



April 4th 2021

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

He is risen!

Anne Rice is well-known for her best-selling novels on vampires, and each one involves huge amounts of historical research. In the 1990's she became fascinated by the story of Jesus and decided to write a novel called, "Christ the Lord – Out of Egypt."

For 10 years she researched Jesus, reading every translation of the Bible she could get her hands on, as well as books by critics that sought to disprove Jesus. She also read books by those that, "conscientiously met every objection of the sceptics with footnotes half way up the page!"

When she started out she honestly believed the Gospels were "late" documents and that we really didn't know much about Jesus at all. But what she discovered astounded her. She writes: What gradually came clear to me was that many of the sceptical arguments that insisted most of the Gospels were suspect, or written too late to be eye witness accounts, lacked coherence. They were inelegant, full of conjecture, assumptions piled upon assumptions. Absurd conclusions were reached on the basis of little or no data at all.

The sceptics insisted the Gospels were late documents, but something big convinced Anne Rice otherwise. As she examined historical data about the appalling, terrible siege of Jerusalem, the destruction of the temple in AD70 and the war that went on for years in Palestine, an apocalyptic war that the Roman-Jewish historian Josephus claimed killed 1.1 million people, she said: "I found it absolutely impossible that the Gospel writers could not have included the Fall of the Temple in their work had they been written after it."

It became a turning point for her. She says the Gospels became a lot more "coherent." She came to believe them to be an "elegant first-person witness. I read and I read and I read...I went on ready to risk everything. I had to know who Jesus was." And as she read the Gospels, she found Jesus "alive and moving."

And today we join in celebrating this fact with millions of Christians around the world – Happy Easter!

With my prayers and love,

Anita

Lent Project

Our Lent Project remains open for donations! This year we are supporting 3 causes – close to home, the Green Lane Contact Centre supporting parents and children living apart in meeting together; Derventio Housing Trust, helping formerly homeless people with the practical support they need in moving into their first home; and the Community Centre/School at Brace Bridge, Kolkata, India. Building of the Centre /School is proceeding quickly – please see the photos below!



Please do give generously to these very important projects. You can post a cheque to St. Peter's in the City Derby, St. Peter's Street, Derby DE1 1SN (payable to St. Peter's Derby, please write 'Lent Project' on the back.) Or you can make a BACS transfer to the Church account – please email office@stpetersderby.org.uk for details. Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you to all those who have helped over the winter season in cooking meals on Monday and Tuesday evenings for residents in the Derventio House on Wolfa Street. The menus have been mouth-watering, as the What's App group has attested to, and the time and generosity has been hugely appreciated by residents and by Derventio Housing alike. Please continue to pray as the residents move on to new housing, that they may have fresh hope and know the joy of the risen Lord.

Derby Bible Week

Derby Bible Week takes place this year from 19th to 22nd April, where Rupert Bentley-Taylor will be speaking from 1 Kings 18&19 on the subject of 'Faith in the darkest times' The meetings will be premiered each evening at 7:30pm, but they will also be available afterwards for those not able to view at the time.

The YouTube link is: youtube.derbybibleweek.org.uk

A Poem: Looking in the Wrong Places

Lord Jesus, we are always looking for you in the wrong places—
among the good and respectable people—
when we should know you are to be found with the poor and disreputable and
outcast.

Lord Jesus, we are always looking for you in the wrong places,
at a safe distance,
but you come close to us, nearer to us than breathing.

We look for you in churchy things,
but we are more likely to find you among the pots and pans, or around the table ...

We look for you in buildings,
but you walked crowded streets, and shorelines and mountains ...

Even now, even after Easter, still we insist on trying to find you
among the tombstones, among long- dead dogmas, in old, decaying fears and hurts,
in the guilts and resentments we inhabit like a coffin.

But the angel said: Why do you look for him among the dead? He is not here!

Lord Jesus, help us to lay down the graveclothes,
roll away the stone and come out into life, here and now.

We will find you, among the living, ahead of us,
going to the Galilee we seek.

You have wrestled death to the ground,
and now there is nowhere we can go,
no darkness we can enter, which is not God- encompassed.

Ruth Burgess & Kathy Galloway

Easter Sunday Service 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.

Easter Sunday Service 11am: Worship via Zoom

We will meet for Easter worship with Holy Communion on Zoom at 11am - **please have bread/crackers, wine/juice to hand**. See below for joining details.

Joining Details

On a Computer, Laptop, Smart Phone or Tablet: 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

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.

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
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, 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