

Dear Friends of St James,

I do hope that many of you, especially our families, have had a chance to take a break, recharge the batteries and refresh your souls and bodies. My family and I had the privilege to spend a week camping in South Wales and then another week just around the corner, in Burnham on Sea to be precise. Our holidays were a mixture of rest, walks, beach, food, fun, sun, cloud, rain and even a storm. At least we had learned from last year and our owning did not break down this time!

While we are still at a sensitive time in our recovery, we feel it is time to change the one way system that was in place since the reopening of the church and to reinstate access to the church from the main West door (car park). Please do continue to book via church suite or use the NHS app on the day to help with the track and trace. Also keep using the hand sanitizer made available in church.

For families, the church has designed an area with tables and crafts where families with children can be safely active and engaged throughout our all age services. Dave our curate and Vashti have kindly taken a lead on this and will be there to welcome you and make the whole family feel at ease. We are currently exploring the theme of Creation with plenty of great crafts and activities in the pipeline! This Sunday, we will make music instruments as we think about the Worship of all Creation.

We are also restarting our **Zoom Morning Prayer** from Monday the 13th of September. You can join us on Zoom or follow it live (or later) on our Facebook page. The Zoom gathering lasts about 25 mins. and is an opportunity to read a Psalm, a passage from the OT and NT, to reflect on the readings and to pray for the day. It opens us to the presence of God in our lives and gives us strength for the day.

Please email info@stjamestaunton.co.uk if you wish to get involved.

Finally, we are developing a **prayer space** in the side chapel and we will have a humble start with a weekly gathering on Friday 5-6pm. Come and join us to experience the presence of God, voice our requests to our good Father and worship him in simple ways.

Wishing you all a good start of a new academic year and praying a special blessing on all our families and children at this important time of the year.

With love and gratitude

Fabian