

March 28th 2021
**Greetings in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ.
In this time of uncertainty,
we declare: Jesus is Lord!**

A Word for Lent: Vulnerable

A friend of mine has written a Lent series, “40 Words for 40 Days”, in which a single word is explored each day with its relevance for the gospel. Here’s a taster from day 29, focussing on the word ‘vulnerable’ – powerful words for our times.



Pandemic, racial and social injustice and the climate crisis are each playing their part in increasing the vulnerability of vast swathes of the world’s population - domestically, educationally, economically, mentally, physically, emotionally, spiritually. Who is standing with them?

In Poussin’s painting above (1653), we are in Jerusalem. There’s a rumpus in the Temple. A woman has been dragged before Jesus by some religious leaders. Out to trap him, they ask for his advice. Should they stone this adulteress to death? John describes Jesus bending down to write in the dust under a barrage of accusatory questions. Then, “Whoever is without sin can cast the first stone,” he says (John 8.7). The men begin to slink away. Soon, Jesus and the woman will be alone. She’ll start to breathe again.

Two vulnerable people are centre-stage. First there’s the figure on her knees looking humiliated and intimidated. And no wonder. The accusers of this lone, disgraced woman are educated and influential men in a patriarchal world: they not only outnumber her but completely overwhelm her in the power stakes. Then there’s the red-robed Jesus who, in standing with the woman, has seriously antagonised his adversaries. Those who act as voices for the vulnerable make themselves vulnerable. Speaking truth to power is costly.

Today, may we not only find you standing with us in our vulnerability, but also, O Christ, have the courage to stand with others in theirs. Amen.

With my prayers and love, *Anita*

Holy Week and Easter Services

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, 28th March. We are really looking forward to re-opening the church building for a simple half-hour service of Holy Communion at 10.15am. We will then have a Palm Sunday service of celebration at 11am on Zoom. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 6pm on Zoom we will have a simple bible reading, short reflection and prayers (lasting 30 minutes maximum) - **please have a Bible to hand.**

On Maundy Thursday at 6pm we will share in a simple service of Holy Communion – **please have bread/crackers, wine/juice to hand.**

On Good Friday we will gather at 12 noon (also on Zoom) for a time of reflection at the foot of the cross – **please note that this service will last around an hour.**

On Saturday at 6pm (Zoom) we will again meet on Zoom for a simple bible reading, short reflection and prayers – **please have a Bible to hand.**

And finally, on Easter Day, there will be a half-hour Easter Communion in church at 10.15am, followed by Easter worship with Holy Communion on Zoom at 11am - **please have bread/crackers, wine/juice to hand.**

Please do join us for our Holy Week worship. Usual zoom details – please see below!

Don't forget...

The clocks go forward on Sunday! Less sleep for us all, but ushering in summertime!!!

From Liz...Anyone up for a fish breakfast in Cleethorpes?

Whilst writing the profile, I contacted the tower master Alan Rowe and thought some people might be interested in the fascinating history of St Peter's Tower which he sent in return.

A previous pandemic:

28/10/1593

Derby Daily Telegraph 24/12/1927

TALE OF 'THE TERROR'

Derby's Darkest Christmas

All through the long winter the disease raged, and that Christmas bells of St Warbur's, All Hallows and St Peter's were silent, the streets were deserted, the solemn passing bell being the only sound that broke the awful stillness.

...

At last, there came the miracle. On the 28th October, 1593. the carts which went their gruesome round returned empty for the first time for over 12 months. The town's bailiffs were told, and enquiries made in all the streets where the plague had been reported. It was then found to have ceased.

The entry in records says: "For it ceased upon a sodayne. at what time it was dispersed in every corner of this whole parishe. there were not two houses together free from it. and yet the Lord had the Angell stey as in David's time. His name he blessed for itt. - Edward Bennett. Minister."

Then the bells of All Saints, St Alkmund's, St Warbur's, and St Peter's pealed forth their glad music. The unusual sound was heard all round the country districts, and the news spread like wildfire.

