

# St James' West End Magazine

March 2021





# Linda writes...

The 23rd March 2021 marks a year since our world was turned upside down and inside out with the first lockdown of the Covid-19 pandemic. David and I had managed to travel home from our long planned holiday to Malta the week before, and as we came to the end of that restful break we were already seeing signs of what life would be like in the coming weeks - the closure of tourist attractions, fewer people out and about and body temperature checks at the airport.



Of course we went into that first lockdown with a bit of trepidation; but as it was all new, to some extent it made our lives a little easier to be forced to slow down, to rest and to pick up on tasks that we'd been meaning to do for ages. We hoped it would be over in time for celebrating our birthdays and anniversaries, for annual outings and holidays, but as the weeks went on and those dates came and went those hopes began to dwindle.

Then there were the restrictions on those areas of our lives that we just naturally took for granted, seeing our loved ones, enjoying being out and about and gathering as a worshipping community; and each day the horrific numbers and statistics of those affected by the virus, were broadcast into our homes until they became almost numbing in their immensity.

Yet we did what human beings are always best at. We adapted, we became inventive and we showed resilience. We stepped up to the mark and over it by offering care and neighbourliness to those we saw were in need and struggling - a well-timed telephone call; a shopping trip for necessities - kindness and love were at the forefront of our minds; and even when we were struggling ourselves and vulnerable it would seem that someone would be asking us how we were doing, and sometimes we were brave enough to answer truthfully.

We will always be grateful to the dedication and devotion of those involved in healthcare, medical science, teaching, food production and distribution, along with a myriad of other occupations, too many to mention and often doing things unseen and unrecognised; but this last year is not one that we would wish to repeat, despite all of these good things.

We are coming out of it battered and bruised, but now with a real sense of hope for the future, and for those of us with a faith this has been sustained by holding on to the hope promised by God through his son, Jesus Christ. A hope that shines out into our world that all will be well in the end.

God bless

Linda

*"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness"* Desmond Tutu

## Join us for a



Tuesday 23rd March is being kept as a National Day of Reflection and the church will be open from 10am until 4pm for private prayer and to light a candle. All are very welcome. We will also be holding a minute's silence at 12 noon.

100 simple wooden daffodils will also be available for people to place along the pathway of the church grounds in remembrance of those who have died and as a sign of hope. We will also be inviting anyone who wishes to be, to be part of a daffodil bulb planting day in the autumn so that next spring we will get a sea of daffodils in one area of the church grounds.

# What's going on at St James Church?

## Sunday Services - online

9.30am Livestreamed Eucharist

11am Zoom Church Alive

6.30pm Recorded or Livestreamed Evening Service (Evensong, Taizé, Informal Worship)

## ***We will cautiously be resuming some public services following strict Covid safety measures from Wednesday 17th March:***

Wednesday 10am Eucharist

Sunday 9.30am Eucharist (this will also be livestreamed)

For more information and booking details please see our website [www.stjameswestend.org.uk](http://www.stjameswestend.org.uk)

## Holy Week and Easter – 28th to 4th April

The church will be open every morning during Holy Week from 10am to 12 noon for private prayer. For more information on our Holy Week and Easter services please see our website.

## Open Church

The church is open for Private Prayer on Wednesdays 10am to 12noon up until Wednesday 10th March. After that it will be open on Fridays from 10am to 12 noon starting on Friday 19th March. There will be a steward in attendance at the church to welcome visitors and to ensure all Covid19 measures are followed.

## Diddy Disciples on Zoom

Worship and storytelling for our youngest members. Saturdays at 10am.

Contact the vicar for more information – [stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com)

## 9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 9am on Zoom all are welcome to join in. We use the Church of England contemporary morning prayer—the service sheet is found here [Join us in a service of Daily Prayer | The Church of England](#)

## Sunday Bible Story Time

Members of our congregation share a Bible story on Sunday mornings for our younger members. This is available on our Facebook page and on our YouTube channel.

## Youth on Zoom

Contact Rev'd Linda for more information about our fun zoom gatherings.

## Holy Habits

We all fall into habits of behaviour and lifestyle. But are these habits life giving both for us and for others? The theologian Thomas a Kempis wrote 'habit overcome by habit'. If you want to stop a habit, replace it with something else. Alan Jenkins, one of our LLM's has recorded a series of reflections on Holy Habits based on material from the excellent discipleship book 'Holy Habits' by Andrew Roberts. The recording is here [Holy Habits - An Introduction - YouTube](#).

## Exploring Prayer for Lent

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March from 10am to 11am on zoom. All are invited to join this Ecumenical gathering to explore prayer led by Jane Castle, one of our prayer champions at St James.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8261428247?pwd=RGhNNnpsbzAzQU54R29KL0ZWOG9pdz09>

(Meeting ID: 826 142 8247, Passcode: 1LuF8P)

# A note from the Church Wardens

Whilst the effects of the pandemic are still being felt, everyday life can feel increasingly difficult and isolating. We are reminded however of hope for the future in the acts of kindness that are taking place within our community. Volunteers have reached out to support others and, whilst the church building currently remains closed for worship, we are grateful for those working hard to give us the opportunity to worship online and connect with each other either remotely or via more traditional methods for those with limited online access.

We are thankful to those who have volunteered to keep the church building safe and available for private prayer during this time and have been carrying out any essential maintenance required during this period of closure.

