

Jssue 17 May 2022



Karen writes.....

God calls, we respond ... and that has very much been my story through the last 6 years (and further back than that!). Sometimes it's taken a while to hear His call and I've often responded hesitantly or with a sense of uncertainty, but He has always been faithful and I can truly say that I have learned that God really does equip those He calls.

And so I write to say 'Good-bye' - to being your Area Dean and to all that goes with that role and calling in the amazing North East Deanery.

It's been quite a journey as we have found out together what the North East Deanery is – worshipping, praying and working together to become a group of Parishes, congregations and communities that have a sense of unity and identity. Thank you for being part of that, because it is something we have done all together, led by God.

I'm pleased that I will still have contact with the North East as your Archdeacon – I have a deep love for this area and the people, churches and communities who make it what it is and the joys of the last 6 years have included getting to know the many hard-working, dedicated disciples who are willing to follow where Christ calls in so many ways, giving of their time, energy, money, gifts and talents. Please keep going, keep following together, Clergy and Laity, to see the Kingdom come.

God will continue to call and we, all of us, need to keep listening for His voice and follow in obedience, knowing that He will truly provide all that we need. As we approach Pentecost, let's pray together for a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit – the one who promises to equip us for work and witness, and transform our lives to be more like Jesus.

Go well my friends and may God's blessing rest on you and your life in Him.

Welcome to:-

Rev. Gary Weston, Priest-in-Charge of St. Thomas', Brampton and Assistant Curate (Associate Priest) of St Mark's, Brampton.

Rev. Elliot George as Curate in the Dronfield with Holmesfield Team Ministry, to be Ordained Deacon on 3rd July.

Rev. Jo Harbridge as Curate in the Parish of St. John's, Walton, to be Ordained Deacon on 3rd July.

Congratulations to:-

Rev. Gill Ball and Rev. Mike Fitzsimmons who will both be Ordained Priest on 2nd July.

And farewell

We wish Father Stephen Jones all the best in his retirement.

We say farewell to Father James Milwain as he ends his curacy and moves to Germany; congratulations are also due on his engagement to Ellie.

Farewell also to Rev Joel Bird, who finishes his curacy in the Dronfield with Holmesfield Team and will become Assistant Curate of Grimsby St. Mark, in the Diocese of Lincoln.

Public Witness Day of prayer for Ukraine

The above Prayer Day was held on Saturday 16th April (Holy Saturday) in the Churchyard in front of St. Mary and All Saints Church, Chesterfield—the Crooked Spire.

It was organised by mambers of the Deanery Leadership team Rev. Jo Morris and Reader Anne Knyhynyckyj accompanied by willing helpers Nick Knyhynyckyj, Dorothy Wibberley (Churchwarden St. Bartholomew's, Old Whittington), Rev. Rhoda Blackwell, Nigel Swan (Deanery Secretary) and Rev. Karen Hamblin, our Area Dean.

The day was to encourage the people of Chesterfield to take part in an act of prayer for the people of Ukraine who had been invaded by Russia just some days before and for the men, women, and children who had to flee their homes to find safety in other European countries. Families who had to say goodbye to their husbands and sons who were unable to leave as they were called up to fight for the Ukrainian Army, determined to fight for freedom, not only for themselves but for their country.

Behind the scenes both Jo and Anne had different ideas to attract people coming into Chesterfield during the day, all which came together beautifully.

A prayer tree was set up where people could write their own prayer on either blue or yellow tags, or tie blue or yellow ribbons to the tree. Blue and yellow hearts were knitted, pinned with blue and yellow ribbons, and a prayer sheet was given to those who wanted, so they could continue to pray at home.



