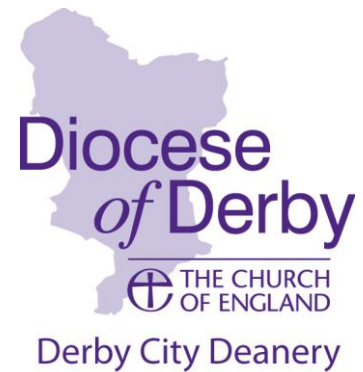


Derby City Deanery NEWSLETTER

May 2017 /#006



From the Area Dean, Revd Canon Dr Simon Taylor:

Dear friends,

Prayer is at the heart of Christian life. Derby City Deanery aims to be "Rooted in Prayer". The Archbishops' call for a time of prayer from Ascension to Pentecost is a great gift to us as a Deanery, to us as churches and to us as Christians. Let me encourage you, through your church, to get one of the bookmarks that the Diocese has prepared (see page 6) and to use it to pray for five people. Pray that they might know the life and love of Jesus. And pray for yourself, and for others in the Deanery, that we might be filled with the Holy Spirit and share the life and love of Jesus through what we say and do.

The Deanery Synod which meets on 8th June will be looking at issues around mental health in the City, taking forward issues raised in the last newsletter. We will also take another step in the work in areas of new housing in Derby. If you are a Synod representative, please make sure you come and are part of these important and exciting areas of work. Whether or not you are a member, please pray for the Synod.

Whilst I am writing about prayer, can I ask you to pray for those who will be ordained deacon and priest in Derby Cathedral at the beginning of July. The names of those who will be ordained to churches in the Deanery are below. Please hold them in your prayers as they prepare for their ordinations.

Finally, please pray for me. I continue to pray for you.

with my love and prayers,



Palm trees had been ordered for a funeral but the family changed their minds, leaving 18 Palm Trees with no home. St Peter's Littleover was happy to share them, much to the delight of the congregation and passing visitors!

To be ordained Priest on Sat 1st July at 4pm in Derby Cathedral:

- James Durrant, to be ordained to the parish of St Alkmund with St Werburgh, Derby
- Darren Howie, to be ordained to the parish of St Peter and Christ Church with Holy Trinity, Derby

To be ordained Deacon on Sun 2nd July at 10.45 at Derby Cathedral:

- Paul Desborough, to be ordained to the parish of Boulton, St Mary
- Sarah Watson, to be ordained to the parish of Walbrook Epiphany

This bi-monthly newsletter comes from Derby City Deanery – the group of Anglican parishes which fall within the city boundary. Please share around churches and communities, and see the back page for dates for future publications, etc.

Area Dean: Canon Dr Simon Taylor simon.taylor@derby.anglican.org
Deanery Administrator: Ms Jo Simister jo.simister@derby.anglican.org

Deanery Admin notices: Jo Simister jo.simister@derby.anglican.org**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FUNDING FOR NEWSLETTER 003**

We are delighted to acknowledge that costs of the extended print run of the Derby City Deanery Newsletter 003, which focussed on Derby's services for refugees and asylum seekers, were sponsored by a donation on behalf of the Derby Cathedral congregation by the Cathedral's "Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Committee" as part of its remit to promote awareness of refugees and asylum seekers.

PARISH STATS – STATISTICS FOR MISSION 100% ! NOW IT'S TIME FOR FINANCE...

Thankyou everyone for completing the Statistics for Mission data, and to those who have already entered the Finance data.

We realise some parishes will have had a change of officers, so to explain briefly: This online system is web based, and can be accessed at <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>. Each parish chooses an administrator who has access to the system for their parish, and can view and submit data, view reports and administer access for others in their parish. The Deanery Administrator Jo can help with setting up parish administrators.

Parishes are responsible for submitting accurate and complete Finance and Statistics for Mission returns each year via this online parish returns system. In addition, they are also responsible for maintaining access for their own parish to the online parish returns system. This includes:

- keeping user information up to date on the system
- removing access that is no longer needed and setting up new users
- assisting parish users with forgotten usernames and resetting forgotten passwords

Users are also able to view their Parish Dashboard which gives useful insights into growth and change within the parish over the years. There are also forms which you can use to track the information needed as we go through the year, which can save a lot of time at the data entry stage, and various other support resources.

The updated link to download the user guide for the parish returns system, which you can find on the Statistics for Mission page of the diocesan website, is at <http://www.derby.anglican.org/en/our-mission/statistics-for-mission.html>.

We arranged a training workshop with for clergy and parish administrators for the Statistics for Mission entry stage, and we can do this again for the Finance entry – just please let Jo know if this would be helpful. Otherwise, the Finance data is again entered via the online Parish Returns system at <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>.

PREPARE FOR THE SHACK MOVIE WITH FREE RESOURCES FOR CHURCH GROUPS

The Shack tells the story of Mack Philips (Sam Worthington), a man who has an extraordinary encounter with God in the wake of a family tragedy. The film is coming to UK cinemas on 9th June and Damaris Media has provided a FREE booklet for church groups looking to engage with the film. The resource is full of discussion, questions, activities and reflections around themes of 'The God who surprises' and 'The God who suffers'. You can also order tent cards and posters featuring artwork from the film to display in your church.

To order, please email hello@damaris.org.

NOTIFY THE DIOCESE OF NEW OFFICERS AND SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES

All churches will have now had their Annual Parochial Church Meeting, so welcome to any new members of PCC or Deanery Synod and welcome back to any who have been nominated for another 3 years!

