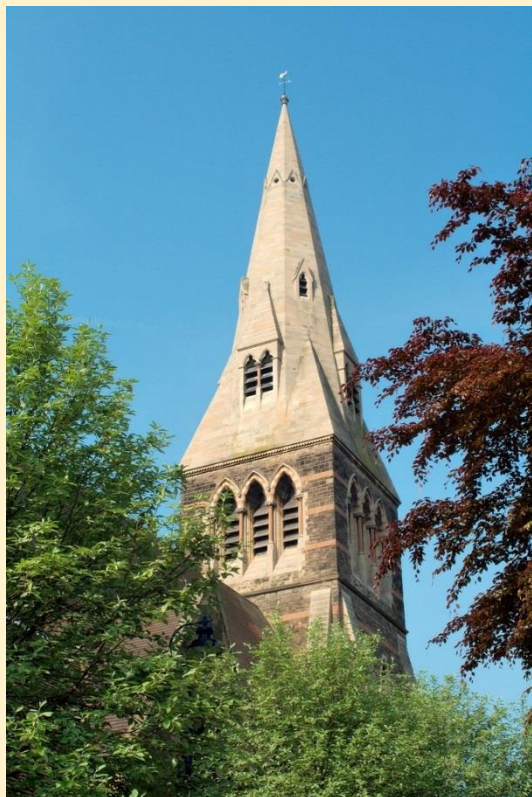


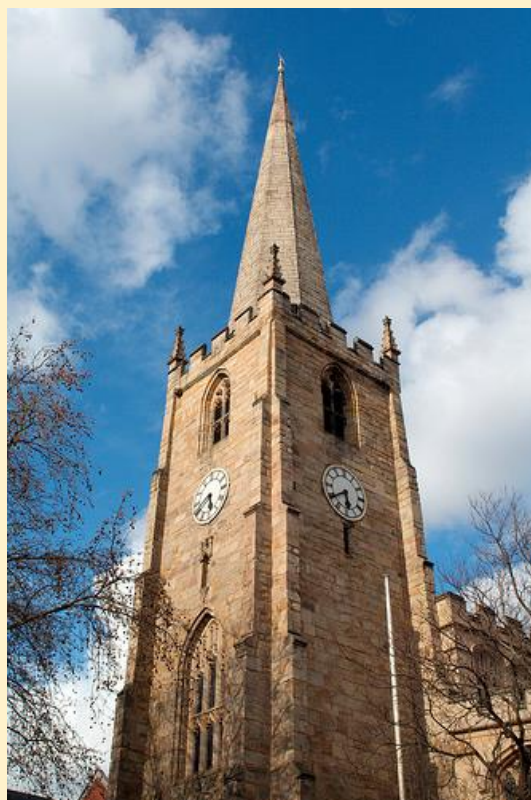


ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



July 2020

Parish Magazine



*This magazine is provided free of charge,
but donations are invited to help cover costs;
please use the donations boxes in the churches.*

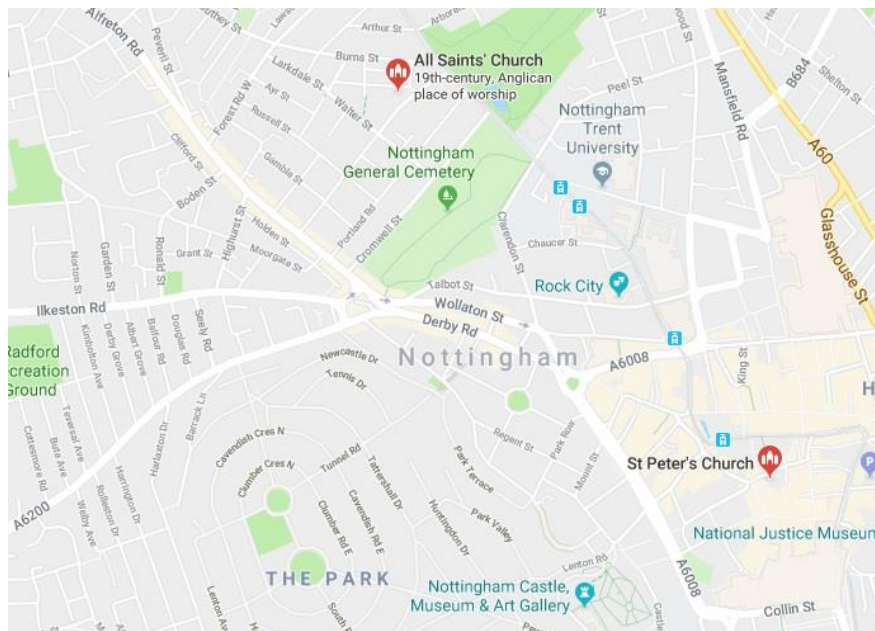
THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM



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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Dr Peter Siepmann	WORKPLACE CHAPLAIN Rev. Jo Tatum
PARISH TREASURER Peter Moore	PCC SECRETARY Keith Charter
MINISTRY ASSISTANT Liz Marsh	HEAD VERGER Lee Chapman

CHURCHES

St Peter's Church, St Peter's Square, Nottingham NG1 2NW
 All Saints' Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham NG7 4DP



From the Rector...

The Reverend Christopher Harrison

Several of the great festivals of the Christian year have occurred during the period when our churches have been closed, including Palm Sunday, Easter Day, and Pentecost. We now come to the next in this series, the feast day of St Peter and St Paul, or Petertide. This falls each year on the 29th June but we celebrate it, as St Peter's patronal festival, on the closest Sunday to this date. I am delighted that this year Canon Leslie Morley, a former Rector of St Peter's, can be the preacher at our webcast service on 28th June; one advantage to virtual services is that Leslie will of course not need to travel from his home in Yorkshire to be with us in the service.



I hope also that you will be able to take part in what is something of an experiment for us, a virtual 'Zoom' coffee time beginning at 12.00 on that day. If you are not familiar with Zoom, this is an app (application) for smartphones, tablets and computers which enables groups of people to come together online, wherever they are, and talk with one another. Zoom also makes it possible for us all to see one another on our screens (you may need to swipe from one screen to the next if quite a lot of people join the session). The login details have been circulated to all those who are on the parish office email list; if you have not received this and would like to take part, do email Liz Marsh on liz.marsh@nottinghamchurches.org and she will send you the necessary information. If it is your first time with Zoom, just download it from zoom.us and follow the instructions. Do make sure your camera and microphone settings (found within the app) are in the 'on' position. After some introductory remarks, we will break into more manageable sub-groups (one of Zoom's many features) before returning to the whole group and finishing by around 1.00 pm. You can of course leave the coffee time at any point if you wish. Don't forget to bring your own coffee!

We plan to continue holding Zoom coffee times on a monthly basis from 12.00 - 1.00 pm on the first Sunday of each month; the following one will be on 2nd August. On that day the preacher at the webcast service will be the Rev'd Jo Tatum, our workplace chaplain; the service will be 'Songs of Praise' rather than Matins. If you would like to suggest a favourite hymn for inclusion in the service, do email Adele on office@nottinghamchurches.org. Please do mention any particular reasons you may have for proposing your hymn.

You will no doubt be aware that the Church of England is now entering a period of transition, as the regulations on church closures are being gradually relaxed. It is now possible for churches to reopen for private prayer, and services may begin again in church as from 4th July. These relaxations are advisory rather than mandatory; it is up to each church to decide how and when they should be put into effect. We are making plans to open All Saints' church for private prayer, probably for a period each Tuesday; we will let you all know when the first date for this will be. The Peace Garden will of course continue to be open for people to enjoy. Social distancing will continue to be necessary, probably for some time. Unfortunately, it is not possible to reopen St Peter's for the time being, owing to the work on the roof; much of the interior of the church is currently covered in protective plastic sheeting.

