

Deanery News

May/June 2024



Engaging with the 'other' in an age that is now post post-Christendom

Friends, it's so important, and at the heart of our Gospel, that we engage with the world around us - our wider communities outside of 'church'. So here's my thoughts on this...

I'm not sure what we call this new age, but it can't correctly be called post—Christendom anymore. We're beyond that.

Increasingly I come across professionals in the public and private sectors, members of the public and many teenagers (in my daily chaplaincy role in secondary schools) who couldn't tell you what the word 'Christendom' even refers to, let alone what post-Christendom might refer to.

As just one practical example of this - If I don't have the Lord's Prayer printed in orders of service at funerals most people won't know it to join in when asked.

People aren't rejecting that tradition or us. That's not it. It's just that too many just haven't a clue about what the church is anymore. So, the growing challenge is the growing gap between the institution of the 'come to us' church and the wider community that has little collective memory of who we are or what we do or - perhaps more importantly - why we even exist.

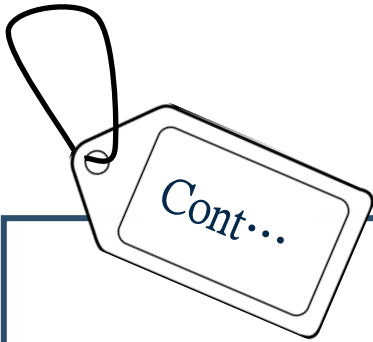
Now, for decades there have been prophetic voices within the Church calling for us to stop pretending to be the 'host' who had any right or claim to say 'come' & take seriously the commandment to 'go' by becoming the guest at another's 'table', at their invitation. We've mainly ignored these prophetic voices as we have remained, stubbornly, as a 'come to us' institution.

The greatest mission based theologian of the 20th century, (David Bosch. See: "Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission 1991") tells us that "we're not the 'blessed' or the 'haves' standing over the 'damned' or those who 'have not'". He further explains that the great commandment to 'go' is one of humility that leads us into the holy space of the 'other' - because there is literally no-where that the Holy Spirit is not already working and not already in every location and space in the world.

Why the long theological preamble?

Simple - if we don't get our theology right, we will never get our practice right. It's all got to start with our understanding of who God is and what kind of people He calls us to be.





So... Engagement with the world, in my personal and ministerial experience, works best in this era when we 'go' as a guest into the wider community and, putting on the 'apron' of service and of modern 'foot washing', we decide to serve all the diverse folk we meet in that age-old diaconal chaplaincy role. Chaplaincy, often misunderstood, is when we regularly serve the same group of people in their workplace or in the wider community in love and kindness.

Chaplaincy is a role many can play (lay and ordained) as it simply takes a willingness to listen, love and serve - but equally important to stay, to remain. However, and here's a serious warning, it's a very very very very long term commitment. It asks for depth, time, commitment, and a willingness to stick with it.

As a guest, in the role of a chaplain, in another's space it can take years to gain people's trust and to be allowed into their personal space as they begin to share of themselves and seek support. As a secondary school chaplain I daily serve in whatever ways needed. How has this looked? Here are just a few examples:

- I've been on the front gate welcoming pupils to school at 820am;
- I've shoveled snow to keep the place open, I've helped staff in personal difficulties,
- I've mentored teenage lads at risk of exclusion,
- I've wandered around at lunchtimes and, quite rightly, been ignored by everyone.
- I just try to serve as a guest in another's space.

The work of the diaconal ministry of Chaplaincy, for all Christians everywhere whether lay or ordained, is to serve in such a way as to ensure that love is not in word or talk only, but in also in deed and in truth (see: 1 John 3:17-18).

So... would you like some external help in this area? See: <https://www.chaplaincyderbyshire.co.uk>

Pax et bonum

Mike Firbank (Rev Dr)
Area Dean:
07814 033183

Did you know that every 15 minutes in the UK, a child will come into care. Do you care enough to help? Click on this link.

