

Dear Friends,

/"You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" /(1 Peter 1:9) We may not have royal status in the worlds eyes, but we do in the eyes of our heavenly Father, and it's a status nobody and nothing can take away. I guess we could renounce it and walk away from God, but why would anyone want to do that? In God's 'firm' there is comfort when we are in the valley of the shadow, love and acceptance whatever our background, colour, or achievements in life. And from the comfort, strength and love we receive from God, we can comfort and love others.

Our parish *AGM (or Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be at 2pm on Palm Sunday*. It will be held over Zoom, and live streamed to YouTube.

Attached are details of how you can take part, nominate people to posts in the church, and nominate and vote for 2 new Mission Partners for our prayer and financial support.

A very big thankyou again for all your kind donations to the *'Hampers for Hospitals/Treats for Teachers'* . These have gone to 4 schools, 1 care home, 1 hospital and a pharmacy, and they've all been delighted with them. They've blessed over 500 frontline workers, which has been a great witness and service to the community.

Regular Sunday worship will restart on Easter Sunday, God willing, at the usual time in both churches. Until restrictions lift, they will be invitation only, so please contact Maureen Harris at St James

(maureenharris23@talktalk.net) or Caroline Turner at St. Peters if you would like to get an invite to Sunday services.

As you may have heard on Sunday, sadly *Alan Read *died last week. He was a humble and devoted man, a much-loved member of St. James, serving the church over many years as verger and chorister, with amazing creative gifts too particularly in photography. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Please keep Alans's wife Pauline in your prayers, as well as his daughter Hilary with Steve and Titian, who were part of St James' church family before moving to Somerton a few years ago.

*Tuesday 23rd March *is a year to the day from the start of the first lockdown. For the *National day of Reflection *St James building will be open from 11am-12.30pm, 2.30pm-4pm (2.30-3 for shielders only), and 5-7.30pm. We'll place 365 candles around the church, for people to come in and light, or to send us names so we can light them on your behalf.

The day will end with all the candles being lit, and prayers said for all the people named during the day. This is to give an opportunity to remember our loved ones who have died in the past year, and those we wanted to pay our respects to but were unable to attend their funerals due to restrictions. Please let others know about this who may find it helpful.

The*Lent course* continues this Wednesday, 8-9pm on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6261684940>. If you've missed the other sessions but want to come along, please do, each session stands on its own, and we've had some very positive feedback so far.

Mothering Sunday Flowers - St Peters are already organised, but we have 30 flowers to deliver to St James members around the parish, with a particular focus on those who can't access our services online, or who are particularly in our prayers at the moment. If you'd like to help deliver 1 or 2 of these, please let me know by Thursday. The flowers will be available to collect from St James on Sunday, and we'll let you know where to take them!

Hope you're able to enjoy the sunshine today, as always, please do get in touch if there's anything we can help with or be praying for.

yours in Christ

David and Ruth

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

St James and St Peters on
Youtubehttps://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS_rhjBAJTiXz3kIXLMN_Xw/
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS_rhjBAJTiXz3kIXLMN_Xw/>