

Parish Church of St James, Riding Mill.

Dear Friends

St James', along with other churches, is now closed to services and private worship for the time being. There are nevertheless many opportunities for joining in with prayer and worship.

We have established a team at St James' whose purpose is to offer you options for worship at home which we hope will be helpful and bring you comfort.

DAILY PRAYER

Daily Prayer is available from:

1. The Church of England Website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

2. Newcastle Cathedral Website:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5hi-CaPDpKqEE6c03N99LQ/>

3. Newcastle Diocesan Website:

https://www.newcastle.anglican.org/coronavirus/live_streaming/

(For a range of 'live streamed' services)

To access any of these options simply 'control and click' on the blue hyperlink. These website links are constantly updated but we will aim to add other resources as they come available.

FURTHER SERVICES AND PRAYERS – ST JAMES' AND DEANERY

Further services and prayers are available via Facebook and in other formats which we will offer as they come available. These resources are either specific to St James' or our Deanery

1. Prayers will be said morning and evening for individuals on our prayer list. The prayer list will be refreshed at the beginning of every month by email. If you wish to add a name to the list for the month, please email Gwyneth.mckenzie@btinternet.com Please also email if you wish to remove the name from the list. Names will not be automatically renewed for the following month.
2. We anticipate offering Sunday prayers and reflections prepared by other churches in the Deanery
3. We will include other options as they come available.

OTHER RESOURCES

1. If you have access to Facebook, please go to: 'Moorland Group of Churches' for materials prepared by Revd Helen Savage.

2. **The Link:** The April edition of The Link is available here:

https://cofenewcastle.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/Link_April_2020_Final_250320.pdf

These resources will be updated regularly. We are now planning resources for Easter Worship, details of which will follow soon.

As ever, we would welcome your feedback. Please feel free to contact any of us by email should you wish:

mckenzie.d@btinternet.com

gwyneth.mckenzie@btinternet.com

jennymmathers@hotmail.com

roderick.duff@btinternet.com

Update from Church Wardens:

FAQs

Finally, some of you have raised questions with the churchwarden team and this provides an opportunity to share our answers with all of you.

In particular, two questions have been raised.

Q1. Is there any news on the vacancy and will Lesley be replaced with another parish priest?

A. We completed the Parish Profile at the end of January 2020 and passed it to the Archdeacon to manage the next stage, the person profile, prior to advertising the vacant post. At that time, it was our expectation that Lesley would be replaced by a part time priest. Until the vacancy is advertised there is no guarantee of a replacement being appointed but we are still optimistic.

Q2. Will the APCM, (Annual Parochial Church Meeting), scheduled for the end of April 2020 still be held?

A. On 24th March 2020 Bishop Christine's Chaplain confirmed that:

“the period for holding the APCM for the year 2020 has been extended to 31 October 2020”.

This means that because of the pandemic the April meeting cannot be held but it is hoped that the APCM can be re-scheduled by the end of October.