

Deanery News

Winter 2022



Dear Friends

It is difficult to quantify whether 2022 has been a good, bad, or indifferent year. Partly it will be to do with how healthy it has been for you and your family, how successful in terms of how things have worked out for you regarding work, education, plans realised or not, or life events during 2022. On a global and national stage, we may feel that it has been a very challenging year with the war in Ukraine, the rising cost of living and inflation and continuing concerns about climate change. Of course, these have impact upon our lives and well-being.

The meaning of Christmas and the message of hope it contains in the story of God's direct intervention in human life through taking our human flesh offers us a sign of reassurance that we can and will find the strength, resource, comfort and hope to get through the tough and uncertain times and emerge from them with new insight and resolve. It does feel that we have been in a state of flux and uncertainty for quite a while now with the pandemic and reflecting on what we have learned as we emerge, and all we want is a bit of respite and time to enjoy doing things again without worry or restriction.

The strength of community, relationship and family has grown to some degree over the past two plus years, and the looking out for our neighbour who may not be able to heat their home, or a family struggling to provide over Christmas, or somebody who is homeless or isolated in their home has to be part of our care and compassion this Christmas, into the New Year.

God reminds us through the Child of Bethlehem and the characters who form the Christmas Nativity that we are not born into isolation or a 'Me culture', but are interdependent and flourish when in positive and affirming relationships that can bring the best out of us. Sometimes life is unfair, and things don't go the way we planned, but rather than feel angry, resentful or be trapped by disappointment, it is about how we can see the light in the darkness, find the will to pick ourselves up, and enable those around us to encourage, support and help us, as we can do for others.

Money may be a lot tighter this Christmas and we may need to draw our celebration and gift giving in, but may we remember and carry into 2023 the greatest gift that we have received that cost nothing to us, but for God was a complete pouring out of himself, for us to know life in all of its fullness. May we never take this for granted and see that there are more precious things in life that are above monetary value and make the most of them day by day.

A Happy and Blessed Christmas and New Year to you.

A. J. Kambhane



Canon Tony, Acting Area Dean

Dairy Dates 2023

Deanery Synod –Chapel-en-leFrith Primary School 7pm for 7.30pm

Wednesday 29th March

Wednesday 12th July

Wednesday 15th November

Full Chapter meetings – St John's Institute, Tideswell 10am for 10.30am

Thursday 26th January

Tuesday 16th May

Thursday 6th July

Tuesday 7th November

Leadership Team Meetings

Monday 13th March

Monday 26th June

Monday 30th October

Archdeacon's Visitation

Wednesday 28th June, St George the Martyr, New Mills
7pm for 7.30pm start

Confirmation dates

TBA

Clergy conference

16th – 19th October

PEAK DEANERY NEWS

Eileen Burt,

Deanery Administrator

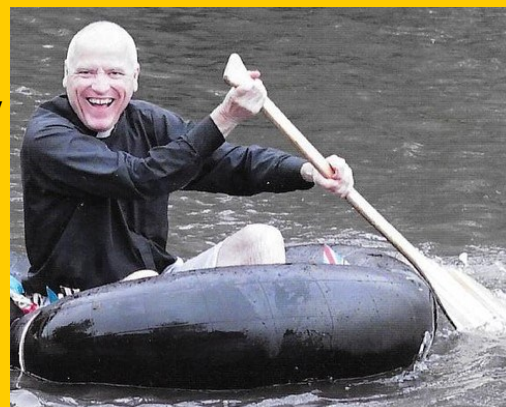
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Contributions are very welcome from across the Deanery

An end to Acting and Looking Forward

With the news of the appointment of The Revd Mike Gilbert as Area Dean of The Peak Deanery and the Revd Liz England and the Revd David Mundy as Assistants, starting in early January, my time as Acting Area Dean is drawing to a close. I have enjoyed serving the deanery during this time and trying to be a resource and support for colleagues in ministry, especially parishes and churches in vacancy or where their incumbent has been away from work on long term sick leave.



Acting against the backdrop of waiting for the strategy that will drive the Diocesan Vision has not enabled us to move forward with our own strategy of growth, but with the Archdeacon's in post and a new Area Dean and Deanery Leadership Team, I am confident that we will continue to build on the foundations laid and relationships formed since The Peak Deanery came into being and the work of growing, sustaining and developing our mission together will go from strength to strength as we identify opportunity and shape our response as deanery churches and communities.