It is very important that both the Diocese and the Deanery are informed of new Synod members and any who have newly taken on church officer roles within PCCs. The Diocese has a Directory which is only accessible to those within the church organisation who have authority to view it and it is important that contact details, especially email addresses, are correct. For data protection reasons, this is the only source of contact details which should be used for all communications with parish officers, etc, so it's vital it is kept up to date. Any changes should be notified as soon as possible to enquiries@derby.anglican.org, copying Jo into the email please (jo.simister@derby.anglican.org).

CHURCH OF ENGLAND RESOURCES FOR CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICERS

Have you looked at the Church of England portal recently? There are some new additional resources and it's worth looking at the Church Support Hub <https://churchsupporthub.org> which has useful information on fees, what can and can't be charged, legalities and document checks etc. The site gives information for weddings, funerals, baptisms, thanksgivings and blessings including sample liturgy, service formats, mission opportunities as well as downloadable logos and wedding booking forms – take a look!

There is also <https://pastoralservicesdiary.org> which is an online diary to keep a record of weddings, rehearsals, banns dates etc and receive reminders.

If your APCM resulted in a **new church treasurer**, point them towards the Parish Resources website (<http://www.parishresources.org.uk/resources-for-treasurers/>). Topics include: Getting Started – key tasks; Accounting & reporting; Gift Aid; Funding guides; Managing risks, and lots more...

Does your church have **new PCC members**? The Parish Resources site has helpful guides and a short video clip to introduce PCC members to their roles and responsibilities as Charity Trustees. (<http://www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/trusteeship/>)

ORGANIST AVAILABLE FOR WEDDINGS, FUNERALS AND EVENING SERVICES

Derbyshire-based Adam Parrish (Musician, Musical Director, Accompanist, Soloist and Composer) has a BA Music degree from York St John and 10 years of church service experience. Website: <http://adamparrishmusicwebsite.weebly.com/> Email him at: adam.parrish2@aol.com, or contact 07858 025527. See also <https://www.facebook.com/Adam-Parrish-Performer-and-Composer-237819729573178/?fref=ts>

SEEKING A COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER FOR UPBEAT COMMUNITIES

Could you be 'an amazing exceptional **Communications Officer** who will raise the profile of UC's work and help transform the lives of refugees?' See <https://www.upbeatcommunities.org/news/>. NB closing date is Sunday 21st May 2017 at 5pm, but it is worth following up if you are interested.

SIGN UP FOR THE DIOCESAN E-NEWSLETTER

Sign up at <http://www.derby.anglican.org/en/publications.html> - and send any items for inclusion to communications@derby.anglican.org. It is issued every two weeks.

CHURCH OF SANCTUARY AWARD TO WALBROOK EPIPHANY PARISH



<https://derby.cityofsanctuary.org/>

On Sunday 2 April 2017 Colleen Molloy (National Development Officer for City of Sanctuary) and members of the Derby City of Sanctuary team attended a special service at St Augustine's to present Walbrook Epiphany parish with a "Churches of Sanctuary" award in recognition of the great work done and commitment to future support of Sanctuary principles of learning, embedding and sharing best practice of welcome to sanctuary seekers.

SCAM ENERGY BROKERS AND SCHEMES

We have recently been made aware of a rise in parishes being targeted by energy brokers. There has been serious issues with one particular broker and the Parish Buying Team ask that parishes are cautious before signing up to any scheme and use the resources on www.parishesresources.org.uk or www.parishbuying.org.uk when looking at their energy.

If you have any concerns over brokers or questions please contact the Parish Buying Team, energy@parishbuying.org.uk

BEWARE SCAMMERS!

A fool and his money are soon parted, they say, but people caught up in scams are not fools, they are trusting or momentarily distracted.... and scammers are wickedly plausible.

The person who commits fraud is probably one of the most pleasant and personable people you might wish to meet. He might like children and give to charity, but he will drain your pension fund, steal your identity – and in so doing, fund terrorism, drugs and mafia.

Fraud Squad are engaged in high level and complex investigations.

Fraud is trickery for financial advantage. It is not often recognised as a threat until it happens. It brings the victim shame, as they perceive they are stupid or greedy. It wrecks self-confidence, happiness and emotional health. It may lead to loss of financial security and the financial cushion built up over a lifetime of work – a loss of all the efforts of the previous life. Victims are likened to rape victims, and often need to re-examine minutely whether they brought it on themselves. Some take their own life.

- £50,000 may easily be lost by someone duped into buying a product or service with a chance of winning a payout.
- It is NOT a victimless crime. Individuals, often isolated and vulnerable, are preyed upon.
- If you respond once, you will probably be on a 'suckers list' and targeted again and again.
- Action Fraud, <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/> is national database, and everyone is encouraged to log any way in which they are scammed.
- Remember: it's no longer just post, but now by emails, phishing, cyber, internet, and the hard luck story that draws the victim in step by step, but is based on false identity.
- The National Trading Standards Scams Team <http://www.nationaltradingstandards.uk/work-areas/scams-team/> works on investigations and projects (interventions and education) to Identify, Intervene, Investigate, Inform, Influence.

