

A word from Your Team Vicar...

I praise God that we were able to reopen our churches from 16th August. We celebrated a Eucharist every Sunday at St James' Church and Liturgy of the Word at St Richard's led by Neil and supported by Hilary. We were also very fortunate that our area Bishop, Paul Slater celebrated the Eucharist with us on Sunday 23rd August, which was also his first Eucharist service since the lockdown which began 23rd March. Both the services at St James' and St Richard's were well attended. People especially liked Neil's different style of worship. On Sunday 11th October we welcomed Revd Mary Bradley to be our interim minister until we are blessed with our new Team Rector. Her presence has made a big difference in the life of the parish.

I would also like to thank everyone for their contribution in running the parish life especially Sue Kitson, for looking after the parish website and 'A Church near you' and Alison Enoch for keeping Facebook up to date and for her ongoing admin support.

Harvest Festival

We were also able to have our united parish Harvest service on Sunday 18th October and many thanks to all those who donated food for our parish larder.



As you know we are again in lockdown



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until Sunday 6th December, and I am hoping and praying we can return to our churches then. If not, then we are planning to start zoom Sunday Services at 11:00 am followed by an informal conversation. If you are interested in the Zoom services please contact Revd Mary Bradley on 07881401404, for information on how to join in. I am very sorry that we will not be able to run our normal Christmas programme this year, but we have got some plans depending on the Covid-19 situation. We will share these with you in due course.

I also have some very sad news to share. We recently lost our beloved former churchwarden Mr Geoff Bryant. His funeral was on 17th November. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory. Please keep Marina, David and the rest of the family in your prayers.



We were also very lucky enough to conduct our APCM on Sunday 1st November to accept our annual and financial reports and elect our new PCC members, parish wardens and assistant church wardens. Our new parish wardens are Tracey Harrison and Hilary Kitching. The assistant church wardens are Jenny Eastwood (St James'), Shelia Brown (St Paul's) and Martine Hinchliff (St Richard's). The rest of the members of the PCC are Lynda Blyth, Lis Bows, Carolyn Jackson, Rebecca Steggles, Lynn Thorp, David Towers and Ann Ward.

Please continue to pray for our world, country and the parish and never lose hope. May the Lord richly bless you at this Holy time of Advent and Christmas.

The Revd Dominic Mughal, November 2020





Remembrance Day

Sadly our plans had to change.

In the village a small number attended the laying of wreaths in the Memorial Garden.

A few parishioners also observed a short, but fitting Remembrance Day service which was held outside Neil's house and was a great success.



Giving and stewardship

if anyone would like to donate what they would have put in collections, that would be very welcome, as we have not been able to pay any share at all as yet this year. Please give our treasurer Joanne a ring on 07775 908146 or drop her an email and she will advise you. Email:

joanne.shaw4@ntlworld.com



Food Bank

We continued to run our food bank and Saturday Night Meal. Many thanks to Lis Bows, Brian & Liz Lister, Lynn Thorp, Sandra Williams, Gabriel Kamei and Pat Kelly for Food bank and Gabriel Kamei, Maureen Wager, Diane Palfrey, Lynn Thorp and Liz Bows for Saturday night meal. Also to Dave Jackson for collecting food and cutting the grass!

An update from Neil

Some successful funding bids have been secured which means that we are much closer to starting up our Youth Club, we also had a delivery of £250 worth of equipment from The Mothers Union of Leeds Diocese. Volunteers are being trained as well in order that this can come to fruition.

My support in the Bishop Young academy is going well. I am helping them at present due to the absence of staff by helping the pastoral team. The 1:1 work with the pupils has been going really well, My work with some of the more 'lively' pupils is also beginning to show an improvement in behaviour.

At present we have launched an appeal for some Football boots (new or second hand) as they are now required to be worn by all pupils so they are able to play – approximately 40% of pupils are unable to get any due to poverty.

Pizza outreaches in the recent two months have been a great success – not on the scale we wanted due to Covid but still a few hundred were fed over just 4-5 hours of outreach.

Please pray for the Youth of this estate to be reached and transformed by the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Every blessing in Christ.

Neil Obbard



A prayer for our churches

There is no doubt we are going through some difficult times, but what can help is our faith in you, God, and our continued support and encouragement for each other. The vaccine is not very far away now and with your kind grace, we will overcome this pandemic. **Amen.**

Please also remember: "we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose". (Romans 8:28)

A prayer for our parish

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

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