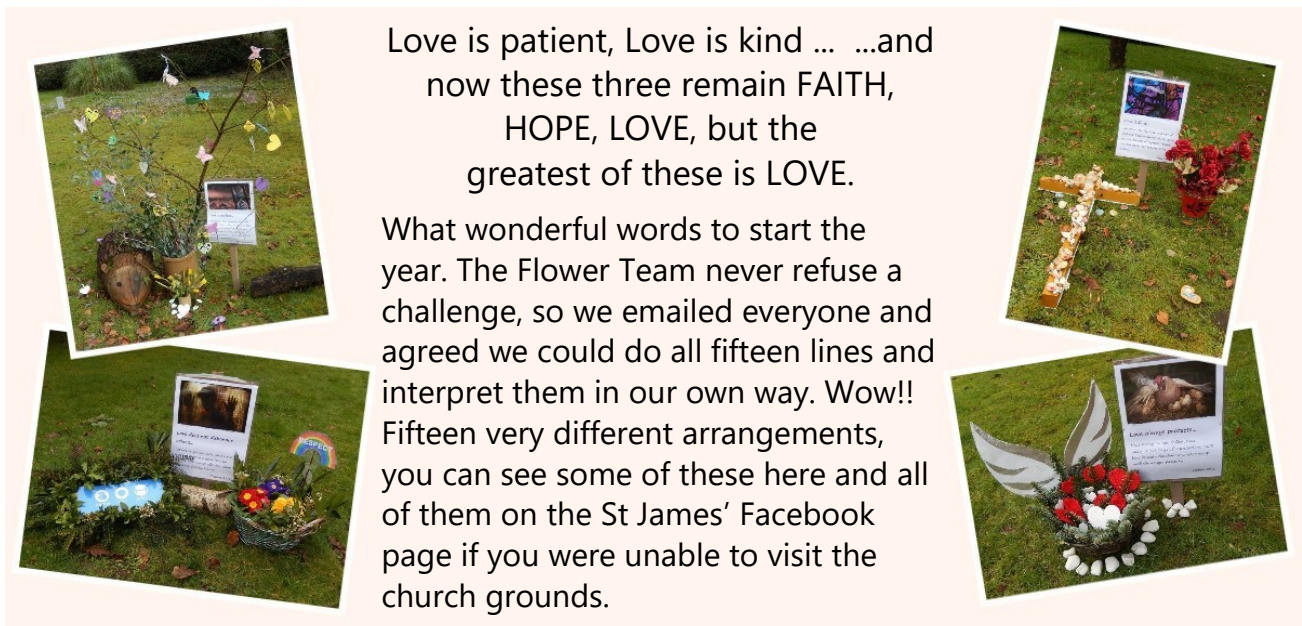
As we look towards the future and an eventual easing of restrictions we are continually reviewing the guidance available on making the church building Covid secure so that, when the appropriate time comes, we will be able to gradually resume worship and community activities safely within the church building itself.

Scott and Jan



## Love is .....

One thing for sure, even in these uncertain times, is that there will always be a VALENTINE'S DAY, so with love in the air Vicky and Linda approached the flower team and suggested we celebrate love using 15 boards with words taken from 1 Corinthians 13 and illustrated with beautiful images put together by Linda.



It all reminds me of the Beatles song "All you Need is Love"! Showing my age now but feel this is very true..

*Lyn Spratt*

# Remember you are dust and to dust you will return

On Ash Wednesday we are marked with an ash cross on our foreheads as a sign of penitence as we begin the season of Lent. 'Remember you are dust and to dust you will return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ' are the words used. This action has roots in the Old Testament where Job, Jeremiah and Tamar put on sackcloth and ashes to show God they were sorry for their sins.

The ash used comes from the burning of Palm crosses from previous years.

For many years I've prepared the ash with classes from the church school (Saint James School last year and St John's School in my previous parish). This year the class was much smaller!

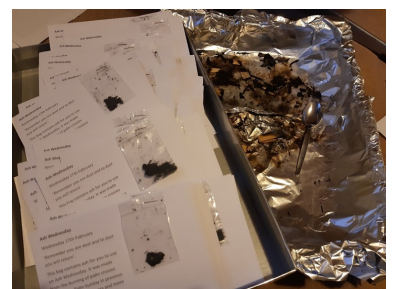
Vicky



*The Palm Crosses  
from last year*

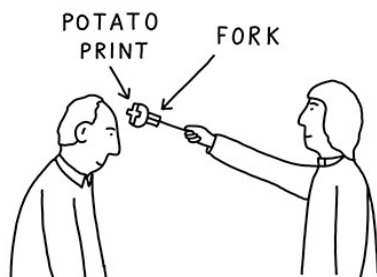


*The Palm Crosses  
turned into Ash*

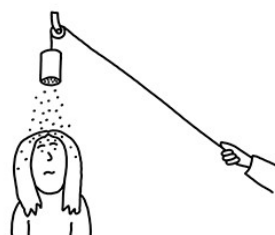


*The Ash ready for Lent*

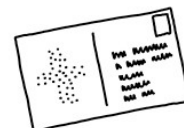
## ASHING DURING A PANDEMIC



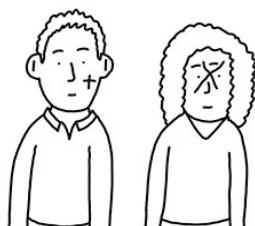
FROM A DISTANCE



SPRINKLING

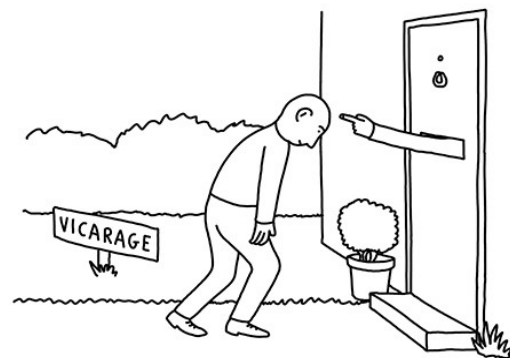


THE ASH POSTCARD



SELF-IMPOSITION

PERILS OF  
ATTEMPTING  
TO DO THIS  
KIND OF THING  
WITHOUT THE  
NECESSARY  
YEARS OF  
COLLEGE  
TRAINING



TURN UP AT THE VICARAGE DOOR



# Some thoughts on “Going to Church” or not (as the case might be)

The Reverend Peter Haughton, a retired priest who helps at St James from time to time, shares some thoughts on church life during the pandemic.....

‘Whether you consider yourself to be a regular Church-goer, an intermittent Church-goer or come to Church for the Pastoral offices of “Hatch, Match and Despatch” (Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals), the past year has brought about major changes in our social behaviour. The pandemic of Covid-19 has impacted on the welfare and wellbeing of so many of us, forcing us to think differently and having to behave differently, either because of national policy being imposed on us or from our own assessment of our personal situation. As we look ahead, with hope, to some sort of semblance of normality, I wanted to share some thoughts and insights gained, perversely and paradoxically, through the experience of loss of those things we used to take for granted.

The loss, to which I refer, is that of not being able to congregate. In Church we all know what the congregation is, though some might prefer to talk about the local or parish ‘worshipping community’ as it has a more inclusive ring to it than the ‘congregation’ with the implication of ‘them’ down in the pews and those ‘up front’ leading the worship. Either way the worshipping community has had to adapt to the current circumstances.