- They do not prosecute, as the scams often originate abroad, e.g. Netherlands, Canada, Africa, etc, so the payment companies are abroad and need international enforcement agencies to chase them.
- They work with financial institutions, Royal Mail and other mail providers, airlines, telephone companies, etc, to try to identify and divert doorstep and product selling scams. (NB: Royal Mail do not have powers to divert mail but they can identify victims and refer to national level.)
- There is also a Joint Banking Protocol e.g. banks are being trained to recognise victims.
- There are 750,000 potential victims in our area, and they are age 19 upwards, not just elderly.
- Losses may be £10-20 up to millions. The average (mean) is £1634.70 per victim, but the estimated detriment (collateral losses such as work time) is over £2704.88 per person.
- There is a public health implication, as being scammed has an impact on mental and emotional health leading to increased risk of physical ill-health. If defrauded in your own home, you are more at risk of ill health and early death.
- Agencies are working with AgeUK, via befriending services, as isolation is problem. The scammer's mail and call may be the only contact a lonely person has in the week.
- People with dementia are a prime risk – a call blocker gadget is being piloted which will bounce back any calls not on a recognised number list. So far 35,000 calls have been blocked, and 44% of all calls received were nuisance calls.
- 14.5m letters are lost in transit, including bank cards and info which can be used to make contracts in your name. How many of us would realise if a bank statement didn't come? Do we protect our passwords? Do we know all our account details and passwords?
- The accounts targeted are often those with little activity, when someone has put away money to earn interest but does not monitor it.
- Lottery prizes scams: the email might go to 2 million people, and the perpetrator expects to get a return of 5% at £15 a time, that's 1.5m return! One in twenty of us are responding at least once!
- Emails about tax rebates from HMRC, fees for credit checks which don't lead to a job... or are for loans.
- There are also sale of vehicles scams, holiday scans, timeshare scams, hajj scams... dating fraud, people visiting elderly saying they are from the NHS, people saying they are from debt collection agencies, companies collecting fraudulent traffic offence fees, etc.... Derbyshire police get about 600 reports per month leading to losses of 1.2m.
- Never give out pin numbers, etc – banks will often refund money taken as ID fraud, but not if any personal information has been given.
- Think. Has it arrived out of the blue? Am I being pressured to respond in a hurry? Have I got to give money? Is it from an anonymous source?

Remember: Safeguarding is everyone's concern, and we should try to work together, to be vigilant on each other's behalf.

<https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/> has ideas on how we can help make people aware.

<http://realsafeguardingstories.com/> is useful for people with safeguarding responsibilities. See also excellent local information on <http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Safety-advice/Cybercrime/Frauds-and-Scams/Frauds-and-Scams.aspx>. They have an A-Z of common frauds, including delivery company and courier frauds. Last Christmas they had a '12 scams of Christmas' video.

**Fraud is all around and more prevalent than ever.
Everyone is a potential victim.**



Pentecost: Thy Kingdom Come

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, is inviting Christians around the world to pray as one for people to know Jesus Christ during the week before Pentecost. *'The most important thing I've ever done is become a follower of Jesus. I want everyone to hear his voice calling to them. That's why I'm praying for people to know his life-transforming love. Will you join me and Christians around the world and #Pledge2Pray as part of Thy Kingdom Come 2017?'* – Justin Welby
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global>

A Commitment to Pray

Choose five friends and write their names below.
 Pray for them each day using this simple prayer.

*Loving Father,
 in the face of Jesus Christ
 your light and glory have
 blazed forth.
 Send your Holy Spirit
 that I may share with my
 friends*

*the life of your Son and your
 love for all.
 Strengthen me as a
 witness to that love
 as I pledge to pray for them,
 for your name's sake
Amen*



Bookmarks and other resources:

The Diocese is producing a special bookmark for Thy Kingdom Come 2017. The bookmark will have space to write the names of up to five people that you'd like to pray for, with a simple prayer that can be prayed each day from the 25th of May to the 4th of June. These bookmarks are free to churches. They could be given to every member of your congregation, or even given to church schools.

To order your bookmarks, simply send an email to tkc@derby.anglican.org with 'Bookmarks' in the subject line. Tell us your name, the name of your church, how many bookmarks you'd like, a delivery address and how you're going to use the bookmarks.

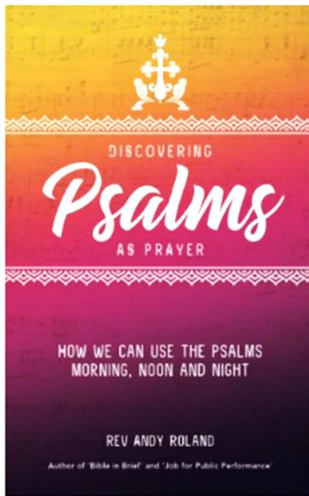
Numbers are limited, so only one order per church can be placed. Please order early to avoid disappointment!

There are a huge number of resources to help you get started at www.thykingdomcome.global, including prayers and liturgy for worship services, creative prayer ideas, booklets, materials for groups, individuals, families and small groups – and much more. If you have any stories to share of what's going on in your own parish, or how your prayer event or celebration went, the diocese would like to know. Email (including pictures if you have them) tkc@derby.anglican.org.

If you would like further information about Thy Kingdom Come, please have a look at the diocesan website page at <http://www.derby.anglican.org/en/news/thy-kingdom-come/thy-kingdom-come.html>, or go to the national site at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>.

Please see pages 14-16 for information about celebrations around the deanery. Also, keep an eye on the Diocesan web pages.