Our decisions regarding the resumption of services in our churches will not be easy to make. St Peter's is in any case expected to remain affected by the repair work until October, which means that if and when services in some form can resume, All Saints' is the natural venue for these at present. However, there are currently many restrictions on how the Eucharist may be celebrated, including ensuring that worshippers are appropriately spaced; the Peace is not to be celebrated by means of any physical contact; and only the bread can be shared, not the wine. Measures have to be put in place to ensure that no infection takes place as the bread is shared. No singing is permissible in churches at present, in view of the possible risk of Covid-19 being spread through aerosol transmission. There are also wider issues regarding the safety of worshippers gathered together in one space for some time, if Covid-19 is still being transmitted within communities.

We will of course look at all these issues very carefully. There may of course be those who will prefer to remain at home as much as possible for the time being; we will therefore certainly continue the webcast services until such time as we think they might come to a natural conclusion. That being said, I have received very many highly positive comments about these services, and we will need to consider how we can build on the experience of putting services online as we look further ahead to more normal times.

I should also mention that Covid-19 has had a serious effect on our parish finances. We need to face up to this as soon as possible, and I will shortly be circulating a letter asking if you can help as we endeavour to deal with this. Please do whatever you can in support of this appeal, although I am very aware that some members of our churches will be going through a similarly difficult time at present.

Periods of transition can well be unsettling, and this one is no exception. Many of us know people who have suffered from the effects of Covid-19, in some cases very seriously; some of us know people who have died. The virus continues to exact a very heavy toll on populations around the world, and it would be unwise to be too complacent about its future path in this country since there remain so many uncertain aspects of its behaviour. We therefore need to seek strength from God as we draw upon all our reserves of patience and determination, continuing to remain aware of those around us who have found these past weeks especially difficult and doing what we can to support them. May God continue to bless you all as you face this new period of change resolutely and in the faith that wherever we may walk, and whatever may befall us, God is always alongside us and that his love never fails.

.....

Prayers for July

Reverend Dr Richard Davey

I so often struggle with the idea of 'intercessions', the often long list of petitions we offer God for people, places, situations and things occurring in our lives and in the world that we want God to intercede for us in. I find them to be lots of words about things that God already knows about. I believe that intercessions are more for us, a reminder to see where God might be acting in those situations. My intercessions therefore tend to be more organic, coming out of things I see out on walks, or around the home, or on the television or in the newspaper, a searching for God's presence in the world and a recognition that he is there already in these situations if we just open our eyes. As I look I then tend to offer up an arrow prayer: a momentary thank you, 'wow', a pause for remembrance and reflection, a reaching out in silent love.

These prayers have become even more present and persistent during lockdown. So I'm offering these images as my prayers for this month.



Help us to find spaces to pray.



Thank you for this world and its beauty.



Help me not to be complacent.



For Healing.

'To Church on Sunday...'

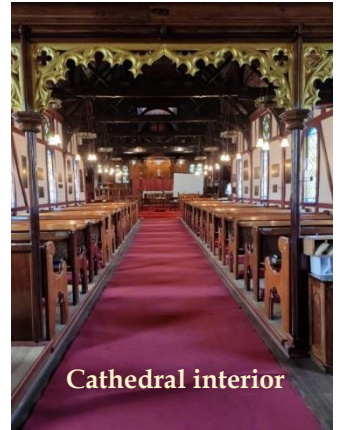
Eva Lyngwa

I was born and brought up in Shillong, the capital of Meghalaya, a small state in north East India which has a population of around 2.6 million. Shillong is a hill station situated at an elevation of 6,000 feet above sea level; it is divided into seven districts, the largest being East Khasi Hills. Christianity is the largest religion in the state. I grew up in a Christian family and attended the Church of North India along with my parents and three siblings, an older sister and two younger brothers.



All Saints' Cathedral, Shillong

The church which I attended, All Saints' Cathedral, Shillong, is vibrant and well attended, with a very large congregation. The parish is spread far and wide but certain special services, conferences, parish meetings, women's fellowship, youth fellowship and Sunday Schools often meet at All Saints' Cathedral as it is the Mother Church of the North Eastern Region. There are two main Sunday services, one in English and one in Khasi (Khasi being the main language of the people of Shillong).



Cathedral interior

The Sunday School is an integral part of the church, where the families leave their children when they attend the Eucharist at that time.