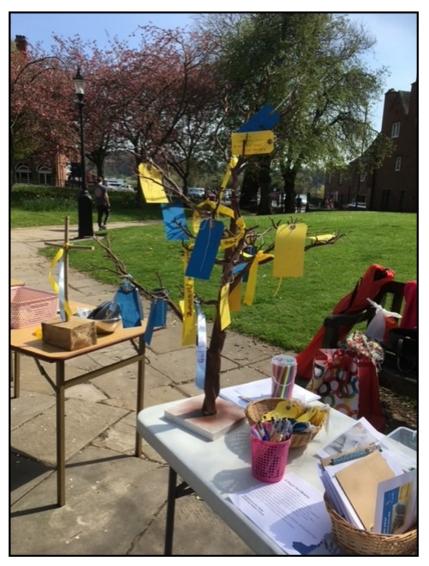
An activity for all ages was given out which had instructions how to make Yarn Wrap Prayer Doves to hang on their window or doors at home. Volunteers helped to cut out squares of cardboard leading up to the day but the prize for the best cut out cardboard goes to Nigel as they were perfect! Of course, we used those first! Thank you Nigel.

You can find how to make the Prayer Doves on

www.sunhatsandwellieboots.com

The day was such a lovely success with people stopping to chat and to write their own prayers or thoughts to hang on the tree with children and families taking the Prayer Doves to make at home.

It really was an answer to prayer that so many local people took part in such a positive way.



Our thanks go to friends and local people whose enthusiasm helped make the day an overwhelming success, especially Jean Thornhill who knitted all the blue and yellow hearts, Dorothy - who was just a joy to be with, Rhoda, who stopped those passing to have a friendly chat, Nick (whose family were still in the Ukraine) who helped with an encouraging voice for everyone, especially those who were wearing 'football shirts'? Thank you to Karen for her support and to Father Patrick who was extremely encouraging, especially when he brought out chocolate biscuits for us to munch on.

The Prayer Tree was left in the Crooked Spire so that visitors could also add their prayers.

The most surprising part of the day was that although we did not ask for any money people donated £100.00 which was sent to Link to Hope Ukraine.

Anne Knyhynyckyj



Energy Grant Fund

Christmas. Sorry, I know it's not even summer yet but as someone who loathes turkey and has never cooked one, I had been wondering how much energy it takes to cook a large turkey and a conversation about rising costs in general happened. Living in a part of Chesterfield that has a high level of multiple deprivation, there has been no return to normal and any 'new normal' looks suspiciously like 'going under'.

Then chatting with our PSO Sharon at the Order of the Black Sheep, she said she was also worried about life from October onwards when energy costs rise again, and what that meant for some of our own community. We had an idea or two.

So, firstly we have set up an Energy Grant Fund. The idea is to pile as much money into it from now onwards to then use over the Christmas period to help those in fuel poverty but also to prevent people going into debt. During my prayers the words 'prevent' and 'stock up' have continuously held meaning and this is part of how we are interpreting them and putting them into practice. We have links with the wonderful Gussies' Kitchen and as I am a trustee of Church on the Bus as well as a Pioneer Minister with the Order of the Black Sheep we found that within a week of setting up this fund we had through our contacts a long list of potential recipients and relationships we can build on now and into the future.

Administering the fund for those with pre-paid meters is simple, we meet them with their payment card at the local shop and put money on their card. However, for those who do not, well that seems slightly trickier so we had our second idea, which is to campaign with whoever will listen and has influence for the major energy companies to produce gift cards and add an evoucher/gift card payment option on their websites.

How you can help...please join us in this campaign, the more voices to put forward the idea of energy gift cards the more likely it is to take root.

Also, am I now going to ask you for money? Why yes, yes I am and the contact details are below for further information about how to donate. Every pound is appreciated and needed; money was paid out the second day of establishing our fund. We may be aiming for Christmas but there is clearly a need now. But actually, and this is worth thinking and praying about; if you live in an area where you too already see the effects of rising costs, rather than donate, maybe setting up something similar yourselves would be fruitful?

Rev. Hilary Moore

Contact details: Reverend Hilary Moore Reverend Mark Broomhead Sharon Burrows hilary90@hotmail.co.uk Text/Tel. 07399159655 mark@theorderoftheblacksheep.com s.burrows37@gmail.com

Dying Matters Awareness Week Pop-up Event

Rebecca Tustin invited me to pay a visit to the new premises for Lilleker's Funeral Directors on Stand Road, and we got chatting about helping people get talking about death and dying. Rebecca had done an event for Dying Matters Awareness Week in the past and so hatched a plan. The aim was to get a neutral space in the town centre and to invite as many professionals/organisations to attend as we could think of.