<https://homeforgood.org.uk/why>

The Archdeacon writes...



'It was horrible', has been my stock answer to anyone asking a question about my night sleeping rough as part of the annual YMCA Sleep Easy event.

Which is not to say that the company and mutual support of the 91 people gathered (which from 'Team Derby Diocese' included myself, my eight-year-old daughter, the Bishop of Derby and her son, and Revd Michael Futers from the cathedral) was not supportive.

But let's not kid about, a night away from warm cosy beds, sleeping both on and under cardboard boxes in cold weather was not pleasant. And I was only sleeping rough for one night, in an organised event, a safe place, and with a security guard ensuring our safety.

At several points of an uncomfortable night, the recognition came that we were doing this for one night, there were many in communities across the diocese, especially our city and larger towns where people sleep rough or sofa-surf.

Especially traumatising are the numbers of children in temporary accommodation for prolonged periods.

The biblical imperative of protecting the vulnerable and oppressed is strong and clear (Proverbs 19:17, Lev 25:36, Matt 25:34ff). The Gospel verse which comes to mind whenever I reflect on homelessness is Jesus' own assertion that animals have a home but that he [Jesus] has no accommodation (Matt 8:20).

In fact, Jesus in the Gospels was dependent on the hospitality and welcome of others to meet his needs.

Housing Justice, a Christian charity advocating for safe and affordable housing provision for everyone, refers to all having safe, affordable accommodation within a community where they can access work and alongside others in the community and flourish in their lives.

The indignity of being homeless or in overcrowded temporary accommodation is an affront to the innate dignity we all share as children of God.

The Diocese of Derby is holding onto its vision of the Kingdom of God: Good News for all.

The Bishop's Leadership Team has discerned four missional objectives to realise that vision. Challenging Injustice in our diocese is one of those core objectives and working, where possible, to develop safe, affordable, secure housing on available church land is one of the streams of work we will develop.

As of March 2023, in Derby there were 8-12 people sleeping rough each night, there were 2,086 homeless applications for housing, and there were 20 families in B&Bs for over six weeks. All these figures were and are rising. **All these figures relate to real people who bear the image of God.**

Those who slept out or raised funds for those sleeping out to raise awareness of homelessness raised a staggering £29,000 towards challenging the injustice of homelessness in our communities.

Please do continue to pray and collaborate in the effort to ensure that everyone in our diocese has safe, affordable and secure accommodation for their household.

The Ven Matthew Trick
Archdeacon of Derby City and South Derbyshire

[Bishop Libby Lane is fundraising for YMCA Derbyshire \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com)

YMCA | Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you





Churches Together in Melbourne are hosting

MELBOURNE CALL FOR PEACE

SATURDAY 27th APRIL 2-4PM



Call in at Melbourne Parish Church to add your voice to the call for peace in our world

Add a dove to our peace tree, paint a peace pebble or simply take time to sit and pray or ponder in the peaceful surroundings of the Parish Church or Rectory garden. All ages welcome. We warmly invite people of all faiths and people of none, to come and join us for this special afternoon.



Emmanuel Church

Spring Fair

Saturday 27th April
10am - 2pm

Emmanuel Church Hall,
Church Street, Swadlincote. DE11 5LF

Free Entry - Free Parking

Special Guest- Archdeacon Matthew

Craft & Gift Stalls
Tombola

Homemade Cake Stall
Refreshments Available

Kids Bouncy Castle (if weather permits)





Vintage and Handmade Fayre

Saturday 18th May 2024

11am – 3pm

ST MICHAEL WITH ST MARY'S CHURCH,
MELBOURNE DE73 8JH

Free admission



Registered Charity No. 1133914

Vintage clothing and
homeware
Jewellery
Pet Accessories
Textiles and handmade
goods
And much more!
Plus live entertainment
and tea room
refreshments



FLOWER FESTIVAL
ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,
TICKNALL
MAY 4TH, 5TH, & 6TH
11am to 4pm
"THE BRITISH COUNTRYSIDE"
HOME MADE REFRESHMENTS
SOUP, CAKES, BAPS
PLUS HOT BEEF BAPS ON
MONDAY