Just published: three approachable books on prayer and the bible

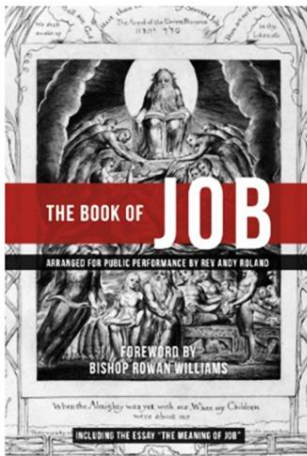


Discovering Psalms as Prayer: How we can use the Psalms morning, noon and night by Rev Andy Roland

The core of this book is how the author discovered a new way of praying the psalms in an ashram in India. It includes chapters on the problems with both prayer and psalms, and gives suggestions on how psalms can be used throughout the day.

The Book of Job: Arranged for Public Performance by Rev Andy Roland

This unique book is a performing edition of the Biblical Book of Job, one of the most dramatic writings from the ancient world. The arrangement clarifies the structure and emotional movement of the work, and simplifies how to put it on as a performance over 75 minutes including musical interludes. The book includes an essay on the meaning of Job, and a foreword by Rt Revd and Rt Hon Baron Williams of Oystermouth, former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams.



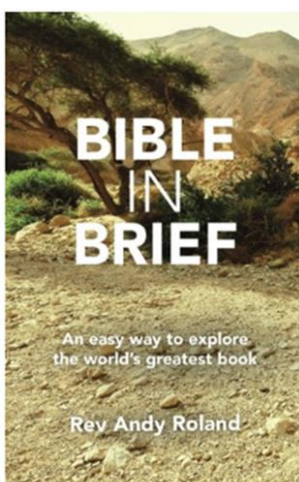
Bible in Brief: An easy way to enjoy the greatest book ever written by Rev Andy Roland

"I don't read the Bible, because it is too long and complicated." That's true. It is very long and very complicated. Not surprising, since it took over a thousand years to write by dozens of authors.

Bible in Brief is made up of six months of daily readings, each month and each week being a self-contained topic. There are 25 archaeological drawings to illustrate the text, with four maps. At the end of each month there is a selection of writings from the surrounding countries including quotes from the Babylonian story of the Flood, an epic poem in praise of Baal, and quotations from Jewish rabbis contemporary with Jesus and the early church. A "Bonus Features" section on various topics including how to use chapters and verses, different Bible translations, and personal recommendation of biblical films.

It is offered primarily to two kinds of readers:

- Those who want to read the Bible for the first time but don't know where to start. Many start at Genesis 1 and get bogged down in Exodus with the ten plagues of Egypt and the exhaustive description of the Tabernacle or Tent of Meeting with its "blue, purple and scarlet stuff and fine twined linen-
- For Christians who would like to get to know the Bible better, or who know part of the Bible quite well, usually the gospels, but would like a way in to the less familiar parts like the Old Testament prophets."



Andy's Bible Blog is at www.bibleinbrief.org/



REFUGEE WEEK 19th - 25th June 2017

“DIFFERENT PASTS, SHARED FUTURE”

Refugee Week takes place every year across the world in the week around World Refugee Day on June 20th. It celebrates the contribution of refugees to our communities and promotes better understanding of why people seek sanctuary from war and persecution. Throughout the UK there is a programme of arts, cultural and educational events and Derby has again a full programme coordinated by the City of Sanctuary team. Anyone can take part by organising, attending or taking part in activities and everyone is welcome to the events below – free unless otherwise stated.

These are some of the events that the Derby Refugee Week 2017 programme includes:

Thursday 15th June at 9.45am – Multi-faith tour - Visit to different faith centres. Book with Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/refugee-week-faith-trail-tickets-33488715650>

Saturday 17th June 11am – 4pm Furthest-from-the-Sea at Derby Market Place and Guildhall includes performances from refugee communities, Refugee Week stall, human library and workshop on refugee issues

19th - 22nd June Celebration of Bosnian culture and other community groups at the Bosnia Herzegovina Centre, 99 Curzon St. Derby DE1 1LN

Tuesday 20th June at 10.30am – Handling History at Derby Museum: Visit the museum collection and learn the history of their fascinating objects, with special objects for Refugee Week.

Tuesday 20th June at 7.30pm – Refugee Night for Syria at Northern Lights Cinema, Wirksworth. Part of a “Refugee Nights” programme giving over the cinema to refugee groups to get together, enjoy a film in their own language (with English subtitles) and share culture, food and friendship. *Booking essential* – Northern Light Cinema website, Wirksworth – or ring 01629 337513

Thursday 22nd June – 1.30pm -3pm Open afternoon: “create, chat, and cake drop-in” at Upbeat Communities, 1 St Chad’s Rd, Derby DE23 6RS – creative session to help refugee women build skills and confidence. Meet new people, make something, and eat cake! All welcome.

Thursday 22nd June 7.30pm “A Story to tell” by Ava Hunt Theatre, the Studio, Derby Theatre. Theatre performance on refugee experiences. Book online at Derby Theatre or through the Box Office.

There will be many other events during the week, such as a Visit to the Derby Refugee Advice Centre and Bosnia Herzegovina Centre by the Bishop of Derby, the Rt Revd Alastair Redfern , a Volunteer Action Day – refugees and asylum seekers volunteering in the local community, a Football tournament for refugees and asylum seekers and host community.....



