

Our Diocese Together

September 2021

Clypping in Burbage

Winshill's Eco Journey

Sharing Everyday Faith

Stories from around the diocese

Building Mission and Ministry - with toy bricks!



During lockdown Revd Alexandrina Mann, Priest-in-Charge All Saints Heath, found a fun way to share bible stories with children as part of their school assembly. Alex produced short films using lego bricks.

Revd Alex said "Whilst it was time consuming, it was great fun to be able to make short films and send them into schools for the children to watch during their assembly. The feedback has been very positive. I'm not taking requests for stories yet but even Wallace and Gromit started small so watch this space!"

Etwall welcomes Revd Stella



On Monday, 23 August 2021, St Helen's Etwall welcomed Revd Stella Greenwood as Priest-in-charge. She was licensed by Bishop Malcolm, assisted by Revd Canon Peter Walley, Acting Archdeacon of Derby and Revd Jacqueline Stober, Area Dean. The joyful occasion included a choir anthem, refreshments, love and fellowship. A list of diocesan appointments is available on our website.



Winshill's Eco-church journey

St Mark's Winshill has been working towards becoming an Eco-church over the last two years, prompted by the climate change crisis and our calling as Christians to care for God's creation. Having attained a Bronze Eco-church award, they are now well on the way to Silver.

They have been making changes in the life and work of their church, as well as the building and grounds, in an effort to become 'greener'. The practical changes include having more LED lighting, using green energy suppliers, Fairtrade and eco-friendly products, using less disposable items and recycling wherever possible.

The liturgy has been adapted too marking Climate Sunday as a prelude to Creation Season, holding a climate-related Lent course, supported environmental charities and included excerpts from the Green Christian prayer guide in daily offices.

In the church grounds, they are working on a section to create a green and versatile outdoor space which will include a wildflower meadow, bee hotels, bird boxes and an area for community activities such as Forest Church. A summer activity day for primary children entitled 'Our Wonderful World' – finding God in the big and small wonders all around us is planned where they can explore many aspects of this incredible planet and how we can care for it, through fun, crafts, games and bible passages.

Since January, St Mark's has been taking part in the "Make COP26 Count" programme which has included praying for and learning about churches' climate action in other parts of the world as well as lobbying the local MP to ask government ministers specific questions about meeting targets for reducing carbon emissions.

Pictured L-R are: Julia Ratcliffe, Helen Duke, Revd Philip Bosher and Kate Griffiths MP.



Clypping service in Burbage

On Sunday, 15 August 2021 we held our Clypping Service at Christ Church, Burbage, part of the Buxton Team Parish.

The 'Clypping' comes from the Saxon word 'ycleping' meaning 'embracing'. The point of this ancient ceremony is that the people of the village, along with their friends, acknowledge the Church as the place of Christian faith in the life of the community.

This service in Burbage also marks the founding of our church. We invite community members to gather and for part of the service we process outside to join hands around the church – embracing the church! This year, with Covid-19 restrictions, we used a ribbon to 'embrace' the building and we held on to this instead of each other's hands.

The most ancient expressions of this service see members of the congregation encircling the church building. First, they faced inwards and

together thanked God for their Church and for the faithfulness of the generations who built and cared for their Church over the centuries. Next, they turned outwards and prayed for the village and the community and for God's continued blessing. At Christ Church we gathered together to say prayers of thanks and of hope.

These are some of the prayers that were said:

For the first missionaries to this land in Roman, Celtic and Saxon times.

We give you thanks and praise

For those who have worshipped and worked here over the years, clergy and laity alike.

We give you thanks and praise

After the prayers we would usually sing the Clypping Hymn – but this year we read the words out instead.



A model of the 'embracing' was on display which was made by members of the community and church, particularly the Rains family and Roman Gavel.

This year Revd Liz England, Team Rector of Buxton Parish and Revd Catrin Hubbard, Curate took the service.

Revd Liz England
Team Rectory, Buxton Team Parish
August 2021



More stories of everyday faith

Our Christian life is so much more than how we gather together on Sunday.

We are Christians in our working lives, as nurses, students, hairdressers, engineers, carers, managers, bus drivers, volunteers... We are Christians in our homes and families, as parents, grandparents, children, friends and neighbours.

We are Christians as we do the weekly shop, walk the dog, work out at the gym, do the school run, meet with book club, play football and go to the pub.

We are Christians whoever and wherever we are - that is Everyday Faith - and this series of videos explores how faith helps ordinary people in their ordinary, everyday lives.

Everyday Faith is about enabling the whole people of God to live out the Good News of Jesus confidently in the whole of life, Sunday to Saturday.

The 2017 CoFE report 'Setting God's People Free' highlighted that 98% of the Church is lay rather than ordained and that these everyday followers spend 95% of their time outside of church activities.