Faced with the closure of Parish Churches for worship and any other activity in the first lockdown, most parishes made some attempt to provide devotional material on-line either in the form of recorded material or live-streaming. In the summer Government restrictions were lifted to allow worship to take place with certain constraints (no singing, maintaining distance, no congregating (!)). However when the second wave of the virus brought about renewed restrictions of public and private life, it was recognised how important it was for both people’s mental and spiritual health to be able to come to church. Accordingly some parishes continued with offering acts of ‘live’ worship within the parameters imposed, whereas others have decided not to offer corporate worship, partly I suspect, because the predominant age group of the congregation makes them particularly vulnerable to coronavirus.

So we have all to a certain extent faced this loss of freedom of not being able to congregate, of not being able to attend corporate worship. This leads me to the question of why we come to church for corporate worship in the first place. This is a fairly basic question with a plethora of answers all of which have a certain validity.

I go to Church: because:

- A) I’m a Christian
- B) I worship God
- C) Because I sing in the choir
- D) Because I have to (this may be a child’s response)
- E) Because I am down to read the Scriptures this Sunday
- F) Because I like to see my friends



- G) Because of a duty to God, Queen and Country
- H) Because I need Forgiveness
- I) Because the coffee and biscuit after the service are decent
- J) Because the preaching is stimulating
- K) The organist is superb
- L) For the salvation of my soul
- M) .....

All these, and others that I might have added to the list, are valid reasons for our Church attendance. Some are more theological (a, b, h, i), others are more social (c, f, j), whilst others are a mixture of various labels.

At a very simple level, I would like to suggest that we come to church for a corporate act of worship to be blessed, through being healed, forgiven and accepted. The worship might differ from place to place, but whether it is "high and dry" or "slow and low" or somewhere in between something occurs. From a sociological perspective there is a coming together of people for a period of time to participate in an activity, even if it is not completely clear that there is common mind as to what that activity is, though out of it comes a sense of wholeness and blessing.

And this is what people do, from time immemorial. We come together to engage in an activity in which there are various social parameters and then we depart to engage in the next thing, whatever that might be.

To give a couple of secular examples:

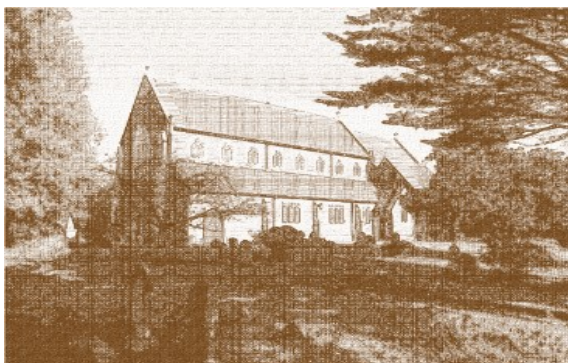
I used to run, with a clinical colleague, reflective sessions within the health service. The pattern for the session was a coming together at a set time for a set time and the participants reflecting on their work/recent experiences. These then were shared, within the parameters of confidentiality, and fresh insights were gained through the various differing perspectives of those participating. Our task as co-ordinators was to affirm those involved, to keep the session focused and provide an overview at the end. The parallels with an act of worship (my fellow co-ordinator was an atheist) seemed to me to be obvious: people coming together, bringing their work and lives to a safe place, to have it affirmed and to be sent out again, renewed, into their world of work. Though they may not use the language, they have been blessed and been a blessing to one another

If that sounds too esoteric, consider friends coming together for a supper or indeed, a cup of coffee. There is a gathering; there is a sharing of life experience and then a separating. If the encounter is wholesome, rather than acrimonious, then those involved have been a blessing and blessed.

Our opportunities to congregate continue to be restrictive and I, for one, am looking forward to when we shall be able to congregate one again. In the meanwhile let us take the opportunity to be a blessing to others. So make that telephone call; write that letter; be affirming and positive and you will be a blessing and through it you will be blessed.

*Peter Haughton*

*(Peter is a retired priest who has Permission to Officiate in the Diocese)*



## Life At St James

Recalling events and activities over the years since 1890, this gives us a fascinating glimpse into what was happening at St James' church set in the context of the world around it. Maybe this will stir some memories of your own. Please do share them at [stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com)

125 years ago (1896) – The Annual Festival of the Mother's Union for the parishes in the Southampton Deanery on this side of the Itchen was to be held in Westend church on Wednesday 25th March. The address was to be given by the Rev. Clement Smith, MA, Rector of Whippingham, Isle of Wight (and later Canon of Windsor) and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen. This was of course Queen Victoria, who had 36 Chaplains in Ordinary. This title is an honorary one as they do not fulfil any formal duties but preach once a year in the Chapel Royal, Windsor.

100 years ago (1921) – We have a shortage of magazines for March to May 1921. However, nationwide in March 1921 the following things happened that no doubt would have been talked about in West End :

On the 1st March the Australia national cricket team, led by Warwick Armstrong, becomes the first to complete a whitewash of the touring England team in The Ashes, something that will not be repeated for 86 years. On the 17th Dr Marie Stopes opens the United Kingdom's first birth control clinic in Holloway; and at the end of the month the government formally returns the coal mines from wartime control to their private owners, who demand wage cuts; in response, the Miners' Federation of Great Britain calls on its partner trade unions in the Triple Alliance to join it in strike action, leading in turn to the government declaring a state of emergency for the first time under the Emergency Powers Act 1920.

75 years ago (1946) – There was a report about the inaugural meeting of the Men's Fellowship group which had arose (presumably like wisps) 'from the recent Smoking Concert where Mr Fraser Urquhart had given an interesting talk on 'Citizenship and the Christian'. Smoking concerts were live performances, usually of music, before an audience of men only, popular during the Victorian era. At these functions men would smoke and speak of politics while listening to live music. Although the concerts are now obsolete (thank goodness, if purely for health reasons), the term continued and is used for student-organised variety performances, especially at Oxford and Cambridge. The saying "Booking for smoking concerts now" came into use at this time meaning that a person had recovered and was in the prime of health. I'd say best not to attend a smoking concert then!

50 years ago (1971) – Alan Jenkins recently recorded his second session of Holy Habits about prayer and it seems that this too was on people's mind fifty years ago. 'Modern transport on road, rail and in the air gets us more speedily from place to place and saves much time. New domestic appliances and prepared foods have reduced the hours of the housewife in the kitchen. The telephone makes it quicker to communicate instead of the slow process of letter-writing.' Even so, the word on people's lips was, "I have no time to pray: it's all I can do to get to church once a Sunday". Plus ça change! Yet we must keep on trying.

