

Deanery News

February 2021



Dear All

A reflection for lent

In the traditional reading for the first Sunday of lent, it is interesting to notice precisely when Jesus is led into the desert to be confronted with temptation; it comes at him immediately after his baptism by John in the Jordan.

In this great moment, when his sense of God's call and love was so dramatically confirmed, he has to face the whispering voices, the seductive lure of worldly treasures and recognise them for what they are. Jesus has to do this now and win a victory over them. If he doesn't, they would undoubtedly meet him suddenly in the middle of his work and may well overwhelm him.

The temptations play on the very strength he has just received. The divine voice is heard to say "**you are my Son whom I love**" which prompts the demonic voice to get to work; 'Okay, if you really are the Son of God, then surely you don't want to go hungry out here in the desert do you? Surely you want people to see who you are, so why not do something spectacular and turn these stones into bread? Or when I take you to the highest point of the temple, why not throw yourself down and let the angels lift you up in their hands?'

Jesus is committed to living off God's Word, committed to loving, serving and trusting him completely, so he knows the score and sees through the trickery answering each time with the Bible and with God.

The temptations we all face day by day and at critical moments of decision and vocation in our lives, may be very different from those of Jesus but they have exactly the same intention. They are not simply trying to entice us into committing this or that sin, they are trying to distract us, stop us, throw us off the scent from the glorious vocation God has for each of us.

The enemy will do everything possible to halt the purposes of God, so if we have heard God's voice welcoming us as his children, then we will also hear the nagging voices of distraction. We need to be aware, alert, on the case and deal with them just as Jesus did. We need to store scripture in our hearts and learn how to use it, deploying the Word of God to fight back and resist. When Jesus was in the desert, the gospels tell us angels attended him. Jesus didn't make his journey alone and nor do we. So as we journey with Jesus towards Jerusalem this lent, let us keep our eyes firmly on God and trust him for everything.

Rev'd Colin Pearson
Area Dean

Dairy Dates:

2021 Dairy Dates:

Deanery Synod Meetings

7pm via Zoom

Wednesday April 21st

Wednesday July 21st

Wednesday October 20th

Leadership Team Meetings

Tuesday 2nd March

Tuesday 23rd March

Tuesday 6th July

Tuesday 28th September

Full Chapter Meetings

To be advised

Diocesan Synod Meetings

Saturday 20th March

Saturday 3rd July

Saturday 9th October

PEAK DEANERY NEWS

Eileen Burt,

Deanery Administrator

eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org

Contributions are very welcome from across the Deanery

From our Lay Chair, Canon Christine

Friends,

Opinions vary about whether being in Lock down is peaceful and quiet or depressing and lonely. It can be a great worry if family and friends are far away and struggling, but some people I know have kept fit and healthy and have no worries about their family's health. They have happily spent time pottering in their gardens, taken all day to shovel snow and laid up a whole pile of big books to read- I have started reading Obama's autobiography myself... he really is a man of style... and have Hilary Mantel Mk3 for when I have finished it!

But I know I cannot for ever sit in a siding of life ...watching worship and going to meetings on Zoom, or watching the vicar taking his dogs for a walk up to Corbar Cross filmed live on his phone. There are all the papers of the Bishop's vision to be read and absorbed and the reality of serious changes in how people view religion and personal faith to be prayed over. The lockdown has not helped people get to grips with the issues... we have had the prospect of the pandemic to absorb us, and information about where the diocese is with the issues has been slow to reach the parishes.

As I write, the Readers in the Diocese will be preparing for a day conference to ask questions about how the contents of the papers about the Diocesan Vision will affect our diocese and the parishes we live in. Canon Matt Barnes who has been working hard on the papers that are available is coming to answer our questions and hopefully listen to our views and comments. We all want a church that flourishes, leaders who help us, families, neighbours and work mates who share our faith and above all hope in a world that sometimes seems to be spinning out of control in a rather Godless direction.... Don't we? Well if we do, then we need to be prayerfully active, willing to engage with the issues and fearless in joining in the discussion when it comes our way. If the discussion has not started near you, perhaps you should start it!



Peak Deanery Lay Chair, Diocesan Synod Lay Chair,
Acting warden of Readers—Derby Diocese



Deanery Synod, APCM's

Our 'extraordinary' January Deanery Synod meeting was cancelled as we had no extra information to share since our meeting in October. Since then, we have distributed the papers from the Diocesan Synod for Deanery Synod members to read and pray about.

We need to ensure that communication to the parishes is open and honest and the Leadership Team will be meeting at the beginning of March to discuss how we take the discussion further.

