bible truths reflects the issues faced in western countries, not necessarily those faced by people in the Majority World. Today Langham Literature helps develop ground-breaking commentaries written in local languages and relevant to local contexts. It also distributes biblical resources to churches, pastors, and Bible colleges, and supports writers and publishers who translate and write books for the local context. In the last year Langham Literature supplied 219,563 Bible-centred books to pastors and colleges in the Majority World, of which 25,053 were supplied free of charge.

In 2002 a third initiative began. Langham Preaching now provides training for church leaders in over 100 countries to be able to teach God's word faithfully. Many church leaders in the Majority World have had no theological training but now they can access seminars focusing on practical, biblical training. In many of these countries the training is now led by local church leaders. In the last year 14,827 preachers were equipped to teach the Bible more effectively.

So, I hope you can see why this strategic ministry is supported by St Paul's Church here in Little Eaton. Our local church really can influence things world-wide.

Sue Nicholson



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, as well as many others.

Please help us continue this vital service. We welcome furniture and household donations, 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: bedroom chests, small wardrobes, bedsides, small sideboards, and small dining tables and chairs (to seat 2 or 4).

Web: www.hopecityfurniture.org.uk

Tel: 07340 244416

Email: info@hopecityfurniture.org.uk

Eric Burgess, from our 'sister' church St Alkmund's Duffield, is continuing his fundraising for Ukraine:

My friend Vladimir lives in central Ukraine in the Cherkassy region; he is the pastor of a tiny village church. Vladimir is one of the many Pastors and Christians I know who are actively involved in trying to keep their fellow countrymen alive, fed, warm etc, etc. People like Vlad drive over to Donetsk, a short journey of 600km to take supplies and bring back refugees. I have lost count how many times he has made the journey and how he manages to keep filling the van with fuel, let alone supplies.

Vladimir now has bought a car which keeps him mobile and enables him to do limited supply runs to eastern Ukraine and to pick up spare parts etc. in order to repair and rebuild his minibus, which has broken down. The focus has been on rebuilding the engine, but we need approx. £3,000 to complete the repairs and get him rolling again, plus there will be a need for fuel, repairs, tyres, maintenance, etc. as we go forward. Any support you might be able to offer will be very greatly appreciated.

I am always happy to discuss so please ask at the church office for me!

Eric Burgess



*If you'd like to support Eric with his fundraising for his friend in Ukraine, or if you'd like any further information, then please contact the Church office, who can put you in touch with Eric. You can also speak to **Caroline Walker** at St Paul's Little Eaton.*

Eric's 'JustGiving' appeal can be found here:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eric-burgess-4?utm_term=kdB8WD8nW

Children's Work Spring-Summer 2025



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 during the morning service in the hall for games, biscuits and story.

This term we are delving into a whole church curriculum with our wider church family as they explore 2 Kings!

EXPLORERS

St Paul's Children's Church | Sunday 4:30pm service | Under 14s

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.

FAMILY EVENTS

EVENTS FOR WHOLE CHURCH FAMILY - 1/2 TIMES TERMLY

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. This term we have a weekend away planned, as well as continuing to provide 'Board and Brew' before our summer Holiday Club in August.

Salt Cafe

St Alkmund's Church Hall | Sundays 6-7pm | School Years 7-13

Chat, pizza, and games called Taco Cat and Poetry for Neanderthals... Salt Cafe is our friendly, open youth group, meeting in term time to enjoy a meal, games, big questions, and fast and furious ping-pong. Head home or stay afterwards for our relaxed and fantastic 45min 7pm service.

Email Adam for more and find us on [instagram @alkmundsduffield](#)

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 bit of breakfast). Come and see!

ASSEMBLIES

Primary School | Assemblies and Services

If you attend William Gilbert Primary, Little Eaton Primary or Duffield Meadows Primary we look forward to seeing you regularly as this term we learn about "people from the Bible".