10 years ago (2011) – Churchwardens, Fiona and Jason, were pleased to announce that the new West Doors had been hung. As they explained, 'The doors, which are partly glazed, allows our place of worship to be seen by the outside world and offers a far less intimidating approach to visitors. The welcoming team are also able to continue to offer their warm greeting but now without having to hide behind a solid door!



# The PCC held their first meeting of 2021 on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, via Zoom

**There were no apologies as all members were present. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.**

**Decisions** made by the PCC or Standing Committee via email since the last meeting were ratified. These had included investigatory work required to organ, and various decisions on services which have since been overridden by the current lockdown. The possibility of charging a fee for live-streaming of weddings and funerals was agreed in principle. The dispensation of reading Morning and Evening Prayer and celebration of Holy Communion had been agreed from 3<sup>rd</sup> January until the end of the current lockdown.

**Finance** reports to the end of year 2020 showed a shortfall of -£7,689 which was not as bad as had been expected. We have a number of years before we hit crisis point. The Parish Giving figures were very encouraging.

**Furlough Scheme** - Although Kate continues to be furloughed from her general Administrator role, she is now editing the magazine again. Myles had worked full hours in December but the current lockdown has changed this again and he is playing for Sunday services and doing some online work with the choir.

**Vicky's Report** highlighted what had been a totally different Christmas season for everyone, but that we had been able to engage with the local community, online services had gone well including services with a limited congregation. The Do-It-Yourself bags produced for the online Christingle service had been very popular.

The outdoor display of trees and Nativity trail had been well received by the local community and activities such as the online Advent Calendar were much appreciated.

The church had been open from Monday to Saturday; other activities included a children's advent calendar, delivery of cake and cards to vulnerable members of the congregation and worship material had been sent to those not online.

Activities planned for the immediate future included Zoom coffee mornings on Thursdays, an Online Zoom Quiz, a series of Sunday bible stories online for younger children and Diddy Disciples would restart on zoom. A "Love Is" display was planned in the churchyard during February. Myles would be holding a live-streamed organ and piano music concert.

The Ministry Team would provide "Lent-in-a-Bag" for adults and for children to be available in the same way as the Christingle bags, with Lent books available for people to read and discuss.

Small packets of ash, instructions and prayers would be provided for an online service on Ash Wednesday.

For those not online the buddy system is back in place and Vicky is sending a letter regularly to those unable to access weekly emails.

Young people - Chris Badcock voiced his concern over lack of provision for pre-teen and teenaged church members. After some discussion it was suggested that the children be asked what they would like to do. Various people, along with their children, will be invited to a meeting to discuss, along with the youth group leaders.

Thanks were expressed to Brenda Holden who had explored all the information available about **Living in Love and Faith** and had sent a report. The PCC agreed to register as a church community to create an account for the LLF learning hub.

**Internet in church** - A cable has now been installed to allow the internet to be used for livestreaming of services with a stable connection. So far claims for costs have been nowhere near the agreed budget of £750 but we may need to revisit the monthly connection charges in due course depending on usage.

The new sound system should solve problems recently encountered with sound and connection during livestreaming.

**Flies in church** – this problem, which had been particularly bad during the autumn of 2020, was discussed at length and it was decided that in the first instance we must prove whether or not there are bats in the church before proceeding with any pest control measures. It was agreed to contact the Hampshire Bat Group who would visit the church to check for bat roosts. Following this, if no bats are present, methods of deterring the flies will be investigated.

**Project Aurora** - due to the current lockdown, the installation work has been postponed.

**Building and Fabric** – Noel had updated the PCC on the hall floor, ongoing leaks in the hall roof, and electrical inspections and additional work required.

**Old Burial Ground** - further to a query from Vicky regarding maintenance of Old Burial Ground Noel had

confirmed for PCC records that West End Parish Council staff look after the site which includes mowing and allowing nature to flourish and ensuring the grave stones are safe. West End Parish Council has responsibility for the site and has public liability insurance to cover it but it is understood that any work other than routine maintenance requires permission from the Church before it is carried out.

**Foodbank** - The administration group for the Foodbank are acting as a referral focus for the community of West End, working with Eastleigh Basics Bank and King's Community Church and many food hampers are being distributed by volunteer drivers, with many local shops displaying posters. Currently donations for the food bank can be left at the church on Wednesdays between 10 and 12 noon, or at the Vicarage.

It was recorded for safeguarding purposes that: *"Whilst St James will continue to act as a drop off donation point for food bank the community referral group sits outside of any PCC authorised activity and we don't have any responsibility for how they operate"*. Any future projects will have to be reassessed for safeguarding purposes in due course.

**Church Magazine** - because some magazine advertisers had decided to stop advertising now that we are publishing online only, we were approximately £290 down on advertising revenue for the year. Two companies had not yet responded. Letters had gone out to magazine subscribers and the email distribution list was being updated. Back copies are available online and some people had kindly volunteered to pay subscriptions for the online version.

**Churches Together** – reports were heard of a celebration for Christian Unity on Sunday evening, unfortunately it was only live-streamed and not able to be saved to watch at another time. Jane Castle is joining the Southampton House of Prayer group and also a prayer initiative called "Prayer 168" for which 168 volunteers are asked to sign up for one hour during the week each so that the whole of the Southampton is covered in prayer. A bible study session is being compiled for Women's World Day of Prayer on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

**HOPE** - events over the festive season had not raised as much as in usual times but had still had a good response. Children's Society Boxes were still being collected but amounts are down as possibly as spending habits have changed during the pandemic. For Lent this year HOPE will be encouraging donations for the Food Bank (to church on Wednesdays or to the Vicarage) and Easter Goody bags would hopefully raise some more money for this year's chosen Charity which has been agreed as Solent Mind. FairTrade fortnight and the World Day of Prayer are also coming up, also Goody Bags for Christian Aid Week, and the possibility of an online quiz if the February one is successful.

There was no other business, and the meeting finished with the Grace.

