



Our Diocese Together

Uniting the Diocese of Derby during the Covid-19 pandemic

Issue 6 - October 2020



Making a difference in Mackworth

News

Welcome on Wednesday

Welcome on Wednesday (WOW) has been a community lunch at St John's Church, Long Eaton that has run for the last three years and when lockdown came we cried when we had to shut. We had built up a really good community and fed a lot of people. After the first shock of lockdown the PCC and I started to talk about our lockdown exit plan and what small steps we wanted to take towards that. WOW, it was decided, was the first thing to get up and running. With a lot of planning, risk assessments and permission from the Bishop we re-opened as a take-away from the doors of the hall. Our local councillor provided money for takeaway containers and were supplied with food from the Feeding Derbyshire network. It is different and we took a while to get the hang of it. We are feeding 80 - 90 people a week and offering foodbank vouchers, CAB signposting and help with universal credit claims. It feels good to be back. One delight has been working across churches in the area, including Tony Street and Elaine Jones from Sawley, in a way we hadn't before and friendships have been formed and developed for future working. Because of restrictions we have no plans to return inside at the moment - we aren't prepared to choose who can eat and most people who come have no internet connection or mobile phone credit to book places. If anyone would like to help please contact Revd. Sam Treadwell, St John Church, Long Eaton



All Saints Marlpool 'Noah's Ark tableau'

Marlpool church took the opportunity to join the community 'zoo in a garden' competition. The animals arrived two by two over several weeks and an ark was built. Contributions came from all ages and led to some peculiar conversations and bad jokes! Fun was had however and the rain started just as they finished building the ark. The ark came second in the competition.

New diocesan chancellor announced

The Bishop of Derby is pleased to announce that the Revd Timothy John Clarke will become Chancellor of the Diocese of Derby from 4 December 2020.

Mr Clarke, currently the deputy chancellor of the diocese, is a barrister at Three Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, and a non-stipendiary minister in the Diocese of Worcester.

As a barrister, he specialises in real property, wills, and estates. He also advises on matters of ecclesiastical law.

On the announcement of his appointment, Mr Clarke said: "I am delighted to have been appointed to this position by the Bishop of Derby. I have learned much from John Bullimore, while serving as his deputy for the past five years. John has been an outstanding chancellor, as many in the diocese will know.

"I look forward to working with the bishop, archdeacons, registrar and all in the Diocese of Derby to ensure that our church communities are better enabled to meet the needs of 21st-century worship, whilst also encouraging an appreciation of the rich heritage we share."



Bishop Libby writes...

2020 Vision and strategic planning



Our vision, I think, is a given: '*seek first the Kingdom of God*'. Our prayer, daily, is 'Your Kingdom come'.

God's Kingdom is, I believe, Good News for all.

It means transformed lives: growing church, building community - and, for that we need generous faith, courageous hope, life-giving love.

My desire for this diocese is that we know we are loved beyond measure by Jesus, and, sure in the hope that gives us, we have the courage to love without restraint for Jesus' sake. That, for me, is Kingdom of God.

It is an extraordinary grace to be invited to join Kingdom of God. That means for me salvation, community, justice, hope. I don't deserve it, it is pure grace.

And my prayer is that we yearn to grow Kingdom of God - for all ages, increasing our diversity, across every geographical, socio-economic, and cultural context (and from all our theological and church traditions and circumstances).

I long that who we are as Kingdom people – courageous, compassionate, creative, committed – is so alive, so attractive, so inspirational, that growth of the Kingdom is natural. I long that we grow in depth of faith and daily living of discipleship, that we grow participation in worshipping congregations, that we grow in scope and scale of impact in our communities.

It is part of my calling to encourage that, literally to 'give heart', so we sustain the hope that gives us courage, not just to carry on, but also to be brave, radical and even risk taking. Because encouragement is about 'heart', that also means always being relational, generous, outward looking, and life giving.

We have discerned that God is calling us into new ways of being, as well as new ways of doing, church. We recognise that the scale and scope of the challenge ahead is significant. The transitions needed in culture and delivery of identified Diocesan priorities, in the timescales now anticipated post-Covid, are considerable.

The strands of immediate work for implementing transition around financial resilience, Diocesan structure, deployment, Diocesan Office, and Buildings for Mission are being shaped, and will include wide conversation and exploration following Diocesan Synod in October.

Commitment to innovation and creativity will be necessary, alongside continuing commitment to inherited practice that is faithfully fruitful. Therefore, support through transition, investment in establishing new partnerships and relationships, as well as the re-articulation of continuing models will all need to be in place as people and communities are accompanied through loss, change, opportunity and renewal and revival.

