St Peter's Hartshorne

Swadlincote Minster

Hello everyone

This week saw the consecration and installation of Malcolm Macnaughton as Bishop of Repton, here he writes:

Installations can either be essentially functional – like a new boiler or washing machine - or creative, and engaging, like an art installation. I spoke about visiting a local art installation, the 'Walking Together' mining memorial at Derbyshire County Council's Markham Vale Business Park, commemorating miners who tragically lost their lives in three major disasters at Markham Colliery. Walking among the life-size steel figures of miners walking to work you can't help but engage with their proud and tragic history – but when I visited, the sculptures also made me ask, what of the present and the future of that place? And where will we fit in? How do we unlock a brighter future when the present is overshadowed by the past? A true art installation is engaging, provocative, it releases creativity.

The pandemic has taken many of us to the end of our tether, and it is perhaps only now, as the restrictions on our lives are gradually lifted, that we begin to realise both what has been lost, and what has been learned. The readings yesterday were a reminder to me that God the Holy Spirit is with us and in us, whoever and wherever we are. In Numbers 11, we see God has a disturbing tendency to act outside the tabernacle. God likes to send the Spirit to people wherever they are, and do a new thing, pouring the Spirit on everyone, not just the usual suspects.

It is when we all catch the breath of the Spirit and get caught up in what God is doing that new life really breaks out like a long awaited social, economic and spiritual springtime - 'good news for the poor, release for the captives, sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed'. (Luke 4)
All the more reason, in this season, to be thinking how we in our churches, at this time, may both pray in and live out, 'your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven'.
May God in his love refresh us all with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the sure hope that in Christ 'all shall be well, all manner of things shall be well'.

+Malcolm

God Bless

Stella

The church will continue to be open for personal prayer and reflection on Saturday & Wednesday

A prayer before silence

Loving God,
we seek your presence in the silence beyond words
looking to you for comfort, strength, protection and reassurance
breathing with gratitude, holding on to hope, trusting with faith
that you are still God in the midst of the turmoil
and that your love reaches to the ends of the earth.
Be present with us now.
Amen

After Church Coffee

After church coffee will be held this week at 4pm on Sunday.
Please join us on Zoom if you can.
Copy and paste this link into your search bar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86499618208?pwd=UVZUN2lGbjYrUlpIa2NEYVRnaFhzZz09
Meeting ID: 864 9961 8208
Passcode: 233865

Prayer Group

Ayesha has set up a twice monthly prayer group on zoom. The group will meet for 40 mins to pray intentionally for the world and for local situations. If you would like to join, please contact Ayesha directly (07368224419) or via Stella (07802963817).
The next meeting will be on April 29th at 1:30pm.

Thy Kingdom Come 2021

This year's Thy Kingdom Come will take place 13th – 23rd May

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

What resources are available?

Thykingdomcome.global has a fantastic range of resources available for all ages.

Highlights for this year include:
The Cheeky Pandas (11-part series & accompanying resources)- for children aged 3 and over

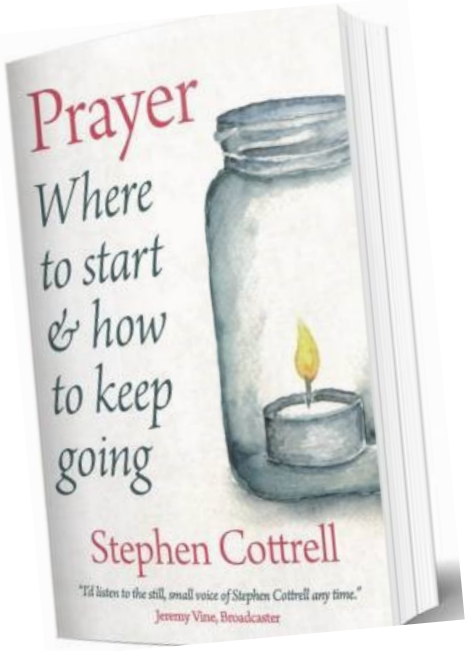
- 11 video Youth reflections produced in partnership with the Archbishop of York's Youth Trust and an Escape Room

The Prayer Journal, written by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell
The Novena – Praying the Psalms from Ascension to Pentecost (A large print version is also available)
Click here to watch a short promo video for the resources. https://youtu.be/eR2y1wn9fXg

What's happening in our diocese

A group of lay people from around the diocese will be offering a daily reflection on our social media channels, you can find us on Facebook and Twitter.

We are also encouraging churches and individuals to take part in prayer walks, perhaps combining them with a litter pick. This Covid safe activity is great for local groups, families or individuals (within national restrictions). If you'd like to take part you'll find more information on our website here. Please let us know if you are planning to take part by emailing information to: communications@derby.anglican.org so we can add your event to our list. As always we'd love to see photos / videos from your events that we can share around the diocese, please email them to the address above.



New CofE Prayer Reflection series
'Prayer - where to start and how to keep going' email reflections.

"There is no right way of praying. There are just the ways that are right for you. But there is also the great heritage of praying that we can learn from and explore".
The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell

It's the simplest thing in the world, yet it can seem so difficult. It's as natural as breathing, yet it's hard to find the right words. Just how do you learn to pray?

This short reflection series considers ten basic questions about prayer and offers simple help for making prayer a part of everyday life. These include:

- What prayer is
- When and where to pray
- Whether words are always needed
- What to do when prayer seems impossible
- Praying alone and with others

No one ever becomes an expert in prayer, but this series sets out to help you become more open to God's presence, which is the heart of prayer. It draws on the wisdom of Christians across the ages and offers a selection of easily memorised favourite prayers to encourage you as you journey into prayer.

Click this link to sign up to receive the daily email reflections