A full copy of the minutes is available on request from the PCC secretary via the email address [pccsecretary.stjameswe@gmail.com](mailto:pccsecretary.stjameswe@gmail.com)



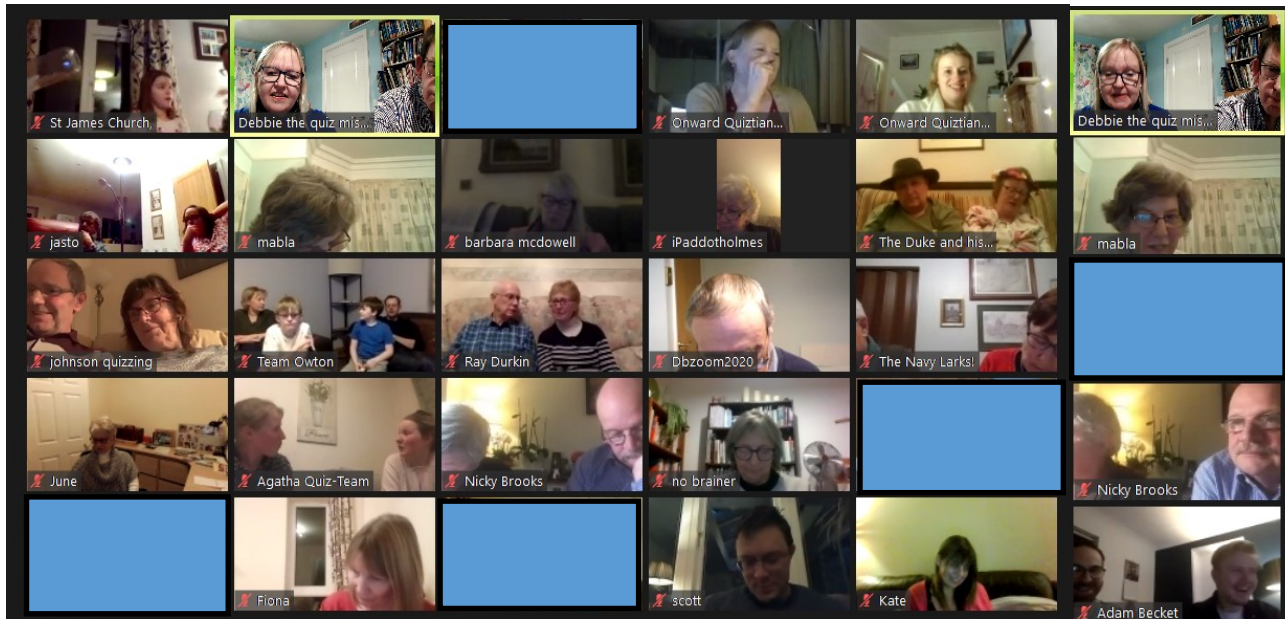
# Who's Zooming who?

We enjoyed a Fabulous quiz hosted by Noel and Debbie Becket. Thoroughly enjoyed by all, here's what the Charisses had to say.....

*It was really fun. Some of the questions were challenging but not all of them. The Harry Potter one was easy.' Holly*

*It was really fun. The best bit was finding out the answers and adding up the score.' Lucy*

*I liked the picture round best and doing the quiz as a family'. Emma*



**And we're doing it all again! Hurray!** Friday 19th March, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. All are warmly invited to this 'just for fun' quiz night prepared by Debbie Becket. Contact the vicar for the zoom link. Donations are invited for our **Lent Appeal**, which this year is in aid of Solent Mind, Hampshire's leading mental health charity. They aim to ensure that anyone in our community experiencing a mental health issue has somewhere to turn to for advice, information and support. You can make the donation via our Give a Little link here [HOPE Lent Appeal](#). Thank you.



The Youth of St James' enjoyed a 'flipping' time on Shrove Tuesday. After a quiz from Revd Vicky, pancake making began. Led by Revd Linda they 'virtually' tossed pancakes and although some didn't quite make it back into the pan, a flippin' good time was had by all!



Diddy Disciples has been meeting on a Saturday at 10am enjoying story-telling and worship for our youngest members of Church. Jennie has enjoyed the meeting with her boys aged six and three year old, and said, 'It's so much fun. We are currently learning about Lent and Jesus' ministry in the run up to Easter. It is so lovely for the children to be given the chance to explore and develop their faith in really fun and engaging ways that are aimed at their age group. My two especially love the story-telling with actions, singing the songs and the creative activities that explore the theme of the week. It's really hands-on, which is great for younger children. It really is wonderful time together – why not come and join us?!' Details can be found on our website or by contacting Revd Vicky Maunder.





# Allotment Allure



Well, here we are again at the beginning of a new growing season! This will be the 17th one on my plot at the Moorgreen Road allotment site. The ground I took on 16 years ago was basically a piece of field with poor sandy soil only fit for growing couch grass, dock and thistle and it took quite a time to clear and nurture it so that it would grow decent fruit and vegetables. Over the next few months, I will take you with me and give you some idea of what is involved in organic growing. Perhaps you might be encouraged to join me in 2022!

The upper layer of topsoil is a miracle of creation and represents a great gift from God to the human race. It is full of life, both visible and microscopic, but our species abuses it by building on it, paving it over and spraying it with poison. My plot is dosed only with treats which will enhance its life, allowing the bacteria, fungi and other creatures to do their job of channeling all the nutrients necessary for healthy growth into the roots of plants that I put in (and quite a few I don't.)



In January and February activity on the plot is usually spasmodic because of the cold and wet. This year has been particularly bad in both ways. However much of the growing area is ready for planting and seeds have been bought. I have been able to harvest carrots, leeks and parsnips that are still in the ground and the soft fruit bushes have been pruned. Half a dozen cuttings from a healthy gooseberry bush have been stuck in a large pot in the hope that at least two will root and replace old bushes that are past their best. I shall report back to you on any success here.

For the next month or so, I shall be putting seeds into pots to produce seedlings that will eventually be planted out and then it will be long hours work as the temperature rises at the end of March!

*Geoff Holden*

## census 2021

Households across England and Wales will soon be asked to take part in the Census on the 21st March 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets. Paper questionnaires will be available for those who need them.

There's language support and accessible census guidance and lots of helpful documents on the website. You can also get help from census staff in the contact centre over phone, in a web chat or on social media.

A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed, this could mean things like doctors' surgeries, schools and new transport routes.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://census.gov.uk)



Hope have chosen to support Solent Mind as the Lent charity this year.

Solent Mind is a mental health charity based in Hampshire that aims to provide support and advice to anyone suffering with a mental health problem, they support 26,000 people every year and over 4,000 children and young people at local schools received mental health education from Solent Mind.

To support our appeal you can donate online [here](#) on our 'give a little page' or we are also offering for a donation to the charity, Easter Goody bags, which will contain homemade Easter biscuits, a hot cross bun, Simnel cake and something chocolately. Bags will be available for collection from church on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Please contact Jan at [j.barrett77@btinternet.com](mailto:j.barrett77@btinternet.com) or on 07519759269 to reserve your bags.