Sunday School room

I started going to Sunday School when I was five years of age. Going down memory lane, Sunday was a day I looked forward to since at Sunday School lots of Bible stories, parables, pictures and songs were presented. It was always so exciting to participate in the Easter and Christmas plays. The preparation and rehearsals for these were full of enthusiasm and fun.

Eastertide would, and still does, include visits to care homes to hand over Easter eggs and posies of flowers that were prepared by the Sunday School children.

Christmas time meant long holidays from school and more time in church. It also meant cleaning and polishing the church floor and polishing the artefacts in the church. I loved polishing the eagle lectern and was happy when it had a lovely sheen to it.

Big brass pots were placed along the nave and the chapels in the wings, and were decorated with poinsettias, and white lilies at the pulpit. The kneelers were dusted and cleaned and put out in the sun to puff them up. The church looked beautiful on Christmas Day. The same was done during Eastertide. We also have the tallest Christmas tree in the North East of India, in the church compound, which has been standing there for over a century. It is decorated every year. Two days after Christmas we have a community feast that is again held every year, when the congregation gather to enjoy a Christmas meal together.



Cathedral and Christmas tree at night

In my teenage years, I joined the cathedral choir and enjoyed every moment of it. We toured around the whole state, singing in different parishes of the Diocese of North East India. All in all, I have very happy memories of my growing up years in All Saints' Cathedral, Shillong, India. It was practically my whole world!

Parish Office

The work of the Parish Office continues, albeit not in the building itself. We are able to respond to answer phone messages (0115 9483658) or email – office@nottinghamchurches.org (Adele) / admin@nottinghamchurches.org (Alan). Please be assured that we are doing all we can to keep the parish running as smoothly as possible. Any enquiries, or concerns, please get in touch – we're here to help!

Online Prayer & Bible Study

Liz Marsh has set up weekly online Bible study (Thursdays) meetings, at 2pm, and all are most welcome to join. We are following the lectionary readings, each Thursday discussing the readings for the Sunday just gone. This is a great opportunity for us to connect and share with one another while we cannot meet together in person.

We are using Zoom for this, which is an online video-calling app that is easy to set up and use. For those without the right equipment, it is also possible to join Zoom meetings by phone. Liz is happy to help out with getting set up if needed - it's easier than you might think! Please contact her at liz.marsh@nottinghamchurches.org if you are interested in joining the meetings.

Book of the month

By 'Bramcote Book Worm'

'My Sweet and Sour Days'

George Herbert and The Journey of the Soul

By Mark Oakley

'I will complain, yet praise

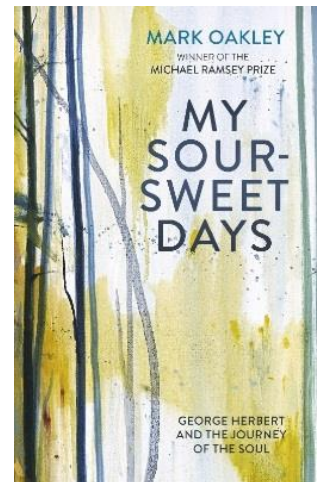
'I will bewail, approve

'And all my sower-sweet days

'I will lament, and love.'

(George Herbert: 'Bitter Sweet')

There seems to be something appropriately resonant for today's world about the title of this anthology of seventeenth century poems. 'My Sour-Sweet Days' contains forty of George Herbert's poems each followed by a short and very readable reflection by Mark Oakley.



George Herbert was born 1593 in the town of Montgomery in Wales, godson to John Donne poet and poet. Herbert became both. His poems were described by his contemporary Richard Baxter as 'heart-work and heaven-work'; they embrace love and closeness, anger and despair, reconciliation and hope. We still sing the words of his metaphysical poem "The Elixir": Teach me, my God and King, as well as "Let all the world in every corner sing my God and King .

Mark Oakley is Dean of St John's college Cambridge and has been described by Rowan Williams as 'One of the most distinctive, intelligent and refreshing voices in the Church of England , always illuminating , never stale or second hand .'

'Shortly before his death, Herbert sent his poems to his friend Nicholas Ferrar of Little Gidding telling him to publish the poems if he thought they might "turn to the advantage of any dejected poor soul", otherwise to burn them. "You shall find in it a picture of the many spiritual conflicts that have passed between God and my soul, before I could subject mine to the will of Jesus, my Master".

