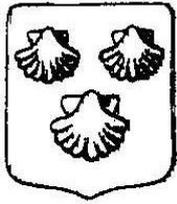
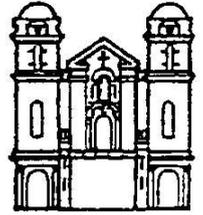


49/20



This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester

www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk
office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk



6 DECEMBER 2020
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Prayer for the Week

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Our Prayers are asked for:

All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering this week

George Daley : Gwen Leather : Marilyn Dorum
and all those currently unable to attend services.

Unwell

Ann Blanchard : Anthony Green : Margaret Norman :
Owen Shepherd : Josephine Chizema

Recovering

Barbara Penrose

Rest in Peace

Stanley Coldwell (Hannah and Maddie Cowley's Great Grandfather)

Welcome to St James the Greater

We're overjoyed to welcome everyone back to St James as we restart worship at this most important season for Christians, as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas. The last four weeks since we've been able to meet together have felt so long and we're glad to be able to worship together again.

Whilst it's wonderful news that we can reopen fully for worship, with Leicester now being placed in Tier 3, it does mean that additional regulations now apply. One of these is that we're unable to interact with anyone outside our household or support bubble. Regrettably and disappointingly, this means that we have to ask you to leave as soon as the service has finished and not to catch-up with one another outside the church.

There is no Offertory at present. To allow you to make your offering, collection bowls can be found on the tables at the back of church.

If you are able, please wear a face covering throughout the service – visors are not a legal face covering. If you have forgotten yours, please speak to a churchwarden.

Please remember to check-in to church when you enter using either our QR code or by completing the Track and Trace contact details slip that you will find with your leaflet and place it in the boxes as you leave church.

If you would like to have the leaflet emailed to you each Friday so you can print it or view it online, please contact the Church Office to be added to our mailing list.

Please take this leaflet away with you at the end of the service.

The Vicar Writes ...

Crying in the wilderness comes a voice of both reassurance and challenge. The longed for hope is not forlorn, redemption has not been cancelled, despite the dark days we need to get ready!

John the Baptist's words echo through time, repeated the promises of prophets, and speaking into despair and sin even now. God is coming, he is on the move, soon he will be with us.



The promise of Advent seems to chime with the promise of vaccines, and as politicians promise that "things will be better after Easter", as Christians we know this to be so.

10:30

Said Eucharist

Please use service book which will be available for collection when you enter church. Please place the book in the boxes that you'll find as you leave church at the end the service

The Readings for the Second Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 40.1-11

Read by David Kibert

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Mark 1. 1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the

BIBLE STUDY Our next two online Bible discussions will take place on Thursday 10th and Thursday 17th of December, where we'll continue to discuss Advent. Whilst the day has changed, both sessions will be at the usual time of 7.30pm. If you'd like to join the Zoom session, please email the vicar at: revdaquigley@gmail.com or call him on: 0116 254 4113.

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES These will either be posted out to you or left at the back of church for you to collect when attending services this month.

YOUR GIVING TO ST JAMES Did you know that in a normal year over 35% of the church's income is made up of regular Direct Debits and Standing Orders from members of the congregation?

This income is especially important to us at the moment, since Sunday services have been suspended during the second lockdown and there has been a dramatic fall in our income from lettings.

If you already give by Direct Debit or Standing Order, thank you! Of course, if you are able to increase the amount you give, that would be very welcome. We do not hold Gift Aid declarations for some people and if this applies to you, we will be in touch to ask if you can fill one in for us.

If you are not already a regular giver, please consider starting a Direct Debit through the Church of England's Parish Giving Scheme. They offer a very friendly service and will help you set everything up over the phone. They make sure that Gift Aid tax relief is claimed (this adds 25p to every £1 that you give), and they pass every penny of your donation straight through to St James the Greater.

You can contact the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1271 (local call rates apply).

THE SHELL The Winter 2020 edition has just been published and you can find a copy, along with the previous editions, by visiting our website at: www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk. You'll find it under the 'News' section and 'Parish Magazine'. Thank you to everyone who contributed articles and special thanks to Graham Jagger for his sterling work in editing it for us.

CONTACTING THE TEAM Andrew can be contacted by email at: revdaquigley@gmail.com or 0116 254 4113. The Church Office can be contacted by email at: office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk or by telephoning 0116 254 2111 and leaving a message. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, further details are on our website www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk

Resources for Home Worship

Broadcast Media

Daily Service	Mon-Fri at 9.45am	Radio 4 LW
Choral Evensong	Wed at 3.30pm & Sun at 3pm	Radio 3
Sunday Worship	Sun at 8.10am	Radio 4
Songs of Praise	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I

Online

www.churchofengland.org

www.leicestercathedral.org

DAILY HOPE TELEPHONE SERVICE offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. This is a Freephone number.

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 Hymn Line offers callers a selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love', provides an increasing range of hymns and reflections on them. More options have been added.

The options are detailed below:

1. Hymns we love – one each day with a spoken reflection based on it.
2. Hymn line – favourite hymns on a repeating loop.
3. Chair exercises – a different set of exercise for each day of the week.
4. Daily Reflection for these times – read by Pam Rhodes.
5. Access to more options (6 – 9).
6. Weekly service from C of E.
7. Morning and Evening Prayer from Common Worship.
8. Latest Government advice on Coronavirus.
9. Mother's Union Midday Service.

Pressing 0 returns you to the top menu (1 – 5) and * gives access to the full text of the Archbishop of Canterbury's introduction.

It is helpful to have the telephone on speakerphone to avoid having to hold the handset for a long time.

Vicky Roe

Pastoral Assistant