Dear Friends

I am writing to inform you that it has been announced that Public worship will stop for the season. This means that the usual pattern of mid week and Sunday worship, including morning prayer, mid week Eucharist, Sunday Eucharist and Evensong will not happen for the foreseeable future. Please be assured that I will continue to offer prayer and praise for our community, the nation and for the world.

The Safeguarding Refresher training on the 25th March 2020 at All Saints has also been postponed and will be organised again later in the year.

The diocese has also advised that all meetings cease, these include Lent Groups, The Bible Study Group, the afternoon craft group and also The Shed which meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The Parish Vision meetings will also be postponed till after Easter.

As a Church, we will seek to respond to the challenge of being a Church for all, and look serve everyone in new ways.

Currently, we are looking at

1. Ensuring that the Church is open each day so people can come in for prayer and light a candle. To do this we will need to make sure that the Church is manned with two volunteers for safety. If you are able to help with this, then please let me know.
2. There will be a bin for people to donate to the Food bank in the foyer of the Church. Outside there will be signage advertising the Church as a “drop off point”
3. Archbishop Justin has called for a day of prayer and action this coming Sunday - Mothering Sunday (22nd March). Mothering Sunday has always been both a day of celebration for many and a sensitive and emotional day for some. Wherever you are this Sunday please do join in this day of prayer and action and remember especially those who are sick or anxious, and all involved in our Health Service. As one action, we are calling on everyone to place a lighted candle in their window at 7.00 p.m. as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished.
4. The Church Facebook and also webpage, found at [www.achurchnearyou.com/14761](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/14761) (or 14773, for St. Paul’s,) will be used to share information and resources for prayer.
5. Encouraging people to keep in contact with each other regularly by telephone during this time.
6. We are aiming to keep in contact with people to see what support people need. If you are taken ill, or need help, for example shopping, medicines collecting, etc, then please do not hesitate to ask. My mobile is 07766411090 or contact the Church Wardens, or a member of the Ministry team or the Parish Administrator on 07395942778.
7. How we can work alongside other Churches in the locality.

Please be assured of my continued prayers at this time

God bless

Steve