



March 8th 2020

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

Resolve to read the Bible

As we journey through Lent, please resolve to read the Bible, and not in a selective way of only reading the 'greatest hits' passages, but of seriously going through the whole Bible. It will be an effort but let me give you three encouragements.

Firstly, the Bible is a *living* book. Unlike any other book ever written there is *life* in this book. You could say that the Bible lives because it is always fresh, relevant and never outdated. It lives at a deeper level because it was inspired by God's Spirit and that same Spirit speaks powerfully through it today. The Bible is more than simply words on pages, it is a powerful channel through which God meets with us. Through reading its pages we enter into the presence of God and the written word reveals God's eternal Word, Jesus. As it is a living book, and as we read the Bible, we find that it reads us; an interaction that may be uplifting or challenging.

Secondly, the Bible is a *giving* book. It is said that some books 'repays reading' but that phrase was never more truly spoken than of the Bible. Read it and you will be repaid with interest. In its pages are hope for the dismayed, strength for the defeated and peace for the downhearted. There is courage for today, confidence for tomorrow and joy for eternity. Whether we have had family difficulties or a life-changing moment where your doctor says, 'I have to tell you ...' God's word gives us what we need when we need it. In God's word is strength and serenity.

Third, the Bible is a *forgiving* book. We have all done, said and thought what is wrong and have failed to do those things that are right. In ourselves we are separated from God and we need to be forgiven and be brought back into a right relationship with him. The Bible offers forgiveness that is both possible and accessible by revealing to us the Christ who took our place and bore our judgement.

The Bible is a book that is living, giving and forgiving and I urge you to read it in Lent. Start with the New Testament, and read about Jesus in the four Gospels.

We do not live in a neutral world but are constantly bombarded by the media, Internet, our family and friends, with an endless succession of messages telling us how we should live. The choice we face is whether to let the Bible influence our life, or let everyone and everything else do it.

Let's read the Bible humbly, confidently and prayerfully and, in particular, expectantly. May we find within its pages God's living, giving and forgiving message and be refreshed, renewed and re-visioned during this season of Lent.

Paul

Coming soon

Today, March 8th, 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 fun dingbats quiz too! Other occasions when we are having lunch are when we have Resource (see notice below).

Tuesday, March 10th, 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. The next date is March 31st.

Saturday, March 28th, 8.00 – 10.00am, Prayer Breakfast

This is our monthly prayer breakfast, all welcome. Next date is April 25th.

Sunday, March 29th, Derby 10k Road Race and 3K Fun Run

The Derby 10K is a 10-kilometre road race, organised by Derby County Community Trust that starts and finishes Pride Park Stadium and passes some of the city's iconic landmarks. The race takes place every year and is Derby County Community Trust's biggest fundraiser. This event will affect the Pride Park area and parts of the City for a few hours that morning and will lead to temporary traffic delays. A course map and times affecting various areas can be seen on the map on the noticeboard.



DERBY COUNTY
Community Trust

Sunday April 26th, Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) SAVE THE DATE

Please save the date and make sure you join us for our APCM, where we look back with gratitude for all that has happened over the past year, and we look forward with faith and expectancy for all that is to come. This year our APCM will take place during the 10.45 service, together with Brunch!

Lent Programme

Lent Resource

It has been a few years since we did Resource, which describes the occasion where we learn together about a particular subject for an hour or so, with food! At our last PCC meeting, it was suggested that we do this during Lent, to complement our learning in Lent Groups. This will take place after the 10.45 Service on Sundays March 29th and April 5th, over a bring and share lunch. More details will be available soon, but for now, please reserve the dates.

Good news

A grant has been received from All Saints Trust for £2,000 towards the appointment of a full-time Inside Out Project Manager. Church members of Derby Cathedral are the Trustees.

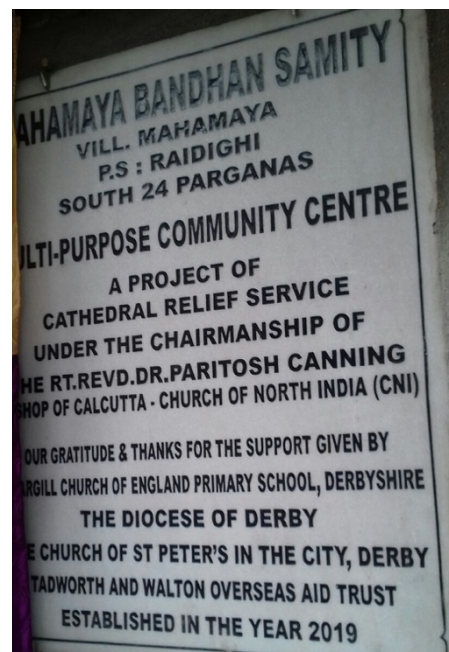
Anita writes about the Lent Project 2020

It's that time of year again – the pancakes have been eaten, and we're entering into the season of Lent. Tim spoke last Sunday about some of the ways we might mark Lent and draw closer to God through giving something up or taking something on, and there are Lent books available to borrow from the library in church.

At St. Peter's we also take the opportunity to focus on mission around the world through our Lent Project. This enables us to hear about and pray for projects which are making a real difference to local communities and expressing God's love in action. This year the PCC has once again agreed to support the work of the Cathedral Relief Service (CRS) in Kolkata, Northern India.

CRS works in city slums in metropolitan Kolkata and in rural villages in surrounding districts. Last year we supported a new project, Brace Bridge, which provides health facilities, education and women's empowerment projects for some of the poorest people in Kolkata who live in makeshift houses along the railway tracks. This year we will be supporting the Dorcas project – more about that next week!

But at the start of Lent I'd like to look back to the 2018 Lent Project; we raised money for the Mahamaya Bandhan Samity Project, a three storey community centre in a village in South Parganas, West Bengal. The ground floor will house a school for the children of the village and from 8 surrounding villages; the second floor will be a health centre offering desperately needed medical facilities; and the top floor will be used as a training centre to enable women to gain skills in needlework and set up small businesses. On 30th January I was present as the Centre was officially opened and blessed by the Bishop of Kolkata, with great rejoicing, joy and gratitude! It is a significant new beginning for the community in Mahamaya and the nearby villages – please pray for the ongoing work of this project.



And on behalf of the community there, **huge thanks** to everyone at St. Peter's for the £3000 which was given as part of our 2018 Lent Project. What an inspiration at the start of our Lent Project 2020! May we be encouraged to give and to pray generously and joyfully in the coming weeks.

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, 9.00-4.00: 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

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

Vicar's PA and Church Administrator
Kismet Barber
office@stpetersderby.org.uk

Inside Out Project Worker: Wayne Haycock
wayne@insideoutderby.org.uk

Building Manager: Melvyn Wood
Kitchen Supervisor: Gillian Wood

Church Wardens: Tim Benson, Sung-Hee Lee

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 Links: Revd. Anita Matthews and Kismet Barber