

Notices for week commencing 29 March 2020

Worship at St James'

Worship in the church building is of course suspended for the foreseeable, but here are some opportunities in the week ahead:

Sunday 29 March

09.00 – Morning Prayer said live by me on the St James' Facebook page (you may want to join in using the Church of England Daily Prayer or just let the words – no singing I'm afraid – wash over you);

10.30 – why not create your own service at home using the reading and reflection sheet, which you can find here <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3317/news/>

19.00 – The Blessing of the Light. Get the liturgy from here: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3317/service-and-events/events-regular/>

Join with others from St James' on ZOOM here: <https://zoom.us/j/9144459989>

Wednesday 01 April

19.00 – **St James' catch up.** Join with others from St James' for a catch up and prayers on ZOOM here: <https://zoom.us/j/9144459989>

If you connect with any of the above services, please do let me have your comments and other ideas via Facebook, email, text, telephone, letter. I'm planning to continue this pattern and am working towards live streaming a service of Holy Communion from home on Easter Day at 10.30 (more next week). *Jonathan*

Thursday 02 April

13.40 – Funeral of David Eaves at Rawdon Crematorium.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;

that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in
Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen

A word from the Vicar this week ...

Well it arrived yesterday. The note from a neighbour offering to do my shopping. This was a bit confusing because, of course, I don't need help, do I?

And then, when I thought about it, I realised that we all need help – because any of us could get sick – and then we would have to stay inside for at least two weeks, wouldn't we? And we would need someone to do the shopping. And then I thought a little further...

Week by week, in prayer and worship, we acknowledge our total dependence on God, which at least infers interdependence with our neighbours. Our current situation holds up a mirror, gives us the opportunity to look at our reflection and be honest about how ready we are to accept our vulnerability and accept any help that is offered. It also allows us to be honest about how ready we are to offer help but, from the phone calls and emails I've seen from St James' folk over the last week, I suspect this may be less of an issue .

Know that I love and am praying for you all. I am already missing our gathering together but am encouraged by the number of ways we are finding to connect. This is less easy for those who don't use the Internet, but these notices will be printed and delivered by hand each week to those who want them, and there is always the telephone. Keep well, follow advice, accept help, and stay connected.

God bless

Jonathan

A word of Scripture for this week ...

For most of us this time is going to be a time of enforced rest. Some I know are already able to see this as a gift; others may find this more difficult. In a time when what we can *do* is restricted, you might like to use this

word from Psalm 46 as a meditation:

Be still and know that I am God;

Be still and know that I am;

Be still and know that I;

Be still and know that;

Be still and know;

Be still and;

Be still;

Be.



Just because we can't meet up doesn't mean we can't be in touch! So how about ringing different people from St. James' family to see how they are, just for a chat? Even better if it's someone you don't know very well, here's your chance to get to know them!

Jo B

Worship at home

There are quite a lot of on-line resources available. Here are just a few:

Church of England – <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

St George's – <https://stgs.org.uk/>

St Paul's Ireland Wood (family worship ideas) – <https://www.stpaulsirelandwood.org/family>

And of course, the St James' website (refer to front page).

Karen Evans

John and Karen have asked me to share the news that Karen has breast cancer. The diagnosis is early, and Karen is due to have surgery on 06 April. Please do keep Karen, John and their family in your prayers at this time.

News

A word from Bishop Nick:

“Christians need no reminder of our common human mortality, nor of the fragility of life in a contingent material world. We preach this stuff in the good times; now we are given an opportunity to live it out when the pressure is upon us all. We are drawn by hope, not driven by fear. Our trust is in the God who raised Jesus, and we walk with grace-filled and hope-fuelled hearts, following this same Jesus who gave his life for us. Our scriptures also call us to keep joy alive when the desert threatens to dry us out – looking for the songs of hope and singing them for all to hear.”

David Eaves

We are sad to share the news that our brother David Eaves died in hospital on Friday 13 March. He was supported during his final hours by Katie Tither, his mother Margaret and brother Alasdair. Others from the St James' community and David's circle kept vigil at different times. Our prayers are with Katie and David's family and friends in their grief.

David's funeral will take place at Rawdon Crematorium on 02 April at 13.40. Attendance at the funeral is strictly limited, but on the day you will find the order of service on the St James' website here: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3317/service-and-events/events-oneoff/>

Katie and David's family intend to hold a Thanksgiving Service for David at some future date. Details will be provided when they become available.

Foodbank

We're sure some will want to respond to the urgent requests from the Foodbank for donations during these strange times, but it feels important to find ways to do this that do not work against Government direction on minimizing journeys, trips to the supermarket etc. Through Duncan Stow we are in touch with the Foodbank and are trying to understand how quickly donations of money can be turned into food (monetary donations often go to meet core, i.e. non-food costs).

We are also exploring the introduction of a local scheme where we could receive on-line donations to St James' and spend this money directly at Morrisons – concentrating

our giving in a way that delivers for the Foodbank quickly and keeps journeys and shopping to a minimum.

Please therefore consider a monetary donation directly to the Foodbank (details here: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/donate?cid=77211&&wl=1&br=5#1>), watch these notices for updates about our local scheme and continue to pray for the work of the Foodbank.

Please also pray for the work of the Food Bank and St George's Crypt during this difficult time. Also for PAFRAS and other organisations helping those without homes or livelihoods at this time, as well as our heroic NHS staff and other key workers.

Sharing God's Blessing

Goal 1: Thriving as an Anglican Parish Church with a clear vision and values

Our aspiration by 2024 ...

With Christ as our model for Loving, Living and Learning, we are excited to be part of a body of maturing Christians in the Diocese of Leeds, with a shared story to tell and a distinctive part to play. We are all committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our community and to God's creation. St James' is a community of confident Christians, growing in numbers and as disciples, transforming our local community by sharing the love of God. Together, we are working with others in the diocese and across the town of Horsforth, making a unique contribution to building the Kingdom of God.

This week's Fellowship Prayer Focus

Please pray for those people in our fellowship who are ill or struggling; David Eaves's family and friends (Katie Tither, Margaret and Alasdair), Karen Evans (and John), Trevr Greig (and Tracey), Roy & Barbara Jolliffe, Mona L, Marie M, Robert S (Elaine's son), Carol and John S, Mary S, and any who are self-isolating or fearful in the light of the coronavirus pandemic.

Contact Details:

The Church Office is the initial enquiry point for baptisms, thanksgivings, weddings and church events.

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