Thank you for your support, prayers and friendship during the past 18 months and my special thanks to Nick Gurney in his role as Assistant Acting Area Dean, Eileen and the Leadership Team. I know you will all support and work well with Mike.

God Bless, *Tony*

New Area Dean—Mike Gilbert

Dear Friends

Can I introduce myself. I am Mike Gilbert, the slightly surprised but excited new Area Dean. I have been Rector of Baslow and Eyam for the last ten years and before that I lived in Grindleford for five years. Growing up in Sheffield and spending all the time I could climbing and walking in the Peak District I am delighted to be living in such a wonderful place.

I accepted the invitation to become the Area Dean because I can see God at work in this area and long for His Kingdom to grow. There is such a huge potential but also very real struggles and anxiety amongst our 58 churches. I want to play my part in clergy and congregations feeling supported and enabled, churches thriving and communities being impacted with the love of God.

I want to pay tribute to Colin Pearson when he was Area Dean and Tony Kaunhoven, who has been brilliant at holding the fort and much more as Acting Area Dean. As we seek to develop a Deanery strategy that helps and supports Christians and Churches to flourish in the Peak and am hoping that we will be able to work together and, as it says in Hebrews 10:24, "spur one another on towards love and good deeds"



The Great Invitation

Many of us will be thinking about inviting our family and friends to have a meal together during the Christmas period, or hosting Christmas parties. These invitations are easy to make, but wouldn't it be great to extend that invitation beyond a meal, inviting those friends and family members to church?

That's the point of [The Great Invitation](#).

If we are to become a church of 'missionary disciples', we will have to leave our comfort zones - and encourage others to do the same. This year, join with us in encouraging everyone to share the joy of celebrating the birth of Jesus with our families, friends and neighbours.



The Great Invitation aims to support, equip and inspire churches to invite the people in their communities to church this December. A number of resources are available, including reflections, a fully stocked [resource hub](#) on A Church Near You, Christmas card invitations and more.

As well as the resources, there's a [blog](#) and a [podcast](#) about how to use them and get involved. Update your ACNY page, encourage your church friends, send your own invitations. If you're a church leader, check out [this commissioning liturgy](#), designed to bless, encourage and send out your congregations to share the goodness of God that we have been privileged to receive.

Already doing this? [Share your story to inspire others!](#)

Whatever you do this Christmas, don't just hold the love of God in your heart - share it as freely as you share the rest of the joys of Christmas.

An personal story (author unknown)

I still remember the visit I made to a young mum and her baby. We were talking about why she wanted her little one baptised. She started to talk about churchgoing. "We go every year" she said, "To the nativity". I found myself wondering how we might help them to discover their place with God and God's people beyond the star and into the year ahead. #FollowTheStar has reached and engaged millions of people, helping them to discover all that Christmas at church can mean. Churches are welcoming all ages to a huge range of services, and online resources are encouraging them to pray at home. But this year, we are piloting an opportunity for churches to invite families and children to return after Christmas. All the research that we have done around Life Events has told us clearly that being invited is key to continuing a faith journey. So 200 churches across the country are taking part in a pilot scheme to invite families who attend crib and carol services to go 'Beyond the Stable' at services on or around 5th January (Epiphany). When they come to the service, they will get a simple take-home gift to encourage prayer at home – and an invite to return to 'Share the Light' at a service on or near 2nd February (Candlemas). And at that service, there will be a simple take-home gift to encourage prayer. Alongside the pilot churches, any church which is interested can buy this new range of material which extends #FollowTheStar. Customised publicity, as well as the giveaway items, are available on the Church House Publishing website chpublishing.co.uk

[Follow the Star The Great Invitation single copy 12 Days of Reflections for Christmas and the New Year by Justin Welby, Stephen Cottrell - Paperback / softback - 9781781403839 \(chpublishing.co.uk\)](#)

Update your 'A Church Near You' page with these resources [Logos and branding: The Great Invitation - A Church Near You](#)

Therapeutic hubs— Nick Read

It all began with a knock on the door. Cathryn my wife, two young daughters and I had just moved into the vicarage at the back of Holy Trinity Church Beckenham carpark.