Check the final programme at
(www.derby.cityofsanctuary.org)



Feedback on previous articles: on 'What is Mental Health':

Mark Bellis, a member of St Alkmund's church responds to the articles in Newsletter 005: March 2017:

I read with interest the articles in the Deanery Newsletter about Mental Health. They make some useful suggestions but there is another aspect that has not been considered in the articles, Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Autism affects people in various ways, both those needing constant care and those able to work and live independently. Derby has many people in the high-functioning part of the spectrum, including those who would have been deemed to have Asperger's Syndrome, which is seen more recently as another dimension in the spectrum. High-functioning ASD is common amongst engineers, of which Derby has an abundance in the car, train, aerospace and submarine businesses. Most of those engineers show symptoms but have not sought a diagnosis; there is a long waiting list for adults and currently no NHS aftercare for those able to work.

As a Christian for most of my life, now in my early 40s, and with a recent diagnosis of being on the spectrum, I am keen to help people understand it and how to enable those affected by it to live well. Rolls-Royce recently signed the Autism Charter, a commitment to take Autism into account and make provision for those affected. Some of the measures that may help employees include providing an allocated desk in an "agile" office and allowing people to control their environment, plans and resources. In the church context I usually arrive early for services and events in order to acclimatise and find a comfortable space; there is then the opportunity to pray.

In terms of the outworking of faith in the Church community, I have more struggles than I do at work. Whilst ASD affects people differently, I find that many roles in a church are pastoral or require organisation or presentation skills; it is quite a people-centred organisation! This leaves me with fewer options for engagement. I have found a niche in intercession and prayer walking, which I have done with people from other churches in the city for a few years now. We have seen some wonderful answers to prayer – God is faithful!

Those with ASD may experience increased anxiety, especially if their flow of thoughts is interrupted. Music help with that, in fact I have a very good memory for songs so that I will still be singing if the projector fails! Busy social situations can be tiring; I feel as tired by church with coffee afterwards as I am by a whole day's work in an office! The words "How are you?" are more difficult to say because I need to be genuinely interested in the response before asking the question. The usual response of "fine" is unsatisfactory as it does not engage. Small-talk is difficult but discussion on substantial topics is easier; indeed brevity is also a struggle as you will have understood by now! There is tendency to be naïve but at least the church environment is one where people are usually honest, even if openness is not the default for everyone. It is easy to take things literally and also to develop a concept from beginning to end without any way-points in the middle! In theological terms, I know what I believe and why but it is only more recently that I have run many mental simulations from others' points of view in order to appreciate them; it is quite tiring!

Words like "love" and "nurture" used not to compute for me. It took me a while to accept that I am loved by God and by other people, and also to know God as Father. It still takes time to process emotions, and to refresh these truths.

It still concerns me that neurotypical people (without significant ASD) would perceive my differences acutely, and especially my weaknesses in a church context. 1 Corinthians 12 is quite relevant here; it takes all sorts to be in the body! My outlook, even in the Evangelical and Charismatic context, has been different from that of others; I take God at His word and sometimes people can be uncomfortable with it!

I hope this gives a few useful pointers towards a greater understanding of Autism in the church community, as an additional aspect of Mental Health. Although I have given just my own example, there would be as many examples as people.

Paul Wiggins responded with a link to 'Please hear what I'm not saying':

Paul Wiggins kindly referred us to his video of a poem written in 1966 by an American Counsellor and Jesuit Seminarian, Charles C. Finn. Selected by Derbyshire NHS Trust in conjunction with a carer, the recorded extract of the poem has inspired and informed many local people (and further afield), and has touched many people's lives. It speaks with great compassion and insight into the human condition. It's a reminder to us all particularly those who have a role in listening to others including pastoral visitors. Indeed the poem speaks powerfully of significant realities and truths, to which so many of us remain insensitively dismissive. The video is on youtube

<http://youtu.be/XYL77Tgbv8w>

Please hear what I'm not saying by Charles C. Finn, September 1966

(<https://poetrybycharlescfinn.com/pages/please-hear-what-im-not-saying> accessed 24 April 2017)

Don't be fooled by me.
 Don't be fooled by the face I wear
 for I wear a mask, a thousand masks,
 masks that I'm afraid to take off,
 and none of them is me.

Pretending is an art that's second nature with
 me,
 but don't be fooled,
 for God's sake don't be fooled.
 I give you the impression that I'm secure,
 that all is sunny and unruffled with me, within
 as well as without,
 that confidence is my name and coolness my
 game,
 that the water's calm and I'm in command
 and that I need no one,
 but don't believe me.
 My surface may seem smooth but my surface
 is my mask,
 ever-varying and ever-concealing.
 Beneath lies no complacency.
 Beneath lies confusion, and fear, and
 aloneness.

But I hide this. I don't want anybody to know
 it.
 I panic at the thought of my weakness
 exposed.
 That's why I frantically create a mask to hide
 behind,
 a nonchalant sophisticated facade,
 to help me pretend,
 to shield me from the glance that knows.

But such a glance is precisely my salvation,
 my only hope,
 and I know it.
 That is, if it's followed by acceptance,
 if it's followed by love.
 It's the only thing that can liberate me from
 myself,
 from my own self-built prison walls,
 from the barriers I so painstakingly erect.
 It's the only thing that will assure me
 of what I can't assure myself,
 that I'm really worth something.
 But I don't tell you this. I don't dare to, I'm
 afraid to.

Continued:

I'm afraid your glance will not be followed by
acceptance,
will not be followed by love.
I'm afraid you'll think less of me,
that you'll laugh, and your laugh would kill me.
I'm afraid that deep-down I'm nothing
and that you will see this and reject me.

