

# Nottingham South Methodist Circuit Preaching Plan June-August 2025

**Revd. Andy Fyall- Chair of the District**

**Revd. Mark Roberts-Superintendent Minister**

**Revd. Tony Simpson- Minister**

**Revd. Naomi Sparey- Probationer Minister**

**Revd. Helen Fyall- Hospital Chaplain**

## **Message from our Superintendent Minister Mark Roberts**

*Day by day, dear Lord,  
of thee three things I pray:  
to see thee more clearly,  
to love thee more dearly,  
to follow thee more nearly,  
day by day.*

**Singing the Faith 444**



We had a few days away at the end of February near Chichester, a cathedral city in West Sussex. The entrance to the cathedral is guarded by an imposing statue of Richard of Chichester who looks at you over his shoulder while offering a blessing.

Richard was a 13<sup>th</sup> century bishop, whose appointment by the church was not recognised by Henry III. Henry confiscated all the property of the diocese and forbade anyone to feed or house Richard. Richard had to stay with a friend who was willing to break the rules, and lived a life of frugality, travelling the length and breadth of the diocese on foot.

These days Richard is properly best remembered for a prayer, which was popularised in the musical Godspell. A version of it is above from Singing the Faith. In the prayer Richard asks that day by day he might see God more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly.

Richard's prayer is a reminder that our Christian discipleship is shaped by what we do day by day. In life we tend to remember the high points like a big event, or a significant success. We may not notice the smaller things because they can seem ordinary. The high points may be important, but smaller things, and gradual improvements on a daily basis, accumulate over the months and years.

I am grateful for the many ways that those in our churches live out their discipleship day by day. In a multitude of ways God's love is displayed in a way that blesses our communities. In a later article you will read how the work of two of our members has been recognised in a very special way. I know that there are many others doing very similar things throughout the circuit. It all adds up and makes such a difference to the places in which we serve.

As we make our way through the 92 days covered by this quarter, I hope that each of us will be blessed in our daily walk with God, wherever that may take us, and that as Richard prayed, each day we will see God more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly.

Mark

# Good News

## Maundy Money

In April, two members of the circuit received Maundy money from King Charles at a ceremony at Durham Cathedral.

Royal Maundy can be traced back in England to the 13th century, with the first recorded Royal Distribution at Knaresborough by King John in 1210. From the 15th Century, the number of recipients has been related to the years of the Sovereign's life, so this year 76 men and 76 women received two purses. The white purse contained a set of specially minted silver Maundy coins, while the Red Purse contained a £5 coin commemorating The Queen Mother, and a 50p coin which features stories of WWII.

Recipients must be over the age of 70 and are nominated for exemplary Christian service. We are delighted that Paul Johns, a member at Keyworth and Patsy Wattleby, a member at Bridgeway Hall have been recognised in this way.



### ***Maundy purses at Durham cathedral***

Amongst the many ways Paul has offered Christian service are as circuit steward and as a volunteer lay pastor at Tollerton, and he has received his 60 year certificate as a local preacher. He has also led sessions as part of the college of preachers and was the lead for Sana, a project in Bosnia that sought to break down barriers between faith communities. As a sign of his commitment, shortly before his 90th birthday he was up on the roof at Bridgeway trying to find the source of leaks!

Patsy was part of the setting up of the Meadows Foodbank. She still acts as manager of one of the weekly sessions. She also cooks each week for the weekly meal at Cosy cafe which is open to all and acts as a steward and worship leader of the church. Up until the last year or so she was also a volunteer at the Sunday Supper,

where there is a real mix of guests and plenty of challenges.

Paul and Patsy are both very deserving recipients in their own right, but they are also representatives of the wonderful work that goes on every day in this circuit. We could have filled Durham Cathedral with worthy recipients if we had been allowed to!



***Paul with his Maundy purses!***



***Patsy with her purses and the congregation at Bridgeway Hall***

# Farewells and welcome

There are a couple of significant farewells this quarter.

In July, Tony Simpson will be leaving the circuit for retirement in North Lincolnshire. His last Sunday with us will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> July and there is a Circuit Service in the afternoon at Clifton to say farewell to which all are welcome. We offer our thanks to Tony for all that he has done in the circuit since he joined us in September 2021 and wish him and Ruth every blessing as they enter this new phase in their lives.