PATHFINDERS



Thank you if you attended Little Eaton Primaries Pathfinder group! We had a great time seeing you all at lunchtimes for bible stories, games and open question time. However, we are taking a break while we look to better support our lunchtime club activities before we return. We look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Tots

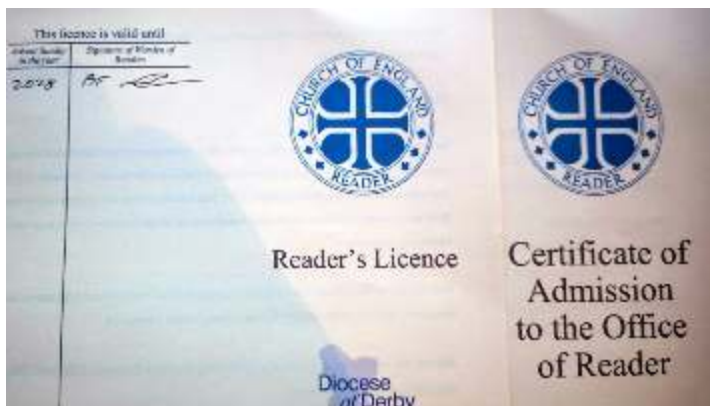
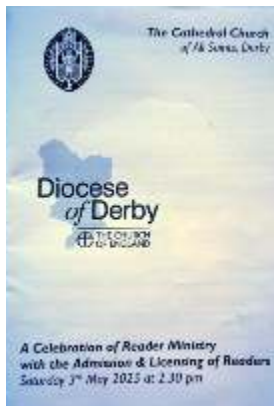


**St Alkmund's Church Hall | Fridays 10am - 12noon | Ages 0-3
& St Pauls Church Hall | Thursdays 10am - 12noon | Ages 0-3**

TOTS is a group for parents, grandparents and carers to bring your little ones for a play, a sit and a chat. We have clean toys, coffee on tap, snacks (for children and grownups) and a range of activities to get stuck into. Come along for a bit, or for the whole session.

Reader Licensing 2025

Our Lay Minister James Rollin was officially admitted to the Office of Reader and formally Licensed as a Lay Reader or Licensed Lay Minister [LLM(R)], within the Diocese of Derby, on Saturday 3rd May 2025, in a ceremony at Derby Cathedral. James is pictured (left) outside the Cathedral after the licensing service, with our Vicar James Hughes (right) and Richard Lindop (centre), our longstanding Lay Reader at our 'sister' church St Alkmund's Duffield; who both supported James during the licensing service.



TOTS Easter Walk-Through



The cast of the Walk-Through event

Following on from the success of our 'NaTOTiv' event last Christmas, on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th April, our Benefice Little Eaton & Duffield TOTS groups celebrated Easter by taking part in a 'walk-through' of the various events surrounding the Easter story.

On arrival at the church, our young guests were met by the Innkeeper (Emma; not quite as harassed and grumpy an Innkeeper as she was at Christmas! :) and two of Jesus's disciples, Thomas (played by James Munro) and John (played by Peter Posner). Miriam (played by Ruth Graves) and Eve White then reminded them of the events of Palm Sunday and the children waved palm branches and walked through a



tunnel of palm fronds. Then, the Innkeeper and the disciples led the children on to the ➔

→ dais, where the Last Supper happened. Eve had baked some bread, which the children really enjoyed eating.



Next, the children walked up to the font, which was decked out as the Garden of Gethsemane (expertly set up by Sandra Barber and Lucy Bailey), and Thomas and John, the two disciples, talked about what happened there, including their



fruitless efforts to stay awake whilst they were with Jesus in the garden! On the way to the garden, everyone sang a Hebrew-style version of Psalm 23.



After that, the children saw the cross and the Crown of Thorns, and Mary the mother of Jesus (very movingly played by Pauline Severn) outlined what happened there. Then the children went to the locked room, where more disciples (Rachel McNab, Pamela Ashworth and Gemma Holland-Lloyd) talked about their experiences “...walking & talking!..”



on the Emmaus road, and Mary Magdalene talked about coming back from the empty tomb.

Then the children were shown the empty tomb, where they met an Angel (played by Gill Posner), who explained all about the tomb and why the tomb was empty. Finally, Emma gave a short overview talk about everything the children had seen and offered everyone a copy of John's

Gospel to take away, along with some Easter presents for the children.

A good time was had by all, and do look out for possible future events.

Emma Rollin

Our TOTS groups meet weekly on Thursdays (Little Eaton) & Fridays (Duffield), 10 am – 12 noon during term-time. Keep an eye on our social media accounts for more info.



...further pictures from the TOTS Easter Walk-Through Event



‘Why do we do what we do?’

Why is the Confession said at church?

In this periodic series of articles, we’ve previously thought about why Christians go to church; we’ve considered singing hymns and songs at church and we’ve thought about why we say the Creeds (which Richard Nicholson also considers elsewhere in this issue). Another thing we also do during all our services is to say the words of the *Confession* together. So what’s that about, then?

