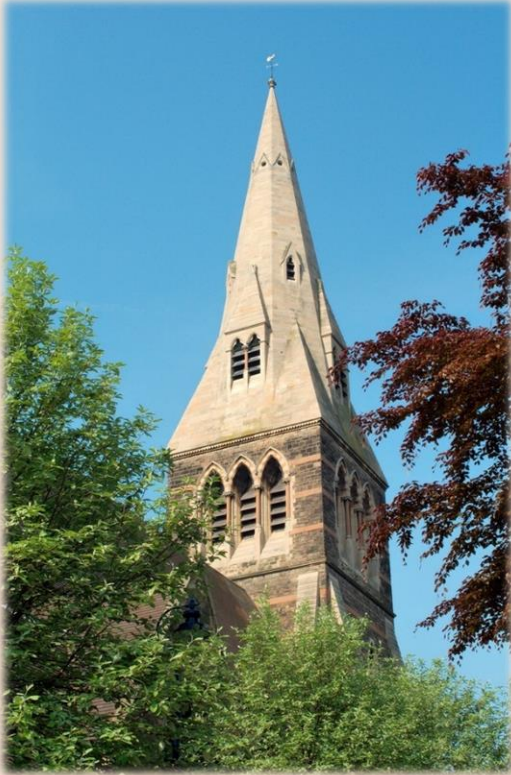


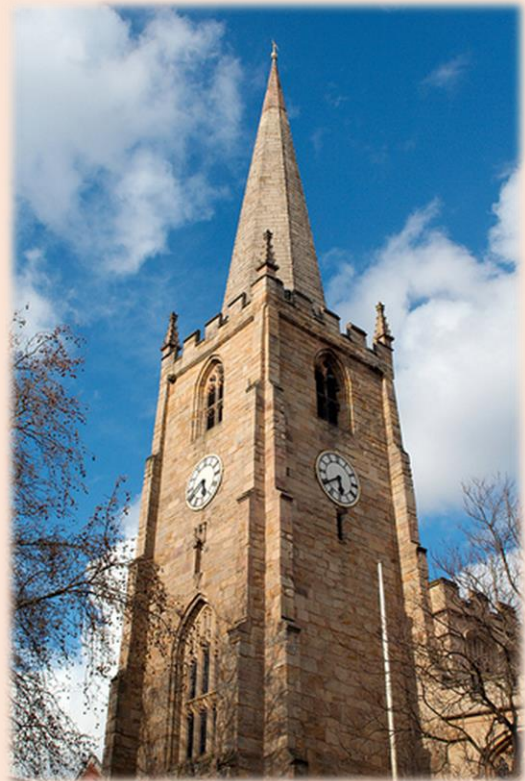


# ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



**October  
2023**

## **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

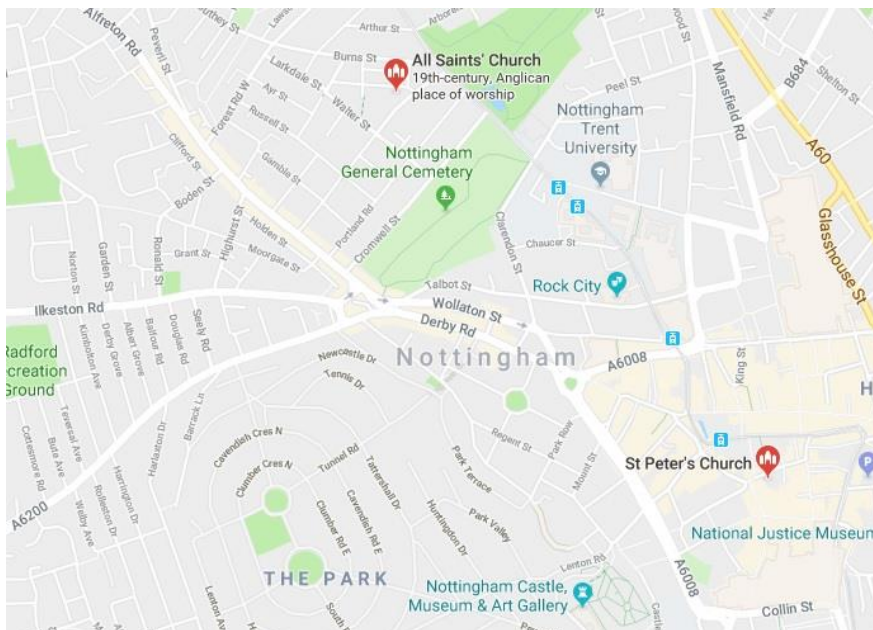


<p><b>PARISH CLERGY</b>                  Rev. Christopher Harrison <i>Rector</i>                  Rev. Dr Richard Davey <i>Associate Priest</i>                  Rev. Dr Helen Hall <i>Priest with permission to officiate</i>                  Rev. Gill Page <i>Priest with permission to officiate</i>                  Rev. Owen Page <i>Priest with permission to officiate</i></p>	<p><b>CHURCHWARDENS</b>                  Lorraine Smedley, David Towers – All Saints’                  Dorothy Mountford, Jane Henson – St Peter’s                  Chigozie Nwachukwu – Assistant Churchwarden, St Peter’s</p>
<p><b>PARISH ADMINISTRATOR</b>                  Adele Siepmann</p>	<p><b>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC</b>                  Dr Peter Siepmann</p>
<p><b>MINISTRY ASSISTANT</b>                  Ian Wright</p>	<p><b>WORKPLACE CHAPLAIN</b>                  Rev. Jo Tatum</p>
<p><b>PARISH TREASURER</b>                  Peter Moore</p>	<p><b>PCC SECRETARY</b>                  Rachel Dyer-Williams</p>

## CHURCHES

St Peter’s Church, St Peter’s Square, Nottingham NG1 2NW

All Saints’ Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham NG7 4DP



From time to time over the last year, we have set up a table outside St Peter's church from which we have offered free tea and coffee to those who pass by. The initial idea was to engage with students coming to university for the first time, but it rapidly became clear that all kinds of people would stop for a hot drink and perhaps a sweet or two, or maybe a fruit. We have also offered information about the church, and second-hand books are available for those who wish to take them in return for a donation.



It has been quite revealing to see how many people have never noticed the church, even though they may have walked by it many times. We have also become aware of the huge variety of people who walk through the square, from all kinds of backgrounds, races, faiths, and ages. Although most of them do not stop, I have been pleasantly surprised by just how many have done so. The numbers of those who are probably homeless or on very low income have been noticeable, and the very fact that we are the human face of