We would like to thank you for your continued support.



Our Zoom coffee mornings have been a great success for all of those wishing to connect and catch up. One of our attendees, Ray Durkin, said; "Eileen and I really look forward to the Zoom Coffee mornings where we can keep in touch with friends. No need to stay on a whole hour as you can just join for 10 or 15 minutes if you have something else to do. It's great!" Please Join us for our **Zoom coffee morning** every Thursday 10am—11am. All are welcome just pop in on Zoom. The link is [here](#) : Meeting ID: 899 6144 2212 Passcode: 407673

## Recipe Share

### This month - Cheese Pie/flan

#### Short crust pastry:

4oz (125g) fat (butter, hard margarine, lard or trex)

8oz (250g) flour

Water (or egg yolk/small whole egg) to mix

Pinch salt

#### Filling:

100-200g cheese (cheddar or other grateable cheese)

Small onion or half large

Large Thick slice of bread (whole meal, slightly stale bread best)

1 large egg

Milk (about 100-200ml or ¼ - ½ pint)

#### Pastry

- Rub fat into flour until it resembles breadcrumbs then add egg or water to mix to stiff dough.
- Roll out on floured board to about 2-3mm thick. Line 1" deep pie tin (best in a tin rather than a glass or ceramic pie dish)
- Prepare the filling: this is best done in a food processor or liquidiser if you have one! Otherwise grate cheese, crumble bread to breadcrumbs and chop onion.
- Mix all ingredients together gradually adding milk until it resembles porridge! If you are using a food processor, just put all the ingredients including half milk in, and liquidise on high speed, stopping to add more milk if necessary.
- Pour into pastry case and cook on 180 C for about 30 minutes. This will rise a little and be just firm in centre.

Eat hot or cold. I like it with tinned tomatoes and peas and potatoes. Broccoli also good with this.

Serves 3-4 fairly generous with generous servings of vegetables or salad.

*Sue Fitch*

If you have a recipe to share please forward it to:

[stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com)



# Masks in Lockdown

The idea for this reflection has come from a book called "Candles in the Dark" by Rowan Williams. The chapters in the book are weekly meditations that he delivered to a parish from March to September 2020 reflecting faith, hope and love in a time of pandemic. One of the meditations was entitled 'Behind the mask' and it struck a cord with what so many of us are feeling at the moment.

He says, "We talk a lot about 'the face we present to the world', about 'saving face' or 'losing face', about 'putting a brave face on things' - and so much of this language suggests that our 'face' is something we can work on and polish until it shows what we want to show. We don't want our faces to 'betray' us. But when we turn to God...we can't put on any kind of face for him, we are naked to his gaze."

He goes on to say, "The question of using face masks in the present health crisis seems to touch many people on the raw...wearing masks makes us feel awkward and a bit disadvantaged. But I also think that it just might make us pay attention to the *whole* of how someone else is behaving or communicating."

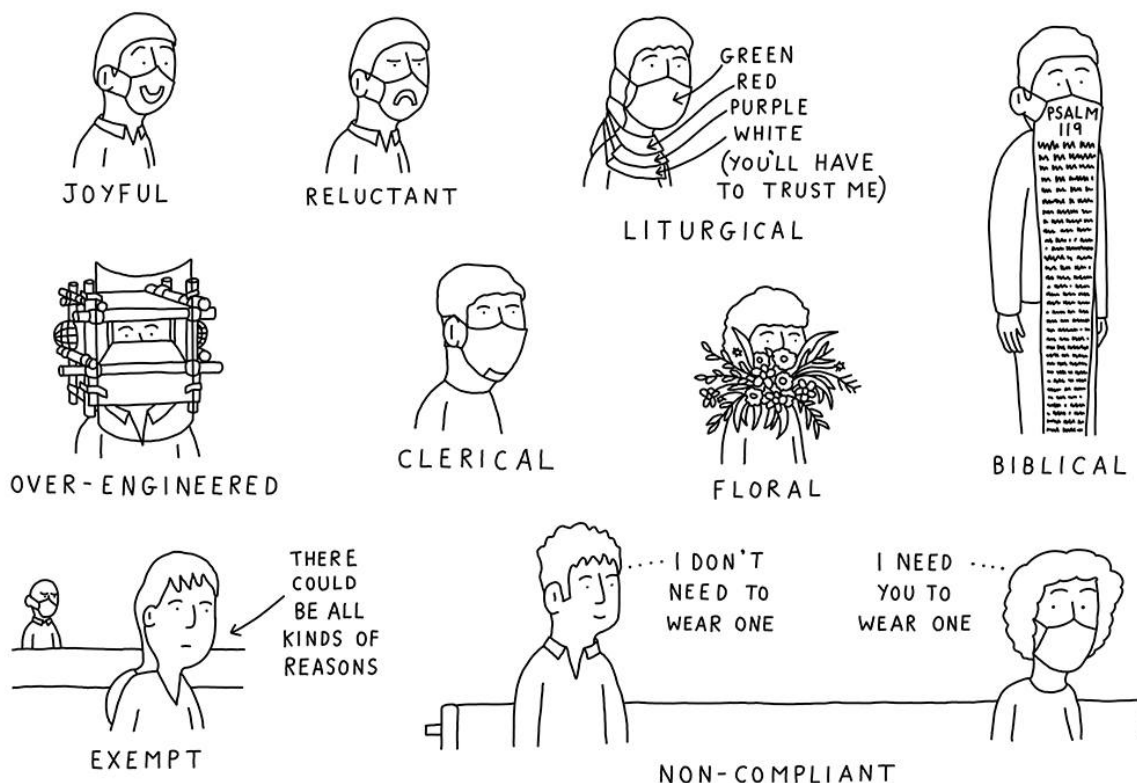
Some suggestions for reflection:

- Are we like 'Eleanor Rigby' in the Beatles' song where she puts on a face that she wants the world to see when she opens her front door?
- Do we put too much emphasis on what we show the world with our faces? What does that say about 'face-lifts' and botox treatments?
- How does wearing a mask make us feel? Why is our face important to us?
- Those of us who wear glasses have a particular problem of 'steaming up' when we go into shops or into church - what does it feel like to be temporarily unable to see around where you are?
- Are we learning to be more appreciative of body language rather than just concentrating on people's faces to interpret how they are feeling?
- How are we learning to show how we love and care for others behind our masks and while we are not able to touch those who are not in our 'bubble'?