This is a deep work of the Holy Spirit. We will root our work in prayer, and discern the signs of the Kingdom, that we might join in with God, to 'proclaim afresh in this generation the good news of Christ'. Our prayer is that not just what we do, but who we are proclaims that good news.

Embodying our values of generous faith, courageous hope, life-giving love must mark us out as we reshape the work, worship and witness of the Church of England in Derby and Derbyshire - equipping all the people of God, both laity and clergy, for faithful response to our call:

Good News for all - transformed lives: growing church, building community.



Making a difference in Mackworth

Revd Andy Bond

We moved at the beginning of July to St Francis Mackworth to revitalise and re-energise the small faithful congregation there and seek to reconnect with the estate. We have a vision to be a light on the hill for the estate and be about worshipping God, growing community and serving the estate. About 35 adults plus children have been commissioned from St Werburgh's (CRT plant in 2017) to be part of St Francis and a few local Christian residents have also joined us.

About the same time that we moved, a local guy whose family has been here for four generations started up a regular litter pick. This event has given us a visible and practical way to serve Mackworth and join in with what is already happening. At the August pick, of the 22 people who came, 18 were connected to St Francis!

At the litter picks we have met many people who are active in Mackworth and care about the estate including Pandey who is the administrator to the "We Love Mackworth" Facebook page with over 1300 followers. Pandey has been incredibly warm to us and allowed us to stream our new Sunday services directly to the page! It has massively raised our profile and given us a platform to easily share what we are doing with many who would never walk into the building. We've had a number of people contact us asking us to pray for them.

We recently hid hundreds of painted stones around the estate with images of things that bring light and the response was so encouraging. People tagged pictures of where they found them on social media. One comment was made by a local resident online "You ... have been a breath of fresh air to Mackworth community. "

We have also had one lady contact us after an online service who said she hasn't been in church since childhood and asked if she was allowed to join us as her youngest daughter hadn't been Christened, which is so exciting.

We have connected with the local football team whose changing rooms are also on our site, plus a nursery that meet next door and are rebuilding relationships with them. It feels like lots of small steps and God opening doors, connecting us with 'people of peace' and going before us. I genuinely think if we could open our doors in a way like pre-Covid there would be dozens of local residents coming to see what is going on, so it is frustrating to be in the season we are, but God is taking what we are able to do and is using it for His glory."



Creationtide

Creationtide or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. Here we share some resources you may like to use. You can find more on our website: www.derby.anglican.org

Getting your voice heard: write a letter for creation

Letters for Creation invites children and young people under 30 to write letters reflecting on what caring for creation means to them and how they want their voice to be heard in the climate justice conversation. 'Letters' — whether physical letters or videos, photographs, poems, songs, posters, and so on — will then be collated to form a travelling exhibition, hopefully touring events such as COP26 (the UN's climate change conference) as well as being showcased digitally. You can read more about the genesis of the project below.

The initial plan to run the exhibition in 2020 has been postponed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, but we plan to reopen the call for submissions in the spring of 2021. If you have already submitted a letter please be assured that your submission will still be incorporated.

If you have any questions email lettersforcreation@churchofengland.org.



A Time for Creation
Liturgical resources for Creation and the Environment
Robert Atwell, Christopher Irvine, Sue Moore

A Time for Creation encourages us to praise God for his creation, take responsibility for our actions, repent of our misuse of natural resources and

hear the voice of creation itself in our prayers. Drawing together texts from Common Worship with newly commissioned material, it offers liturgies for all times and occasions when there is a focus on creation - in daily prayer, services of the world, school assemblies, eucharistic celebrations and seasonal services to mark the agricultural year.

It has been compiled by the Liturgical Commission of the Church of England and is designed to provide its parishes, schools and chaplaincies with a rich selection of resources for worship and prayer.

Available from Church House Publishing
chpublishing.co.uk
ISBN: 9781781401859

Prayer for World Environment Day

Eternal God,
whose Spirit moved over the face of the deep bringing forth light and life;

by that same Spirit, renew your creation, and restore your image in your people.

Turn us from careless tenants to faithful stewards, that your threefold blessing of clean air, pure water and rich earth

may be the inheritance of everything that has the breath of life

and one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of your works;

through Jesus Christ, your living Word,
in whom the fullness of your glory is revealed.

Amen.

Rt Revd Libby Lane

I am Nicola McNally. Donal and I have been married for 27 years, and we are blessed with two children (now 19 and 23 years old).

For the past 30 years I have been a University Lecturer / Associate Professor in Engineering Materials.

I have been working half-time since the birth of our son, so this enabled me in the last three years to study part-time at Ripon College Cuddesdon alongside my job at the university of Nottingham.

Now I look forward to a new chapter of life as full-time Curate in Tideswell Parish.

Throughout my life, and various ups and downs, I have a strong sense that God always provides, although not of course always in the way one imagined he would!

