

## **MESSAGE FROM MARTIN:**

I've been thinking and praying about what life will look like after lockdown restrictions are eased further. Lots of people are referring to the "new normal" whatever that may look like. What is for sure, however it looks, is that some normality to being human - including social interaction is what is required. The first thing recorded in the Bible as displeasing God was the fact it is not good for man (human) to live alone, isolated, no contact with other humans - in-spite of having a garden full of pets to look after!

I was saddened to read an appeal by Chester Zoo, much loved by our family, and the financial dire straits it is finding itself in (posted on FB). They need income and in particular paying customers.

But I'm sure Chester Zoo is not alone, what of the many businesses here in Derby, small and large, that will collapse, the many jobs lost and many peoples' finances devastated! One thing is for certain, many will find their lives in ruin and we will need to move into a phase of rebuilding!!

We as part of a God's Kingdom are meant to bring hope - love and restoration... just like Nehemiah in restoring the walls of Jerusalem! First thing Nehemiah did when he heard the news of the devastation was to humble himself and pray. We read these words: "When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven." Nehemiah 1:4 NLT

Today start to pray! Pray for God to intervene and ask Him to show you the part of the rebuilding work that He wants you to be part of individually or part of the Haven! God has a plan as we move out of this pandemic and you are part of that plan!

## **Moving Forward**

As things stand at the moment Churches can open their buildings for private prayer, maintenance coordinator and the minister to study, pray and live stream his message as long as their help is from their own household. Yesterday we opened the main hall of the Church for private prayer between 3.00 - 5.00pm, toilets and other areas closed to Church members and the public. In just opening part of the building there is a responsibility of making sure chairs are cleaned after each user and we have set up a one way system and set the chairs two meters apart, amongst other measures set in place.

(Second step) In the coming weeks there is a possibility that we may be able to open for small groups to use the building, when and if that happens I suspect we will have to open the toilets and maybe the kitchen along with the small meeting rooms. Speculation from our denominational sponsors indicate small groups could be small prayer groups, fellowship groups and a small group to stream Sunday services with a small team of musicians, technology personal and preacher.

To take the second step will involve more Risk Assessments and more cleaners. At the moment most of our small cleaning team is made up of Church members over 70years old and therefore in a vulnerable group and should be shielding. **Therefore I'm asking for younger members of the Haven to volunteer to help with cleaning**, maybe you are on furlough and could be a short-term volunteer and help while you are not at work or maybe you could take a longer term commitment? Please have a word with me as to how you can help.

**Please, please pray and consider if you can help with church cleaning otherwise we will not be able to take the second step when the opportunity arises.**



**The wider Church.**

**The Ven Dr Peter Robinson** will be licensed as Assistant Curate of the Parish of All Saints Derby, and to be known as Dean Designate of Derby on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup>. It will take place via Zoom.

Dr Robinson's collation as Dean of Derby is provisionally set for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 4.00pm. It will be live-streamed from Derby Cathedral.

**Julian Hodgson** previous Diocesan Safeguarding Officer has left to take up his new appointment as Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor with the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham.

Sue Griffin is currently DSA for Derby Diocese whilst the new recruitment process is underway. She can be contacted via email at

[sue.griffin@derby.anglican.org](mailto:sue.griffin@derby.anglican.org) or by phone on 07540 719447

**Open Doors**

The aid agency is reporting that Christians in Northern Syria are in real need of help.

Those who have no income are in urgent need of food, and amidst the arrival of Covid 19 they can not afford soap and cleaning requisites to fight against the spread of the virus.

Open Doors are urgently appealing for our donations to enable them to give the aid that is needed.

**DCM Basics bank.**

**The drop off location at their warehouse is open**

**At Unit6 , Robinson's Industrial Estate.**

**Shaftesbury St( off Osmaston Rd), Derby**

**DE23 8NL.**

**OR At**

**ASDA SPONDON DE21 7LW.**

The Derby City Mission Trolley is located near the Pharmacy, after the checkouts

Please note:

**NO FRESH PRODUCE.**

**Money can be given in lieu of goods direct to DCM( see website)**