So I play my game, my desperate pretending
game,
with a facade of assurance without
and a trembling child within.
So begins the glittering but empty parade of
masks,
and my life becomes a front.
I idly chatter to you in the suave tones of
surface talk.
I tell you everything that's really nothing,
and nothing of what's everything,
of what's crying within me.
So when I'm going through my routine
do not be fooled by what I'm saying.
Please listen carefully and try to hear what I'm
not saying,
what I'd like to be able to say,
what for survival I need to say,
but what I can't say.

I don't like hiding.
I don't like playing superficial phony games.
I want to stop playing them.
I want to be genuine and spontaneous and me
but you've got to help me.
You've got to hold out your hand
even when that's the last thing I seem to want.
Only you can wipe away from my eyes
the blank stare of the breathing dead.
Only you can call me into aliveness.
Each time you're kind, and gentle, and
encouraging,
each time you try to understand because you
really care,
my heart begins to grow wings--
very small wings,
very feeble wings,
but wings!

With your power to touch me into feeling
you can breathe life into me.
I want you to know that.
I want you to know how important you are to
me,
how you can be a creator--an honest-to-God
creator--
of the person that is me
if you choose to.
You alone can break down the wall behind
which I tremble,
you alone can remove my mask,
you alone can release me from my shadow-
world of panic,
from my lonely prison,
if you choose to.
Please choose to.

Do not pass me by.
It will not be easy for you.
A long conviction of worthlessness builds
strong walls.
The nearer you approach to me the blinder I
may strike back.
It's irrational, but despite what the books say
about man
often I am irrational.
I fight against the very thing I cry out for.
But I am told that love is stronger than strong
walls
and in this lies my hope.
Please try to beat down those walls
with firm hands but with gentle hands
for a child is very sensitive.

Who am I, you may wonder?
I am someone you know very well.
For I am every man you meet
and I am every woman you meet.

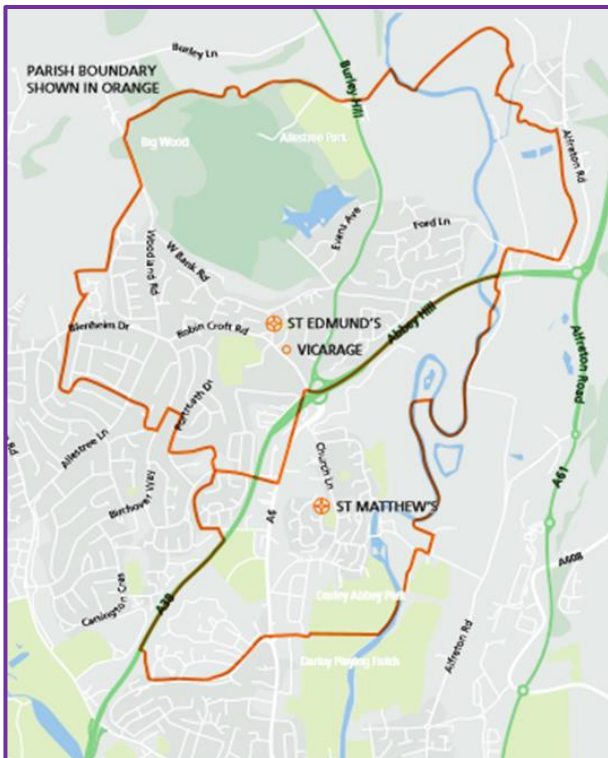
*You can read a collection of stories about the
poem's impact – see more at
<https://poetrybycharlescfinn.com/products/please-hear-what-im-not-saying>*



St Edmund's, Allestree



St Matthew's, Darley Abbey



Z - A Parish Profiles: St Edmund's Allestree and St Matthew's Darley Abbey

- The Reverend Peter Barham
- The Vicarage, King's Croft, Allestree, Derby, DE22 2FN
- 01332 551404 - 07879 474712
- blog: www.northernvicar.co.uk
- facebook - [peter barham@revpeterbarham](https://www.facebook.com/peterbarham@revpeterbarham)

As you leave Derby, driving north on the A6, you will pass through two parishes which have been together for several years - though which still have two magazines and two websites (www.stmatthewschurchdarleyabbey.wordpress.com and www.stedmundsallestree.org.uk). The Reverend Peter Barham became Vicar last July, and the parishes are getting better at working together.

We serve a population of about 10,000 people in two leafy suburbs where house prices are high. Most of the population is white British and we have a good age spread, though with a large number of older, often isolated, people. Both villages (and we still think of them as villages though they haven't been for decades) have few services - a shop and couple of pubs in St Edmund's, a pub and a few shops in St Matthew's, the main Allestree centre is in St Nicholas parish) - and even in "comfortable" north Derby public services are being withdrawn.

St Edmund's has a long history, although the Victorians remodelled the church. St Matthew's was built in 1819 by the Evans family. They owned Darley Abbey Mill and employed most of the village. The original abbey was one of those swept away in the Dissolution. We are using the Reformation Anniversary this year to explore some of our history - and would welcome friends from other parishes to our programme of talks.

