

MRBC

CHURCH MAGAZINE—NOVEMBER 2025



Mansfield Road Baptist Church

Thought for the Month from our Minister

This last month has been a month of change and new starts for me and for us as a church. Often at times like this, we can ask ourselves what change means, what will it look like, and what difference it might make. These questions have been on my mind in this first month of my ministry here at Mansfield Road.

During this season of change, I've been reminded of Mother Teresa - a person known and remembered for the incredible work she did and the legacy of hope and care that she left behind her. October 7th was the anniversary of the community she formed, later known as the Missionaries of Charity. From the small beginnings of that work 70 years ago, Mother Teresa went on to achieve so much, prioritising work with the elderly and most vulnerable people in her community. Mother Teresa died in 1997, but by this time her work has spread on a global scale with over "4000 Missionaries of Charity serving the poorest of the poor through 610 foundations in 123 countries"*.

The impact of this work can feel overwhelming when we consider what we do in God's name and the sometimes limited vision we possess. But when we consider Mother Teresa's life, it might be comforting to know that she struggled - by her own admission she had times where her faith was challenged and the persona that was celebrated by the world didn't always reflect the struggle she faced inside.

Whilst the work that Mother Teresa did is undoubtedly wonderful and to be an inspiration to us in the ministry we embark on, it's critical to remember that this was in fact God's work. It was Mother Teresa's willingness to be used by God that yielded such an amazing ministry. Today, it's the same God we serve and the potential for something great to grow out of that isn't based on our ability, skills and talents, but the vision and grace of God. I wonder what God might do with us if we let our dreams and imagination run wild with the same willingness that Mother Teresa demonstrated?

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* Source - Lectio 365 / 24-7 Prayer

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As I continue to settle into this new role and we begin our journey together, I'd like to express my thanks for the welcome I've received.

God bless, Matt

CHURCH DIARY for NOVEMBER

Sunday Service each week at 10.30am with groups for the children and young people.

Shalom Fellowship—Sunday 2nd November— 2.30pm

Toddler Group—Every Monday— 10.00am-11.45am

PFA Meeting—Monday 3rd November—1.30pm

Renew Wellbeing Café—Every Thursday—1.30pm-4.00pm

Reflective Prayer Meeting—Thursday 6th & 20th — 11am-12 noon

Link-Up Lunch—Friday 7th November—12 noon—The Willow Tree Inn

Remembrance Sunday—9th November

Deacon's Meeting—12th November—7.00pm

Shoebox Collection—Sunday 16th November



PRAYER POINTS

- 1) Pray for God's peace in all areas of hostility and conflict.
- 2) Pray for God's grace to sustain those living under the threat of the oppression that they can be granted hope and courage.
- 3) Pray for our leaders that they may be guided by integrity, compassion and vision working not for power but for the flourishing of all.
- 4) Pray for our church family; those who are sick and suffering loss, who are grieving the death of loved ones.
- 5) Pray for "Peter and Paul" and "Andrea and Ian" in their work with BMS World Mission.



We would like to **thank you all** for helping us raise £143.00 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

We as a family, who have been through the fight of cancer multiple times, know how important this money is going to be. We are grateful for our church community and the support given. May God continue to bless us all.

Thanks to Anne and the Renew Wellbeing Café for having us there. It was lovely to be part of it .

Love from Sandra and Veralee xx

(Footnote—we are so very sorry to hear that Sandra has since died. Thoughts and prayers are with Veralee and the family)



Harvest Collection

£273.50 was the great sum collected on 19th October for Operation AGRI. We watched a video explaining their annual harvest appeal which showed the Imarika

project in Tanzania. Imarika helps village communities learn to save, invest and work together. They start tree nurseries, for fruit and trees. They learn to improve soil for better crops and can also learn bee-keeping and other ways to earn money and lift families out of poverty.



BMS Birthday Scheme

If you would like to support Baptist World Mission in their work, you could join the BMS Birthday Scheme. You receive a card on your birthday and make a donation for their work.

For more details or to join, see ***Jenny Hall.***

Voluntary Offerings for the work of MRBC

There are some double-sided postcards now available in the Welcome Hall and church pews as a way of advertising the various ways of giving to the work of the church. Feel free to take a card, and if you currently give cash, perhaps you might consider giving by one of the other means.

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOUR VOLUNTARY OFFERINGS TOWARDS THE WORK OF MANSFIELD ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

Did you know that you can now give to the church in four ways?



1. With cash
2. By card using the facility in the Welcome Hall
3. On-line using this QR link
4. By bank transfer — see overleaf



Charity No: 1128270

www.mrbc.org.uk

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A VOLUNTARY OFFERING TOWARDS THE WORK OF MANSFIELD ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

(either a one-off donation, or by standing order) this can be made direct to the church account:

Account name: Mansfield Road Baptist Church (Nottingham)

Sort code: 40 35 18

Account no: 21761862

For alternative ways of giving, please see overleaf.

