

Dear Friends,

/"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience....." (Galatians 5:22)/. Love joy and peace take the podium spots in Christian character, but look at no.4. Patience is one of those things we'd rather not have to learn. Having to wait too long for things can be a real spiritual trial, and with the roadmap out of lockdown, somehow having things in sight but far off can seem worse than not knowing where they are at all.

At least in Lent if we've decided to wait 40 days until the next time we (fill in your own here), it's our choice, rather than forced upon us. May God give us patience, with him, with each other, with the restrictions. May we find a spirit of patience, rather than frustration, so that we are not robbed of peace, joy, or love.

We're looking forward to seeing folk on *the Lent course, 'Seasons of Hope'* which starts tomorrow evening on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6261684940> is where to find us, please try to log on a few minutes before the 8pm start time so we aren't letting people in after the session starts. We'll aim to finish by 9pm, and if you're a bit new to Zoom, so are most of the rest of us! I hope the sessions will be rewarding, fun, enriching and full of hope.

Many thanks for the *Hamper *donations: we've had well over 100 items - tea, coffee, biscuits etc., so will be delivering to Holly Court, Oaklands school, and (new addition) Abbey Manor Pharmacy over the next week. The Holly Court response was along the lines of 'wow, people hardly ever do anything to say thankyou to us'.

After the *Roadmap out of Lockdown* yesterday, we'll be having conversations over the next week to explore what that means for both our churches. There will probably be updated guidance from the CofE and the Diocese. We may look to open up for prayer at St. James on Tuesday 23rd March, the anniversary of the 1st lockdown, which will be a national day of reflection/commemoration. We'd like to give people the opportunity to pray and remember on what could be a very significant day. Otherwise, given the various steps in the government plan, our focus will probably be on what our worship looks like for holy week and Easter.

If you would like to join the *Electoral Roll* for your church, please contact Chris Harris for St James chrisharris23@talktalk.net or Margaret Hamilton for St Peters margaret-hamilton@outlook.com. This is a way of being a formal member of the church, and also means you can vote at the upcoming AGM (2pm Sunday 28th March, on Zoom). The vote will include selecting 2 'mission partners' to support in finance and prayer for the next 4 years, as 2 of our current mission partners come up for review this year.

We're delighted to announce that Lynne Biles has agreed to become the *new Treasurer for St James, *and will be doing a handover with Rob Kirton over the next few weeks. We are deeply grateful to Rob, who has done a fantastic job of helping us through a very challenging time for St James. Frances Croxford will become the PCC Treasurer (handling annual reports and parish-wide matters) whilst continuing as St Peters Treasurer, and Lynne will pick up the reins (and the cheque book) at St James.

Please remember in your prayers Christine Davies, whose mum died yesterday, and the family of Jimmy Quinn, who died this morning. With restrictions on funerals and on contact, this is an especially difficult time for grieving families, in all the other emotions and loss they are going through.

As always, please do get in touch if you need help with anything practical, or have prayer needs (or answers) to share. And please keep the church leadership in your prayers as we think and pray through how to approach the coming weeks.

yours in Christ

David and Ruth

--

Rev David Keen
3 Poplar Drive
Yeovil BA21 3UL
01935 422286

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

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

St James and St Peters on

Youtube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS_rhjBAJTixz3kIXLMN_Xw/

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS_rhjBAJTixz3kIXLMN_Xw/>