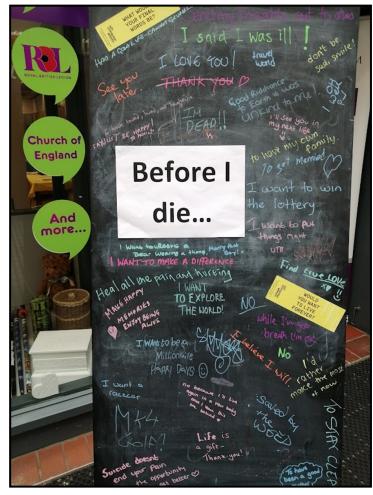
The outcome was that we were able to use a unit in the Pavements for free from Tuesday 3rd to Friday 6th May. From the local clergy, Sally-Anne Beecham, Jilly Hancock, Jo Morris, Gill Ball and myself all did stints to cover the week. During the week there were also representatives from Ashgate Hospice Care, using a new resource to them called "the Departure Lounge"; The Woodland Burial Company



at Walton; Chesterfield Bereavement Services (from the Crematorium); a death doula; the pet crematorium; a civil celebrant; and various others.

Lilleker's arranged the window and had some window stickers printed for all the groups planned to be there.

Rebecca and I were aware that many people might not feel comfortable wandering in, so on the first day we put the Ashgate Hospice blackboard outside, which had the questions 'What would your final words be', 'Would you want to live forever?' and 'What is a life well lived' to try and engage passers-by.



For us clergy who attended, the main benefit of the week was the time spent networking with people from the other organisations, finding out what they do and the options they provide, and hopefully also providing a positive image of the church. There were some people who popped in just to share their story with someone, and a number of elderly people worried about funeral plans. For me, I also had some interesting conversations with members of the public when I was stood by the blackboard, including with a gentleman who had never met a 'female vicar' in real life and wanted to chat.

Footfall in town was definitely less than pre-pandemic, and some days were slow. However, overall the organisations seemed pleased with how it had gone, and Rebecca is already planning on repeating the event next year and looking at ways to improve it.

Rev. Rhoda Blackwell

"Changing the menu" - Fellowship Groups

In the world of "missional theology" there is a lot of discussion around the relationship between "Believing, Belonging, Behaving" as a model of discipleship. Which comes first? It's not common to have someone to change their behaviour or their choices to be more in line with the example and teaching of Jesus Christ without first coming to faith or joining a church community. Does believing come first? Sometimes people do have a



"Damascus road" conversion experience and are drawn to faith before they seek to belong to a church community... but according to study done in this area, these sorts of experience are not the most common way of people coming to faith.

What is the most common experience according to numerous studies into people coming to faith is that people first look for a community to belong to. Whether it be a person moving to a new area looking to get to know people, someone with mental health needs seeking support and a "safe" place to have social contact, or a family looking for a community to raise their children within; many people come to church seeking a community to belong to. It is through their relationships within this community that they begin to explore their faith. In the past couple of decades theologians such as John Finney and Bob Jackson have researched and written much about this, and the general consensus among Missional theologians is that people tend to Belong to a church community, then through Belonging they begin to Believe, and this sense of Belonging and Believing leads to them choosing Christ-like Behaviour for themselves.

This is, of course, not universal of every individual Christian's experience, but it is important for us to recognise that fellowship is an important part of our church life. Providing space for people to find a sense of belonging is a key part of our missional life as church communities. We as churches are great at running coffee mornings, social functions, places for people to gather and enjoy good company. What I want to encourage us all to do is not lose these "social" parts of our church community, but to look at them a little bit differently. When we change our perspective from seeing social activities as part of our missional life, and when we pray to be shown ways to develop the missional side of our social life as a church community, we begin to find that opportunities to make minor changes present themselves.

This is something which we've been doing at Brimington of the past year. Here at Brimington we put on a good social. Pre-pandemic we had more attendance at our socials than at our worship... I'm sure that we are not alone in this! Our leadership team and PCC put some time into thinking about our fellowship life, and how we needed to encourage and allow more space to for conversation about "believing". One of the first things we looked at changing post-covid was not to drop any of our social functions, but to add in a couple of new things.