Thank you to everyone who has agreed to be a member of our Synod. We do still have churches with no representation. It is not too late to join, please encourage people to come forward, particularly in the more rural parishes, your voices need to be heard too.

APCM's will be held as usual this year, by 31st May 2021. No new electoral roll is required, but the officers need to be elected. We will be hearing more about holding APCM's in the next few weeks. Parishes are encouraged to hold them in late May. Information should be available at <https://derby.anglican.org/en/about-us/governance/apcms.html>

Have you been called?

Five years ago I had no idea what a Reader was and now I am licensed (6th Oct 2019,) to preach, teach and, 'to encourage the ministries of God's people.' Hopefully my experience will encourage others to prayerfully consider a calling to this valuable ministry.

My wife and I are both late arrivals to the C of E but have been Christians for many years in Sheffield House Church. Our road to Anglicanism commenced when our youngest son had to gain a qualifying connection to be married at Hathersage church in 2013, and he wanted us to go with him for moral support; a long story short, we stayed! We both felt we had something to offer, so we left our Sheffield church with the blessing of the minister, and my road to Readership began.

I was asked to become a member of the PCC but our House Church leader suggested that I should consider becoming a Reader. My sister-in-law was talking to me about, 'finishing strongly', and there were passages of scripture which kept cropping up confirming my calling, so I started to 'push the doors' of what I believed was my Readership vocation.

Initially I spoke to my vicar, who put my name forward to the PCC for consideration. The next stage was a one-day vocational course, followed by an in-depth interview at Derby and a letter of acceptance from Bishop Alastair to commence training, September 2017.

I started a two-year training course for a certificate in Theology, Ministry and Mission, with additional weekends dedicated to Readership training. A six-week placement at Newbold Parish Church and a commitment to lead and preach on a monthly basis at Hathersage provided an opportunity to put my training into practice. There is now a new and dedicated Reader training course for the Derby Diocese.

My licensing at Derby Cathedral by Bishop Libby was a very special occasion. As St Michael & All Angels was now in vacancy, I was soon regularly leading and preaching across the benefice.

2020 saw the arrival of the Coronavirus pandemic, the advent of Zoom meetings and a very different way of 'doing' church. It has been a challenging and busy time, but I am secure in my calling and knowledge that God has called me to the ministry of Reader.

Tony Hill

Reader, Hathersage with Bamford and Derwent, and Grindleford

Anyone wishing to follow their calling and become a Reader, please look at <https://derby.anglican.org/en/church-admin/readers/becoming-a-reader.html>



Safeguarding

Hello everyone, I am Hannah Hogg, the new Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA). I started in post at the beginning of October and am very excited to have joined the team and to be part of the Diocese.

I have spent my career as a qualified solicitor, starting in private practice and then moving into the public sector some years ago. I worked at Derby City Council for 15 years where I was the lead for the legal team dealing with child protection and adults at risk. I join the Diocese from Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, where I was the Corporate Safeguarding Lead with a focus on multi-agency reviews and strategic leadership in safeguarding.

I am married and have two grown up sons. I have been a governor at our local Church of England primary school for many years and thoroughly enjoy the role, making a small contribution to school life. In my spare time I enjoy reading (crime fiction is a favourite!), meeting up with friends or family (when allowed to do so!) and holidaying in Scotland.

I have already met many people over Zoom and really appreciate the welcome that has been extended to me – thank you very much. I look forward to meeting more of you in due course, preferably in person, as lockdown hopefully eases over the coming months.

OUR KEY PRIORITIES

With the publication of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), safeguarding is very much in focus across the Church at the present time. We have a busy year ahead and will be focussing on the following areas:

Past Cases Review 2 - We are very grateful to all parishes for returning the requested information and our preparatory work for this significant project is now well under way. We have two independent reviewers identified and hope that our review will commence in April.

DBS checks - We are in the process of training parish representatives for our streamlined DBS process which allows parishes to complete applications more quickly and efficiently. We have a helpful page on the website that includes the application forms, information on completing the forms and some helpful guides and FAQ: <https://derby.anglican.org/en/about-us/safeguarding-information-menu/disclosure-and-barring-service-dbs.html>

For those of you who have not enrolled to do the DBS streamlining training please enrol by following this link <https://derbysafeguarding.eventbrite.co.uk/>

All parishes need to have this in place by **5th April 2021** - the training is straightforward and we are here to support throughout.

