

Dear Friends,

We hope you are all doing well, and managing to keep up with what we can and can't do. The most important thing is to keep close to God and act considerately towards others, do that and you won't go far wrong!

Here are a few bits of news and information:

1. *St James Gift Day* - the attached Gift Day leaflet is being hand delivered to every St James household we have an address for. You'll see it has plenty of blank space on page 4, that's so you can write your own response to 'what St James means to me' and 'my prayer for St James and bring it to the church on July 26th. If you'd rather post it, please do, or someone could collect it from your house if you let us know. There are 2 videos which explain the Gift Day - Giving Thanks <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgoBOcgvjmA> and Giving Gifts <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-N4BcivSLmY> please do watch both if you can.

2. *Sunday Worship*: we will be streaming the service live from St James on Sunday morning, but not with a 'live' congregation so please do join us from your homes. We hope to start having a congregation present - limited numbers obviously - from St James Day, and will be prioritising people who can't access Sunday worship via technology. The morning live stream at 10.30 is here to stay, but please bear with us as we adapt to doing it a bit differently, with having use of our buildings again. Please also pray for those who are learning the new technology, and we are grateful to David Newton for setting up extra broadband capacity in St James building.

3. Thankyou to those who have completed the *survey*, it remains open, please use this link if you would like to complete it and let us know your thoughts: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/B2GSDQG/>. Once we reach the 40 limit, we will put up a link redirecting people to a duplicate survey, so that we can receive all the feedback. A few early results, from the 60 surveys so far:

- * 56 out of 60 have been watching services on Youtube. The other things you've found most useful are the e-newsletters, the Facebook page, and Ruths podcasts
- * 9 out of 60 would like to start coming to church straight away, but the vast majority so far would like to wait. For 50% the main thing is waiting for reduced social distancing so more of us can be together.
- * If we had a choice between a simple service in the church building

and the live stream, more people would choose the live stream. Just over half would choose a mixture of the two.

and there have been lots of really helpful comments about the services and the way we're trying to stay in touch with people.

4. *What I Did In Lockdown*: thankyou to those who have already sent in pictures, please keep them coming, it's fascinating!

5. *New Youtube channel*: please bookmark or subscribe to this channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS_rhjBAJTixz3kIXLMN_Xw/ which will become the new official home of St James and St Peters on Youtube by the end of the summer. We will keep everything on the Preston Plucknett channel for the moment, but will start switching over in a few weeks time.

"Therefore my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain." (1 Cor 15:58)

yours in Christ

David and Ruth

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<http://www.stjamesyeovil.org.uk/>

<http://www.stpeters-yeovil.org.uk/>

Preston Plucknett Parish on Youtube:<https://tinyurl.com/wgkrpcq>