

Church Without Walls

Issue 37 December 20th 2020

Click here to join us for worship at 10.30 on Sunday morning



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

This Advent and Christmas, in conjunction with the Church of England's Comfort and Joy campaign, Daily Hope will continue to offer all the national services as well as Comfort and Joy's special reflections. In addition, BBC Songs of Praise's Pam Rhodes offers listeners an introduction to some of her favourite carols; as well as a special festive series of ['Christmas at Home on the Phone'](#).

Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service.

A section called Carol-Line offers callers a small selection of carols, updated daily. An option entitled 'Chair Exercises on the Phone' provides recorded over-the-phone tuition to keep listeners fit and healthy from the safety of a chair during this time at home.

"With many in our country on lockdown, it's important that we support those who are feeling lonely and isolated, whatever age they are."

Archbishop Justin Welby



This week please pray for the people living in Osbourne Street



This year Christmas is looking rather different for all of us. But our services will still be happening, although they will also appear different!

Here are the details:

Christmas Eve Nativity - premiering on YouTube at 3pm

Christmas Eve Midnight Service - in the building at 11.30pm

Christmas Day Service - in the building at 10.30am

& live-streamed on YouTube

St Stephen's Day Service - by Zoom

Sunday 27th Dec - morning service in the building;

evening service on Zoom

Jan 3rd 2021 - morning and evening services in the building

Please remember you will need to book for all services in the building. Contact the office, or book yourself in via the website.

For all Zoom services you will be sent a link by email - if you don't receive this, please contact us.



*"For unto us a Child is born,
unto us a Son is given... And
His name will be called Wonderful
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of Peace."*

Isaiah 9:6

We Have received this Christmas card from the Salvation Army with their thanks for all the donations to the Food Bank made through St Stephen's this year.



 **St Stephen's**
LEARNING TO LOVE AS JESUS DOES

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This is the last issue of Church Without Walls for 2020. We wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and look forward to being with you again in the New Year!

Meanwhile it just remains for us to tell you that the church office will close at 12noon on 23rd Dec and re-open at 9am on Monday 4th January.

Dave will be taking some time off after Christmas. He will be away from 27th Dec and will return on 2nd January.

If you need to contact us during this time, please get in touch with Pat (pat.pinder@ststephenspreston.org.uk) or Andy (andrewpratt1@btinternet.com)



Joy, Peace & Patients

Sarah's Story

I work as a mental health nurse in Kent, which is a rewarding but hugely challenging job. Each day



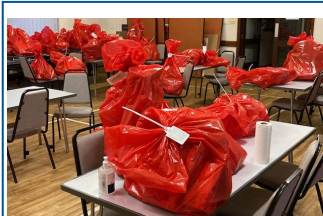
I have the opportunity to serve patients and their families, and over the years I've been encouraged and challenged by their strength in difficult circumstances. I'd love for my patients to know the joy and peace that Jesus brings, but it can be difficult to explicitly share my faith, even at Christmas, because these relationships are quite sensitive.

...

'So now each day in December I pray for the people I'm going to see, asking God to give them joy and peace in what can be a difficult time for them and praying that, in his perfect timing, God would give me opportunities – prompted by them – to share the good news of Jesus.

'This change in perspective has reminded me that God has placed me here for a reason. And God's given me peace that I don't need to feel the pressure of thinking I need to manufacture opportunities; I can just be me and pray that God in his sovereignty will create the opportunities for me to share my faith with those around me.'

You can read this & more stories like it on the LICC website [here](#)



These bags of toys have been put together by school for particular families and were distributed by some of the men from our church.

These bags of food have been distributed to every school family in the parish and have been put together by the mosque, school and church.



Christmas Cracker Rejects...

Q. Why did the vicarage ?

A Because he had to take so many services over the Christmas period !



The Preston Churches in Prayer

PRAYER

Tuesday morning Prayer Meetings:
now on zoom at 7.30am

Please email Andy Pratt for an invitation:
andrewpratt1@btinternet.com

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