**Sunday Night Live
Is Back**

Sunday 5th May 2024

Join us from 6.45pm to start at 7pm

**Live worship music
and preaching**

**Guest speaker Rev
Patrick Douglas**

In partnership
with
SDYFC

St Peters, Hartshorne

Parking on
Manchester Lane Hartshorne,
DE11 7BE



**Now is the
Month of
Maying**

*A concert of Choral masterworks
celebrating nature and seasons*

sung by

Viva la Musica

Chamber Choir

[Registered charity no 1180705]

**Saturday 18th May 2024
at 4.30pm**

St George's Church, Ticknall, DE73 7JU

Programme includes:

Les Chansons des Roses - **Lauridsen**

As Vesta was - **Weelkes**

Songs of Springtime - **Moeran**

Three Madrigals - **Pearsall**

As well as works by

Finzi, Rachmaninov and Morley

Ticket includes post concert refreshments



Tickets - £12.50

(students £10 | under 16s free) available
from www.vivalamusica.org.uk



Heritage Events at St Wilfrid's

An Anglo-Saxon church in Barrow upon Trent

Please use the FREE Parking available on the Parish Car Park, Twyford Rd, DE73 7HA - 300m away from the Church

EVENTS (May 2024)

All start at 7.30pm. £15 per ticket including a glass of prosecco and lovely chocolate. Please book at stwilfridsbarrow@gmail.com

Mary, Queen of Scots - with Lesley Smith

Friday, 10th May 2024

This performance gives you a chance to meet the tragic queen during her final imprisonment at Tutbury and share her hopes and fears as her dramatic tale approaches its bitter conclusion.

FILM NIGHTS (June - July 2024)

We will be using our high quality projector and extra large pull down screen to present some great films during the Summer. These will be shown every Thursday evening at 7:30pm at a cost of £5 per person.

6th June	Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny
13th June	The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society
20th June	Mission Impossible – Fall Out
27th June	Downton Abbey – The Movie (King's Visit)
4th July	The Woman in Black
11th July	Love Actually
18th July	Pirates of the Caribbean – at World's End
25th July	The Dirty Dozen

TALKS (April-July 2024)

All start at 7.00pm. £4 per head including tea and coffee. No need to book.

The CGI Recreation of Barrow in the Year 1300

Wednesday, 3rd April

A visualisation and narrative of the village, presented by the creators, Duncan Hewitt (Albino Igit) and Dr Rory MacLellan (Historic Royal Palaces).

The Knights Hospitaller in Britain

Wednesday, 1st May

Presented by Emirita Professor, (Cardiff University) Helen Nicholson, a world-leading expert on the military religious orders.

The Rutland Roman Villa

Wednesday, 5th June

Peter Liddle, former County Archaeologist for Leicestershire, will talk on this high-status Roman villa, discovered between Ketton and Luffenham, south of Rutland Water.

The Journey of a Brooch

Wednesday, 3rd July

How did an Italian cameo brooch make the journey from Rome to Barrow upon Trent in the 1800s? Presented by Anne Heathcote, one of the several former owners.



www.stwilfridsbarrow.org

St Wilfrid's Barrow

Tel: 07887 656 948 Email: stwilfridsbarrow@gmail.com

Church Lane, Barrow upon Trent, DE73 7HB

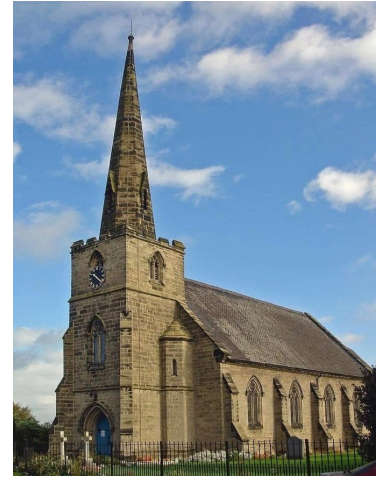




St Marys, Coton in the Elms

We are a welcoming community focused church with lots going on for all ages.

