

## "From the Pews" - share your stories / quotes

We know that members of our congregations throughout the diocese have many stories, many moving and inspirational, to tell and we would really love to feature some of them in our quarterly magazine "Together".

If you have been moved by the power of Christ, inspired others with your faith, or even have a funny story to tell of something that happened in church - or maybe a quote or saying then please share it with us by emailing us at: [Together@derby.anglican.org](mailto:Together@derby.anglican.org).

## Freedom Week, 14 - 21 October 2018

Freedom Week is a time to remember those trapped in modern slavery and people - professionals and volunteers - who try to tackle this abhorrent crime.

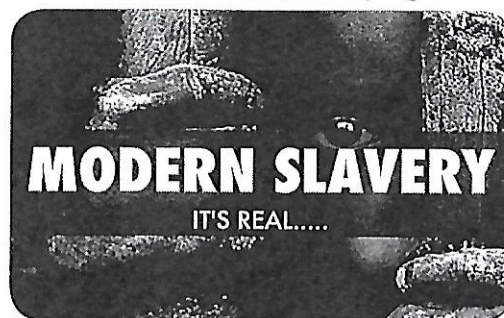
There will be a Chain of Light and Prayer across the diocese once again with a candle for each Archdeaconry. Freedom Week bookmarks will also be available.

We would like to encourage all who are interested to participate either through worship, hosting the candles, prayer stations or vigils. New types of remembrance are also welcome.

18 October 2018 is Anti-Slavery Day which may offer an opportunity to coordinate events across the Diocese or in deaneries.

Freedom Week is ecumenical and non-diocesan organisations are welcome to take part in their own context.

To register an interest, please email:  
Pippa Rowen  
[chaplain@bishopofderby.org](mailto:chaplain@bishopofderby.org)



## Churches Together for Derbyshire

Pastor Geoff Pickup will be the keynote speaker at the next Churches Together for Derbyshire event. "Working Together is worth it" on Saturday 6 October 2018 from 10am - 3pm at Matlock Methodist and United Reformed Church. Free entry, drinks provided but please bring your own lunch.

He will draw on over 40 years ministry experience to show how traditional denominations and less traditional congregations are collaborating when and how the Spirit leads.

Reserve your place - [ian.sant@ntlworld.com](mailto:ian.sant@ntlworld.com)

## Promote your events within the Diocese

When planning your church/parish events, **let us know** so that we can support you. Events are featured on our popular website [www.derbyshirechurches.org](http://www.derbyshirechurches.org), social media & (where possible) Together Magazine - all for free.

How to contact us with your events:

Complete our online form at [www.bit.ly/parisheventform](http://www.bit.ly/parisheventform) or

Email [Communications@derby.anglican.org](mailto:Communications@derby.anglican.org).

# our Diocese

October 2018

A monthly snapshot of Church of England life around Derbyshire

## Archdeacon Christopher writes...

### The Great Hesitation



It is said that when the Buddha achieved enlightenment he hesitated. Was what he had experienced uniquely personal, unintelligible to anyone else, or was it something that could be shared with

others, that had some content? Eventually he decided that he couldn't just keep it to himself and so he started teaching, which is why we know about Buddhism.

Buddhist scholars have debated the significance of the Great Hesitation, as it is known, ever since and in great detail. As we know too well, it's very easy to become transfixed by the minutiae of religious argument and to miss the main point. The Great Hesitation suggests to me something profoundly important about the nature of religion and, indeed, about political and social debate more generally. Is the way to salvation just a private affair, which you have to achieve under your own steam; or is it something you are told about and sign up for?

We seem to live in a world where it's much easier to communicate with people but, ironically, much harder to have a proper conversation with them about the things that matter, because we lack a shared starting-point. The risk is that therefore give space

for two kinds of infallibility to flourish. One is the infallibility of the individual.

My experience, my outlook on life, is the norm and everyone else needs to conform to it. The other kind of infallibility is that of the system or organisation which imposes its authority, whether that is a church, a political party, or a government.

Both of these stances express an important truth. Any system, religious or otherwise, needs to be able to mark its boundaries and continue itself in time. And it is important that individuals have the freedom to respond to what is on offer and to make sense of it for themselves. It is perhaps the genius of the Anglican way that it holds a mutually creative balance between the system and the individual.

Yet it is perilously easy for that balance to be disrupted, as some of the discussions in the Church of England and the Anglican Communion are warning us. 'Look before you think', the philosopher Wittgenstein used to say. Maybe the story of the Great Hesitation can help us engage more creatively and productively with each other.

