



September 26th 2021

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

## **Caring for Creation: Prayer and Action**

There is much in the news at the moment about COP26 – the upcoming round of climate talks taking place in Glasgow, billed as the most important climate talks since the Paris Agreement was signed in 2015. A Rocha UK, a Christian charity working with Christian communities to safeguard creation in the face of climate change writes:

*Much is at stake at this conference, and it has been described as the last best chance to avoid global climate catastrophe. Hosting and chairing it is a unique responsibility for the British government. It also presents a unique opportunity for British Christians and churches to understand the key issues better and act on them, in service of our creator God, nature and all people.*

Understanding the key issues, and acting upon them. Both of those are vital if we are to play our part as Christians, tasked with stewarding the resources the God has entrusted to us, and protecting the integrity of creation. We hope to focus on this in the coming months as a church community as we undertake an audit of our environmental impact and look at ways that we can be more environmentally responsible and aware. More information about that coming soon - watch this space!

In the meanwhile, as preparations get underway for COP26 and as we celebrate harvest on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, we are called to be praying for creation and for the many peoples in our world whose lives have been devastated by the impact of global warming. This is not an optional extra for those who are interested in environmental issues, but a core part of our vocation as Christians. A Rocha UK writes:

*In the Jewish tradition, prayer is like that already. The ladder Jacob saw in his dream – with angels of God ‘going up and coming down on it’ – is a symbol of prayer, connecting earth and heaven. The Hebrew word for prayer is not ‘levakesh – to request’, but ‘tefilla – to connect’. So in the Jewish mindset, the essence of prayer is about linking creator and creation.*

*The early church of Britain and Ireland would be puzzled with our modern- day quest to become ‘eco-friendly’ in our prayers. In their minds, considering creation was not a separate issue. To talk of ‘the environment’ as an isolated concept would have been strange. Everything was connected in Christ. Creation itself had a ‘blessedness’ about it.*

As we celebrate harvest and give thanks for the earth, may we rediscover that blessedness and connectedness afresh, and be inspired to act upon it.

With my prayers and love, *Anita*

## **Christian Aid Harvest Prayer**

Creator God,  
from the tree of the garden of Eden,  
to the tree in the city in Revelation,  
we thank you for your vision of creation healed.  
Help us to be your agents of restoration,  
tending to the beauty of the Earth,  
and enabling your healing of the nations.  
Amen.

## **Harvest: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

We will be celebrating harvest during our service on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. As usual we will be collecting items for the Derby City Mission food bank, which has been much in demand in the face of Covid. Please consider bringing a donation if you're able to support this vital work. See below for a list of what's needed. Thank you so much!

## **BASICS BANK SHOPPING LIST**

### **We welcome the following items:**

- Tins of meat e.g. stewing steak, meat in sauces
- Tins of cooked meat e.g. ham, corned beef
- Tins of fish e.g. tuna, sardines
- Tins of vegetables e.g. sweetcorn, carrots, peas, potatoes, kidney beans/pulses
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tins of dessert e.g. fruit, steamed puddings/ creamed rice
- Packet flavoured noodles e.g. super noodles
- Sauces e.g. Tomato/brown/mayo
- Rice (500g)
- Tea bags (bags of 40)
- Coffee (small jars)
- Cuppa Soups
- Jams/Honey/Peanut butter/Chocolate spread
- Biscuits/crackers/crisp breads
- Cereals e.g. Wheat biscuits, cornflakes, oats
- Toilet Rolls
- Washing up Liquid
- Bath/shower gel
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste/tooth brushes
- Wash Tablets (for Laundry)
- Size 3/4 nappies

**PLEASE NOTE: NO FRESH PRODUCE**

## **Sunday refreshments after the service**

We are pleased to be serving tea and coffee again after the service after a long time without being able to! We are currently using disposable cups which are recyclable (so please put them in the recycling bin). If you're able to bring your own mug/reusable cup please do so we can use less paper cups. Thank you!

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

There are around 16.3 million Christians in Egypt, comprising almost 16 per cent of the country's population. The majority religion is Islam.

Persecution against Christians happens mostly at the community level, especially in Upper Egypt where Salafist movements exert a strong influence on the rural communities due to high levels of illiteracy and poverty.

Incidents include false accusations, community ostracism, mob violence, and the abduction of Christian women (causing many to feel unsafe leaving the house alone).

Although Egypt's government speaks positively about its Christian community, the lack of serious law enforcement and the unwillingness of local authorities to protect Christians leave them vulnerable to all kinds of attacks.

Furthermore, in contrast to how mosques and Islamic organisations are dealt with, churches and Christian non-governmental organisations are restricted in their ability to build new churches or run social services. Opposition also arises through communal hostility and mob violence.

Christians from a Muslim background often have great difficulty in living out their faith since they face enormous pressure from their families to return to Islam. The state also makes it impossible for them to get any official recognition of their conversion.

## **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.

## **Zoom Joining Details for the 10.45am Service:**

**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**

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**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**

**Church Wardens:**

**Tim Benson, Liz Runcorn**

**Kitchen Supervisor: Gillian Wood**

**We are a community of faith, hope and love in the heart of the city**

**Follow us on Twitter: @stpetersderby; [www.stpetersderby.org.uk](http://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)**