



The United Benefice of Wilne & Draycott with Breaston

Growing as followers of Jesus

News and Notices for September 2024

Welcome to St. Michael's, Breaston and St. Mary's, Draycott, especially if you are visiting - we hope you enjoy the service.

Please note that we have a wide variety of services within both our churches from traditional to contemporary, and there are many other activities going on during the week. Please see the church social media pages for more details or ask a member of the congregation.

If the screens are being used for the service, everything will be shown there, otherwise, simply follow the booklet you were given on your way in.

Tea and coffee are normally available after the 10.30am services in both churches.

Looking Ahead – Bishop of Repton's Visit

On Sunday 13 October, the Bishop of Repton will be coming to our joint 10.30 service at St Michael's. He will be preaching and presiding at Communion. It will be lovely to welcome Bishop Malcolm to our Benefice and we look forward to a really good morning together.

Children and young people's activities will take place as normal and there will be a play space for younger children in the bell-tower.



Vision Day Feedback

Our Benefice vision day in June saw many of us gather to explore the way forward in this season of change. We will be looking at our priorities for this season over the coming months, but we wanted to give some feedback on some of the issues we have fed back to the Diocese. This includes input from our children and young people and also from those unable to attend.



What are we doing well and where do we see God at work?

We identified many things to be excited about and thankful for. Work with children and young people, our presence in the villages and community engagement, outreach events at Christmas and Easter and Renew café were all mentioned several times. The range of services offered and the valuing of all traditions is something we are grateful for, as well as our gifted leaders and all who serve as volunteers in the many activities we undertake. The sense of a welcoming and supportive feel is important in both churches and the congregation in Draycott have been encouraged by a recent increase in numbers. The children and young people enjoy being fully involved and included in church life and services and value their different groups and activities.

Challenges and concerns

Conversations raised a number of areas of concern, which we will explore and address moving forward. Some concerns are broader and across the churches, for example, the need to strengthen our pastoral structures and support. There is a recognition and gratitude that people have 'stepped up' during the vacancy to enable church services and activities to continue, but concerns around potential burnout for individuals and the ongoing need for more volunteers to support all we do.

Partnerships

We have been advised that a partnership with another church or other churches is the most likely scenario moving forward. There was much discussion around this, but some key themes emerged as important as we move forward. The main concern across the Benefice was that a future incumbent may be too thinly spread and may not 'have time for us'. The importance of a sense of equality across any partnership was emphasised, and this is underpinned by a sense that Draycott has felt rather 'neglected'. Our identity as individual churches and connection as a Benefice are things we value and would want to keep. The variety of worship provision (including traditional and modern) is important to us, as is our warm, welcoming and family feel. We would not want to lose our focus on and investment in youth and children's work or the effective community involvement and engagement we see through effective partnership working in both villages.

A new incumbent

Diversity of views within the Benefice on a range of issues was valued by many and this was evidenced in the feedback we received. The most common answer regarding key qualities for a new incumbent was openness to the Spirit/Spirit-filled. This reflects our desire to see God speak and move in our churches and communities. The other key area that is important to us, along with some of the 'taken-for-granted' qualities (good communicator and listener, good leader, pastoral, etc) is that any new incumbent should be someone who works collaboratively and seeks to empower others. We have a strong teamwork culture and would welcome someone who will support us in releasing people into their gifts.

Please do continue to pray for both churches in this vacancy season, for us as a vacancy team and for all involved in the decision-making process in the Diocese.

Karen, our archdeacon, is meeting with both PCCs in September and will be coming to preach and preside at services in both churches in December.

Many thanks, from the Vacancy Team

Jo, Gary, Stephe, Jodie, Hannah, and Rachel

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
W/C 1st September	08:45 Holy Communion (St Michael's)		19:25 Julian Meeting (St Michael's)
	10:30 Celebration Service (St Michael's)		
	10:30 Morning Prayer (St Mary's)		
	18:30 Evensong (St Michael's)		
W/C 8th September	10:30 Celebration Service with Communion (St Michael's)	10:00 Sunbeams (St Michael's)	15:30 Explorers (St Michaels)
		19:00 Youth Home Group (Steve Lacey's House)	18:30 Youth Café (St Michael's Church Hall)
W/C 15th September	08:45 Holy Communion (St Michael's)	10:00 Sunbeams (St Michael's)	15:30 Explorers (St Michaels)
	10:30 Café Style Service (St Michael's)	19:00 Youth Home Group (Steve Lacey's House)	18:30 Youth Café (St Michael's Church Hall)
	10:30 Harvest Service (Draycott Methodist)		
W/C 22nd September	08:45 Holy Communion (St Michael's)	10:00 Sunbeams (St Michael's)	15:30 Explorers (St Michaels)
	10:30 Celebration Service (St Michael's)	19:00 Youth Home Group (Steve Lacey's House)	18:30 Youth Café (St Michael's Church Hall)
W/C 29th September	10:30 Celebration Service (St Michael's)	10:00 Sunbeams (St Michael's)	15:30 Explorers (St Michaels)
		19:00 Youth Home Group (Steve Lacey's House)	18:30 Youth Café (St Michael's Church Hall)
			19:25 Julian Meeting (St Michael's)