**The Venerable Christopher Cunliffe**  
Archdeacon of Derby



## The Bishop of Derby's Harvest Appeal 2018

Whilst churches and parishes are celebrating Harvest Festivals and Suppers across the Diocese, we ask you to support and pray for The Bishop of Derby's Harvest Appeal.

This year's appeal is supporting Serenga Hospital in Durgapur, India, a joint project between USPG and CNI.

The Serenga Hospital was founded in 1914 and has 125 beds. Its name means 'The House of Christian Service'. The hospital also operates a community health programme in local villages that seeks to educate, offer preventative advice and care and create relationships between the hospital, the church and the community which will encourage

patients to come to the hospital when they need medical help.

Please consider what activities your church or parish can do to support the appeal. Please send all donations to:

Edward Latham  
64 Birkinstyle Lane  
Shirland  
Alfreton  
DE56 6BS

Cheques should be payable to The Bishop of Derby's Harvest Appeal.

More details, including a short video, are available at [www.derby.anglican.org](http://www.derby.anglican.org)

## Readers Licensing Service, 8 September 2018

On 8 September 2018, the Diocese celebrated the ministry of Readers during a special service where Abbey Emery, Claire Hobby, Richard Maltby and Mike Pilling were Admitted and Licensed as Readers, and Marie Ashmore, Emily Brailsford, Lisa Ollerenshaw, James Taylor, Alison Wells and Gillian Wells were Licensed as Readers.

The service was led by Bishop Jan, and Professor Hugh Rollinson, Course Director at the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion (and formerly a Reader in the Diocese of

Derby) gave the sermon.

This was a really special and memorable service, which highlighted the great work and dedication of Readers across the Diocese. View photos at [www.derby.anglican.org](http://www.derby.anglican.org).

If you have interest in finding out more about Reader Ministry, please contact:

Rev'd Canon Geraldine Pond  
Diocesan Director of Vocations and  
Warden of Readers  
[ddv@derby.anglican.org](mailto:ddv@derby.anglican.org).



## Giving in Grace - A Useful Resource for a Stewardship Programme

**Giving in Grace**

*Geraldine and Joy -  
Members of St John's,  
Mickleover write...*

In 2017, the request to increase our giving to the Common Fund was received as our Parish MAP suggested it was time to focus on Stewardship. Our PCC was invited to a presentation on "Giving in Grace" as a possible approach to this subject.

We were inspired - "Jesus talks about money almost as much as he talks about God and His heavenly kingdom, so we should not shy away from raising finance and giving with a congregation." We were appointed as a working group to research the resources and present a potential programme to the PCC.

We discovered a wealth of resources to explore. Not all samples or suggestions were appropriate for our situation but they provided a template and a baseline to work from. We were particularly inspired by the constant references to quotes in the Bible. We were encouraged to pray and preach on the subject of giving and discipleship, review giving trends, gather facts, create literature to present the situation to the congregation, ask for responses, follow up these responses and provide an opportunity for thanksgiving.

Giving in Grace is not a programme that can be rushed - it is by no means a "quick fix" but a way to encourage a culture of discipleship and stewardship to grow and develop. It involved three months of preparation and planning (prayer and research), two months to present (preaching and literature) and one month to allow for responses and follow-up. It recommends that we focus on financial giving every three years and use the interim years to offer opportunities to consider the giving of time and talents with a gentle reminder to feature and review our finances annually.

We received an overwhelmingly positive financial response to our Giving in Grace Stewardship programme, exceeding the targets we had suggested. However, we must also highlight the practical ways that members of the Church can respond through offering time and talents to assist with the mission and ministry in our Parish.

In 2018, we are focussing for one month on the opportunity to respond to God's love with time and talents to further the mission and ministry of the church in our community.

Overall we have found the resources and approaches suggested through the Giving in Grace website very helpful and would recommend that other churches take time to look at it.

## 2018/2019 Diocesan Directory to be published

The Diocesan Directory was last published in 2015 and, whilst currently out of date, remains a stable tool for clergy, readers, diocesan staff and PCC's.

We are pleased to confirm that the 2018/2019 Diocesan Directory is currently being prepared which we intend to publish before the end of the year.

In the coming weeks, all clergy, readers, PCC secretaries and treasurers will be contacted

in respect of their details for the directory and your swift response and support would be hugely appreciated.

As you can imagine, with over 300 churches across the diocese, this is by no means a small task but we hope that the end result will help all churches and parishes to work closer together and provide relevant contact information to help build relationships and bonds for the good of church.