The first is our Coffee Hub. Our Lay Reader Lucy Coleman noted that all of our "fellowship" activities took place in the church hall. For many people crossing the threshold of a church building to attend worship is a huge barrier. What if they were crossing that boundary for the first time to attend a social function rather than a service? Sat on sofas or at cafe style tables with a nice frothy coffee in the church building could enable space for conversation which crosses from "belonging" to "believing"... And thanks to lots of hard work behind the scenes, our coffee hub is now up and running. A big A frame sign saying "CHURCH OPEN, PLEASE COME IN" has proved to be the best purchase we made for this particular initiative!





The other Fellowship activity we have begun to host in our church building is "Safe Space". Thank you to the team over at Barlborough and Clowne for inspiring our curate Malcolm. While on placement at Barlborough and Clowne Malcolm attended the Safe Space group which is run by the team there, and Malcolm reflected that providing a safe space for people with mental health needs to come and share support and encouragement was needed just as much in Brimington as it is in Barlborough and

Clowne. Malcolm has built a good team of people to help host this group, and following contact with local doctor surgeries and mental health support groups this is now up and running and we are expecting our first referrals of people who might benefit from this group later this month.

We at Brimington are by no means experts, and there are still things that we could be doing to improve in this area, but we feel that we've made some good progress. We are still looking for ways to help and encourage others to firstly find a place where they Belong within our church family, and to provide ways to open up conversation about what we Believe. This has required, and still requires, change in the way that we Behave as a church family...

If you have any thoughts on what I've written here, or if you have ideas or initiatives which you've been trying within your own church community we'd love to hear about them! Please do contact myself or Kathy with any ideas that we could share across the deanery.

Rev. Daniel Cooke, Rector of Brimington and Assistant Area Dean

Thanks to.....

Our warmest thanks go to Joy Layton from St. Lawrence Church, Great Barlow, as she retires from Deanery Synod after serving for 40 years!

Have you seen?...

- the Missional Aims videos on the Diocesan website.... six, five-minute videos, each offering a light Biblical reflection by Diocesan Missioner, Rev. Jason Kennedy, on one aspect of our missional aim, 'Transformed Lives'.

Follow the link below to watch and enjoy

Mission Action Plans (MAP) - Diocese of Derby (anglican.org)

Do you have any news, ideas, events, interesting information to share with the Deanery?

Please send items to include in the next edition of Inbetween to:-

Kathy Crawshaw-Moore

kathy.crawshaw-moore@derby.anglican.org





Churchwardens Networking Event

We are delighted to be able to invite you to the next Diocese of Derby and Ecclesiastical Insurance churchwarden networking event. This will take place at **St Thomas's Church, Brampton on Thursday 30th June between 10am and 3pm.**

This time, there will be a focus on environmental topics. Gareth Greenwood, our Diocesan Community Projects Development Officer, will be helping us to learn how we can source funding and grants for building work, as well as considering how we can use our buildings more widely. Lynne Ingham from Ecclesiastical Insurance will talk to us about keeping churches open. As part of the day, Stella Collishaw, our Community Action Officer, will be giving us some more information about churches reaching net zero carbon by 2030.

In addition, John Beardmore, our Diocesan Energy Advisor, Nigel Sherratt, our DAC Secretary, Kat Alldread, our Lay Vocations Officer and Dave King from the Comms Team will be present throughout the day.

The day will end with a Question-and-Answer session where those present will answer any questions you may have relating to the environment, church buildings, sourcing funding and the Church of England's net zero carbon target.

Please submit in advance any questions on these subjects. This can be done either by emailing Ellie Ballard directly <u>ellie.ballard@derby.anglican.org</u> before the 28th June. Please do let her have any specific dietary requirements you may have at the same time. **Places are limited, so please secure yours as soon as possible.**

If you wanted to bring anyone else with you from your PCC who has a specific interest in any of these matters, then please do forward this invitation on to them.

If, following the recent APCMs, you are no longer the churchwarden, please would you pass this invitation on to your successor and let them know how much we would love to see them at this event. Thank you so much for all that you have done. We apologise that you were sent this in error. (It can take a little time for cms to be updated with parish officer changes submitted by your PCC secretary.)