Overseas Committee

Dorothy Mountford

The Overseas committee had its first Zoom meeting on Tuesday 16th June. It had been over 3 months since we had last 'seen' each other and it was a delight to be able to catch up.

We shared the latest newsletter from our CMS partners working in South East Asia. Beom-Jin and Marie Shin are currently in Belgium where Marie is having treatment for an ear, nose and throat condition. They expect their third child in the autumn. Their two little boys, Jonah and Jayu, are thriving. The family are scheduled to travel to the UK in August and were hoping to visit us; but it looks as if this won't be possible. We have been in touch and are hoping that we may be able to have a Zoom meeting with them. Beom-Jin may be able to preach at one of our streamed services.



Silver Smarties

Thank you all for sending in your Silver Smarties money. To date we have collected over £400. If anyone has any twenty pence pieces they wish to donate then please contact Keith Mountford - keithmountford2@gmail.com or telephone 01159259864 re next steps.

Message from CMS:

We know that churches are being tested right now. Your patience is being tested. Your strength and endurance are being tested. Your internet connection is being tested. And for some in your congregation, faith is being tested.

Church Mission Society is facing a time of testing too. Coronavirus and lockdown have stretched and challenged our mission partners. They've had to adapt quickly and find new creative ways to share Jesus in their communities. You can hear some of their extraordinary stories via the weblink below – please do share these in your church. These stories give us hope in our faithful God who is always, always with us...even when plans change.

Our staff have likewise dug deep and faced this time with remarkable resilience. As you can imagine, 300 people in mission + 50 different countries = 24/7 support.

It's on behalf of our mission partners that I'm writing today – to thank you for your support and to ask the Parish to consider making an extra gift at this time- to encourage people in mission in their crucial work as Covid-19 and the fallout wreak havoc across the world.

To put things in context:

- *Last year the total amount we received in donations for our mission partner programme was £179,000 less than the total we spent on resourcing them and their work.*
- *That's an average shortfall of £2,452 per mission partner.*
- *With the additional impact of Covid-19, this year we face a shortfall of up to £280,000 for our mission partner programme.*

We want to address this now in order to avoid having to make any difficult decisions in the future about the people and projects we support.

Action: as we go to press the Overseas committee are looking at how we might support our mission partners from the funds which you, as a congregation, have helped us raised over the years.

Hilary Evans

As many of you remember, Hilary was both Chair and Secretary of the Overseas Committee for many years. Please remember Hilary in your prayers after a period of hospitalization, as she moves to a Nursing Home in Radcliffe. She is very chirpy despite being so poorly, and Liz Thomas, whom many will also remember, visits Hilary every day.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund Bid Update

July 2020

Dorothy Mountford

As a parish we are still rejoicing over the fact that the application we submitted to The NL in November of last year resulted in funding of £211,000 towards the £340,000 cost of the capital work and Heritage Outreach Project.

Like the rest of the world, those of us who gave a huge sigh of relief in March when we received this much longed for news have now had to address major changes to proposed plans.

As promised in the May magazine here is an update of what is happening. We were delighted that our contractors are now able to start work. Once an initial check has been made to ensure that no bats have moved into St Peters exploratory work will begin on our magnificent 15th century Nave roof. Anxiously we await the results. If there has been considerable water ingress then significant repairs will have to be made to those oak beams donated by Sir Nicolas de Strelley in the 1480s.

All of the exciting associated outreach activities, the 'something-for- something' agreed with the Lottery, like most things in our lives, have been impacted by Covid 19. Every one of them was interactive, interpersonal and based in the church building. Church closures and social distancing are the order of the day and The Lottery needs to know how we intend to honour our commitment while abiding by these restrictions.

The photography tutorials facilitated by Jagdish Patel of the Nottingham Photography Hub were due to begin in and around church and the city centre this summer. Ever pragmatic, Jagdish assured us that he would be able to deliver a somewhat reduced, but equally productive, tutorial session for a group of homeless people over the summer. Jagdish will explore the potential for working online with the participants in order to produce an artefact to display their engagement with our heritage.