the church, offering something free of charge, however modest, has been much appreciated by them. Tourists and other visitors to Nottingham have sometimes stopped for a coffee and a conversation about the city and the church. There have been students who are new to the area, and who have been glad to see a friendly face and to receive a warm welcome. Some people from countries other than the UK have been more familiar with the idea of offering free food and drink than most British people, and have related immediately to what we have been doing.

When those on the stall have offered words of invitation to those passing by, it has been encouraging to see that there has never, as far as I know, been any sign of disrespect or rudeness shown in return. Some have smiled, thanked us for what we are doing, and gone on their way; others have been drawn into conversation, with or without having a coffee or tea. This is all part of what one student said was the excellent spirit of community which he had found in Nottingham. It is also evident that tea and coffee are the ideal means of relating to those who pass by the church, as these are a means of social interaction all around the world, and can be an instant way of breaking down barriers and helping people to feel at ease.

A significant number of people have stopped and held in depth conversations with those from St Peter's who have been on the stall. It is remarkable (or maybe it isn't, actually?) how many people do think about God, and about spiritual matters more generally. None of those to whom I have spoken have been comfortable with a faith which is presented as the absolute truth, however, without any possibility of question or debate. Indeed, it has been fascinating to hear the kind of questions about Christianity which people ask; the kind of faith which most people seem to be looking for is a reflective, thinking faith which connects with the modern world and with our understanding of it. It's also been revealing to see how important the principle of 'love' is for many people, and that even for those who are agnostic in matters of faith, the ideal of loving one's neighbour often goes very deep. Some people to whom I have spoken are also clear that we have to embrace all religious faiths in our understanding of God and the world, and while we may be especially attached to our own faith, we need to be able to respect those of different religions and be able to learn from them.

