Bishop Alastair's farewell service

The Bishop of Derby, The Rt Revd Dr Alastair Redfern, is retiring at the end of summer this year. There will be a farewell service in Derby Cathedral on Saturday 14th July at 3.30pm. An invitation with further details will follow in due course.

HLF Consultation

Consultation on the new HLF future direction and strategy is open. The consultation on the future direction and funding of the HLF is now open – and stays open until 22 March. The past year has seen significant changes in the way the HLF funds churches, and further changes across all its activities are signalled for 2018/19. It is therefore important that there is a strong response to the survey from people speaking for churches. The questions are not only for people that have applied for an HLF grant.

The background to the consultation is available https://www.hlf.org.uk/about-us/news-features/we-want-hear-you-hlfs-future-direction-and-funding and this is a direct link to the survey http://surveys.comres.co.uk/wix/2/p1862857042.aspx

The Commonwealth Big Lunch

In April 2018 the UK has an unexpected opportunity to host the Commonwealth Summit, when leaders from all the member countries to gather in London and Windsor.

The Summit has the potential to be a major step in educating, supporting and inspiring is as we look beyond Brexit. It reminds us that we are part of a family; a commonwealth with whom we trade not only in material goods but also cultural and moral goods.

In the lead up to this global event the Archbishop of Canterbury will be supporting the Commonwealth Secretariat, in partnership with the Eden Project, to launch the Commonwealth Big Lunch. The hope is from 12 March to 22 April 2018 local communities will come together across the world to celebrate their Commonwealth connections by sharing food.

The Commonwealth big Lunch is a wonderful opportunity for parishes in the diocese to celebrate their connection with the local church in India over simple and profoundly biblical act of breaking bread together. Its also a chance to celebrate the Commonwealth heritage of your wider local community, as the Big Lunch can be teamed with a street party, discussion, sports, debate or other event to bring the community together.

In the next few weeks resources will be made available from Lambeth Palace to help with the planning of the Big Lunch including branded posters, suggested recipes and bunting.

Diocese

A monthly snapshot of Church of England life around Derbyshire

Bishop Jan writes...

If you live in Glossop, what does it mean for you that your Cathedral is in Derby?

And if you live in Church Gresley, how do you feel part of the same Diocese as those worshipping in Bolsover?

We are a huge diocese, as I know only too well when, as a newcomer, I managed to put two appointments in my diary on the same day - at opposite ends of the Diocese. And yet we gather around the same Bishop with Derby Cathedral as our mother church, and with a common concern for everyone in all the parishes which make up the Diocese of Derby.

The desire for us to understand more fully our common family bond has led the Bishops Council to agree to the production of a new Diocesan magazine. Under the editorship of our Communications Adviser, Lucy Harrison, our hope is that it will enable us all to learn more about each other, to share stories of things that have gone well, and to ponder together issues which affect us as we live at disciples of Jesus in Derbyshire and east Staffordshire.

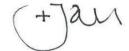
The new magazine will be paid for through sponsorship and advertising and will be produced quarterly.

Each parish will receive copies to distribute to their congregations and leadership teams and we hope you will share with other members of your community.

The first edition is due to be published in May. Do look out for it. We hope you'll enjoy it, and that you'll want to contribute articles and information to make it truly a family magazine.

Do let us know what you think! You can send comments through to together@derby.anglican.org

With every blessing for a thoughtful and prayerful Lent.



Together

We are excited to announce the launch of Together Magazine, a new quarterly publication from the Diocese of Derby. Our first issue will be available in churches in May.

Together will be packed full of thoughtprovoking, relevant articles that we hope will inspire you and allow us to showcase the work of the church throughout Derbyshire.

In order to tell that story we are wanting people from the Diocese to get involved and contribute wherever possible. If you have any ideas for stories please let us know by emailing them to together@derby.anglican.org

We are also looking for people to contribute to the following:

Book / Arts Reviews: Do you enjoy reading and have the urge to tell others about a great book you have read? If the answer is yes, then you are just the person we are looking for! We are looking for people to provide book review of around 100 words each issue. Books can be either theoretical, fiction or non-fiction with a not subscribe? Subscription costs just £5 religious undertone. We will also be looking for volunteers to review new books sent in by publishers, please contact sian.kellogg@ derby.anglican.org for more information.

Flower festivals: Please send in information about your flower festivals for 2018 and we will aim to get as many as possible published within the magazine. To be included in the first issue of the magazine please ensure we have your information by Monday 5 March. Please send to sian.kellogg@derby.anglican.org

Parish Events: To have your event considered for inclusion in the magazine, please complete the form on our website. http://www.derby.anglican.org/en/news/ events-and-training/parish-events.html

Parish photos: We'd love to show what's happening in each parish. Have you recently held an event? Have a regular club or group? Celebrated an anniversary or special occasion? Started some exciting building work? Please send in your photographs and a brief description of what took place and we will feature as many as possible in each issue of the magazine. To be included in the first issue please send photos to together@derby.anglican.org by Monday 12 March.

Advertise with us: Get your message out to the whole diocese by advertising in the magazine. Adverts in the first issue are half price! To find out more please see our media pack www.derby.anglican.org/TogetherMagazine

Subscribe: Free copies of the magazine will be available in churches but to receive each issue straight through your door, why and runs for four issues. To find out more www.derby.anglican.org/TogetherMagazine

Your comments: Please get in touch with any comments or thoughts about the magazine by emailing us at: together@derby.anglican.org









Ashes to Go

On Ash Wednesday churches in Matlock, Bakewell, Ilkeston and Derby took to the streets to meet and 'Ash' passers-by. You can see more photos from the day on the diocesan website, www.derby.anglican.org

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Bishop Alastair's Lent Lectures 2018

Preparing for the new life: The Gospel of John

6 March: The Suffering The Church of St Mary and St Laurence, Bolsover, 7pm

13 March: The Shepherd The Church of St Mary and St Laurence, Bolsover, 7pm

20 March: The Servant The Church of St Mary and St Laurence, Bolsover, 7pm

What is the Truth? The Unanswered questions

4 March: Making Space for a New Voice St Mark's Church, Winshill, 6pm

11 March: Gender, Justice and the Truth Emmanuel Church, Swadlincote, 6pm

18 March: Truth and Power St Mary's Church, Coton in the Elms, Swadlincote, 6pm