The Mill is now, among other things, a wedding venue - and some of that brings business to us. There are 14 weddings across the two churches this year. Few of these people will make their home in the parish, but we have an opportunity

to give them a good experience of church, and who knows where that might lead. We currently have 17 baptisms in the diary. They are amazing opportunities to preach the Gospel as most will bring 50 or 60 people to the celebrations, but it is a struggle to bring them into the life of the church. We can often have two funerals in a week. Although most of them are at the Crematorium - the church serving its community - St Edmund's has lost a lot of church people over the last six months. This is a loss we are feeling.

Our Sundays are busy. 8 am services alternate between the two churches (though only the Vicar worships every week). Both churches have a 10 am - two a month are Eucharistic, the other two a Service of the Word and an All Age Worship. St Matthew's has a large and vibrant choir which sings at the 10 - their normal congregation is about 60 - St Edmund's has about 80. St Edmund's also has a traditional Book of Common Prayer Choral service at 11.15 twice a month, for about 20 people including the choir. Both churches have BCP Evening Services which are often choral, and we are able to field a choir for special services together. If friends from other Deanery churches ever wish to join us, you would be most welcome. Later this month, the choirs are having a day in Blackburn and singing Choral Evensong in the Cathedral. As well as Peter the Vicar, we have four Readers (Julie Barham, Melonie Hambly, Clive Lemmon and Deborah Simpson). We have several retired clergy in the parish, but none are currently able to take services - if any Deanery clergy or readers who enjoy the BCP would like to be in touch, Peter would be glad to hear from you. A Wednesday morning service at St Edmund's is flourishing.

In both churches we need worship that meets the needs of our older members, but we also need to grow younger congregations in both churches. There is a huge pastoral need, inside the churches and on the fringe. We have a lot of lonely people. Both churches run regular luncheon clubs, but we are only scratching the surface. In Darley Abbey we have great links with Walter Evans, our "outstanding" church school. In Allestree few links with the schools. Scouts and cubs are flourishing in Darley Abbey, our Allestree pack has just closed due to lack of numbers. Allestree Church Hall is used every day by Playgroup - who come to church at the Festivals - and our church Parent and Toddler group is flourishing. Kid's Church at St Matthew's goes well, it is more of a struggle at St Edmund's.

We have good relationships with the other churches in the area, though Allestree Churches Together is struggling somewhat, and we are developing more prayer and study groups. We are trying to do more social things together, trying to deepen friendships.

We have much to give thanks for. Good worship, well-maintained buildings, no real money problems, committed people, and lots of laughter. We seek to serve God, our community and our City, but sometimes our comfort gets in the way. We appreciate the prayers and support of our Deanery family.



Three talks on The Reformation
by Julie & Peter Barham

Session 1 - Changing the Church, changing faith, changing Europe
Wednesday 24 May at 7.30 pm (in the Committee Room of St Edmund's Hall, Allestree), and repeated on Tuesday 30 May at 2 pm (in the Fellowship Room at St Matthew's, Darley Abbey).

Session 2 - Changing Worship and Music
Wednesday 7 June at 7.30 pm (in the Committee Room of St Edmund's Hall, Allestree), and repeated on Tuesday 13 June at 2 pm (in the Fellowship Room at St Matthew's, Darley Abbey).

Session 3 - The Reformation in Fiction
Wednesday 21 June at 7.30 pm (in the Committee Room of St Edmund's Hall, Allestree), and repeated on Tuesday 27 June at 2 pm (in the Fellowship Room at St Matthew's, Darley Abbey).

All welcome

MANAGING MESSY CHURCH

ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, DANESMOOR, CHESTERFIELD S45 9BU

TUESDAY 6TH JUNE 10.00AM – 1.00PM

Coffee FROM 9.30 am.

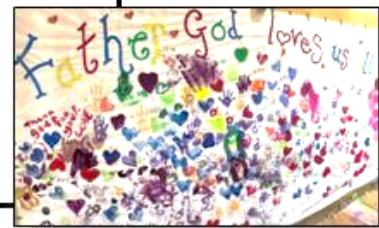
Bring your packed lunch and share cakes at the end of the event.

This event is for:

- **CLERGY** of parishes with Messy Churches, and
- **LEADERS** of Messy churches.
(It would be helpful for clergy and Messy Leaders to attend together, but if this isn't possible you will still be very welcome!)

The event aims to:

- Resource and support your Messy Church (BRF Messy resources will be available)
- Explore how to create a place for growing faith and discipleship
- Share ideas for spin-off events
- Suggest ways in which faith grows

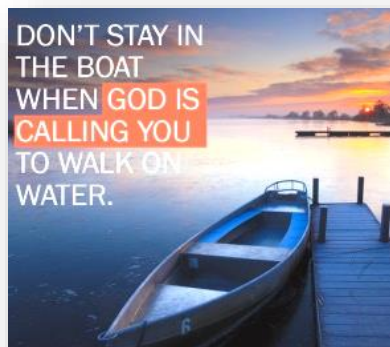


Input from: **Michael Mitton** – Diocesan Fresh Expressions Officer,
Dave Halford – Messy Church Leader in the Hope Valley
Sarah Brown – Diocesan Children's Adviser

There is no charge for this event.

Book at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/messy-church-training-morning-tickets-32648522610>

Further details: Sarah.brown@derby.anglian.org 01332 388660



WHAT DOES THE LORD ASK OF YOU?

A WEEKEND RETREAT EXPLORING VOCATION

DO YOU FEEL THAT GOD IS CALLING YOU TO SOMETHING?

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF GOD IS CALLING YOU?

WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR?

16TH –18TH JUNE 2017

Led by Sister Catherine CHN

Retreat begins 4pm on Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday.