Probably the majority of those to whom we give tea or coffee, and whom we chat, do not go on to enter into the church. However, there have been quite a few who have done so, including at least one person who has resumed coming to St Peter's after a gap of many years. All the same, I strongly believe that what we are doing is a valuable way of showing to the city who we are as Christians, and what we stand for. It's about taking our welcome out into the community, and not just expecting the community to walk through our doors. This, to me, is very much what mission is all about; and it is at the heart of what Jesus meant when he sent his followers out as apostles to show forth the love and goodness of God. It is also wonderful that Anna Clarke and her team has begun reaching out to the students living in the area around All Saints by offering free burgers and drinks at a barbeque on 20<sup>th</sup> September, which attracted considerable numbers.

These forms of mission are so encouraging, and I really hope that we can continue in this vein in the coming months. If anyone else would like to join us, you would be very welcome to do so.

## The Reverend Canon John Henson, R.I.P.

We are very sorry to announce the death of The Reverend Canon John Henson, a retired member of our clergy team. The Bishop's Office issued the following information following John's death:

*John was ordained Deacon in 1965 and ordained Priest in 1966. He was Curate at Ollerton with Boughton from 1965-68 before becoming University Secretary of CMS between 1968-73. He then moved to Bradford Diocese to become a Chaplain at Scargill House from 1973-78. In 1978 he was made Vicar of St Paul's Shipley, becoming Team Rector when the parish joined with the adjacent parish in 1983. In 1991 he moved to Derby Diocese to become Vicar of St Mary's Ilkeston and then in 1999, Vicar of St. John Mickleover. He was appointed an Honorary Canon of Derby Cathedral in 2000. John returned to the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham when he retired in 2005 and in 2013 undertook a voluntary placement at St George's Cathedral in Jerusalem. He served with Permission to Officiate until his death.*



We continue to hold John's family in our thoughts and prayers at this extremely difficult time - Jane, Churchwarden at St Peter's, and their three adult children, Rachel, Christopher, and Rebecca.

John's funeral will take place at Southwell Minster on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 11.15 am, to which everyone is welcome. John's family have set up a Just Giving page for anyone who would like to support the next rebuilding of a demolished Palestinian home next year - a project very close to John's heart:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/john-henson-1695283961286>

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## Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Ricardian Society visit St Peter's Church, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September

*Dorothy Mountford*

### Light Night February 2023

Seven months ago, on one of those two extremely busy evenings when over 2,000 people visited St Peter's, I had one of those conversations with people which I frequently have with people visiting the church for the first time about the history and heritage of the church and its links with the history of Nottingham. Anne Ayres, the secretary of the Notts and Derby Ricardian Society, was very eager to visit with her group. She told me that Nottingham Castle was a stronghold for Richard III and that he spent his last night there before riding to Bosworth Field where he was killed - first mustering his troops outside St Peter's Church and possibly attending a mass there.



*Medieval Nottingham Castle*

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Anne and 12 of the Ricardian Society visited the church and shared their knowledge of the King and his conflicted history.

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September

The following email arrived from Anne:



*I just wanted to thank you again for the excellent talk and warm welcome you gave us yesterday at St Peter's.*

*Everyone I spoke to afterwards said how much they enjoyed it and all appreciated the fascinating details of people through the ages who have been associated with the church, including the sad story of Annie at the Chilwell Ordnance factory.*

*It is a beautiful church and despite its imposing appearance up on that rock it has a wonderfully peaceful atmosphere, no wonder it is so well-loved.*

*I feel quite sure that Richard III would have known it, and visited at some point for ceremonial events with the town elders during his frequent stays at Nottingham Castle, so close by. And it is nice to think he may have attended a last mass there in Nottingham before setting out for the road across the Trent with his army.*

*Thank you again for your time, friendly welcome and engrossing talk filled with your obvious love of the church.*

## Prayers for October

Mike Ross

Loving God, receive our praise for the human labour that is part of the Harvest - the preparing and sowing, the cultivating and growing, the reaping and packaging, the transporting and selling.

