



**6th September 2026
WELCOME TO ST.
PETER'S! WE HOPE YOU
ENJOY WORSHIPPING
WITH US**

New Beginnings

The school holidays are over, and the new term begins. For us at St. Peter's, life becomes busier again. This week Welcome Space, Spiritually Curious, and Afternoon Tea all start again having taken a break over the summer. See below for more details – you are warmly invited to join us!

I love this poem by Malcolm Guite, which celebrates new beginnings – both at the start of a new school year, and every day:

Singing Bowl – Malcolm Guite

*Begin the song exactly where you are,
Remain within the world of which you're made.
Call nothing common in the earth or air,*

*Accept it all and let it be for good.
Start with the very breath you breathe in now,
This moment's pulse, this rhythm in your blood*

*And listen to it, ringing soft and low.
Stay with the music, words will come in time.
Slow down your breathing. Keep it deep and slow.*

*Become an open singing-bowl, whose chime
Is richness rising out of emptiness,
And timelessness resounding into time.*

*And when the heart is full of quietness
Begin the song exactly where you are.*

With my prayers and love,

Anita

Dates for your Diary:

TODAY Sunday 6th September: Church Lunch

Today we will enjoy lunch together after the service. Please let us know if you have any allergies or dietary requirements. All welcome!

Monday 7th September: Welcome Space

Welcome Space meets today from 9.30 – 12.30 in the Function Room with simple hot food, tea and coffee, and a space to chat. All welcome!

Tuesday 8th September: Afternoon Tea

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!

Wednesday 9th September: Spiritually Curious

'Spiritually Curious' is a gathering for people wanting to explore faith in a crazy world. It meets at St. Peter's on Wednesdays from 10 – 11.30am. All welcome!



Eco Idea for September 2026 (from A Rocha UK)

The Season of Creation runs from 1st September to 4th October and is dedicated to God as the Creator and sustainer of all life. This year the theme is Living Water, drawing inspiration from Ezekiel's vision in Ezekiel 47: 1 – 12. This month, be mindful of all the uses you have for water: drinking, cooking, keeping clean, sustaining plants, leisure activities, etc. Try not to waste water and be thankful for all the ways it supports healthy life. seasonofcreation.org/

Praying for the Persecuted Church: Laos

Christians in Laos face persecution from the Communist government, who see Christianity as a Western religion that threatens their ideals, as well as from local communities who follow traditional religions. The Lao government only recognises three churches: Evangelical, Catholic and Seventh-day Adventist. Other Christian groups must operate unofficially. Even amongst approved groups, an estimated 75% of congregations lack permanent buildings, and baptisms cannot be held publicly, especially in rural places. Consequently, many Christians are forced to meet underground in 'illegal' house churches.

In rural areas, traditional practices – which tend to be a mixture of Buddhism and folk religions – often supersede national laws, with Christians facing surveillance, discrimination and violence from communities, village leaders and families. One new believer, Vanxay*, was told by his village elders, "In the past, Christian families who believed in this religion left the village. No one here welcomes your new faith."

Sometimes believers in traditional communities are deemed to have 'upset' spirits, and persecutors respond by destroying their crops and expelling them from the village. Christians are frequently denied permission to bury their loved ones in local cemeteries, adding to their grief. Many villagers refuse to allow believers to use the

same burial grounds as them, fearing it will anger their spirits. One believer, Arlee*, shares, "I would like to buy land for a cemetery. Every time we need to bury a brother or sister in Christ, there is always a problem."

As far as the authorities are concerned, Christianity is a Western religion that's opposed to Communist ideals. Laos' growing dependence on China has reinforced their commitment to Communism, adding to the vulnerability of Christians. Those who leave traditional faiths to follow Jesus can be seen as rejecting their communities and traditional ways of life. Some also fear that they will anger the spirits by not participating in traditional practices, bringing trouble to the community.

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 Lesley (07808 070958), and she will ask those on the prayer chain to pray.

Giving at St. Peter's

You can give to St. Peter's with cash (please put money in the Alms Box by the door next to the font), via our card machine, or use the QR code below to pay via your smartphone. Hover the camera on your phone over the QR code and tap on the yellow hyperlink to reach St. Peter's Give a Little Campaign giving page.



Space to take notes from today's Talk:

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,
5. press: **73837#**

St. Peter's in the City Staff

Vicar: Revd. Anita Matthews anita@stpetersderby.org.uk

Curate: Revd. Sue Leather sue@stpetersderby.org.uk

Curate: Revd. Raju Abraham

Vicar's PA and Church Administrator:

Hilary Streek office@stpetersderby.org.uk

Church Wardens: Tim Benson, Liz Runcorn

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

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, and Thursday
between 9.30am and 1.30pm. Tel: 01332 360790**