



June 2nd 2019

**Welcome to St. Peter's, we hope
you enjoy your time with us.
Please stay for some
refreshments afterwards!**

More thoughts on measuring success

Last week I wrote about the dangers of achievementism because I often ask what I am I really achieving with what I do. As I reflect on the life and teaching of Jesus, and on those things that contribute to the Kingdom of God, could my time be better spent?

Preoccupation with measuring and control has become a dominant feature of modern organisational management. Many organisations use key performance indicators (KPIs) and other similar tools to measure every aspect of their employees' work.

The Church has been drawn into this model of measuring productivity and value for money. The questions is frequently posed, "How can we put money into something if we cannot measure what the outcomes or results will be?" However, much ministry does not respond easily or well to these models of management theory.

It can be very difficult to break free of the compulsion to achieve, to always be doing something that seems important or valuable. Returning to a life enjoying ourselves without any goals or achievements is difficult, if not impossible, for many of us.

The danger for the Church and for Christians is that we are conformed inwardly and outwardly to the prevailing culture of micro-management and control. We measure what we are doing, we evaluate, and we demand more of ourselves and those around us. The Church neglects or even forsakes the values of the Kingdom of God: love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness and kindness, justice and truthfulness.

We collude, instead, with a driven secular culture that constantly compares, competes and seeks to maximise profit and efficiency. When we go too far in accepting the practices and values of secular management, we weaken our ability to hold before the world a different way of seeing and knowing what is important. Surely, we are more important than outcomes and profits. We are made for greater things than this.

If we are driven by achievementism, we are always competing and comparing. How am I doing? What am I hoping that others will notice? We may damage relationships with colleagues and friends, and poison our own hearts with the relentless and often unrealistic demands that we place on ourselves. When this is how we live, we can never truly rest. There is always something more to be done.

As we serve in difficult situations and sometimes do not see much to show for our efforts, many good things are still happening. They may seem small and insignificant, but God is at work. Our hope for the future lies in the knowledge that God is with us, and he holds the future of the Church.

Paul

Coming soon

Today, Lunch together after the service

You are invited to join us, and bring the family – all are welcome to come to lunch after the 10.45 service – and with a dingbats quiz too! Next date is July 7th.

Monday, June 4th, City Deanery Celebration at 7.30pm with Bishop Libby at St. Mark's Derby, Francis Street, DE21 6DE

Bishop Libby, the new Bishop of Derby, is spending two days in the City Deanery learning about the city and what we are trying to do. Bishop Libby wants to meet as many people as possible, so her visit will end with a Deanery Celebration Service, when we will have the opportunity to welcome her.

Tuesday, June 11th, 2.30, Afternoon Tea

With a different theme each month, come and enjoy a tea that has been described as *'just like at The Savoy!'* This is followed by Service of Evening Prayer at 3.45-4.00.

Saturday, June 15th, Derby Christian Women's Network meeting, 10.00-2.00

Meeting at YWAM, Overcame House, Whitaker Road, Littleover, this has replaced the Prayer Breakfast this month.

Saturday, July 13th, from 8.00 – 10.00am, Prayer Breakfast

This is our monthly prayer breakfast, all welcome.

Nick Parish on a St. Peter's placement

My name's Nick Parish. I was born in England, but grew up in Seychelles, where I lived until I was 4, and Pakistan, where I lived until I was 14, where my parents were missionaries.

We returned to England so that my older brother could do his A Levels. After finishing school, I did a Theology degree in Durham, and then returned home to Worthing to do teacher training. I then worked at our local High School teaching RE.

In 2003, I married Anna, continued to teach RE, then became Head of Department. After a year, I moved to managing the school's behaviour support provision. Our first son, Joshua, was born in 2006. In 2008, we moved to Repton, where we ran a boarding house for 10 years. During this time, our second son, Luke, was born.

During a visit to our church in Worthing, the vicar said he felt I should consider ordination, which I'd been thinking about for some time, this was the nudge I needed to get the ball rolling. In September, after being recommended for training, I began a three year course at Queen's in Birmingham (where John Ferguson is studying!). It's a place of great variety, and I'm enjoying becoming a part of the community there.

We still live in Repton, and attend the village church. During my summer term placement at St. Peter's, I'm looking forward to meeting and getting to know you, and also discovering as much as I can about all that St. Peter's offers the community. I'll try to get involved as much as I can, both on Sundays and during the week.

PCC Update

PCC news

This was the first 'normal' meeting of the new PCC following the Inside Out special meeting in March. Newly elected members were welcomed, but due to the small size of the PCC, it was agreed to co-opt Bill Poole as an additional member.

Friday Service

Derby City Mission are now leading this service with support from those who have led in the past. DCM will continue without this support from September.

Inside Out

We are both encouraged and challenged, and seek the prayers of the congregation for this ministry with ex-offenders and those in danger of offending or re-offending. The Inside Out community is growing, the numbers of participants meeting with mentors is growing, but our need for more resources is also growing.

Leadership Community Day on June 22nd

This will be a significant occasion as we set time aside at Bradbourne Church Hall, near Ashbourne, to pray and look at the scriptures and seek guidance for the vision, strategy and future ministry of St. Peter's.

Safeguarding

We are making progress with completing the Safeguarding requirements. A 'Promoting a Safer Church' has come from the Deputy National Safeguarding Adviser to the Church of England and is now on the noticeboard.

Hilary Streek

For personal reasons, Hilary has resigned as Paul's Personal Assistant, which includes the role of Administrator at St. Peter's. We are so grateful for all that Hilary achieved in her role, doing excellent work, and we shall express our appreciation in the near future. We are looking to make a new appointment shortly.

Lent Project

This year the Lent Project is supporting Brace Bridge in Kolkata, where the Dalit community live by the railway tracks; & Green Pastures, who provide accommodation and much more for the homeless. The Lent Project will close today.

Prayer ...

People wearing a 'Prayer Team' badge would be glad to pray for you. Do not hesitate to ask for prayer, this can be for any concern you have, it needn't be a crisis! We all face difficulties and challenges, and prayer works! Or maybe you would like to thank God for answered prayer. `Whatever your situation, we'd love to pray with you! In an emergency, call Bren (07967 183601), and those on the prayer chain will pray for you.

IN THE WEEK

Monday to Friday, 10.00-3.00: Church is open

Tuesday and Friday, 11.00-12.30: refreshments are served

Friday, 12.30: Lunchtime Service

Space to take notes from today's readings, prayers and sermon.

St. Peter's in the City Staff:

Vicar: Revd. Canon Paul Morris
paul@stpetersderby.org.uk

Building Manager: Melvyn Wood
Kitchen Supervisor: Gillian Wood

Associate Priest: Revd. Anita Matthews
anita@stpetersderby.org.uk

Church Wardens: Tim Benson, Sung-Hee Lee
Inside Out Team: Wayne Haycock

Administrator: Position vacant
office@stpetersderby.org.uk

We are a community of faith, hope and love in the heart of the city
Follow us on Twitter: @stpetersderby
www.stpetersderby.org.uk

St. Peter's Centre office (01332 360790) is open:

Monday to Thursday from 9.00-2.30

Parish Safeguarding Link: Revd. Anita Matthews