PSO events - We are pleased to be able to let you know that we have arranged two PSO events: Saturday 24 April 9.30am – 12.30pm and Wednesday 12 May 1.30 – 4.30pm. At the moment it seems likely that both events will be over Zoom and booking will be made available via Eventbrite.

We will be looking at updates around our key activity, IICSA and PCR2. In addition, we will be having a short presentation from Daphne Franks around the safeguarding issues arising from predatory marriage.

A little reminder ... Parish Dashboard: Can we just remind you about the Parish Dashboard which is there to assist you in ensuring your parish is fully compliant with safeguarding requirements. We will be focussing on the Dashboard later this year but if you have any queries in the meantime, please contact Sue Griffin, Safeguarding Co-Ordinator (sue.griffin@derby.anglican.org) for further information.

AND FINALLY

If you have a few minutes to spare, perhaps you would like to follow the link below for a short film produced by the Derbyshire SAB on signs to look out for that an adult may be at risk:
[Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board - Identifying and reporting abuse and neglect - YouTube](#)

A version with British Sign Language can be found at:
[Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board - identifying and reporting abuse and neglect \(BSL version\) - YouTube](#)



Common Fund 2021

This information has been sent by the Derby Diocesan Board of Finance to PCC Treasurers and Secretaries:

How has the Covid-19 pandemic affected Common Fund this year?

We realise that the impact of this pandemic has profoundly affected our life both as a Diocese and at Parish level, along with the lives of people in our parish communities. This has meant that many parishes have found difficulty in maintaining payments against their 2020 request and pledge. Yet, despite all this, there has been a good response during recent months from our parishes holding faith with the Common Fund, which is the principal source for paying clergy stipends and housing as well as services to parishes. It is with great pride that we hear of inventive measures parishes have taken to help maintain their own income through recovery appeals etc, and the generous responses they have received both from their congregation and local communities.

What about 2021 and beyond?

In October 2020, Diocesan Synod approved the 2021 budget including the use of around £1.4m of reserves to bridge the gap in the loss of income and to continue the Diocesan Mission as we consult and launch the new Diocesan Vision. The DBF Budget through to 2025 indicates use of reserves up to £4m over the five-year period, which means digging even further into our reserves at the detriment of asset value and annual returns, but needs must in such circumstances. The Diocese will be seeking to make further savings in 2021 and beyond, in Parish Support, property management and with help from the Board of Education reducing their funding request in line with their commitments made to the Diocesan Synod.

How does this relate to Common Fund requests for 2021?

Common fund remains a significant element of Diocesan resources – equating to approx. 50-55% of overall income. With increasing costs year on year, and reducing transition funding from the Church Commissioners, Common Fund becomes increasingly important to our diocesan life.

We are aware that it might be difficult to commit how much you will be able to continue to give for 2021. For the realisation of the Diocesan Budget for 2021, we need to ask you to think about how much you can continue to realistically pledge to give as your parish hopefully starts a journey of recovery from the challenges of this year.

We acknowledge that parishes face their own financial challenges so want to help you in any way we can, and for parishes to support one another in their benefices and deaneries, to meet the Common Fund together. Some parishes already take this approach locally. We are here to support parishes, so please be in touch if we can help.

Please be realistic, challenging and generous as you consider prayerfully your contribution so that mission and ministry is supported in every parish.

If you require additional information, please contact the Finance Team at finance@derby.anglican.org, and look at the various links at the head of this section.

What might the future look like?

The future of our Diocese will be determined by the launch and implementation of the Diocesan Vision, the financial resilience of the Board of Finance and the financial resilience of our Parishes.

As we journey on together, we must be brave, radical, and outward looking. Our prayer is that we yearn to grow the Kingdom of God, for all ages, increase our diversity, across every geographical, socio-economic and cultural context. We can only do that with your help as we reshape our work, embodying our values of generous faith, courageous hope and lifegiving love.

Common Fund in the Peak Deanery

Despite 2020 being a difficult year for all, the Peak Deanery managed to fulfil 83.7% of the Common Fund request. You contributed £758,706 from a request of £906,813

Our 2021 request is £919,352, an increase of around 1.38% on last year. Please prayerfully consider the situation of your individual churches.

Many churches have been able to take advantage of the Parish Giving scheme and also used the 'donate' buttons on the A Church Near You, websites, social media etc. Thank you for being so pro-active.

Useful information can be found <https://www.parishresources.org.uk/> <https://www.parishbuying.org.uk/categories/> <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/building-generous-church> <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/>

Parish Returns

Thank you for completing your Mission Statistics for 2020, all Peak Deanery churches have now had their returns verified.