Neither the plans for the Oral History work with The Gateway group and members of St Peter's Congregation, nor the Curriculum Days for Victoria School are now realisable in their original format. The Investment Manager from the lottery is advising us to look at ways of digitalising these activities. Sadly, the lovely school visits we had in September 2019 and March this year will not be repeated this autumn nor next spring.

On a positive note our wonderful band of volunteers are looking at ways of bringing some of the joy the children experienced on their visits to the church to a range of fun activities which they can access from home or the classroom.

Students from NTU have worked on a guidebook as part of their final year assessments and this will contribute to the work Alan, our Parish Administrator, has done in populating the Touch Screen Kiosk. This will have the important role of interpreting the heritage of our church to visitors.

Once again very many thanks to everyone for their support.

Online Giving

Since it is not currently possible to make your offerings to St Peter's and All Saints' churches during worship, please consider making a donation by means of the online giving facility which can be found at

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/7870#!/DonationDetails>

Golden Wedding Celebration

Under normal circumstances, on Sunday 19th July Keith and I would have brought a celebration cake and some fizz to church, 50 years and a day after we were married in Holy Trinity Church, Lenton on July 18th, 1970. Members of our church family have shared similar occasions and special birthdays over the years, a wonderful tradition.

Sadly, we are unable to share our Golden Wedding Anniversary with you as would have wished.

Happily, there is a way that we can invite you to remember our special day in a very special way. Instead of an after-service celebration and a family party we are making a donation towards the roof fund. Our friends and family also want to contribute in lieu of presents.

As you know the roof repairs are going on apace. The builders have agreed to slip a sturdy commemorative envelope in the roof space (perhaps to be found in another 200 years!) This will detail the date, the names of the Rector, the Church Wardens, the architect, the Builders and the Choir along with the names of people who have given support.

- If you would like your name to be included in this historic document, please let us know asap as the builders have only a narrow window of opportunity when this can happen. Apologies for short notice
- If you would like to make a donation, please also let us know and we can send details
- If, for any reason, you miss this announcement and would like to have been included, we will have a copy of the document which can be amended to include you. This will be kept in the church archives.

With love and best wishes from

Dorothy and Keith

Email: dorothyelizabethmountford@gmail.com or call: 07801173165



News from the virtual choir stalls

Peter Siepmann

Alongside their weekly contributions to our online services, members of the 'virtual choir' have been working away on two longer term projects. Visitors to [the webcasts page](#) on the parish website will find a complete service of Compline (Night Prayer) – a beautifully calming liturgy which gives a lovely sense of the atmosphere of a fourth Sunday evening at St Peter's.

Listed alongside the webcast for Sunday 14th June (RSCM Music Sunday), visitors will find the results of the virtual choir's most ambitious project to date: a performance of Thomas Tallis's extraordinary motet for forty voices, *Spem in alium* – listen with headphones for the full effect!

An archive of all the virtual choir's projects during the lockdown can be found on Facebook (no account required) at facebook.com/pg/stpeterschoirnottingham/videos.

I, along with so many other people around the world, was deeply shocked and profoundly affected by the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis. I wanted to join the protestors in Forest Fields, but because I am self-isolating I decided that I couldn't do so. So I decided to join the protest in the way that I can, by writing this article. Part of my horror and dismay comes because of my involvement in the Women of Faith project and also through the Mothers Union. In both of these wonderful spaces I find myself in a thriving multi-cultural community, where I am enriched by my encounters and friendships with women from so many different communities. We come together and there are no differences.

But the death of George Floyd has a particular resonance for me because of my sister-in-law, Philomena. My older brother, Bernard, who was a Priest in Wigan, married a wonderful woman who he had met whilst a curate in Toxteth, Liverpool. Phil's father was from the West Indies and her mother's family were half Portugese, half Irish, from Goa. My sister-in-law and my nieces and nephew are therefore all people of colour. I never think about this, but I also know from talking to them how hard this was for them living in Wigan, where they were really the only people of colour in their community. My niece, Melissa, wrote on Facebook recently about the daily acts of subtle and overt racism she experienced growing up, and I was so sad, because I have never had to experience that. But rather than me saying, as a white woman, what I think, I asked Phil if she would write something. Phil is the course leader for the BA in Social Work at Liverpool Hope University, and an expert in Race and Mental Health, so I thought she would be the right person.

