



March 14th 2021

**Greetings in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ.
In this time of uncertainty,
we declare: Jesus is Lord!**

Mothers Day...and Lent Project 2020

Yes, you read that right! This is an update on last year's Lent Project, when we raised money for 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. And during Lent last year we raised money for the Dorcas Project, supporting women - most of them young mothers.

The Dorcas project takes its name and inspiration from the story of Acts 9: 36 – 42 where we read about the disciple Dorcas (also known as Tabitha), who “was always doing good and helping the poor,”(verse 36). In particular, Dorcas supported widows, some of the most vulnerable women in society, and made clothing for them.

The Dorcas Project similarly seeks to help vulnerable women living in the slums of Kolkata by offering them training in sewing and embroidery. This enables them to find employment, either with local textile companies or with a business run by CRS, Nari Dana. Some take up a small loan from CRS after completing training to set up their own small business and work from their homes.

Two weeks ago, just as we were launching this year's Lent Project, I received photos of the formal opening of the Dorcas Project in February, which was funded through last year's Lent Project.



The difference that this project will make to young mothers in Kolkata who struggle to feed their families is huge. More than 50 women are already enrolled in the new centre, with more to come as the project gains momentum.

What an incentive as we raise money for our 3 projects this year – for the Brace Bridge project in Kolkata, for the Green Lanes Contact Centre, and for the work of Derventio Housing Trust. Thank you for your generosity in the past, and please consider prayerfully what you can give this year.

With my prayers and love, *Anita*

Thoughts on easing lockdown – from Kintsugi Hope

At Kintsugi Hope we have been speaking about how different personalities will respond to the easing of lockdown restrictions, I am feeling desperate for some sense of normality however some are feeling a dread of business returning again and not being able to cope. However we are feeling, I think it is important that we create a safe space for people to express their excitement or anxiety. We all deal with things differently and no response is more valid than the other.

Simon Barrington our Chair of Trustees has recently released a paper talking about "reverse culture shock". Reverse culture shock can be defined as returning to a state of living that once was familiar, relationships that were familiar but have somehow changed. This can be a disorienting state to be in and one that we should all be prepared for.

In the paper he describes four stages:

1. **Recognise** that everyone will go through reverse culture shock at different speeds. Our experiences have been different and our re-entry will be different. Different for homeschoolers, home-workers, key workers, retired people and those who have lost loved ones.

2. **Allow** for different personality types. Those who will want to get on immediately with re-building and partying and those who need time to process what has happened. Watch out particularly for those who will become marginalised as part of this processing.

3. **Expect** a period of re-adjustment and a psychological, emotional and cultural response to the rollercoaster of emotions we will experience - from honeymoon periods of joy to depths of despair. Watch out particularly for the temptation to become critical of the new norm.

4. **Facilitate** people being able to reflect on their journey, tell their story and wrestle with meaning and purpose.

In conclusion, my encouragement to you would be continue to Go Gently, the next 6 months will not be easy and are still very unknown so give yourself space and time to process the change.

Show compassion, as said before, facilitate those who you are close with, your staff teams, your families, space to process their feelings and concerns with extra patience.

Stay connected, try your best to communicate through this transition with others, don't struggle alone.

A Prayer for patience

If things take time

Let hope hold on

If solutions are slow

May I stay strong

Give me a farmer's faith, God

For fruit in due season

Due Season in Twitturgies, Gerard Kelly

Pray as you go: A Lenten Retreat

Some of you may know the Jesuit prayer app “Pray as you go”, which is currently hosting a Lenten retreat. It’s based around Ignatius’ spiritual exercises and is entitled “Growing Back Better” (no it’s not a political slogan!) They explain that 2020 has challenged us and confronted us with the question of whether we want to go back to how things were or to “grow back better.” Here’s a quote from their Introduction to the retreat:

“We could see the experience of 2020 as a particularly difficult stile we have to climb, as we move from the field of all that is past to the field of all we can become. If we go over this stile and embrace the invitation to transformation, we will discover that the path leads us first through the kind of upheaval we are all experiencing in our times, but also holds out the promise of a very new and different tomorrow. Upheaval, it turns out, is the catalyst for change. In the beginning we recall, the Spirit hovered not over order but over chaos, bringing forth a new creation.”

(Even though we’re well into Lent now it’s well worth checking out!

pray-as-you-go.org)

From Christian Aid: Give thanks for your vaccine

As more of our family, friends, and neighbours receive their COVID vaccinations, we rejoice and are glad that our loved ones are protected. We give thanks for all the NHS staff and key workers who continue to save lives across the UK.

For the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, there is little hope of a vaccine rollout. These people already face a lack of water, food, and healthcare.

Some are homeless. Some are living with underlying health issues such as HIV. Christian Aid is already on the ground, helping keep people safe from coronavirus with practical support – but with your gift of thanks we can do more.

Have you or your loved ones had your vaccine? Please give thanks with a donation to help protect our global neighbours while the vaccine is out of reach. Visit <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-donate/give-thanks-your-coronavirus-vaccine> to donate.

Prayer ...

In this testing time, do not hesitate to ask for prayer for any concern you have. We all face difficulties and challenges, but prayer makes a difference. In an emergency, call Bren (07967 183601), and she will ask those on the prayer chain to pray for you.

Sunday Worship

10:15am Holy Communion: The PCC has made the decision to pause our 10.15am service to reduce social contact and the possibility of transmission of the new and highly contagious Covid strain. We continue to monitor the situation, and we will reopen when we feel it is safe to do so. Watch this space for more details. In the meanwhile, everyone is welcome to join us for our Zoom worship (see below).

11am Worship via Zoom: see below for joining details.

Joining Details for Zoom Worship

On a Computer, Laptop, Smart Phone or Tablet:

The easiest way is to click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/450891605?pwd=czNCTTJuaUJpQ3VlOVlnUm1zS0tKQT09>

Alternatively:

1. Open Zoom and select 'Join' or 'Join a Meeting'
2. Enter the Meeting ID: **450 891 605**
3. Select 'Join'
4. When prompted for the Meeting Password, enter **73837**
5. Select 'Continue' or 'Join Meeting' and you will be connected

By Phone – these are the numbers you must now use:

1. Pick any one of the numbers below (doesn't matter which), if one doesn't work, pick another: 0203 481 5240 ; 0131 460 1196 ; 0203 051 2874 ; 0203 481 5237
2. Dial the number and when prompted for the Meeting ID press: **450 891 605#**
3. You will then be prompted for a Participant ID, just press **#**
4. Finally, you will be prompted for the Meeting Password, press: **73837#**
5. You will be connected and able to hear everything that is happening

If you have problems with accessing the service on Sunday, please call Anita

St. Peter's in the City Staff:

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Kitchen Supervisor: Gillian Wood

Church Wardens: Tim Benson, Liz Runcorn

We are a community of faith, hope and love in the heart of the city

Follow us on Twitter: [@stpetersderby](https://twitter.com/stpetersderby)

www.stpetersderby.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Link: Janet MacIntyre, 07828 280455

IN THE WEEK

The church office is closed until further notice, but telephone calls to the Office on 01332 360790 and emails to office@stpetersderby.org.uk will be monitored