



June 20th 2021

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

Sanctuary Sunday

Today is Sanctuary Sunday. The Very Revd Peter Robinson, Dean of Derby Cathedral writes:

In 2015 Derby Cathedral was the first Cathedral in England to be given Cathedral of Sanctuary status. In 2021 our participation in the City of Sanctuary network is being reviewed, which means that we are in the process of reviewing what we have achieved over the past six years. (See www.cityofsanctuary.org – click through on Derby and see what is happening locally!)

In Matthew 10:40 Jesus says, 'Whoever welcomes me, welcomes the one who sent me', and later in the Gospel during of the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats he adds, 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me'. Hospitality is about working with God to transform unjust structures in society that hold people back from flourishing: its about pursuing peace and reconciliation with the most vulnerable and its to be at the heart of our understanding and practice of sanctuary.

In the Cathedral at present is the exhibition by the artist Nicola Moody called Tear and Wear. What does this have to do with welcoming asylum seekers? Looking closely, as the artist invites us to do, we see how the threads are connected. Nicola has created textile hangings to reflect the experience of five women who have survived being exploited and trafficked for sex – people who are almost invisible in our society, people who need safety and sanctuary.

The language of textiles in each case tells a particular history. Nicola says, 'The textile work is a literal manifestation of unravelling, fraying, knotting, the appearance of holes, and different methods of repairs.' (see www.nicolamoody.co.uk). Each piece is a metaphor for someone who whose life has been disrupted and damaged by sexual exploitation in a world where there is continued trade in human beings for the purposes of slavery. You can view this moving exhibition in the Cathedral until 24th June.

At St. Peter's we seek to be a place of sanctuary, welcome and friendship for all – and we have been greatly blessed and enriched at St. Peter's by refugees and asylum seekers who have become part of our community. Please pray especially this week for all who need a place of safety and belonging, that we may offer welcome in Jesus' name.

With my prayers and love,

Anita

A Prayer for Refugee Week: 14th – 20th June

Lord you sent the rainbow after the great flood to show Noah and your people that you will never forget them; you will always love and care for each one of us, and for that we praise you.

Against black storm clouds the rainbow is a shining arc of hope and encouragement, a beautiful sign of your faithful presence among us.

For the beautiful hope you give to us, we praise you Lord.

Creator God, in our troubles we look to you, our rock and our refuge,
For we know that you have special care for the poor and dispossessed.

You fed the hungry and provided shelter for those without a home;
You helped widows and children when they were neglected and marginalised.

For your compassionate and generous love, we offer you all our thanks and praise.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

APCM

During our Annual Parochial Church Meeting last Sunday we held elections for Church Wardens and PCC members. Liz Runcorn and Tim Benson were elected as Church Wardens again, and we thank them for bring willing to continue in this important ministry. Brenda French, Janet MacIntyre, Kate Ellis and Rob Bradford were elected to serve on the PCC. We are grateful to all of them! Please pray for our new PCC and our Wardens, that they would have wisdom and faith as we look to the future.

Farewell to John Ferguson

On Sunday we will be saying farewell to John Ferguson in our 11am Zoom meeting, as he leaves us to be ordained and to serve his curacy at St. Barnabas Derby. We will be sad to see him go, but we are excited for what God will do in this next phase of this ministry. Please join us as we celebrate with John and as we bless him for the future!

27th June: Ordinations

A reminder that John Ferguson and Nick Parish (our new curate) will be ordained in Derby Cathedral at 12 noon on 27th June. Sadly Covid restrictions mean that numbers at the service will be very limited, and only a couple of people from St. Peter's will be able to attend. However, the service will be live streamed and we encourage as many people as possible to watch the service online and to support them in prayer! We will therefore not be holding an 11am Zoom service that day. The 10.15 simple service of communion will take place in church as usual, and there will be an informal Zoom coffee and chat catch up for those who would like to join in at 11am (also a chance to pray together for John and Nick) followed by a break before the Ordination service begins at 12 noon. Please make a note of the date in your diary – and please pray for John, Nick and all those being ordained in the coming weeks as they prepare.

Praying for the Persecuted Church: Libya

We continue to pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world, and this week we focus on Libya. There are approximately 34,500 Christians in Libya – 0.5 per cent of a population of 6.7 million. But the number of Libyan Christians (rather than migrant workers from other countries) is very small – only about 150 believers.

There is no freedom of speech, no freedom of religion, and no possibility of public church life in Libya. The tiny number of Libyan Christians from a Muslim background face violent and intense pressure from their family and the wider community to renounce their faith. They are also vulnerable to abduction, murder or sexual assault by Islamic militant groups and organised crime groups.

Sharing your faith publicly is illegal in Libya, and those who try to share their Christian faith with others risk violent opposition and arrest. Without a central government, the country is effectively in a state of lawless anarchy. There is little chance of legal justice when Christians are attacked or killed.

Christians migrating from sub-Saharan Africa are also vulnerable to being held in detention centres or handed over to persecutors by those trafficking them. Believers are often then forced into intense labour or prostitution. (From Open Doors Website)

Lord, we ask for Your blessing on Libya and those who follow You there. Please give strength and perseverance to those who cannot publicly praise You or have any semblance of church life. Protect them from violence and kidnapping and change the hearts of those who persecute Christians. Amen.

Prayer Meeting

A reminder of our weekly prayer meeting every Tuesday at 11am via Zoom. It's wonderful that a group are gathering each week to pray (and there is so much to pray for!) – please do come along if you can. For more details please contact Geoff.

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 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.

Zoom Service: 11am

Please join us for our worship on Zoom at 11am this Sunday. Joining details below!

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: 0330 088 5830; 0131 460 1196; 0203 481 5237; 0203 481 5240; 0203 901 7895; 0208 080 6591; 0208 080 6592
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 difficulty connecting please call Anita.

St. Peter's in the City Staff:

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

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Vacant
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Inside Out Project Worker: Wayne Summers
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