

Dear Friends, Greetings from what now feels like a normal British summer! We hope you are keeping well, and able in all the uncertainty to hold onto God who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

**\*Church Re-opening\*** The government announced at the weekend that churches could re-open for private prayer from 15th June. The staff teams at both churches have discussed this and here is the plan: **\*St James\***: we aim to re-open week commencing 22nd June. This gives us time to make the building safe, plan for social distancing, and take whatever measures we need to ensure that people coming to pray can do so in confidence. Opening will not be 6 days a week as before, it is likely to be limited to 1 or 2 sessions per week, we will let you know the exact times in due course. There will be precautions (e.g removing anything that can be handled such as bibles and hymn books, removing most of the seating) which may make it seem very strange, but it will be wonderful to have use of the building again. **\*There will be no worship services in church for the time being\***. We are permitted to hold funerals with a very limited number of guests, but nothing else. The online services will continue, and are likely to continue in some form even when 'normal' worship resumes. **\*St Peters\***: will not open for private prayer for the time being. This only ever used to happen when the Community Centre was open, and the Centre is still closed at present. We have several works to do to the church (see below) which will take it out of action until mid-July, though there will be a chance to visit the church in person during the Gift Day to pray and to make an offering.

**\*St Peters Gift Day Sunday 28th June.** **\*More details will be sent out on Saturday, but we will be holding a Gift Day on the festival of St Peter, aiming to raise £10,000 to complete the refurbishment of the church.** This will include a new and improved heating system, restoration of the floor, new blinds and window coverings, and a number of other small improvements. There will be a number of ways to give, including through the bank, in person at St. Peters building, or collected from your home. The Gift Day leaflet on Saturday will explain all!

**\*Parish Newsletter\***: someone offered the great suggestion of having an occasional parish newsletter whilst we are on lockdown, perhaps every fortnight. It could include pictures, interviews, prayers, personal news, and a lot more variety than these emails! If anyone is interested in helping to put one together, please let me or Joanna know. It would also be a great way of keeping in touch with those who don't have access to emails or technology - of whom there are about 50 across the parish.

**\*Latest videos\***: Tuesdays Virtual Assembly is still available on the Youtube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=447umCKmKB0> as is Sundays service [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=We\\_Qvt4BL98](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=We_Qvt4BL98)

Thank you to everyone who is praying for us, and for lots of lovely messages of encouragement, it really does help us to keep going! "Trust in the Lord and do good. Dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord..." (Psalm 37) yours in Christ David and Ruth 01935 422286 Rev David Keen <http://www.stjamesyeovil.org.uk/> 3 Poplar Drive <http://www.stjamesyeovil.org.uk/> Yeovil BA21 3UL Preston Plucknett Parish on Youtube: <https://tinyurl.com/wgkrpq>