



Happy Christmas 2008

In Leicester this last summer what a delight it was for Jill and I to share lunch with Bishop Paul and his wife Lily and the Rev Suresh Kumar. We also enjoyed sharing the singing of several Tamil lyrics. It makes us very nostalgic about all of our twelve Christmases spent in South India. We assure the people in Trichy diocese of our prayers for a very fulfilling Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We pray earnestly that Christians will cease to be harassed for their faith in Orissa and elsewhere and that the New Year will see an end to both persecution and terrorism.

God bless you all.

Roy and Jill Pape
Coalville.



From the 10 of us who visited Trichy in February 2007. We will always remember your wonderful hospitality and the great time we had together. Best wishes for a Happy Christmas.

Andrew, Anne, Julie, Jane, Linda,
Gill, John, Wendy, Tim and Derek.

Greetings and blessings from Market Harborough. Especially we send greetings and love from our 'Church of St Hugh' whose people regularly pray for you all. We pray that the Lord God will richly bless you and protect you at this Christmastide and always.

John and Anne Latham

Warmest Christmas greetings to our friends in Trichy Diocese, especially to Holy Trinity, Valpurai, from us all at St Mary's, Hinckley. Please note the Trichy banner in the centre of the photo!

Canon Brian Davis, Vicar
Rev. Jane Gibbs, Honorary Curate.



Greetings in Advent 2008 to the Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore, from the Parish of St Peter's Braunstone Park, Leicester. As you can see, we now have a valued Associate Priest, your very own Revd Suresh Kumar.

The parish is large and needy, and the church congregation is smaller than you are used to. But we are growing in love and confidence, and Suresh has taught us about how Christians in the CSI respond to those in need - whether through poverty or ignorance of the Gospel.

You can see more of our news on our website
www.stpetersbraunstone.org.uk

**Best wishes
for Christmas**



Chris Burch (Vicar) and Suresh Kumar (Associate Priest)

'Christmas Greetings from St. Christopher's Church, Saffron Lane. This will be our second Christmas in our new building within the new Samworth Enterprise Academy – a Church of England School. Each year we are trying to build up the Christian ethos in the school for 3-16 year olds when the vast majority of our pupils and parents (and many of the staff) have no religious faith. The photograph was taken this year when Bishop Tim visited our morning service during his Lent Pilgrimage walking around many different parts of the county. The pilgrimage gave him the opportunity of meeting people and understanding more about life in our very varied Diocese.'

Revd Alison Roche,
Saffron Lane, Leicester.



Greetings to both Bishop Paul and Lily, and thank you for the wonderful fellowship we enjoyed together in July, pre the Lambeth conference. I remember you frequently in my prayers and may you continue your faithful witness through Christmas and into 2009. With my love and kind regards.

**John Sparks.
Market Harborough.**

Suresh has recently preached at both the Methodist and Baptist churches here in Loughborough. He was warmly welcomed and we wish you, his friends and colleagues in India, the fondest of Christmas greetings. May the Peace of God be with you now and always. Anne Speight.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Christmas greetings to all members of the Women's Fellowship in the Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore!
With love from Sue Wilson and Mothers' Union members in the Diocese of Leicester.



Christmas greetings to all my friends.
May God bless you richly now and in the New Year.
May you know God's strength and wisdom as you serve the gospel in 2009

Shalom,

Julie Aylward,
Baptist minister from Evington, Leicester.

In sending you our best wishes for Christmas, we want to assure you of the commitment that we have here to support the excellent work that is being done in Dharapuram with people living with HIV.

We are looking forward to launching our appeal in the New Year which we hope will help to further develop this important ministry. In the meantime, our thoughts and prayers are with you all, but especially those who are working at, or supported by, the Dr Anne Booth Mission Hospital.



May God bless you
Revd. Trevor Thurston-Smith, Leicester.

The Leicestershire - Trichy Link group extend to you all, a very warm greeting for Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

It is some time since we in Leicestershire have hosted a formal visit from you, our link Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore. In 2002 Bishop James and Ama Grace were accompanied by others who have gone on to become dear friends of ours; we often think of Samuel Rajendran, Daniel Vincent, Suresh Kumar and current Bishop Paul.

We are looking forward to hosting a further visit in 2009. We know that we have much to learn from you about the work of the church in our modern times; we are also anxious to share all that we have learned and experienced from meeting the particular challenges as church in the UK.

We are benefiting so much from having Suresh live amongst us in Leicester and know that his presence is contributing a real sense of friendship and solidarity to our Link."

Sue Richardson
Ashby de la Zouch



A Prayer of Hope

Everlasting father
Thank you for your gift of hope;
The indescribable gift of your Son.

Wonderful Counsellor,
Shine your light again this Christmas,
Teach us to champion peace and justice.

Prince of Peace,
Help us to build your kingdom,
For the sake of the poor, the weak and the
broken.

Amen