Phil wrote this:

Following the horror and pain of the murder of George Floyd during an arrest by the police in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, on May 25th 2020, the voices of protest on this one brutal incident have been heard across the world. A white police officer knelt on his neck for nearly 9 minutes. Many people, black and white have come together to call out the injustices experienced by Black and Minority Communities in the UK too. This racism is systemic and embedded in the structures and institutions of our societies. It is in these spaces that we all need to understand the nature of the challenges we need to bring; and take up our responsibilities as individuals and communities. James Baldwin articulates well why we need to be alert, understand the historical contexts which have contributed to racism today, and take up these challenges and together make our voices heard.

"The will of the state is revealed in the state's institutions. There is not one institution that is not a racist institution."

The Mothers' Union, as an institution has worked for over 140 years to develop a vision of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. It is clear that it stands in solidarity with all who face discrimination of any form, including that based on the colour of a person's skin. In working to achieve this aim it must ensure it is fit to bring those challenges to powerful people on behalf of those who are disenfranchised and oppressed. As the African American feminist writer Audre Lorde says:

"My silences have not protected me, your silence will not protect you."

Let your voice be heard when you say 'Black Lives Matter'.

Webcast Services

You will be able to access an online Webcast Service every Sunday until we are able to resume our normal church gatherings. The service will be available from 10.00am.

To access these services, and the archive of previous ones, simply visit:

www.nottinghamchurches.org/webcasts

Rota for July

5th July (Matins) - Officiant: Richard Davey; Preacher: Christopher Harrison

12th July - Officiant: Christopher Harrison; Preacher: Richard Davey

- Family service: Helen Hall

19th July - Officiant: Helen Hall; Preacher: Laurie Crawforth

26th July - Officiant: Christopher Harrison; Preacher: Liz Marsh

Inside St Peter's...

The essential works to our roof are now well under way! Thanks to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the work was able to commence at the start of June, and will continue into the Autumn.

Photographs: Alan Franks/Midland Stonemasonry



This view would last have been seen in 1812,
and first seen in 1480!



Regular Activities in our Churches

All currently suspended during the closure of our church buildings

All Saints'

- Community Coffee Morning (part of the Places of Welcome network):
Tuesdays from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm
- Women of Faith activities and lunch, first Thursday of every month from 11.00 am – 1.30 pm
- Mothers' Union: Third Saturday of every month, 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
- The All Saints' Drama Club meets from time to time to prepare and present short dramatic items
- Series of 'Saturday Matinee' film showings take place at 2.00 pm from time to time
- The Nottingham University Society of Change Ringers (Bell Ringers):
Tuesdays in term time, 7.00 – 8.30 pm
- The Nottingham Enlightening Word Church (Chinese) meets in All Saints' Church on Sundays from 2.00 - 4.00 pm and on Friday evenings from 7.30 pm.
- The Bridge Community Gospel Choir meets for rehearsals on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month from 5.00-6.30pm.

St Peter's:

- Rough Sleepers' Drop-in: Mondays (women only) from 10.30am – 12noon;
Wednesdays from 11.30 am – 12.30 pm
- Gateway Drop-in for anyone with particular mental health needs:
Wednesdays from 1.30 – 3.30 pm
- The Thursday communion service at 11.00 is followed by coffee and fellowship
- Bible Study group: Thursdays from 12.15 – 1.00 pm
- St Peter's Bell Ringers: Thursdays 7.00 – 9.00 pm

The Parish Overseas Committee meets every other month; the Caring for our Common Home working group also meets on a regular basis. Please contact the Rector if you would like to know more about these. Our churches also support the work of the Mount Zion foodbank at Bobbers Mill; collection boxes for gifts of food are available in the churches.

PARISH OFFICE

ST PETER'S CENTRE

ST PETER'S SQUARE

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