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
W/C 1st September	09:00 Prayer Meeting (St Michael's)	10:00 Renew Café (St Michael's)	
	10:30 Holy Communion (St Michael's)	19:15 Living Hope (St Michael's)	
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W/C 8th September	09:00 Prayer Meeting (St Mary's)	10:00 Renew Café (St Michael's)	10:00 Sunbeams (St Mary's Church Hall)
	10:30 Holy Communion (St Michael's)		
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W/C 15th September	09:00 Prayer Meeting (St Michael's)	10:00 Renew Café (St Michael's)	10:00 Sunbeams (St Mary's Church Hall)
	10:30 Holy Communion (St Michael's)		
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W/C 22nd September	09:00 Prayer Meeting (St Mary's)	10:00 Renew Café (St Michael's)	10:00 Sunbeams (St Mary's Church Hall)
	10:30 Holy Communion (St Michael's)		7:30pm Men's Danger Club (St Mary's Church Hall)
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W/C 29th September	09:00 Prayer Meeting (St Michael's)	10:00 Renew Café (St Michael's)	
	10:30 Holy Communion (St Michael's)	19:15 Living Hope (St Michael's)	

Events and Activities

Julian Meeting: For those interested in contemplative prayer, the next Julian Meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd September at 7:25pm.

Living Hope: Living Hope returns Thursday 5th September at 7.15pm

Men's Danger Club: Our next meeting is Friday 27th September at 7.30pm, another of Sarah's Quirky Quizzes. These quizzes put normal pub or TV ones into the ordinary. Thankfully we are not on our own but solve the problems in small groups. Cost £5.00

Global Prayer Meeting: Do you wish to pray for global issues, especially the persecuted church? We pray together locally on the 3rd Monday in the month from 2-4pm. For more details, contact Joan on 07792482727

Children and Young People's groups and activities start back in the week beginning Monday 9 September.

Doing readings and leading prayers in Services: We are grateful to everyone who does readings and leads intercessions in services across the Benefice. There will be a meeting for those involved in this ministry on Sunday 22 September at St Michael's, from 7.15 pm for drinks. We plan to finish at around 8.30. This is a 'refresher' for all involved and an opportunity to come along and see what is involved in being part of this team. Please let Jo or April know if you are planning to be there.

Alpha in Draycott: There will be an Alpha course starting in Draycott on Monday 30th September from 6.30pm with a meal at 7pm. For more details please contact Adrian on adrianyoung@hotmail.com.



Autumn Sermon Series: In our 10.30 services, we are starting a sermon series focused on the book of Ephesians. Helping us to consider our vision to 'grow as followers of Jesus', Ephesians is full of joy and wisdom for living in the fullness of all God has for us. You might find it helpful to spend some time looking at this book and reflecting on what it has to say, as we move forward together in this season of change.

Congratulations and new beginnings!

Congratulations to all those in our church communities who recently received exam results. Please pray for all the children and young people who have 'new beginnings' in this season, whether a change of class, school or a move to University or work. Special congratulations to **Dawn Sycamore** who was recently awarded a Bachelor of Science first class honours degree!

Rachel Huskisson recently started a new role as Library manager for Derby College. This means she is no longer regularly at Renew Wellbeing . Rachel was instrumental in founding Renew, which is three years old this month and it has gone from strength to strength under her leadership. A huge thank you to Rachel for all she has done in this ministry. Please pray for her in her new role with Derby College.

Sarah Warburton has recently been exploring her sense of vocation to a career in Speech and Language therapy. The family's journey with George and his speech has inspired her to offer care and support to other families. She will start an early years teaching course in September, also working at Breaston Preschool. Sarah is therefore leaving her employed post in communications at St Michael's. We are so grateful for all she has done in this role and that she will continue to support us 'ad hoc' with some of our publicity and events. Please pray for Sarah, Richard, Anna, George and Edward in the coming weeks.

Harvest

On Sunday 15 September we will celebrate Harvest across our Benefice. Draycott will be joining Draycott Methodist Church. Donations of non-perishables would be appreciated. In Breaston we would appreciate gifts of non-perishable food, toiletries and household products for the Canaan Trust in Long Eaton.

There will also be a **Harvest Supper** in Draycott Church Hall on Saturday 5 October. It starts at 7pm. Cost to be confirmed but will be a maximum of £15 per head. Please bring your own drinks. If you'd like to go along, please contact Gary or Kris.

Contact Information:

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Social Media: Please also follow us on our social media pages:

www.instagram.com/wdbchurches

www.facebook.com/stmarysdraycottandstmichaelsbreaston/

St. Michael's Church is a registered charity no: 1165581