Lord of all, speak to us at this Harvest time, so that our hearts may be stirred, and our consciences quickened. In all the changes and chances of our lives all the many uncertainties we face, we thank you for the assurance, that, whatever we may be confronted with, your love will go on reaching out, your hand go on supporting, and your purpose go on being fulfilled.

Help us to truly believe that, not just in our minds but in our hearts, to put our trust wholly in you, confident that you will never fail us. Amen.

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## Overseas Committee

A Meeting of the Overseas Committee was held on Zoom on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

- Book sales have raised £40 for the OC funds. Please look out for 'new' books on a weekly basis, courtesy of Saxon Barrie, who ensures a steady turn over which seems to be an attraction.
- There will be a retiring collection after the service on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October in aid of the earthquake and flood appeals for Morocco and Libya, to which the OC will make a contribution from their funds.

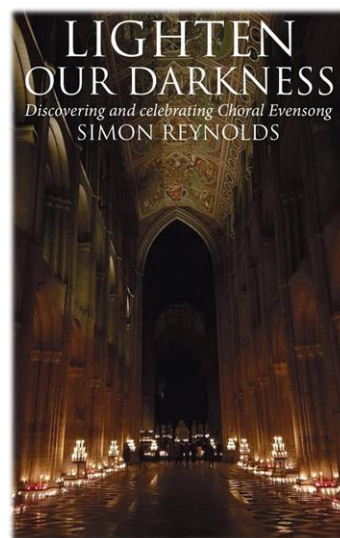
### Advent 2023

- Advent Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Christopher Harrison will preach on Climate Justice; the new silver smarties initiative launched; coffee and cake sale after church in the coffee room in aid of CMS.  
*All offers of cake welcome*
- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Ian Bell, a member of our congregation and a member of the Overseas Committee, is a climate justice Activist for Christian Aid. He will talk about COP 28 and how we, as a church, can work together for change.  
This service will be followed by an early Christmas bring and share lunch and the Christmas Service to celebrate love, life and inclusivity. Everyone is very welcome to all of these events.
- Keith Mountford gave an update on the finances which became very depleted during lockdown as we were unable to do much fundraising.
- Many thanks to Keith for his management of the Silver Smarties fund which this year raised an amazing £770.
- Resil Jarrett reported back on Nottingham Citizens Migration Justice meeting, which was held in St Peter's on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September, where the concept of Nottingham becoming a 'City of Sanctuary' was discussed. This was a great opportunity to meet with people from other faiths and welcome them to our church.
- The committee, who were instrumental in setting up the Freshers' Week last year and are the core crew in meeting and greeting students and citizens alike, fed back that this was another successful year. It was agreed that we should have a stall in St Peter's Square in the week of the 17<sup>th</sup> December with coffee and mince pies, inviting people to join us for our Christmas services.
- Christopher thanked the team for their contributions to the monthly Prayers for the World and explained the introduction of the lighting of the Candle for Peace at the start of the 10.45 service at St Peter's.

## Book of the month

By 'Bramcote Book Worm'

'Lighten Our Darkness'- Discovering and celebrating Choral Evensong  
By Simon Reynolds



### **The Third Collect at Evening prayer, for Aid against all Perils.**

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*The Book of Common Prayer, 1662*

Some dear friends tell how their daughter, as a little girl, was lulled back to sleep by this prayer after being woken by terrible nightmares, and when, as a young woman dying of cancer, this prayer was always close at hand.