Ecumenical thinking in 19th century:

28/11/1895
Derby Daily Telegraph

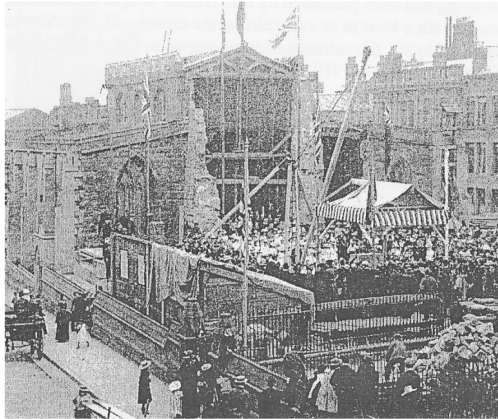
ST PETER'S TOWER

GENEROUS ACTION OF A CATHOLIC CITIZEN
TO THE EDITOR OF THE DERBY DAILY TELEGRAPH

Sir,

I was very pleased to read in your last night's paper that an effort was being made to rebuild the tower of St Peter's, one of the landmarks of our old town. There is no doubt that in its present state it is an eyesore to the centre of the town, and I should think all Derby people, of no matter what sect or creed, are interested in good work of this description. Certainly, at the end of the 19th century, all religious bigotry should be put on one side in such a matter, and all who think anything of this good old town should interest themselves in the movement. I myself, Mr Editor, have risen from a poor boy, and am a Roman Catholic, but am interested in anything for the good of the town, and will very willingly subscribe £20 for so good an object. Trusting my other fellow citizens who are not of the same denomination as our friends at St Peter's will follow, - I remain, yours truly,

C Dould
Spa-lane Mills, Derby,
November 28th, 1895.



And finally the fish breakfast in Cleethorpes!

22/06/1907
Derby Daily Telegraph 26/06/1907

ST PETER'S DERBY

The annual outing of the members of St Peter's choir and bell-ringers took place last Saturday, when about 50 members travelled to Cleethorpes in a saloon. Leaving Friargate at 5.45, an enjoyable journey was made, arriving at the destination at 9.45. The Dolphin Hotel had been selected for the entertainments, and all were ready for the excellent fish breakfast prepared by the proprietor Mr F Pratt. The meal over, the party spent the morning in visiting the docks and fish market at Grimsby, returning to the hotel for dinner at 2.30, where they were joined by his Worship the Mayor and Sir Edwin Ann. Dinner was everything that could be desired, and after all had done full justice to the same the following toasts were drunk: "The King" proposed by Sir Edwin Ann, who said they did well to honour his Gracious Majesty, who was that day entertaining those styled his loyal subjects at the Royal garden party.

Anyone wanting to read further can go to <https://sites.google.com/view/dccr> and for the mathematicians amongst us, you can see how the bellringers have been 'practising' every week in lockdown. New ringers are always welcome!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71G7jjRwCrM>

Lent Project Our Lent Project is open for donations – please give generously!

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 10.15am: simple service of Holy Communion

Please book in by 12 noon on Friday. If you have internet access, booking is via the Eventbrite website, using this link: <https://stpetersderby.eventbrite.co.uk>. Alternatively please call the Church Office (01332 360790) and leave a message - we will book you in. Please tell us if you are coming with others from your household. We need to collect name, address and phone details and keep them for 21 days in case we have to provide a list of attendees for track and trace purposes.

11am: Worship via Zoom: Joining Details

On a Computer, Laptop, Smart Phone or Tablet: Click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/450891605?pwd=czNCTTJuaUJpQ3VIOVlnUm1zS0tKQT09>

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

St. Peter's in the City Staff:

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

Vicar's PA and Church Administrator
Vacant
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Inside Out Project Worker: Wayne Haycock
wayne@insideoutderby.org.uk

Building Manager: Melvyn Wood
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; www.stpetersderby.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Link: Janet MacIntyre, 07828 280455. Please note that copies of the Safeguarding Policy are available in the Church Office or at www.derby.anglican.org/safeguarding

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