Before starting stipendiary ministry, I had worked in medical research in drug development at the Wellcome Research Laboratories. Then when the company merged with Glaxo I trained as a counsellor and then worked at three centres: Burrswood Centre for healthcare and ministry, a Christian GP practice working with patients with chronic unresolved problems and Hanbury Community project in Spitalfields one of the poorest wards in London. What was interesting about the three centres is that they all tried to meet the needs of the people in a holistic way addressing their emotional, physical and spiritual needs in an integrated way. The people who attended the centres taught me a lot about what is important in life and what it means to be truly human. In a way they presented a window into what was going on in our communities and about the brokenness in society.

At the same time as working at the three centres I was training for ordination and not surprisingly found myself thinking about the shape of church and Missio Dei (mission of God).

So back to the knock on the door. It turned out to be Trevor, a man in his late 20's looking very anxious and needy. His partner had just died from an overdose, and he was alone, out of work and had no one to talk to. After giving him a hot drink and food and having prayed with him he seemed to be in a better place emotionally. That was the beginning of a long friendship and the beginning of a steady flow of people coming to the church for help. The vicarage larder was superseded with a shipping container with 250 people a week receiving food bags and the sandwich and cup coffee turned into a hot sit-down meal for over 100 people a week. Holy Trinity wasn't wealthy, at least materially. But it seemed that as soon as we started to address the diverse needs of the vulnerable men, women and children who came for help all the resources in the form of expertise and money became available. As well as providing for the physical needs we also addressed emotional and spiritual needs. Our services included the provision of food, clothing, advocacy, housing and debt advice, counselling, podiatry, community café and choir, prayer and worship. As the hub grew people from the local community, who had previously had little or no contact with the church wanted to get involved. Other churches, schools, councillors, local MP, the police, GPs, local stores all added their support. The result was that Living Well Bromley was birthed (<https://livingwell.life>) a caring community that aims to be a place where people feel respected, valued, accepted and loved. Many of the people who came for help who we called guests soon became volunteers.

The name Living Well is a play on words referring to a state of wholeness of an individual and community, but it also refers to a specific location, recalling the encounter at a well between Jesus and the marginalised Samaritan woman where He speaks about 'a spring of water welling up to eternal life' (John 4:10). Through an encounter of mutual sharing and listening it resulted in healing and transformation where Jesus ministered to the brokenness in the woman's life, a spiritual awakening and the restoration of the woman into her community.

Living Well became a beacon in Rochester diocese and has encouraged other churches to look at how they can engage with the weary and broken in their communities. When talking to other church leaders I always urge them not to try and copy what Living Well does but look at ways they can engage with the unique needs of those living in their parishes in a holistic way addressing the physical, emotional and spiritual needs in an integrated way.

At this time of year, we remember the good news of Immanuel, God with us. God chose to be with us! **"So how do we celebrate this good news?"** writes Samuel Wells in 'A Nazareth Manifesto'. **"By being with people in grief and sadness and loss when there's nothing to say. By being with and listening and walking with them."**

Community hubs create a wonderful way of 'being with'. They are costly in time and resource but are life giving and transformative for all those involved, both guests and volunteers. When Jesus began his ministry, he made it clear about what 'being with' looks like when He read from the scroll of Isaiah.

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." Luke 4: 18 & 19.

This is what therapeutic hubs can look like!

Churches are in a unique position to create therapeutic hubs. Having retired from stipendiary ministry I now find myself encouraging churches to work together along with other service providers to meet the specific needs of those in their community. Currently, many churches are creating warm spaces where people can be warm and well fed. My prayer is that we look beyond the cold spell. Mother Teresa said:

'We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for is the greatest poverty.

Social isolation is a major cause of mental health problems. If revival ever comes to the UK the churches will be inundated with weary, broken people. Are we ready?

"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body"(Teresa of Avila).



Rev'd Nick Read recently retired and now lives in Eyam in the Peak Deanery and is working in the Diocese and beyond.

Environmental debates

General Synod gathered in York for its third session of this quinquennium on 8-12 July 2022. The group of Derby representatives spoke at two of the debates and submitted questions to the question session.

Many of the matters discussed at Synod have a direct and obvious impact on dioceses, deaneries and PCCs.

