NOTTINGHAM SOUTH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Preaching Plan–December 2026–February 2027



Message from Rev. Mark Roberts

Nottingham, Hereford, Derby, Lancaster, Cardiff, Northampton, Plymouth, Scotland. There can be a lot to take in at Christmas. That list is the places which need to be considered for Helen, our daughters and me, in the 2 weeks around Christmas. We have already had to make a day to day plan so we know who will be where. It is a sign of how much Christmas has changed for us over the last few years as the girls have got engaged/married and our plans are mingled with those of other families.

Rev. Andy Fyall
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Rev. Mark Roberts
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Rev. Naomi Sparey
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In those changing plans there are some things that do not change. Our nativity set (complete with the wise men on a camel, a horse an elephant) is the same one we bought in the early stages of our marriage, as is the angel that graces the top of the Christmas tree. There will be time with family, there will be Christmas pudding, there will be complaints that Christmas TV just isn't as good as it used to be. And of course there will be time spent in worship, singing carols inside, outside and at the pub, the Christmas story will be told again and again, and at midnight on Christmas Eve the Christmas candle will be lit to remind us that Christ is the light of the world.

All this reminds me of the declaration that God is ever old and ever new, first made by St Augustine 1600 years ago, but more familiar to me through the words of Sydney Carter's hymn 'One more step along the world I go'. Just as our practical arrangements for Christmas may be full of the old and new, so our experience of God at Christmas time should contain the old and new. The story we tell is an ancient one, now over 2,000 years old. It is comforting in its familiarity, coming back to its precious moments of wonder, through angels, shepherds and a manger. It reminds us of the unchanging nature of God, who was with Mary, Joseph and the Magi and is still with his people now. But it is also a story to which we come afresh each year, letting its deep message of light and hope in darkness, speak into our own lives.

So I pray that whatever our plans for Christmas, whether you are looking forward to it, or know that you may be going to struggle, we will all be touched by the power of this story which is ever old and ever new, which has transformed lives over the centuries, and can still transform them today.

Mark

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

KEYWORTH

Christmas Eve 11.30pm

Midnight Communion led by Andy Fyall

Christmas Day 10.00am

with the Baptists led by Helen Fyall

BRADMORE

Christmas Day 10.15am

led by Hilary and Leo Cheng

RADCLIFFE ON TRENT

- **18th December 4:30pm**
- Christingle led by Naomi Sparey

Christmas Eve 6pm

Led by Naomi Sparey

Christmas Day 10.00am

Led by Naomi Sparey

WEST BRIDGFORD

Christmas Eve 4.30pm

Christingle led by Mark Roberts

Christmas Eve 11.15pm

Midnight Communion led by Mark Roberts

Christmas Day 10.30am

led by Mark Roberts

COTGRAVE

Christmas Eve 7.30pm

Carol Service Led by Mark Roberts

Christmas Day 9.30am

Led by Andy Fyall

CLIFTON

10th December 6.30pm

Quiet Reflective Service



PAUL JOHNS

Most of those reading this will be aware of the news of death of Paul Johns in October. Paul was such a support during my time as Superintendent. Others will know the wider achievements of his life, but I knew him as a caring lay pastor supporting the work at Tollerton, a thoughtful preacher and a wise circuit steward. In all of these he offered a dedication to the work of God in this circuit that went above and beyond, taking his final service just three weeks before his death. My favourite memory of Paul sums this up. Not long before his 90th birthday I discovered he was up on the flat roof at Bridgeway with a hosepipe trying to find the source of the leaks, which were causing so much trouble. I'm not sure it was entirely sensible from a Health Safety perspective, but I don't think I could have stopped him.

Our prayers are with his sons Martin and Neil and all his friends and family. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Mark

CIRCUIT STEWARDS ROLES

We continue to look for new Circuit Stewards to be members of the Circuit Leadership team. Circuit Stewards play a crucial role in the Methodist Church, working alongside ministers and other Circuit staff to help shape the work of God across the Circuit.