I was fortunate to have been brought to faith as a child by my Christian mother, so I can't actually remember ever not believing in God. However, one's faith deepens and grows.

Leading an ecumenical group 'CEPlus' as an undergraduate at Bath University expanded my understanding of Christian community and taught me about articulating my faith.

Introduction to the Taizé community in France, including a week in silence whilst doing my PhD at Oxford, gave me a love of meditative prayer.

My husband and children have taught me a lot about the power of love.



Meet the new curates-to-be

I have always worshiped at the Church of England church parish in the community in which I live and being a member of Parochial Church Councils in Dorset, Oxford, Bristol and Nottinghamshire has taught me a lot about the ups and down of church life!

However, I didn't seriously recognise a call to ministry until about five years ago when acting as the lay lead in PMC (Partnership for Missional Change) in my home parish.

I realised that my day job, important to me though it was had started to feel like something that got in the way of what I really wanted to do.

My vision of ordained ministry is very people orientated.

I feel my major task is to let everyone know that they are loved and valued by a wonderful triune God.

A relationship with Jesus should be a growing dynamic thing for every believer and I hope to be a small channel

through which the Holy Spirit can help people come to faith and grow in that faith.

Although I have not been in Derbyshire very long, I already feel a great love for the people and countryside.

I look forward to getting to know the people and churches of my parish and discerning what my vision for the future there should be.

This Covid year has certainly thrown us all challenges but, as Julian of Norwich so aptly puts it, God did not say "You will not be tempest-tossed", but "You will never be overcome."

I love being outdoors. Cycling is one hobby - my husband and I have a special tandem which is a recumbent at the front and sit up at the back. That way we can both see where we are going, and chat to one another easily!

My other main hobby (if I get time) is sailing. I hope to join the club at Carsington.

I also enjoy walking and one of the blessings of my new parish is walking between the five churches through the countryside.

Inside, I have recently rediscovered a love of sewing whilst making face masks for the family and friends.

I have played the violin all my life and there is nothing quite like the single-minded concentration of playing a piece of music, particularly in an orchestra for pushing cares or worries out of mind.



Book celebrates twenty years of church group

Edward Bear Praise and Play group have been meeting every Thursday at St Oswald's church, Ashbourne for twenty years. The group welcomes babies, toddlers and their carers for songs and prayers in the church and fun and play in the church hall along with refreshments.

In March 2020 Covid-19 brought these praise and play sessions to an abrupt end. Missing the contact with parents, carers and children, Lindsay Walker had the idea of running a 'virtual' programme via YouTube. The sessions offered a welcome to all, singing well-known songs and prayers for mutual concerns, and stories told by Peter Walker as imagined by Edward Bear. These videos became a way of staying in touch with the community.

The ten stories told by Peter during lockdown have now been put together in a book which has been beautifully illustrated by Lucy Burlington, an Edward Bear mum. The book, which aims to celebrate the spirit of Edward Bear, also contains an appendix describing how the group is put together which could act as a reference for other churches wishing to set up their own events.

Copies of the book are being printed through the University of Derby. For more information visit www.ashbournechurch.org.uk



Bishop's Harvest Appeal 2020

A message from Bishop Libby

Jesus promises us peace:

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.'

Every aspect of our personal and national life has been affected by Covid - 19. We have faced loss, anxiety, disruption. And life has felt far from peaceful. Our hearts have been troubled; our hearts have been afraid. But scripture says, 'Do not be afraid: peace be with you'.

Jesus cared about wellbeing: he cared about people's mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Jesus desired for us 'life in all its fullness', and recognised how far short life falls from that ideal for us much of the time.

Therefore, this year, our Harvest Appeal seeks to grow the good fruit of 'Peace of mind', inviting both participation and generosity.

I pray that this project will encourage us to attend to our own wellbeing, as a sign of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

I pray that this project will encourage us to share the grace of God with others who need to know the peace of Christ.

I pray that this project will encourage us to be generous in supporting Derbyshire Mind to support the wellbeing of our communities through their Enjoying Derbyshire programme, sharing in the work of the Kingdom.

Peace be with you."

Libby Derby

The Rt Revd Libby Lane, Bishop of Derby



**Bishop of Derby's
Harvest
Appeal 2020**

**Peace of Mind:
Supporting wellbeing in
Derbyshire**

This year, the Bishop of Derby's Harvest Appeal will focus on supporting the mental wellbeing of people in Derbyshire.

You are invited to participate in free Diocesan online mental health and wellbeing resources and events, from Christian partners, made available for congregations to use and offer to local communities.

In addition, we have challenged ourselves to raise £15,000 to support local mental health charity Derbyshire Mind's programme, Enjoying Derbyshire.

