

21st May 2023

**WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S! WE
HOPE YOU ENJOY WORSHIPPING
WITH US TODAY**

APCM Updates

Last Sunday we held our APCM meeting during the service, and it was good to look back together at the last year and look ahead to the future. Thank you to all who wrote reports for activities and to every member of St Peter's for your contribution to our life and ministry here. Our community would not be the same without each and every one of you!

For those who were unable to join us, a few updates shared during the meeting which aren't in the Annual Report we circulated:

Elections: We are delighted that Tim Benson and Liz Runcorn were elected as Churchwardens again. Many thanks to them both for their continued ministry in this role. Neil Harvey, Terry Mann, Joshua Peli and Bill Poole were elected to the PCC – thank you to each one of them for their willingness to serve in this capacity.

Nick's Placement: During the meeting I expressed thanks on behalf of us all for Nick and for his ministry among us (since last summer a priestly ministry!). Nick is currently on placement at Foremark and Repton with Newton Solney and was due to come back to St. Peter's at the start of June. His placement has now been extended to the end of August and we will look forward to welcoming him back with us at the start of September. Please pray for him as he gains important experience of life and ministry in a multi-benefice parish,

Vacancy: Our Parish Profile is now complete and we hope to advertise in the coming week. A provisional interview date has been set for 11th July. Please continue to pray for the process and for those involved in making decisions on our behalf.

John Ferguson: Many people will remember John Ferguson who was one of our worship leaders for many years and who was ordained with Nick. He has been based at St Barnabas Derby for his part-time curacy until now, but from 1st July he will be a full time curate of Ripley with Swanwick and Pentrich. This will involve him giving up his paid job at Aldi, a huge but very exciting change! Please pray for him as he transitions into his new role. We're delighted that he is coming to preach at St. Peter's on 25th June and can celebrate with him then.

With my prayers and love,

Anita

Dates for your Diary:

Monday May 22nd and June 5th: Welcome Space at St. Peter's

9.30 – 12.30 in the Function Room. We offer simple hot food each week, tea and coffee, and a space to chat. Please spread the word! (Please note we are closed on Bank Holidays).

18th – 28th May: Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a worldwide prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost. Please pick up a free “Thy Kingdom Come” prayer booklet from the back of church. It includes daily readings and reflections for each of the 10 days.

Tuesday 6th June: Afternoon Tea

Afternoon Tea takes place on Tuesday 6th June. Sandwiches and cakes will be served in the church at 2.15pm, followed by a short service of Evening Prayer. All are very welcome – please call Margaret on 01332 239134 if you're planning to come for catering purposes. Hope to see you there!

Sunday 11th June: Church Lunch

On Sunday 11th June we will enjoy our monthly lunch together after the service. More details to follow but please put the date in your diary now!

Saturday 10th June: Friends of the Church in India Unity Lecture

The Derbyshire Churches – Church of North India Partnership is holding the St. Thomas Unity Lecture 2023 at St Peter's at 11am on 10th June (coffee from 10.30). The lecture is: 'Hindu Nationalism and Political oppression on religious minorities in India: An Ecumenical Response' by Revd Dr D Isaac Devadoss, Associate Professor of History of Christianity, Bishops College Kolkata. The lecture will conclude with a short 75th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service and simple lunch (tickets £6).

Saturday 17th June: Kintsugi Mental Health Day at St. Peter's

St. Peter's is hosting a Mental Health Friendly Church Training Day at St. Peter's from 10am – 4pm on Saturday 17th June. Tickets are priced at £12 per person including tea and coffee (please bring your own lunch) and can be purchased via the Kintsugi Hope website (<https://kintsugihope.com>)

Praying for the Persecuted Church: Saudi Arabia

There are an estimated 2.2 million Christians in Saudi Arabia. It's around six per cent of the country's total population of 35.8 million, the majority of whom are Muslim. The majority of the Christians in Saudi Arabia are foreigners who temporarily live and work in the country. They can be targeted for their faith, since it's another way to abuse a worker – in an environment where foreign workers are already often subjected to horrific working and living conditions. Foreign Christians are heavily restricted from sharing their faith or gathering for worship, and any actions outside of the norm can lead to detention and deportation. No official churches are allowed, and church buildings are forbidden.

A much smaller number of Christians in the country are originally Saudi Arabian, and these are mostly converts from Islam. They are usually forced to live out their faith in secrecy. Otherwise, female converts risk physical violence and forced marriage by their families, while male converts risk being publicly shamed, beaten or imprisoned. Both men and women may also be killed to 'restore' the family honour. Nevertheless, there have been some Saudi Christians in recent years who have been bold enough to share their faith, at great risk to their lives.

Adam* grew up a Muslim. He comes from a Yemeni background but has spent most of his life in Saudi Arabia. When Eve*, his sister-in-law, became a Christian four years ago, her family asked Adam to convince her to return to Islam – but her faith inspired Adam to give his life to Jesus. Since then, Adam has faced multiple charges – including inciting others away from Islam and helping Eve to flee the country because of persecution – and has spent time in prison. Last July, he sent his family abroad while he battled the accusations. A month later, Adam was convinced to join them following a brutal attack that left him severely wounded and visibly discouraged. "I'd like to thank every brother and sister who prayed for me and contributed to getting us a place to live together," Adam shares from a safe country. "I feel that today I can live again," Adam says. "Your prayers have been answered. What we need in this world is to turn to God in prayer for the church and for the sake of others. God listens to the true prayers. If we pray, we will feel His presence and we will have His guidance.

Saudi Arabia has dropped one place on the World Watch List, mostly due to a slight decrease in violence against Christians. While in the last year there were no reports of Christians being arrested or forced into marriage, or of Christian houses being attacked, physical violence against converts remains high, and several believers were forced to leave their homes.

Prayer Meeting Don't forget our weekly prayer meeting every Tuesday at 11am via Zoom! Please do come along if you can. For more details, please contact Geoff.

Prayer Please 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.

Giving at St. Peter's

See below for the QR code to make payments via your smartphone. Hover the camera on your phone over the QR code. It creates a yellow hyperlink which if you tap on it will take you to St. Peter's Give a Little Campaign giving page.



Zoom Joining Details for the 10.45 Service of Holy Communion:

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#**
- You will be connected and able to hear everything that is happening.

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

(currently on Placement at Repton Benefice)

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

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](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, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 9.30am and 1.30pm. Tel: 01332 360790