Suggested donation for the weekend - £100.

£20 deposit payable on booking.

Enquiries/ bookings via the Assistant Superior at the Convent of the Holy Name, Morley Road, Oakwood

DERBY DE21 4TB

Tel - 01332 671716 (ext 6)

email assistantprovincialchn@yahoo.co.uk



Pentecost: Thy Kingdom Come Dates for your diary:

St Barnabas: 5 Sessions of Prayer:

There are 5 sessions for prayer based on the following themes, each at 6.00 pm for half an hour. The session will include times of worship, silence and intercessions.

- Thursday May 25th: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name
- Tuesday May 30th: Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven
- Wednesday May 31: Give us today our daily bread
- Thursday June 1st: forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us
- Friday June 2nd: lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil
- Saturday June 3rd prayer and worship at 8.30am followed by breakfast.: yours Lord is the kingdom, the power and the glory, now and forever Amen

St Peter's Chellaston: Church open throughout, and many opportunities for Prayer:

(check the website: www.stpeterschellaston.org.uk during the week)

- Prayer Tree in the church yard, ribbons for people to write prayers on to pray for those in need.
- Compline in Church at 7.00pm in every evening, with Prayer Stations in Church
- Activities for Children at School home time in church.
- We launch with a service of Holy Communion on 25th May (Ascension Day) at 7pm.
- Prayer Group to organise a Prayer Walk, probably on 26th May.
- Holy Communion and our Bluebell Service on Wednesday 31st May.
- Mission Prayers on 1st June: 60 minutes of prayers for the nation (and Chellaston) to be the focus.
- On 4th June, Pentecost Sunday, we are holding a Prayer Afternoon, following on from our Communion Services at 9am and 10.30am. The Afternoon begins at noon with a bring and share lunch and then there will be prayer stations in the church and church hall for people to go round at their leisure. There will be Contemplative Communion and Healing Service at 4pm, and the afternoon will finish with an ecumenical service in the church at 6pm.

Alvaston Parish Church: 24/7 Prayer for the Week:

Anyone wishing to take part is encouraged to book times when they are going to be at St. Michael & All Angels, Church Street, Alvaston DE24 0PR, by sending an e-mail to church@alvaston.church, Full details will be on our web site <http://alvaston.church> . We expect the building will be open for prayer for the whole week.

Mickleover All Saints

At All Saints we will be holding a Service on Ascension Day (25th May) at 7.30. p.m.

On 1st June there will be a Churches Together prayer walk around Mickleover.

On Monday 29th May it is the Mickleover Fete organised by 'Our Mickleover'.

There will be teas on the vicarage lawn at All Saints and some of the proceeds will be donated to Highfield Happy Hens to support the good work they do.

St Alkmund's Church, Derby

Each day from 25 May to 4 June, at specific times which we will publicize on our website, the church will be opening its doors for prayer, worship and reflection, to which all in the Deanery are welcome. We will be taking one phrase of the Lord's Prayer as the focus for that day, and we will begin with a Taize service on 25 May. Our website <https://www.stalkmunds.org/thy-kingdom-come> has the full program, and will have the up to date information of events and times that the church will be open.

Dates for your diary: continued



Ascension Day
 Thursday 25 May 2017
 7.30 pm - Communion
 at St Matthew's
 All welcome



St Michael and All Angels, Alvaston

A day of prayer for the country,
 politicians and voters
 on 8th June
 whilst the polling stations are open.

WALBROOK EPIPHANY PARISH

All at St Augustine's DE23 8BP except
 Ascension Day.

Parish office: office@staugustinesderby.org

Thurs 25th May: 6.30pm at St Thomas' Pear
 Tree Rd: **Launch of 'Thy Kingdom Come'**

Sun 28th May: 9.15 and 11 am:
Sunday services : 'Thy Kingdom Come'

Tues 30th May 7.30 -9.15pm in the Church
 Rooms: **Exploring Pentecost:** an evening of
 prayer exploring the story of Pentecost and its
 relevance for us today. Everyone is welcome.

Weds 31st May 11am-4pm: **Quiet Day**
 Take time out to pray, with lunch and
 refreshments provided. Please contact the
 church office to book.

Thurs 1st June: **Sign up to pray for an hour!**
 Sign up to pray for an hour during the day. At
 the end of each hour you will be asked to
 phone the next person on the list. In such a
 way we can keep connected in our praying.

Fri 2nd June 7pm -8.30pm: **Open Church:**
 Sat 3rd June 10am -12.30pm: **Open Church:**
 Prayer stations around the church to inspire
 prayer, or you are welcome to use the space
 for private prayer.

Sun 4th June: 9.15am and 11am
Sunday services: Pentecost Sunday

CELEBRATE TOGETHER IN DERBY, ON PENTECOST SUNDAY, 4TH JUNE:

3pm in the Cathedral:

Worshippers from all across the city will congregate for a special service.

6.30 at Riverside Centre:

Hosted by Derby City Vision and Derby City Mission, a prayer gathering for Christians of all denominations
 across the city. Everyone is welcome.

Deadline for the next issue: 8th July, 2017. Items to: jo.simister@derby.anglican.org

The issue will include summer events, and also focus on end-of-life issues and bereavement.

Newsletter 8: available early September 2017, deadline 31 August, covering autumn.

Newsletter 9: available mid November 2017, deadline 26 October, covering Advent, Christmas and Epiphany