Deadline for the submission of Parish Finance returns is 18th June 2021

FUNDING WORKSHOP

30TH MARCH 2021
1.30 - 3 PM



WONDERFUL ON TAP



High Peak CVS is pleased to invite you to a funding workshop to learn more about the Severn Trent Community Fund which is giving away more than £10M over five years. The fund has three themes; People, Places and the Environment.

There are also three levels of grants available £2K - £10K, £10K – 75K and £75K - £200K.

Please note this fund is not available across the whole of High Peak, only organisations active in the Severn Trent Water region are eligible to apply.

If you wish to check your eligibility please use the eligibility checker on the Severn Trent Water website <https://www.stwater.co.uk/about-us/severn-trent-community-fund/check-your-projects-eligibility/>

The workshop will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 30th March 2021 from 1.30pm and will be hosted by High Peak CVS. We are delighted that Sue Heyes the Community Fund Officer for Severn Trent will be joining us to explain more about the fund and answer your questions. So please join us to find out how your organisation can apply.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/high-peak-cvs-funding-workshop-severn-trent-community-fund-tickets-139937196923>

Raymond Ross Grant news

Peak Deanery churches have recently been successful in securing grants from the Raymond Ross Fund.

Congratulations to all involved, the quality of the applications has been outstanding.

Hartington: Hear our prayer! To enable all to access worship within and without the church building. Currently there are issues with hearing both within the church walls and streaming to the community beyond the walls

Grindleford: A mixed project to : introduce a café area into the back of the church, provide a community space for a variety of church, shop and village-related activities; repair and strengthen the roof so that we can fit solar panels, as part of a wide ranging initiative to save energy and reduce emissions in our village; work with our community shop, residents and schoolchildren

Eyam: The 'Access for All' project which is Phase 1 of a multi-phase church re-ordering project. Access for All will allow people with restricted mobility to safely enter the church and provide a safe means of emergency exit for all users of the building

Edale: Heritage and hospitality project. The project will have 3 main components: Re-ordering of west end of church to create a hospitality area and complete our education zone [faculty already obtained]; Disabled access to the church; Creation of a toilet with disabled access

Inspiring at New Mills, St George's



Fr. Owain Mitchell has had an eventful first year as Vicar of New Mills. Licensed by Bishop Libby just weeks before the lockdown in March 2020, he hadn't planned for the pandemic, nor the closure of the church and churchyard due to the weathervane on the top of the church spire becoming unsafe.

Thankfully the weathervane was removed just prior to the March lockdown, allowing the churchyard to open again and for Fr Owain to familiarise himself with the church where he has been conducting live streamed services. January 2021 saw the re-installation of the 'golden cockerel' or also fondly know as the 'brass hen'

The pictures, courtesy of Leon Shufflebotham, show just how much effort and skill has gone into maintaining this beautiful church.



Giving thanks and donations

The Diocese of Derby is now supporting an initiative by Christian Aid to give both thanks and a donation once you have received the vaccine.

The donation will be used by Christian Aid to help vulnerable communities around the world access soap, food and vital health information in the face of the pandemic.

Christian Aid will also support vaccination programmes in countries where it is operating by providing data on hard-to-reach populations to local health services and by challenging misleading information about the virus and vaccination, as well as any stigma faced by those who contract Covid-19.

[Full details are available on the diocesan website.](#)

Parishes in Vacancy

The Peak Deanery has 10 churches that are Interregnum: Taddington, Biggin, Chelmorton, Earl Sterndale, Hartington, Monyash, Birchover, Middleton by Youlgreave, Stanton-in-Peak and Youlgreave. Please remember these parishes in your prayers, the Church Wardens and PCC members are doing their very best and would like to thank Clergy—Incumbents and PtO's who are blessing them by offering to help out with services



My pre-lockdown travels took me to St John the Baptist, Chelmorton, a favourite with my family as my children, as members of Buxton Athletics Club, had great fun participating in the 'Chelmorton Chase'.

We were blessed by the 'Angel' Christmas theme in the church. It was welcoming, peaceful and beautifully done.

Eileen Burt, Deanery Admin.

Closing Prayers

We remember before God those who have died and we pray that God's love will surround all who mourn them, now and always

Gracious God,
as we remember before you the thousands who have died,
surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion.
Be gentle with us in our grief,
protect us from despair,
and give us grace to persevere
and face the future with hope
in Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

Amen.

A prayer during Lent

Heavenly Father,

your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#LIVE LENT



God's Story
Our Story