Christians believe that as the creator of the world, God has the right to say how humankind should live and to judge how we live. But the Bible teaches that humans have *sinned*—they have rebelled against God and his laws on how to live and they have replaced God with other gods—which might be money, power, status, possessions, or something else—seeking after and worshipping such things instead of God; worshipping that which is *created*, not the Creator. This is what the Bible calls sin.

And the good news of the Gospel is all about what God’s done for us through Jesus and His death and resurrection. The Gospel is about how God *saves* people from sin. Ephesians 2 verses 4 & 5 says: “...God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our sins, made us alive together with Christ—by grace we have been saved...”.

We all instinctively have an inherent sense of justice and the death of Jesus on the cross

emphasises how much sin and judgement matters to God. The cross shows

the lengths God had to go to deal with sin, in order that people can be reconciled with God and have a restored relationship with Him.

But, the Bible also teaches that (until the Lord Jesus returns), this world isn’t what it should be and living in this world, like everyone else, Christians will still struggle with sin

and wrongdoing—as the Apostle Paul writes in Romans 7, verses 1–20: “...*I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing... [because of] ...sin that dwells within me...*”.

And hence this is why at St Paul’s Little Eaton at the start of all our

services, we say the Confession together. We acknowledge and recognise the wrong things we’ve done or said, which God in His grace and mercy (through what Jesus has done at the cross) will forgive, and we strive to keep living rightly for God as His people.

Why not join us on a Sunday afternoon to hear more about the Lord Jesus and the good news of the Gospel. You will be very welcome to join us anytime.

James Rollin





Hi Everyone,

The book that I have chosen for this review is ***Fly Through the Bible*** by Colin S. Smith. It is an overview of the whole Bible, in three parts:-

Firstly, putting into context five major figures of the Old Testament – Adam, Abraham, Moses, David, and Ezra.

Secondly, looking at five events in the life of Jesus – his birth, temptation, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.

Finally, examining the five gifts the Bible promises to those who believe – The Holy

Spirit, Faith, Forgiveness, The Church, and Heaven.

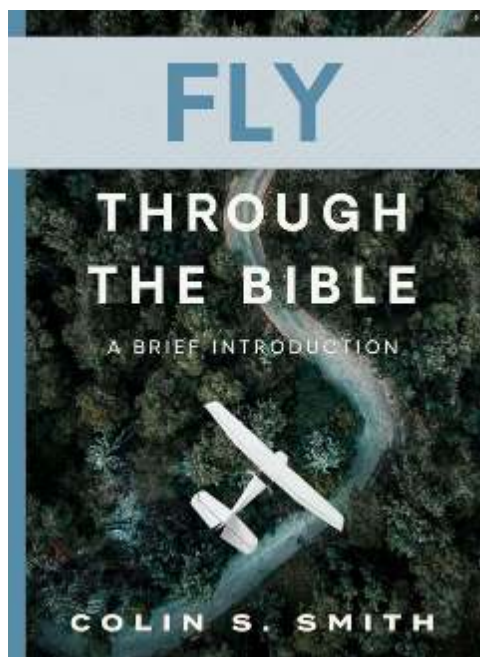
This book tries to familiarise the reader with the concept of the Bible, a book written over a long period of time by many different individuals, about many different individuals, but having one common theme: the reconciliation of God and man. *Fly Through the Bible* achieves this in a very readable format and in just 124 pages, so clearly it is an introduction to the Bible.

If you have never read the Bible before, I recommend *Fly Through the Bible* as one way of getting an insight into this tremendous book.

Ruth

Ruth is a member of our 'sister' church St Alkmund's Duffield and a volunteer at Cornerstone Christian Bookshop in Matlock. She is happy to get books she's reviewed from Cornerstone Christian bookshop; contact Ruth through the Church Office.

Fly Through the Bible Colin S Smith
ISBN 978-0-8024-3454-8



Tell us a little bit about yourself...

JAMES ROLLIN



① Who are you and what do you do (or used to do) for a living?

Hi, I'm James Rollin and I'm part of the St Paul's Little Eaton & St Alkmund's Duffield Staff & Ministry team, working as a Licensed Lay Minister [LLM(R)] or Lay Reader for Discipleship & Evangelism. Prior to my starting work with the church in November 2019, I worked within the railway industry for almost 20 years, in various communications & public relations roles.

② What do you do at church?

As Lay Minister for Discipleship & Evangelism, my role includes leading and speaking at Sunday services and midweek meetings (including Tuesday Morning Prayer, our monthly Prayer Meetings, etc.), together with supporting a range of other activities and events (particularly evangelism and discipleship) across the life of our united benefice. This includes, for example, our benefice parish magazines, and also our benefice Growth Groups.