We are also the first church in the Diocese to be an inclusive church which is registered with the inclusive church network.



St Michaels, Willington



Community Library

This takes place in the church building on the first Wednesday each month from 10am to 11.30am.

We have over 800 books of all kinds and there is no charge. It's a good bridge between the church and the wider community.

News from Christ Church, Linton & Castle Gresley

After a lovely service of Family Communion on Easter Sunday we held a Community Lunch at the Brick Room on Easter Monday. Over thirty guests enjoyed a meal of cottage pie & vegetables followed by fruit crumble and custard. Everything was home-made and enjoyed by everyone.

The meal was part of our warm space initiative. Every Monday the Brick Room is open from 10am until 12 noon for coffee / tea, toast and or biscuits. It is always well attended and gives local residents the chance to socialise in comfort.

There are plans to extend the service with a light lunch being offered every other month beginning on May 3rd. There will be no need to book for these occasional events.





18th - 28th May

Join the global wave of prayer calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

Whether you have joined in with Thy Kingdom Come before or not, we invite you to take part from 18-28 May 2023 – along with churches from over 80 different denominations and traditions in over 170 countries around the world.

In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities.

Archbishop Justin Welby

Follow the link below (by clicking the Ctrl along with a left click of the mouse) to find the various resources available to use either as a Church, as a small group or as an individual.

[Thy Kingdom Come | The Church of England](#)

The link below will take you to the Thy Kingdom Come website where you will get lots of inspiration.

[Thy Kingdom Come | Thy Kingdom Come](#)

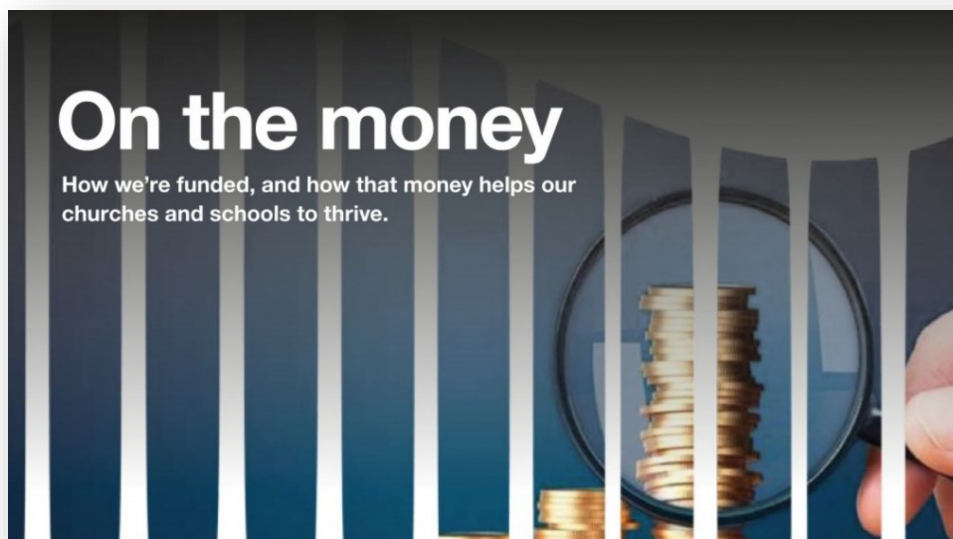


Are you looking for ways your church can serve your local school? This webinar provides an introduction to the learning and development of the Growing Faith Serving the Local School peer support network.

It includes:

- ◆ Top tips on how to engage with and serve your local school
- ◆ Insights from children, young people, school staff and church leaders
- ◆ Diocesan facilitators sharing the impact of this network in their areas
- ◆ What works? New research from the Growing Faith Foundation

[Serving the local school \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Ever wondered what the money that parishes pay into the diocese is used for?