A motion on the Route Map to Net Zero Carbon by 2030 was passed, asking for endorsement of the Route Map, and requesting that: 'Every Diocesan Synod debates the Route Map as it applies to their structures, parishes and BMOs, and agrees a feasible programme of action towards achieving net zero carbon by 2030.' The motion asked for high energy users in the Church (including cathedrals, theological establishments, schools, offices and the top 20% of energy-consuming churches) to similarly draw up a programme of action. See the Diocesan website:

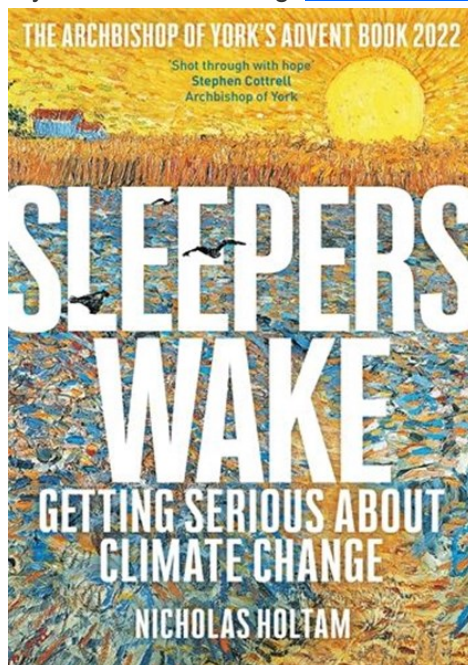
[Net zero, next steps - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/net-zero-next-steps)

[Environment: what's happening - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/environment-what-s-happening)

Sleepers Wake by Nicholas Holtam

Climate change is the most important, urgent issue of our day – but while there are technical and political issues, the fundamental problem with the fight against climate change is spiritual.

In *Sleepers Wake, the Archbishop of York's Advent Book for 2022*, Nicholas Holtam explores how we can combat the obstacles to tackling the reality of climate change. With exhilaration and passion, he draws on his experience as former Church of England lead Bishop for the environment to urge us to transform ourselves, spiritually and culturally, so we can all do our part to preserve our world for future generations. The book is widely available, including: [Sleepers Wake: The Archbishop of York's Advent Book 2022 - 9780281086849 | Eden](https://www.derby.anglican.org/net-zero-next-steps)



Rural Mission and Ministry Day

Save the Date - Rural Mission and Ministry Day on Saturday 25 March 2023 at St John's, Buxton. Guest Speaker - Dr Mark Betson, CoFE National Public Policy Advisor. For those worshipping, working and witnessing with and in rural communities. Open to all – lay and ordained – from across the diocese.

Around the Deanery

Re-making Paradise in Tideswell

In October Tideswell Church hosted an exhibition of 24 beautiful banners created by members of the Christian Arts Festival in response to the theme of *'Eden - Restoring Paradise'*. It's hard to ignore the impact of climate change on gardens, green spaces and farmland; wildlife is affected by shrinking habitats, pollinators are becoming scarce and the seasons are shifting. Global events linked to Covid reminded us of the importance of our connection with the natural world and with each other. The banners contain challenging messages about damage to the environment but also many words of hope, encouraging people to work together in the face of this crisis. The banners were made from re-cycled and re-purposed materials by individuals and families all over the country, including Derbyshire, during the Covid lockdown. Not everyone involved had extensive art or textile experience but the beautiful banners they created express a passionate concern about our responsibility to care for our world. Four words were used repeatedly in the banners: Beauty, Care, Destruction, Restoration: something for us all to think about?



With COP27 and Eco Church very much on our local agenda, this was a very timely event. Getting ready felt daunting at times but we were very glad we did it in the end. It certainly strengthened the links we have with local groups and individuals including Tideswell and District Environmental Group (TDEG) who helped with stewarding and will continue to work with us on Eco Church. We estimate around 800 people saw the exhibition, including half term visitors, local schools coming in for workshops and our Scout



Group who were 'roving reporters' for the TDEG Newsletter. Younger visitors responded especially warmly to hopeful messages, enjoying banners that were eye catching and colourful with imaginative use of materials such as bottle tops and crisp packets; other visitors admired the creativity and challenging messages.