Using the collect as its title 'Lighten our darkness' celebrates the music and the words which are the foundation of Choral evensong. A following quotation by Joanna Trollope used as a preface powerfully underpins this:

*Every man and woman in England has a birth-right. Walk into any cathedral at around teatime, on just about any day of the week, and you will hear the most exquisite music beautifully sung. In the streets outside people are scrambling to get to the shops before they close, unaware perhaps that, behind this decorative medieval façade, a religious event of the most timeless beauty is about to take place. Choral Evensong is part of our cultural heritage... Something extremely precious, to be jealously guarded by those who sometimes need to be still, to think upon their divine creator, and to discover the immense capacities of the human soul.*

*Joanna Trollope*

By merely taking the heading of Chapter one and stringing the subheadings of that chapter together with a conjunction here, a hyphen there and a semi colon for good measure it was possible create a 'poem' to give the flavour of this wonderful little book in the lyrical language of Simon Reynolds which reflects the beauty of Evensong itself.

### **Evensong in Perspective**

Strange difference and Generous spaces

Not easy but emerging patterns

Surprising, Never alone

Expansive music-A gift that keeps giving

Being at home and deeply involved

The rhythm of time in a place apart

Shattering divisions

Radical simplicity: enduring music.

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## **'Scrambles' Portrait Exhibition**

Many of you will have noticed that the photography exhibition which has been on display on the wall of the South aisle at St Peter's since June 2021 has been removed.

The Heritage Photography exhibition was created by a group of photographers for the Recovery College, led by Jagdish Patel from the Nottingham Photography Hub, as part of the outreach for the National Lottery Heritage Fund. 'Scrambles' evolved from this initial group - based in Nottingham they are a supportive network for people experiencing mental health conditions. They are eager to use the South Aisle Space for another exhibition this year replacing "Heritage" with Portraits of people who are connected with St Peter's in some way.

The Scrambles team would like to take a series of portraits, against various background in and around the church, of Clergy, members of staff, members of the congregation and people who use the church during the week. They hope to have the new exhibition in place by late October/ early November.

If you are interested in having a photographic portrait taken for inclusion in this display then please let Dorothy Mountford, Churchwarden, know ASAP.

## Services in October

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'	
	10.45 am	Matins* Responses <i>Shaphard</i> Te Deum <i>Ešenovalds</i> Vox Christi <i>Wilby</i> Mother of God <i>Tavener</i>	St Peter's	
	5.00 pm	Holy Communion with prayers for healing	St Peter's	
	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's
	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
1.15 pm		Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
	9.45 am	Family Service	St Peter's	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'	
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist	St Peter's	
	6.00 pm	Choral Evensong* Responses <i>Clucas</i> Brewer in D Ubi caritas <i>Gjeilo</i>	All Saints'	
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's	
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'	
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'	
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist* Missa Brevis <i>Palestrina</i>	St Peter's	
	5.00 pm	Taizé Service	St Peter's	
<b>Monday 16<sup>h</sup></b>	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's	
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'	
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'	
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist* Holy Communion in C <i>Dibble/Stanford</i> O Lord increase our faith <i>Loosemore</i>	St Peter's	
	6.00 pm	Compline*	All Saints'	
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's	
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'	
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b> Kept as All Saints' Day	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's	
	10.30 am	Patronal Sung Eucharist* Missa Brevis <i>McGlade</i> O quam gloriosum <i>Victoria</i>	All Saints'	
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist	St Peter's	
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's	
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'	
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's	

## Regular Activities in our Churches

### All Saints'

- Coffee and Fellowship (part of the Places of Welcome network):  
Tuesdays from 11.30 am – 1.00 pm
- 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.
- St Gabriel's Eritrean Church – 5.30 – 9.30 am on Sundays.

### St Peter's:

- The Thursday Communion service at 11.00 is followed by coffee and fellowship
- 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.

We are very grateful for all donations, which provide vital funds to keep our parish running. Donations can be made via the contactless donation point by the West door at St Peter's, or by scanning the QR code below.

Alternatively, cash or cheques (made payable to 'St Peter and All Saints PCC') can be given to a member of staff or posted to the address below – please use a yellow Gift Aid envelope, if you are able to.



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