Without Circuit stewards the Circuit is unable to exist. In these changing times, their work is more important than ever, as we face many changes and try find a way through them.

If you have a heart for the mission of the Church, and feel that you could have a part in the leadership of the Circuit, please do speak to one of the ministers or existing circuit stewards whose contact details are in this plan.

The Methodist Church

Nottingham and Derby Methodist District

Loving God loving others making disciples

Tuesday 1st December 7pm
Isaiah: Bright light in dark days

Tuesday 8th December 7pm
John the Baptist: Preparing the Way

Wednesday 16th December 7pm
Mary: Making space

Thursday 24th December 7pm
Jesus: The Word of God



The reflections 'go live' at 7pm as stated on the District Facebook Page.
All reflections will be available on the Nottingham & Derby District YouTube channel to watch, download and/or share.



Circuit Service

At West Bridgford Methodist Church

Sunday 14th February
10.30am

More details to follow at a later date

Until August 2028

Nottingham South Circuit supports...

PHAKAMISA

A Ministry of
Pinetown Methodist Church

Did you know that for the price of a daily coffee you could provide a daily bowl of porridge for a whole week for one child!











About Phakamisa Trust

Phakamisa is a charity based near Durban in South Africa and works to provide care, resources, training and support to those living in impoverished communities

Could you become a Phakamisa partner or make a one off donation, go to....

WWW.PHAKAMISA.ORG

SCAN HERE TO RECEIVE PHAKAMISA NEWS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1 Coffee Morning for Phakamisa

Keyworth Methodist Church

Saturday 6th February, 10–12 noon

Chance to chat and enjoy cake, support and learn more about the work of Phakamisa

PHAKAMISA
A Ministry of Pinetown Methodist Church

2 Circuit Quiz

Cotgrave Methodist Church

Saturday 13th March at 7pm

Quiz master – Tim Farrow

Bring a team of 3 or 4 people or come as you are and join a team. Tea/coffee and cake will be served.

Donations of £5 per person to Phakamisa



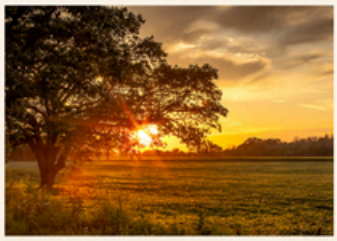
3 Quiet Day

Bradmore Methodist Church

Saturday 1st May 2027, 10am–3pm

Led by Rev. Andy Fyall, Chair of District

More details to follow



4 National Methodist Youth Brass Band in concert

Keyworth Methodist Church

Saturday 8th May 2027 at 7.30pm

Retiring collection

the National Methodist Youth Brass Band

5 Celebrating the Gift of Difference with a focus on neurodiversity

Clifton Methodist Church

Saturday 19th June 2027, 2pm–4.30pm

Following the very successful District Safeguarding Conference in June, we are providing another opportunity for people across the circuit to meet together to find out more about neurodiversity and what neurodivergent people would like the church to know through videos, discussion and times of reflection.

For more information or to book a place, contact our circuit safeguarding officer, Rosie
rosiefarrow@yahoo.co.uk

The Methodist Church

Nottingham and Derby Methodist District

Loving God, loving others, making disciples

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 10th April 2027

Cliff College Festival Day

in the Nottingham & Derby District

Theme: Being disciples who make disciples

2pm	Gather and worship led by the Cliff Team
2.30pm	**3 workshop sessions** 1. Children and young people focussed in some way 2. Bible study 3. a 'how to...' session
3.30pm	Tea break
4pm	Introduction to Cliff College
4.30pm	Celebration worship led by the Cliff Team
6pm	End

Venue : Hucknall Central Methodist Church

CLIFF FESTIVAL
28-31 MAY 2027



Join us on the Cliff College site for a weekend of worship, teaching, learning and equipping.