Diocesan Environment Officer

Officer Stella Collishaw is the Community Action Officer in the Discipleship, Mission and Ministry Team in the Diocese of Derby. You can contact Stella with any environmental queries and/or if you register as an Eco church or obtain an award. You can send in notices of your local eco events, good news stories, photos and events to share on the What's Happening page. The national church is actively seeking Environmental case studies from this area: focus renewables/ transport/schools/community activity. If your PCC are talking about making Environmental changes, there are a number of people who are willing to support you and who will preach on environmental issues, both licensed readers and clergy. Stella can attend your chapter meetings, Deanery Synod or PCC to talk about Eco church or can offer training to you locally. If you want to receive her Eco Church newsletter, send her your name, parish and an email address. There are a couple of zoom drop-ins offered: email Stella if you are interested in the next date.

Contact: Stella.Collishaw@derby.anglican.org Tel: 01332 388685 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Around the Deanery



Remembrance Day Poppy Cascade at St Anne's, Baslow

The marathon project produced 1500 poppies in just 4 weeks as various local clubs, societies and church members got involved and came along to the church rooms.

The installation was the idea of Rev'd Graham Duncan and organised by Marjorie Moulton.

The knitted poppies were lovingly hand stitched onto the backing and adorned with photographs of those lost in the wars.

What a beautiful tribute.

Lest we Forget



Our friends at St Giles, Hartington invited some four-legged friends along to their well attended 'Pet Service'. Thanks was given for the companionship of our dogs, cats and other animals.

Here's hoping that the 'October count' does not include how many legs there were at the service!



It is great to see these wonderful initiatives in our rural communities.

Back in Krakow

Third Visit to deliver Humanitarian Aid from Bakewell to Krakow, Poland, Canon Tony

On October 19th Rachel, my wife, and I made our third trip to Krakow since Easter to deliver as much aid as we could carry and get through the airline luggage allowance- over 700 boxes of paracetamol, vitamins, bandages, other first aid items, boxes of Lego and hand knitted children's clothing and blankets, all donated in and around Bakewell, and financial donations from the benefice churches.

With 180,000 Ukrainian Refugees in the city and a continuing flow through as people leave devastated areas on the country, the need for help and support for community initiatives set up to provide in the City accommodation, food, clothing, education and trauma care remains.

Financially we were able to offer support to The Nidaros Foundation to provide improved bed and bedding for the 50 adults and children being supported (over 5000 people have been helped between February and July); to help the Zupa Project continue to provide food and shelter to families and individuals, and to provide the financial support to buy dried food to deliver to the newly liberated Kherson region.

Together with the financial support, the humanitarian aid was delivered to Pomocni Ukrainie for the 23rd organised transport of essential medical, food, clothes, wheelchairs etc into Ukraine, originally cantering this in the Zaporizhzhia region, but with this now being too dangerous to visit, our medicines, vitamins and medical equipment were taken to a hospital in Kharkiv and to Krzyvy Rog. The knitwear was taken to an Orphanage close to Lviv for some of the many thousands of children across Ukraine who are orphaned or separated from their families.

We are looking now to send a delivery of children's knitted clothing, blankets and other warm clothing as soon as we can gather enough and in the Spring to return with another delivery of aid.

Received on 28th October after our return, sent from POMOCNI UKRAINIE

Our friends from Great Britain, Rachel and Tony Kaunhoven, visited us again. Wonderful people to whom the fate of war victims is so close to their hearts and that is why they inspired their local community to helping.



They brought with them huge suitcases filled with gifts from their local community: bandages, dressings, vitamins, huge amounts of paracetamol and beautiful handmade sweaters for children.

They also gave us a huge donation, PLN 3,000, which will be used in full to buy food for the Ukrainian population.

The church congregations of Bakewell All Saints, Ashford in the Water and Rowsley together with Bakewell Infant School and Rowsley Primary School and members of Bakewell Town and other friends all contributed to support humanitarian aid for Ukrainian nation.

We would like to thank all those involved for your generosity and for remembering the most needy. Thank you on behalf of those who will receive your help.



