



July 18th 2021

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

## **Learning from the Three Lions**

What a week it's been as England and Italy went head to head in the Euro 2020 final! Whilst many people (whether football followers or not) are disappointed in the result, few can disagree that Italy deserved to win, and that England played a great tournament. Despite the terrible racial abuse suffered by Marcus Rashford, Jadon Sancho, and Bukayo Saka by a small minority, the England squad has come out with massive respect and gratitude for their talent and potential.

Few people can fail to have been moved by the images of Gareth Southgate hugging Saka after he missed his penalty. And yet again, Southgate has been hailed as an example of a great leader throughout the media, as a couple of tweets below show: *#Thank you Gareth Southgate for showing what leadership based on respect, humility, graciousness and truth can deliver. #What did you say in the huddle? "Just that no one is alone in this." God bless Gareth Southgate, what a kindhearted man.*

Reflecting on this, I was reminded of a blog post ([psephizo.com](http://psephizo.com)) back in 2018, written by the blog's author, Ian Paul. Ian reflected on 4 key elements of Southgate's character, which offer food for thought for us as a church, and for church leaders.

1. *He is not a likely candidate.* "God uses the unlikely' when he calls individuals into positions of leadership." Look at Moses, Gideon, Samson, Saul, David and Solomon, to name a few (let alone the disciples!). We tend to look for a safe pair of hands.
2. *He is a team player.* He is genuinely a part of the team, rather than trying to dominate it. "Many of the best-known managers are large personalities—and the success of their team is thought to have been built on them as individuals. Now, can you name the leader of the church in Philippi? Or Ephesus? Or any of the New Testament church communities?"
3. *He treats friends and 'enemies' as human:* "Much has been made of Southgate's 'emotional intelligence'—the way that he treats the members of his squad as fully orbbed human beings, and not just footballing machines from whom he gets the best results. This means that he shows concern for all aspects of his players' lives—their well-being, their families, and the wider situation they are in."
4. *He has a sense of proportion:* "Bill Shankly, the famous Liverpool manager for many years, said 'Football is not a matter of life and death; it is much more important than that'. Southgate clearly believes the opposite. Other things in life matter—and many of them are a lot more important than football. That is why he was able to allow a member of the squad to leave—in the middle of the World Cup—to attend the birth of his child."

Food for thought, as we reflect on our calling as leaders and disciples.

With my prayers and love, *Anita*

## Return to Church

Following the changes to Covid restrictions from 19<sup>th</sup> July (and pending confirmation from the Church of England), we are looking to re-open the church for our regular 10.45am service from Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August. This service will be accessible via zoom, and will replace the 10.15am service and 11am Zoom service. More info next week!

## An Update on the recent Deanery Synod Meeting, from Bill and Liz

The main part of the meeting was an introduction to the new Bishop of Repton – Bishop Malcolm McNaughton. He gave a brief history of his background to date:

- He originates from the Wallsend mining area in Northumberland,
- Spent 11 years in a parish in London with experience of the Bishopgate bomb,
- Also served in the Oxford Diocese,
- More recently has worked closely with the last two Archbishops of York (14 years) but wanted to take on a role with more involvement in parishes,
- His experiences in post-industrial (Wallsend), urban (London) and rural (Oxfordshire) settings fit well with the proposed vision and re-organisation of the Derby Diocese,
- He is now the chair of the Board of Education and is interested in reaching out to young people with a review of how church relates to them. *This is relevant for St Peter's as we link up with the new school in the parish.*
- Another area that Bishop Malcolm wants to give more attention to is ministry in tough estates and deprived areas. *Again important from a St. Peter's perspective.*
- Overall he will be involved with and part of, the Archdeaconry and Deanery project and resourcing churches,

Time was spent in breakout rooms followed by discussion with the Bishop:

- Listening and praying and trusting that the Holy Spirit is with us, are important,
- Caring for the elderly who are not connected to the internet, *St. Peter's phone groups +?*
- Complications of doing “normal” church and Zoom, *How should St Peter's deal with this?*
- Keeping things simple is important and there is a need to be more alongside people,
- Potential missional partnerships and relationship with new Ukrainian and Latvian churches,
- Reaching out to young people is hard work – compliance, DBS and risk assessments,
- Churches that do youth work are often growing churches – older people part of the “team”,
- Reach out to *all* schools, the school gate is a great place to form church,
- A database of all schools in the Diocese is being formed including Minister's links,
- Need to be sensitive to objections but most schools are keen to be involved with church,
- There are on-line church communities with surprising groups coming together,
- There will be a symposium on IT and it is considered that there is huge potential in this area.

Deanery Festival of Life Update: training for mission, an unlocking process, in November a remembrance season – will look at size of churches, mission partnerships, the pains/sorrows of the last year, on-line opportunities, team of Lay people, those out and about and active with mission.

### **Praying for the Persecuted Church: Iran**

There are only about 800,000 Christians in Iran, from a population of over 83.5 million – that's less than one per cent of Iranians. The Iranian government sees the conversion of Muslims to Christianity as an attempt by Western countries to undermine the Islamic rule of Iran. Christians from a Muslim background are persecuted the most, primarily by the government, but also by their families and communities. Secret churches are often raided, and their leaders and members have been arrested and given long prison sentences for 'crimes against national security'.

Many Iranians are nominal Muslims, and so some new Christians find acceptance from their families. Converts from stricter Muslim families face more persecution at home. Christians from Armenian and Assyrian communities are recognised and protected by the state, but still treated as second-class citizens. They are not allowed to tell others about Jesus or to speak in Persian during their church services.

Covid-19 has hit the country hard, and many believers are in desperate need of food and aid. Measures to combat the virus have also made communication between Christians difficult, and they are increasingly exploring online fellowship and discipleship. Many Iranian prisoners, including some imprisoned for their faith, were released from prison to combat the spread of Covid-19 in packed jails. However, other Christians remained in jail and the sentencing of Christians continues.

Please keep praying for your brothers and sisters in Iran.

*Lord, please comfort Christians who have been imprisoned for their faith, that they may know You closely and hear You speaking powerfully to them. Bless the work Open Doors does for Iran, that its advocacy will bear fruit and encourage believers. Please give Iranian believers opportunities to tell others the good news of Jesus' love for them. Amen.* (from the Open Doors website)

### **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. Zoom joining details as usual - see below!

**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: 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](mailto:anita@stpetersderby.org.uk)

**Curate: Revd. Nick Parish** [nick@stpetersderby.org.uk](mailto:nick@stpetersderby.org.uk)

**Vicar's PA and Church Administrator: Hilary Streek** [office@stpetersderby.org.uk](mailto:office@stpetersderby.org.uk)

**Inside Out Project Worker: Wayne Summers** [wayne@insideoutderby.org.uk](mailto: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 Officer: 07828 280455**

**Please note that copies of the Safeguarding Policy are available in the Church Office or at [www.derby.anglican.org/safeguarding](http://www.derby.anglican.org/safeguarding)**

**The church office is currently open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday between 9.30am and 1.30pm. Telephone: 01332 360790, [office@stpetersderby.org.uk](mailto:office@stpetersderby.org.uk)**