

Dear Friends,

/We're getting used to the sight of empty shelves in supermarkets, empty pumps at petrol stations, and daily talk of shortages. By contrast, our Lord Jesus is 'full of grace and truth' and God's mercies are new every morning. We never run short of grace: a wonderful prayer by Thomas Ken, a former local bishop, speaks of God's infinite love 'ever streaming in blessings upon me' (the whole prayer is reproduced below). What a glorious image, we stand under a constant waterfall of divine love. There are no shortages in the Kingdom of God. /

A very warm welcome to those who are new to this list, we've had a few folks joining St James church since we emerged from lockdown. These 'e-news' bulletins come out every couple of weeks, or when there's something special going on.

Serving the community

There are lots of financial pressures around at the moment, from fuel bills to the end of the Universal Credit top-up. With 15,000 people in our parish, we know that the church can't help everyone, but we want to help those we can. There are 2 specific ways we can help

- ***Parish Hardship Fund:** part of our church giving is set aside for emergency grants, for parishioners, members of our church community, or people who we know personally, who are in financial difficulties. There is a simple assessment form and process to make sure we use this money where it's needed, please contact the parish office if you are aware of someone in need.

- ***St Peters Community Pantry:** newly started at St Peters Community Centre, in return for a £3 weekly membership this gives people 15-20 items of food a week in line with their household needs. It's available to people in and around the Westfield area, and is intended to provide longer-term support than the Lords Larder, which only does one-off emergency food parcels.

And please continue to pray for Christians Against Poverty, the Lords Larder, and Counselling for Yeovil, our local ***Mission Partners,*** who help so many people across our town. They will be special guests at our morning service in both churches on October 31st. 5% of our regular income across both churches is set aside each year to support them.

What's Happening

St James Church is Illuminated up to Friday for Baby Loss Awareness week, and there is a 1 hour vigil in the church 7-8pm on Friday, with the opportunity to light a candle, and read out names in remembrance.

A giant scale model of the Moon is on display in Wells Cathedral until 3rd November as part of a 'Festival of the Moon'. It really is quite something if you can get to see it.

<https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/cathedral-events/festival-of-the-moon/>

Abbey Toddlers had a very successful restart last Wednesday, and meets every Weds in school term time 9.30-11am at the Abbey Community Centre.

If you'd like to help with serving tea/coffee/juice we could do with a couple more helpers for the rota, please contact David K or Alannah Boyt alannah.boyt2@gmail.com.

A Service of Thanksgiving for Jim and Marion Taylor, who were at the heart of life at St James for many years, will be at 12 noon on Saturday 30th October in St James. If you would like to come,

please let their family know: Helen Schofield herschofield@btopenworld.com or Mary Watson maryjw66@googlemail.com

Also on *Sat 30th at 6.30pm* will be our *All Souls Memorial Service* (yes, we know All Souls Day is Nov 2nd...), a simple and prayerful service which gives us the chance to remember loved ones, to light a candle, and to be supported in prayer. If you would like someone remembered but can't make the service, please fill out an 'I Remember' card, available at the back of church from this Sunday.

yours in Christ

David and Ruth

A Prayer of Thomas Ken
(former Bishop of Bath & Wells)

Thou O heavenly Guide of our Devotion and our Love, by teaching us to pray, hast shewed us that Prayer is our treasury where all Blessings are kept, our Armoury where all our strength and weapons are stored, the only great preservative, and the very vital heat of Divine Love.

Give me grace to call on thee at all times by diligent Prayer.

Ah Lord, I know my Devotion has daily

many unavoidable and necessary interruptions, and I cannot always be actually praying, all I can do is to beg of thy Love, to keep my heart always in an habitual disposition to Devotion, and in mindfulness of thy divine presence,

O my God, as thy infinite Love
is ever-streaming in Blessings on me;
O let my Soul be ever breathing Love to thee.

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<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/>