



July 11th 2021

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

A Message from Nick

What a joy it was to be ordained in Derby Cathedral on Sunday, alongside John. We'd sat together through hours of lectures, numerous meals, countless chapel services and regular evenings in the Common Room at Queen's. We'd even made it to the library together once or twice... Thank you to those who were able to support us by watching the service online (don't worry if you missed it, it's still available on catch-up!). Although it was a great shame not to have more people in attendance in the cathedral, it was wonderful to know many were able to join us on the livestream, including my brother and his family who were unable to travel over from Norway, where they've lived for the last few years.

The pre-ordination retreat was at Makeney Hall, near Duffield. One aspect of the retreat that I valued hugely was *time*. Such a precious resource, and something that tends to be quite 'squeezed' in day-to-day life. It was a useful reminder to me not just to merrily fill up my days with activity, but to allow space for thought and reflection. Alongside a rhythm of regular prayer, and some truly delicious food, we heard and thought about Pentecost and the giving of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2. So when Bishop Libby laid hands on us on Sunday and prayed, "Send down the Holy Spirit on your servant for the office and work of a deacon in your church", it was filled with rich meaning.

A deacon is a servant, and I look forward to serving God, the people of St. Peter's, and the wider communities around us in the coming years. I'm afraid you may well have to remind me of your names (possibly more than once!) but I'm looking forward to seeing familiar faces, and meeting new people who've arrived since my placement here two years ago.

In my final sermon at St. Wystan's church a couple of weeks ago, I spoke about the Faithfulness of God, and how important it is to tell the stories of God's Faithfulness in our lives and the life of our church. I look forward to getting to know the church family here at St. Peter's, and getting to hear your stories about God's Faithfulness in your lives and in the life of this church.

Please do pray for me as I embark on this new role, and for all those alongside whom I was ordained. Pray too, for my family as we adjust to this new phase in our lives.

Yours,

Nick

News from Sister Barbara

Greetings from Hesse! Please thank everyone for so many lovely greetings for our new home! We are still settling in, of course, but have been able to set up our usual timetables except for Eucharist. I think Chapel will be blessed first.

We have a really big and lovely Chapel room – with adjoining small garden room as sacristy! The sitting room and refectory are ideal, and the garden – though small – gives us plenty of sitting and walking room. Yesterday two Sisters went to our parish church of All Saints, but numbers are very limited and already ‘booked’ by members. Our three members of ‘staff’ here are so friendly and the cook is excellent! And our little cat is beginning to venture a little, indoors!

Everyone at St. Peter’s is in my heart, and please pass my love to all. *Sister Barbara – thank you, and we send our love and prayers back!*

Hong Kong Ready Churches

Welcome Churches are taking part in an initiative to help welcome those people from Hong Kong who are planning to move to the UK in 2021. The UK Government has opened a new route from 31st January for people in Hong Kong with a British National Overseas (BNO) passport to come to the UK. The UKHK churches initiative is being led by Dr Krish Kandiah and is a collaboration of different organisations looking to equip the UK Church to be ‘Hong Kong Ready’. The initiative is working in partnership with other organisations who are real experts in Hong Kong culture, to unite the UK Church to provide a good welcome to those arriving from Hong Kong.

The project is creating a network of churches who are Hong Kong ready – committed to welcoming Hong Kongers arriving in their local community. That way we can connect Hong Kongers with people from their local church when they first arrive, to make sure that they are welcomed. People arriving from Hong Kong will be able to visit ukhk.org/church where they can easily see churches near them to welcome them. They may be people specifically looking for a church to belong to, or they may just be looking to make new friends.

Whilst we recognise that those who are arriving in the UK from Hong Kong aren’t coming as refugees, we know that it is still important that they receive a good welcome when they arrive. And what better place to get that welcome than from the local church!

A good welcome doesn’t happen accidentally. We can’t just sit and wait for people to walk through our church doors to say hello to them. This is even more true since the Covid-19 pandemic, when we’re not going to naturally ‘bump’ into someone in our everyday lives! A good welcome is intentional and proactive. You need to want to welcome someone to be a part of your community. People feel most welcomed when you go out of your way for them and when you choose to get in touch with them, rather than waiting for them to call you for help.

St. Peter’s has signed up to be a Hong Kong Ready Church – more information to come in the next weeks and months. In the meanwhile, please pray for the project for those coming to the UK from Hong Kong, and for us as we prepare to offer welcome.

The Church on Oakwood Part-time Administrator

The Church on Oakwood is looking for an enthusiastic and self-motivated person with good administrative skills and experience to provide support to the Minister and work with other staff and volunteers to ensure the smooth running of the Church Office. The salary offered is £9.50 per hour, for 10 hours per week, the hours being flexible and agreed at time of appointment. Occasional evening working is required, with time off in lieu offered. Further information and application forms are available by emailing The Church on Oakwood at thechurchonoakwood@hotmail.com Applications must be received by the end of: **9th July 2021**. Interviews will take place in mid July.

Praying for the Persecuted Church: Yemen

From a population of 30 million, there are only a few thousand Christians in Yemen. Christians in Yemen usually keep their faith secret, because if they are discovered then they could face the death penalty. Leaving Islam is forbidden, and all Yemenis are considered Muslims by the state.

It's not just the authorities who persecute Christians. Islamic militant groups threaten Christians from a Muslim background with death, and tribes may kill or banish anybody converting to Christianity. The ongoing war, humanitarian crisis and Covid-19 pandemic in Yemen are impacting all citizens, but Christians are additionally vulnerable because emergency relief is mostly distributed through Islamic organisations and local mosques. These are believed to discriminate against anybody who is not considered to be a devout Muslim. There are accounts of Yemeni Christians being refused treatment at under-resourced hospitals.

Mohammad (not his real name) became a Christian after unexpectedly coming across a Bible in a second-hand shop. So few Christians can reveal their faith that it took a long time before Mohammad met any other believers. "When I came to faith, I thought I was the only believer in Yemen," Mohammad remembers. "For a long time, I didn't know any other Yemeni Christians. Now I know many, and there are many more like us." His wife Alima (name changed) later also gave her life to Jesus, and they run Bible studies together – but they dress in traditional Muslim clothing. They can't reveal to anybody that they are believers, unless they trust them deeply. The consequence could be death. Please keep praying for your brothers and sisters in Yemen. Your prayers make an enormous difference to those following Jesus no matter the cost.

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

Curate: Revd. Nick Parish nick@stpetersderby.org.uk

Vicar's PA and Church Administrator: Hilary Streek office@stpetersderby.org.uk

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](https://twitter.com/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

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