We hold morning and evening worship and teaching meetings, afternoon seminars and workshops, all-age activities and dedicated venues for children and young people.

Tickets and camping

Weekend passes £65 (concessions £55)
Day passes £22

Under-18s go free!

Camping plots cost £120, with group camping options and pre-set-up tents available.

Book at clifffestival.co.uk
or scan the QR code

Book here

CLIFF FESTIVAL

CLIFF COLLEGE

		December 2026				January 2027					February2027			
		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28
Service Times		Advent 2	Advent 3	Advent 4	Christmas 1	Christmas 2						Lent 1	Lent 2	Lent 3
Bradmore	10.15			Crawford HC			Fyall Cov US	LA BM	Fyall BM	Farrow BM	Whitney BM	Cts	Fyall HC	R Simpson
	3pm		Fyall CS											
NG11 6PE														
Bridgeway Hall	10.30	LA	H Cheng	Roberts HC		L Cheng	Sparey	LA	Co llinso n	Roberts Cov	LA	Cts	Sparey HC	Crawford
NG2 2JD														
Clifton	10.30	Foulds		F yall		Farrow		Fyall Cov	Detain	LA	Mo rley	Cts	Farrow	Fyall BB
	2pm		Farrow CS Chr				Roberts							
NG11 8AU														
Cotgrave	10.30	Farrow	Roberts HC	Blyth Nat		H Cheng	Blyth	Roberts Cov	LA	Blyth	Roberts HC	Cts	Blyth	Co llinso n
NG12 3JR														
Keyworth	8.30							Roberts HC					Fyall HC	
	10.15	Whitney	Fyall HC	LA AA	Roberts	Fyall Cov	Foulds	Crawford	LA	Kerr	Fyall HC	Cts	B eaumo nt	Detain
	4pm	LA Chr	6.30pm US@RC					Fyall TTP	6pm US@RC				LA TTP	6.30 Cont Fyall
NG12 5AH														
Radcliffe on Trent	10.30	Sparey HC	Sparey		F yall	Sparey Cov	Mo rley		Sparey	LA	Sparey	Cts		L Cheng
	3pm			6pm Morley CS				Roberts HC					Kerr	
NG12 2AG														
Ruddington	10.30		L Cheng	Sparey HC		Roberts	Kerr	B eaumo nt	Roberts Cov	Clark	LA	Cts	Clark	Roberts HC
	3pm	Roberts CS												
NG11 6EF														
West Bridgford	10.30	Roberts HC		LA Nat	Co llinso n	Detain	Roberts Cov	Heard	Whitney	LA	Heard	Roberts Cts	Foulds	H Cheng HC
	2pm		Roberts CS											
NG2 7PQ														
Lectionary readings		Isaiah 40: 1-11 2 Peter 3: 8-15a Mark 1: 1-8	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 1 Thess 5: 16-24 John 1: 6-8, 19-28	2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16 Romans 16: 25-27 Luke 1: 26-38	Isaiah 61: 10 - 62:3 Galatians 4: 4-7 Luke 2: 22-40	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:10-18	Genesis 1: 1-5 Acts 19: 1-7 Mark 1: 4-11	1Sam 3: 1-10 (11-20) 1 Cor 6: 12-20 John 1: 43-51	Jonah 3: 1-5,10 1 Cor 7: 29-31 Mark 1: 14-20	Deut 18: 15-20 1 Cor 8: 1-13 Mark 1: 21-28	2 Kings 2:1-12 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9	Genesis 9:8-17 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38	Exodus 20:1-17 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

Please send all requests for the next Plan to the Superintendent Minister by Monday 11th January

Key: HC- Holy Communion US-United service Cts - Circuit Service Cont- Contemporary Service CA- Church Anniversary CS Carol Service
AA- All age LA - Local arrangement Chr - Christingle TTP - Tea time praise BM - Bible month Cov - Covenant