On the money is really useful - use this link to find out how the Diocese is funded, and how that money helps our churches and schools to thrive.

Give it a look. Go to [Our Finances - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org/our-finances) (just hold the 'Ctrl' key and left click on your mouse to follow the link)

Growing faith and developing ministry

Our exciting, easy-to-access training is available for all who want to deepen their faith, grow in discipleship and develop the gifts God has given them in the service of the church.

The training is open to all who want to learn more about their faith and also to those who want to develop in ministry.

You don't need any formal qualifications to take any of the modules, just some good thinking and reflecting skills.

You can work towards a Certificate of Mission & Ministry by completing the whole course with assignments or you can simply do the modules for your own faith journey.

You can do one module or many, and you can start, stop for a while and then pick up again later.

The training is modular, which simply means that you will spend 10 sessions looking at a particular subject (for example, the Bible or Pastoral Care or Mission and Evangelism etc).

These 10 sessions make up one module.

You will do seven of these sessions on your own in the comfort of your own home at a time to suit you and the other three sessions will be done on Zoom.

Find out more and request an information pack from our training website www.discipleship-training.org or contact the course administrator, fiona.bennett@derby.anglican.org.

Sign up now for next term

>> **What are the term dates?**

Three options are available:

For Those who Would Like to Complete a Full Course

The Diocesan Certificate in Mission and Ministry (CMM) Course:

As noted above, the course is designed to help you growth in your faith and the develop the ministry to which God has called you at this time and place in your life. This is now all online and can be completed from the comfort of your own home. The course is modular and each module consists of seven sessions which you complete on your own and three which you complete with other students on Study Days via Zoom.

For Those who Think They May Be Called to Licensed Lay (Reader) Ministry

Do you think God may be calling to be a Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)? If so you may want to sign up to the new LLM (R) training course. The first year of the new course starts in January and is now a discernment year which you can take while working with a vocations adviser and the supervision of your incumbent.

This gives you the opportunity to explore whether Reader ministry is for you. You will need the support of your incumbent (or the equivalent in a vacancy) in order to sign up for this course.

For Those who would like to just Deepen Their Faith

Take single modules as and when they are running. The list and dates of modules running **can be found here**.



Deadline for the May Deanery Newsletter

Please send in your articles to debbie.patrick@derby.anglican.org

Deadline - 21st June

Remember that anything you send looks much better with photo's so please send anything you have.

Dates for your Diary

Deanery Synod – Dates for 2024

- ◆ **Thursday 11th July** – Emmanuel Church Hall, Church Street, Swadlincote, DE11 8LF
- ◆ **Wednesday 20th November** – Venue TBA

Deanery Chapter – Dates for 2024

- ◆ **Thursday 16th May** – 7pm – *Greater Chapter* – St Peter's Church Hall, Manchester Lane, Hartshorne, DE11 7EB
- ◆ **Wednesday 12th June** – 1.30pm – 3.30pm – Venue TBA
- ◆ **Thursday 18th July** – 6pm summer social possibly at new Repton vicarage

Learning webinars run by The Church of England

There are a wide variety of Webinars available and, having been on some, I can highly recommend having a look at the Church of England website and seeing if there is anything that could be useful to your church.

Go to <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/digital-labs/digital-labs-webinars#na>

And see what is available.

Mercia Deanery Benefices

- Foremark and Repton with Newton Solney ● Melbourne, Ticknal, Smisby and Stanton-by-Bridge
- Seale: Lullington, Linton, Castle Gresley and Overseal ● Stapenhill (including Caldwell)
- Trent and Derwent: Aston-on-Trent, Elvaston, Weston-on-Trent and Shardlow, Barrow-upon-Trent with Twyford and Swarkestone
- Trent United: Walton-on-Trent and Croxall, Rosliston, Coton-in-the-Elms, Catton
- Winshill, Bretby and Immanuel: Stapenhill ● Swadlincote and Hartshorne ● Newhall ● Church Gresley