③ What first brought you to the local area and to St Alkmund's church?

Having grown up in Doncaster, my work for the railways first brought me to Derby. Upon graduating and first commencing work in September 1995, I initially commuted to work by train from my parents' home in Doncaster, before finally 'taking the plunge' and relocating to Belper in the autumn of 2000.

④ What's the best thing(s) about St Paul's church?

For me the best things about St Paul's Little Eaton and our 'sister' church St Alkmund's Duffield are the strength and depth of faithful Bible teaching and the very warm welcome from the church family. I first rocked up to what was coincidentally a 'guest service' at St Alkmund's back in May 2001, and I never looked back from there!

⑤ Favourite Bible character, Bible book and Bible passage?

It's a tough one, but probably the Apostle Paul. I never fail to be inspired by his willingness to serve the Lord and preach the Gospel at all times and in all circumstances; and the depth and richness of teaching in all of his New Testament letters is incredible. The book of Ephesians is probably my favourite, as it reminds us of the immeasurable blessings we have in Jesus Christ and calls us as Christians to live our lives in light of this and in response to all Jesus has done to save us. And my favourite Bible passage is 1 Thessalonians 4, 16-18: ***"16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of →***

→ **God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.** ¹⁷ *Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.* ¹⁸ *Therefore encourage one another with these words.*” It’s both a reminder of the great salvation hope that we have and an assurance that one day, we’ll see again those “...Saints of old...”, who “...line the way...” (to quote the Gettys); we’ll be gloriously reunited with all our loved ones who’ve previously died in the faith.

6 What do you like to do in your spare time, and why?

I’m a longstanding aficionado of Formula One motor racing, having followed the sport closely since 1986 – F1 being a passion first inspired by my late father – we attended quite a few Grands Prix together over the years, including the British Grand Prix at Silverstone and a couple of Italian Grands Prix at Monza. I also listen to lots of music, mostly classic rock – I was born circa 20 – 30 years too late as far as music’s concerned, which is handy for our Album Club! And (also inspired by my father), I play the electric bass and the electric guitar – I have eight different guitars altogether!

7 Your most favourite meal, and why?

Growing up, my family’s ‘go-to’ restaurant for celebrating birthdays, exam-results and other special occasions was the good old Berni Inn (on Doncaster Market Place), and I have to say that the classic Prawn Cocktail, Steak & Chips, and Black Forest Gateaux combination is still my favourite meal to this day!

8 What, if push comes to shove, is your all-time favourite Album?

It has to be *Abbey Road* by The Beatles. I first discovered my parents’ vinyl copy as a child and it’s an album I never tire of listening to, especially the famous medley which takes up much of Side Two. Much of the album was recorded during the summer months of 1969 and several of the album’s songs seem to have that relaxed, sunny, summery vibe.

9 Do you have a favourite film, and why?

The first *Back to the Future* film from 1985. I enjoyed it so much that I went to see it several times at the old Doncaster Gaumont cinema when it originally came out! It’s a perfect ‘feelgood film’ with great characters and a great story, which I still enjoy revisiting to this day! And my son Tom loves it too!

10 Tell us something else about yourself others might not already know?

If you didn’t already know, I’m also a massive ‘petrol-head’; yet another interest inspired by my late father. The first car I ever bought back in 1996 was a 1973 Triumph TR6 convertible, and in memory of my late Dad, whom we sadly and very unexpectedly lost to Covid in 2021, I now drive a 2022 Ford Mustang convertible (the ‘full-fat’ 5-litre V8 version, of course – green activists look away now! :).

We hope to make this ‘Ten Questions’ a recurring feature in the magazine, so if you’d consider yourself a ‘regular’ at St Paul’s and would like to be featured, then please get in touch with the Church Office.



Gratitude

I often remember my childhood days.
The sea glittering blue in the sunlight.
Sail boats sporting dazzling displays of colour,
yellows, purples, reds and radiant white.

I never thanked my parents nearly enough
for each magical day.
My parents who always gave,
and hardly ever took away.

We should be thankful too, for family
and friends who help us along the way.
Knowing they care means everything.
There aren't sufficient words to say.

Family and friends are treasures when in times
of trouble, are with us until the end.
For these treasures we must give God
our thanks, he surely is our greatest friend.

Anne Palmer
(Local Poet)





St Paul's Little Eaton Church

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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:

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