What will it be like when we can be mask-free? What lessons will we have learnt during lockdown about ourselves and others?

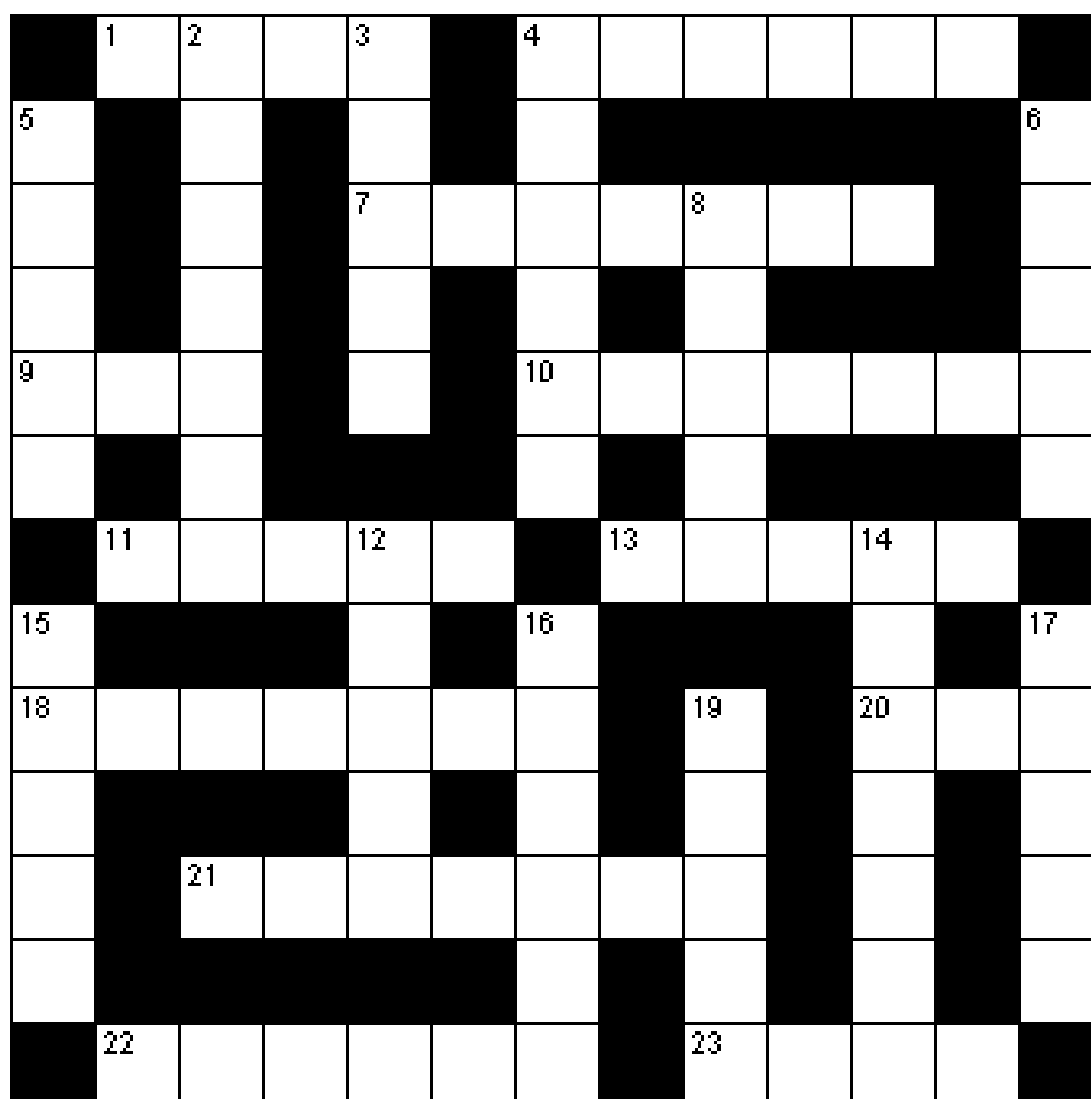
Brenda Holden

## FACE MASKS





# Crossword for March 2021



## Across

1. Corvine bird (4)
4. Breed of hound (6)
7. Intelligent aquatic creature (7)
9. Rodent (3)
10. Tallest living quadruped (7)
11. Food for baleen whales (5)
13. Striped equine (5)
18. Larged spotted feline (7)
20. Nocturnal mammal (3)
21. Musteline mammals (7)
22. Tusked marine mammal (6)
23. Bird structure (4)

## Down

2. Male chicken (7)
3. Water bird (5)
4. Small white whale (6)
5. Carnivorous fish (5)
6. Dromedary (5)
8. Herbivorous quadruped (5)
12. South American cud-chewing animal (5)
14. Burrowing animals (7)
15. Slow moving arboreal mammal (5)
16. Snakes (6)
17. Type of bird in 3 Down (5)
19. Shaggy-maned bovid (5)

# Kingdom Kids



## Mark 9.2-9

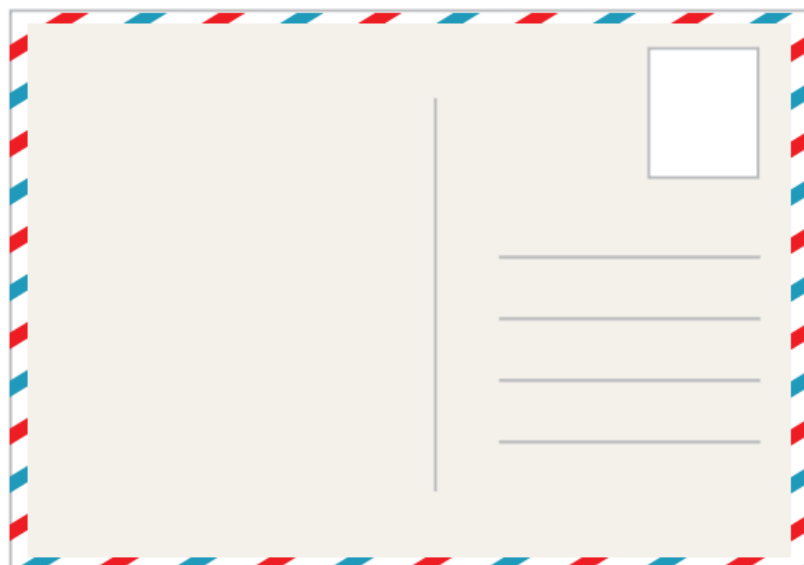
The disciples are amazed to see Jesus completely changed on the mountain top.