July will also see the last service at Tollerton Methodist Church. After 60 years the church has decided that this particular phase of the work in Tollerton has come to an end, and the District Synod has given them permission to cease worship. We thank God for the Methodist people of Tollerton and for their faithful service to the church and community over many years. The final service will be on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Space will be limited so please watch out for more information in due course.

On a happier note, at the very end of the quarter we will be welcoming Helen Fyall as minister of Bradmore, Clifton and Keyworth Methodist churches. Many of you will know Helen from her previous time as a circuit minister here, from her work as a hospital chaplain and her preaching in our

churches over the past few years. We will be formally welcoming her into this new role at a Circuit Service on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 4pm at Keyworth, and you will be welcome to come along and support her.

## **Circuit services**

As well as the circuit farewell and welcome services there are two Circuit Services on Sunday mornings this quarter: on 29<sup>th</sup> June at Ruddington and 24<sup>th</sup> August at West Bridgford.

The Circuit Services that we have shared over the past few years have been occasions of great blessing and I do hope that as many of you as possible will join us on these Sundays.

	June 2025					July 2025					Aug 2025				
	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	
<b>Service Times</b>		Pentecost	Trinity												
Bradmore 10.15 NG11 6PE		Simpson	Collinson	Hoath (T)	CtS		Simpson	LA	Farrow		Hoath (T)	LA	Cts	Clark	
Bridgeway Hall 10.30 NG2 2JD	Foulds	Sparey HC	LA	Clark	LA	Roberts HC	LA	Beaumont	Roberts	Detain	LA	Lees HC	Cts	Roberts	
Clifton 10.30 2pm NG11 8AU	Simpson HC		Sparey (T)	LA	CtS	Farrow		PitP	LA	Lees HC		Kerr	Cts	Hoath (T)	
		Roberts ML					CtS				Roberts ML				
Cotgrave 10.30 NG12 3JR	Beaumont AA	Roberts HC	M Blyth	LA	CtS	M Blyth AA	LA	Roberts HC	Collinson	M Blyth	L Cheng AA	Roberts HC	Cts	M Blyth	
Keyworth 8.30am NG12 5AH			Simpson					Roberts				Roberts			
	10.15	Kerr	H Cheng HC	Farrow	Simpson BAP	CtS	LA	Hoath (T)	Young	Foulds	LA	H Cheng HC	Collinson	Cts	Crawford
Radcliffe on Trent 10.30 3.00 NG12 2AG	Sparey	L Cheng		Kerr	LA	Sparey HC	H Cheng		Hoath (T)	Sparey	Young		Cts	LA	
			Sparey HC					Sparey				Sparey HC			
Ruddington 10.30 NG11 6EF	Young	Hoath (T)	Simpson	LA	Simpson/Robert	Simpson	L Cheng	Kerr	Clark	Crawford HC	Sparey (T)	LA	Cts	Foulds	
Tollerton 10.30 NG12 4EA			Utd @ St P's			Simpson 3pm									
West Bridgford 10.30 NG2 7PQ	Roberts HC	Detain AA	Heard	Crawford	CtS	Detain	Roberts HC	Heard AA	LA	Kerr	Roberts AA HC	LA	Roberts Cts	Heard	
Lectionary readings	Acts 16:16-34 Rev: 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-26 John 17:20-26	Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9 Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21 John 14:8-17 (25-27)	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15	1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Luke 9:51-62	2 Kings 5:1-14 Galatians 6(1-6) 7-16 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Amos 7:7-17 Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37	Amos 8:1-12 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42	Hosea 1:2-10 Colossians 2:6-15 (16-11)	Hosea 11:1-11 Luke 12:13-21	Isalah 1:1, 10-20 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40	Isalah 5:1-7 Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17	Jeremiah 2:4-13 Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 14:1, 7-14	

Please send all requests for the next Plan to the Superintendent Minister by Friday July 11th

Key: HC- Holy Communion T- Preacher needing transport Cts - Circuit Service AA- All age ML - Memory Lane worship  
 US - United Service LA - Local arrangement CA - Church Anniversary Bap - Baptism  
 Pitp - Party in the park