Some Admin Matters

Parish Returns

The system opened for the '2022 Statistics for Mission' data entry from 2nd October 2022, I would be grateful if you could please remind those concerned with submitting the returns for your parish(es). Although in the past we have accepted paper forms, for several years now we have been using an online system. Consequently, paper Statistics for Mission returns are not accepted, and **all returns must be made online**. If you do not know who is the administrator for the parish returns system for your parish, or you cannot gain access to the system, please let me know as soon as possible (details below). If your parish is currently without a member of the clergy and you think you will struggle to submit your return online, please contact me so that we can find the best way of supporting you. The collection of Statistics for Mission data will still have been somewhat disrupted for 2022, although we are starting to see a return to a 'new normal'. As in previous years, the deadline for submitting your 2022 Statistics for Mission return is the **31st of January 2023**. The Parish Returns website is at <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>

If you or others in your parish need help using the system, the 'user guide' should give you all the help you need. If you don't have a copy, you can download one once you're logged on through the Users Menu. Although we do not accept returns submissions on paper forms, you may find it helpful to use a paper form to collect the data in your parish before then submitting it online. If you would like to do that, I can send you a copy if you need one.

eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org

The Contact Management System (CMS), is the one and only system the diocese uses to keep all data. For this to work efficiently we rely on PCC's to let us know of any changes. **If you have new officers on your PCC please also ensure that they complete a GDPR form.**

If you hear that people who should be receiving information haven't heard from the Diocese or the Deanery, please ask them to contact Eileen Burt, Deanery Administrator eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org, their details may need updating.



Bishop's Badge Awards—Congratulations

Missional Innovation

Barbara Fearnley, All Saints, Glossop

Julia Hewgill, St Thomas, Biggin

Eric Igo, All Saints, Glossop

Barbara Lord, St George the Martyr, New Mills

Janet Proctor, All Saints, Glossop

Missional Long Service

Pauline Boon, Buxton Team Parish

Tony Bull, St Matthew, Hayfield

Jane Dalrymple, St Barnabas, Bradwell, Hope Valley

John Flanagan, St James, Chinley with Buxworth

Richard Hole, St George the Martyr, New Mills

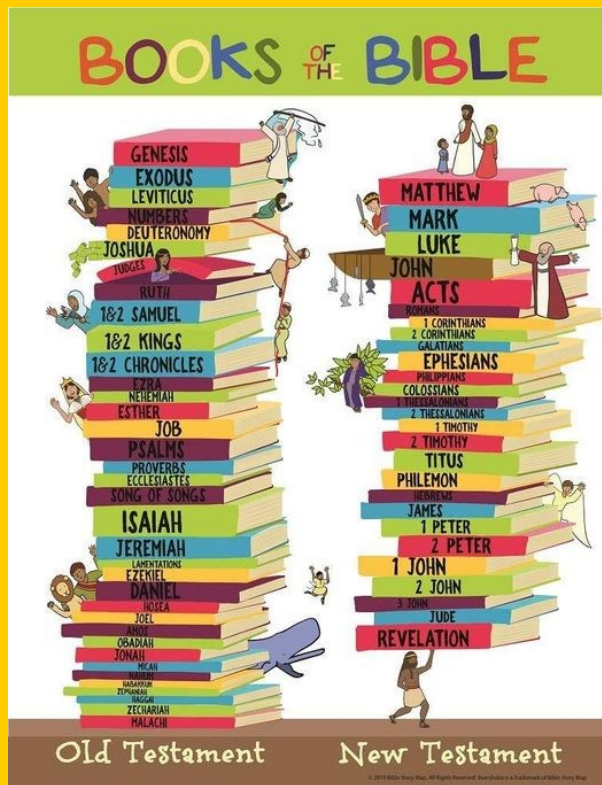
Peter Igo, St Matthew, Hayfield

June Igo, St Matthew, Hayfield

Marion Overton, Buxton Team Parish

Anne Wood, Buxton Team Parish

Living by the book



Closing Prayers

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.

Peak Deanery Prayer

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Pour your Spirit of Inspiration on the churches and ministries of the Peak Deanery, as we seek to minister to those you entrust to us.

Guide our hearts and minds to be close to each other, as we follow the way you are calling us to walk.

In mission, generously living your love, may we offer our faith and service so that we may be instruments of transformation in the building of your Kingdom. Amen.



Peak Deanery

The Kingdom of God: Good News for all – transformed lives, growing church, building community.