The disciples see Jesus change in front of their eyes.

## Jesus Love Write

Imagine Peter writing a postcard to some of the other disciples who weren't there to tell them what happened. Write your ideas about what he might have said.



Can you work out what this mirror writing says?

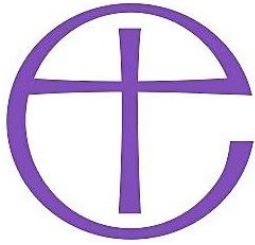
Jesus was transfigured.

He was changed.



Draw how the disciples looked when they saw Jesus transfigured. Do they all feel the same?





## Church of England Telephone Line

If you know of someone who doesn't have access to online services the Church of England have launched a free national telephone line offering music, prayers and reflections as well as full services. It is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop before being able to choose from a range of options including hymns, prayers and reflections. Please do let anyone know who might find this helpful.

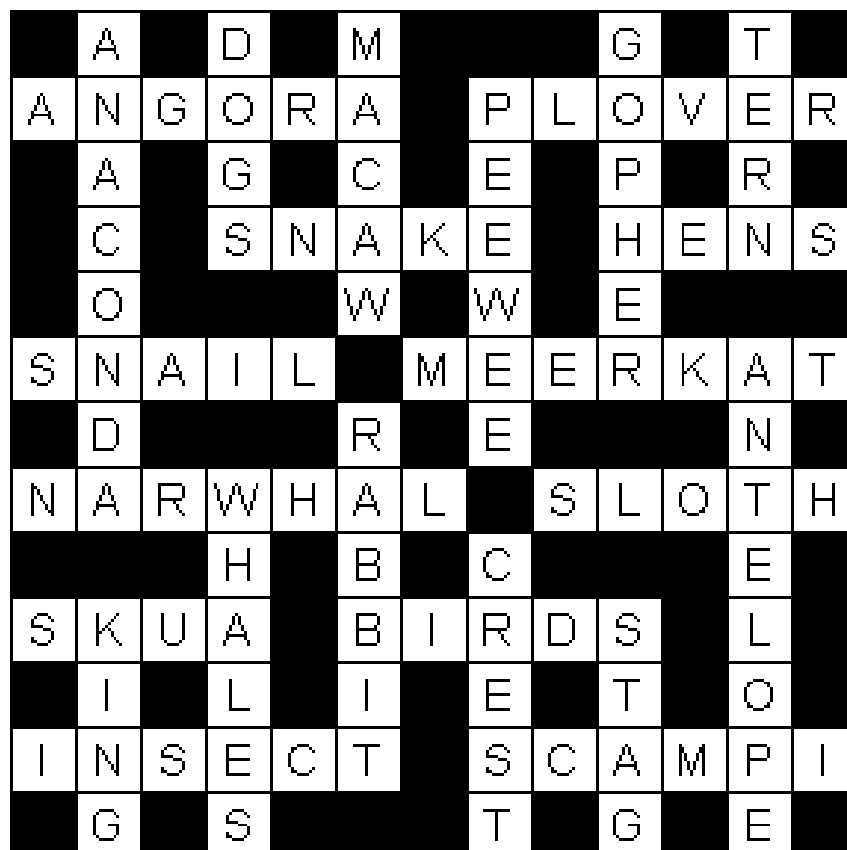
## WEST END CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT

This group has a Facebook page called "West End Coronavirus Support Group" and residents can also contact Julie Haylett, the organiser, on 028 8047 0610.

They have also collected shopping and other essentials thanks to the volunteers in the group who are offering their time to help other in need within their community.

The team are also working with local fish and chip shops in West End on a Wednesday and have been delivering meals to those who are currently stuck inside.

### Solution for February Crossword





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### **Children's Society**

Mrs Janet Barrett  
023 8047 6777

### **Church Catering**

Mrs Eileen Durkin  
023 8046 4773

### **Director of Music**

Mr Myles Tyrrell  
[stjameswe.music@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.music@gmail.com)

### **Friends of St James'**

Mrs Carol Kidd  
07981 752852  
[stjameswe.friends@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.friends@gmail.com)

### **Folk Group**

Mr David Forster  
023 8047 3935

### **Hope Committee**

Mrs Fiona Weston  
023 8046 5592

### **Burial Ground Officer**

Vacant at present  
Please contact the Vicar

### **Christian Aid**

Mrs Eileen Durkin  
023 8046 4773

### **Churches Together**

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Mrs Hazel Moore

### **Electoral Roll Officer**

Mrs Margaret Baker  
023 8047 6163

### **Flower Rota**

Mrs Sue Overell  
023 8032 6275

### **Hall Manager**

Mrs Margaret Baker  
023 8047 6163

### **Saint James' School**

Mrs Michelle Marsh  
023 8090 0995

### **PCC Treasurer**

Mr David Forster  
023 8047 3935

### **Parish Administrator**

On furlough at present time

### **PCC Secretary**

Mrs Sue Overell  
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# Future Publication of St James' Parish Magazine

As the Coronavirus pandemic began and lockdown meant that we were unable to produce and deliver our usual A5 copy of the magazine, the decision was taken to produce it in an A4 PDF format so that it could be passed on to as many of our subscribers as possible by email and to honour those who had paid for advertising space.

This has prompted us to review how we might produce the magazine in future to reduce our carbon footprint - less paper, less electricity, less printing, and the decision was taken to offer the magazine for free in an online PDF format. However, we are still welcoming voluntary contributions towards the cost of producing it (there are still admin costs)

If you were a previously a subscriber or you would like to begin receiving a copy of the magazine, please let us know your email address and we would be pleased to add you to our 'mailing list'. A copy is also available on our website as well as past editions

We are actively looking for copy for future magazines, so do pass on any articles or stories of what is happening, good news stories and special memories, to our email address:

[stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com)

Please do continue to visit our Facebook page and website to see what is happening at St James' as we are still very much creating and looking at ways to engage with everyone:

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We'd also love to hear from you, so do contact us, as communicating with each other is an important way of helping each other in these difficult times

God bless from all at St James' Church.

## Contacts

Revd Vicky Maunder [stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com)  
( 07762 673350 or 023 8114 1192

Revd Linda Galvin [rev.lindagalvin@gmail.com](mailto:rev.lindagalvin@gmail.com)  
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