If you have any questions about the event, please either contact me on <u>cathy.luffman@derby.anglican.org</u> or Ellie Ballard on the email above.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Cathy Luffman and Ellie Ballard

PCC Secretary Network

Did you know we have a PCC Secretary Network for anyone interested in swapping questions and sharing experience? Please contact Kathy Crawshaw-Moore if you would like to be involved.



The 2027 Community of Prayer

What is the 2027 Community of Prayer?

We are the Diocese of Derby network of prayer – praying together, as we prepare to celebrate our centenary in 2027, for transformed lives in growing church and building community the length and breadth of our diocese.

Our shared prayer across the diocese is the frame that holds us together as God weaves the threads of our lives, our worship, witness and work for Christ, into something beautiful. We hope that over the next five years 2027 people will commit to regular prayer, as individuals, and as churches, groups or schools.

Why join the 2027 Community of Prayer?

Our Christian lives begin and end in prayer: in prayer the Spirit unites us to God and to one another; in prayer we are changed ever more into the likeness of Christ; in prayer we are equipped for our Heavenly Father's service.

Being rooted in prayer nourishes our shared values of generous faith, courageous hope and life-giving love. Prayer is essential as we engage afresh in living out the 5 Marks of Mission – to tell, teach, tend, transform and treasure – in response to the vision God has given us of the Kingdom of God as good news for all. Prayer is a demonstration of our love and commitment to all the people and places of our diocese in Derbyshire, the city of Derby, and beyond.

Who can join the 2027 Community of Prayer?

Anyone can join - everyone who wants to be part of this movement of prayer. We pray for God's Kingdom to come in our diocese – please join us. You can become a Companion of the 2027 Community of Prayer as an individual, and as a church or group, or as a school.

As a 2027 Community of Prayer Companion (individual), you commit yourself to praying the Lord's Prayer, the diocesan Vision Prayer and for those on the diocesan Cycle of Prayer every day. We may also occasionally suggest other relevant prayers that you may like to use.

As a 2027 Community of Prayer Church, and commit your worshipping context (in parish church, chaplaincy, BMO, fresh expression, church plant or other congregation) to praying the Lord's Prayer, the diocesan Vision Prayer and for those on the diocesan Cycle of Prayer at least weekly. We may also occasionally suggest other relevant prayers that you may like to use.

As a 2027 Community of Prayer School, you commit to praying the Lord's Prayer, the diocesan Vision Prayer and for those on the diocesan Cycle of Prayer every week. We may also occasionally suggest other relevant prayers that you may like to use.

We will also occasionally keep you updated with other prayer resources as part of your daily or monthly email.

How do I join the 2027 Community of Prayer?

Follow the link below which will take you to the Registration Form on the Diocesan website:-

The 2027 Community of Prayer - Diocese of Derby (anglican.org)

Diocesan Vision Prayer

Gracious God. in your mercy and for your glory, renew us, reshape us, revive us with generous faith, courageous hope and life-giving love that, in transformed lives through growing church and building community, we may see your Kingdom come and be good news for all. Amen.

Dates for your Diary:-

Deanery Prayer Dates 2022

All prayers held at 7.15 pm via "zoom" Anyone offering to lead our prayers would be very welcome—we have spaces on 6th July and 5th October. Come and join us!

Date	Zoom Link
Tuesday 7th June	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82685122003? pwd=SDVicXNRN0d4RGY3aERrMmFwRXIPdz09
Wednesday 6th July	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87453941567? pwd=aFIGMDBFOG1oV1hnQWpTY1hrQTBMZz09
Tuesday 6th September	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86462813236? pwd=VmI2MURhWEgrdWZYQ0VpK3d2UW1mZz09
Wednesday 5th October	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81566491409? pwd=dDISNnpjTW1IZjl0WkcyazNqbUIZZz09
Tuesday 8th November	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89557728655? pwd=dktJUnZrdU92VHNUMTVOSktPYWZNZz09

Deanery Synod Dates

2022

Wednesday 13th July

7.30 pm, St. Swithin's, Main Road, Holmesfield, Dronfield S18 7WT

Wednesday 2nd November

7.30 pm, St Michael and All Angels, Church Street, Brimington S43 1JG





The deadline for your 2021 online Parish Finance Return is 31st May