Also: If you pay income tax, please ask the treasurer (Alan Joddrell) for a Gift Aid form so that the Church can claim additional funds. Thank you.

Charity No: 1128270

www.mrbc.org.uk

Link-up Lunch

At the last Link-up Lunch 21 adults, 1 toddler and 1 brand new baby joined us. Bibzy graced our food before we ate and we all had a wonderful time celebrating being in one another's company.

We took a moment to remember our dear church sister Rosella who passed away on Thursday 10th October 2025. Our thoughts go out to Marcel who is her grandson and their family. We shared how we all remember seeing Rosella and Marcel together in church and at other church occasions.

We have changed the lunch meeting time to start at 12noon. This is because we identified that if we don't finish and pay by 2pm this can cause some confusion at the till, as prices change and go into the evening meal price settings on the tills. There were some discrepancies when we went to pay which meant that we were NEARLY overcharged.

Anyway, this was a lesson for us all, so we have a new "Ground Rules": we must ALL pay at the table before anyone leaves & payments must be made BEFORE 2pm.

Let's not be troubled by all of this. It was a lesson for the restaurant staff too. Maybe we were their teachers too because, if we had been given this information at the beginning, we would not have had this issue.

A reflection about this brings to mind: Ecclesiastes 3:1: *"To everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."*

Sending you all virtual hugs and looking forward to seeing all who can at the next Link-up Lunch:

DATE: Friday 7th NOVEMBER 2025

TIME: 12:00

PLACE: The Willow Tree Inn, 311 Nottingham Road. NG7 7DA

Please let us know if you are coming and we will book you a seat. We are looking forward to seeing you there. Please click on this link to find menu and restaurant details: <https://www.stadiumleisure.co.uk/about-5>

We are all hoping that Norma is feeling better as she has offered to read a small verse from the bible - we are all looking forward to that...

Thank you

Jeniba 0798 541 8848 & Audra 0797 310 2886

May the Lord of Peace Himself give you peace (2 Thessalonians 3:16)

I was going about my business recently - walking, thinking, praying, asking God to help me get through the worries and pains that I was going through. I saw a lady coming towards me and I said, "Good morning, how are you today?"

"Not good," she replied. "My husband is in hospital."

I asked what was the matter with him, and she told me he had been diagnosed with a disease. I didn't ask what the disease was, but said trust in God, for he will give you the strength to cope. For our God is good. Amen to that. I said my name was Hazel, and she told me that she was Grace. I said that my son was in hospital too. She replied that she was sorry, and asked me how I coped. I told her it was through God's strength and peace.

Sickness, financial difficulties or danger may be present in our lives but peace reassures us that God holds our lives in His hands. "And we can trust that things will work together for good, for God is in control". (Psalm 31 14-15)

The apostle Paul said: "May the Lord of peace himself give you peace, and may we feel this peace at all times and in every way".

Dear Lord, please give me your peace at all times and in every situation. I place my life and my worries into your hands. Amen.

Hazel O'Connor

Shoeboxes for Christmas

A reminder that if you would like to participate and provide some "love in a box", please take a box and information leaflet from church, fill it with small gifts and return it to church by **Sunday 16 November**. Thank you in anticipation for your support.



About our Church

If you are new to the church or just visiting, you may find this page helpful.

You can expect a warm welcome and a friendly group of people of all backgrounds and ages gathering to learn more about God.

We meet every Sunday at 10.30am for our Sunday Service. During school term time groups for children and young people from 3 - 18 are held downstairs, with a crèche available for under threes. Stewards in the Welcome Hall will be happy to show you where to take your children. Join us for coffee/tea and biscuits in the Church Hall after the service.

The Shalom Fellowship meets on the first Sunday every month at 2.30pm for worship and teaching in Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu.

Toddler Group meets Mondays during term time from 10.00am to 11.45am. Parents, grandparents and carers are warmly invited to bring along the children in their care to enjoy play and activities.

Reflective Prayer Group meets fortnightly on Thursdays from 11am to 12 noon. All welcome.

Renew Wellbeing Café meets Thursdays from 1.30pm to 4.00pm. Join us for activities, chat and refreshments.

For specific dates of the above activities please see the Diary section of the magazine. If you would like to get in touch with someone at the church office please use the contact details below.

Room Hire: Different rooms are available for hire.

Phone: 0115 9604304 during office hours—Mon-Fri 9.00am-2.30pm

Email: admin@mrbc.org.uk

Church Address: Mansfield Road Baptist Church, Corner of Sherwood Rise/ Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 6JN

Car Parking is allowed on a Sunday in the Page Kirk / Jarodale House car park along Gregory Boulevard. On weekdays the Sports Car Park opposite should be used. Disabled parking only on the church forecourt.

A big “thank you” to all contributors this edition. Please continue to furnish us with YOUR news, YOUR pictures, YOUR poem, YOUR story, any articles of interest to others. Please give to Susan Bye or Sharon Joddrell at church or post or send by email to susan@msbye.co.uk, to arrive by 15th November for the December/January edition.

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Website: www.mrbc.org.uk