Across the country, hundreds of worshipping communities have been trying out various ways to achieve this culture shift, focussing on what makes a real difference in supporting an everyday faith in people's everyday lives.

everyday
faith

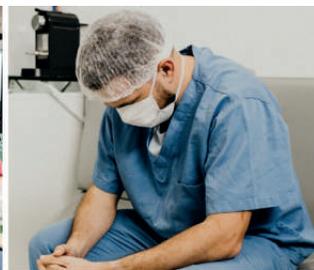


Kat Allread, Lay Vocations Officer, at the Diocese of Derby recently spoke to Will Davies, who has just completed his Theology degree at the University of Chester.

Wills' faith is like a rock that he can lean on in his everyday life. It inspires him and keeps him going when he's feeling low but it also helps him to see joy in the world - it's all part of God's plan. He summarises that his faith is "a lens through which he sees the world through God's love".

Get inspired by watching the Everyday Faith video series so far on the Diocesan website - www.derby.anglican.org/everydayfaith.

Learn more about CoFE Everyday Faith: www.churchofengland.org/everydayfaith



everyday
faith

Bishop Libby writes...



These past weeks I have been listening. I have heard stories of grief – of the death of loved ones, and how difficult that has been when restrictions have prevented contact and the comforts of mourning ritual. Those who are unwell have shared how it is living with disease of the body and with mental ill health, both acute and chronic. People have talked to me about their anxiety because of insecure housing, uncertain financial future, the well-being of loved ones, the impact of so much change and having to re-imagine what comes next.

These are stories of honesty and reality. Some feel broken and disintegrated, some feel angry and let down. I have heard of such courage, and recognise remarkable resilience and persistence. It has been humbling to be entrusted with such raw intimacy. The Kingdom of God has seemed close, recalling that Jesus said *“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11)*

I have also listened to stories (sometimes from the same people) of hope – of people coming to faith, of faithful people discovering gifts and ministries, of opportunities for service and partnership in and with communities, of new ways of worship, of witness in the whole of life – in home, at work and school, with neighbours and friends, of the work of the Kingdom coming to fruition. Woven through my listening have been wonderful glimpses of the fruit of the Spirit – *of love, and joy, and peace, of patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5).*

Most of that listening has been in our diocese (and what a pleasure to travel again to be with you and to offer hospitality in person at Bishop’s House, as well as the now ubiquitous gathering on Zoom) but I want to share three brief stories from beyond our borders:

- through my role as Vice-Chair of The Children’s Society, and in connection with my

place as a Lord Spiritual on the House of Lords Select Committee on Youth Unemployment, I listened to a young refugee who arrived in the UK as an unaccompanied minor, who shared his story of navigating the asylum system alone, and the impact on his health and well-being, and so for his education. Remarkably, he is now in training to be a solicitor and is coordinating a national youth led campaign to lobby for unaccompanied child refugees arriving in England have a legal guardian (join the campaign #DistressSignals);

- as part of the Bishops Prison Team, with particular responsibility for Children and Young Offenders, on a visit to a Young Offenders Institution (a secure unit for children aged 15 -18) I listened to a teenager who has found a sense of peace and place through the Chaplaincy, and was confirmed in August. He read a favourite Bible passage and prayed for me as I left. He knows he cannot break the cycle of his offending alone and hopes to find a church community on release who will offer alternative networks for support (consider if your church could register to welcome ex offenders by join The Welcome Directory,).

- and, in preparation for the delayed Lambeth Conference (gathering of Anglican Bishops from around the world) I’m part of a Zoom discussion group with Bishops from Hong Kong, Malawi, Sudan, Philippines, Colombia, Australia, Ireland and from our diocesan link province of the Church of North India. We have heard how India is still suffering critical levels of Covid infection, and the health system is collapsing. In addition many areas of North India have suffered disastrous flooding – but we have heard stories of transforming generosity and sacrifice as Christian communities reach out to the most vulnerable, including orphaned or abandoned girls (please join the diocesan Harvest Appeal 2021 supporting St Elizabeth’s Hostel in the Diocese of Calcutta).

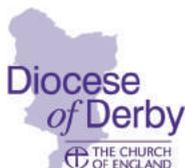
Together we weave the threads of all our stories into the Kingdom of God – marked by generous faith, courageous hope and life-giving love. That which St Paul wrote, in a different place and different age, holds true for us today:

“you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich ... the grace of God has been granted to the churches [that] during a severe ordeal of affliction, [our] abundant joy and [our] extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity” (2 Corinthians 8)

Be assured of my continuing prayers,

+Libby

The Rt Revd Libby Lane
Bishop of Derby



Getting the most from your ACNY site

Tues, 5 October - 2pm

Join Liz Morgan (CofE Digital Team) and Dave King (Diocese of Derby) for this free webinar exploring how to use your ACNY site, maximising its potential and why you really need to maintain it.

Register for free at www.bit.ly/ACNYDioDerby
