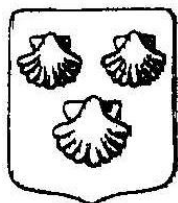
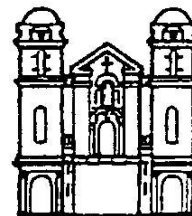


51/20



**This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester**

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



**20 DECEMBER 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

Prayer for the Week

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary,
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, 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

Welcome to St James the Greater

With Leicester remaining in Tier 3, it does mean that the additional regulations introduced when 'Lockdown 2' ended still 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 ...

We have reached the final Sunday of Advent, and Gabriel has reached Mary with his wonderful news. It is a scene familiar from a hundred paintings and nativity plays, so perhaps its impact has been lost.

But here we see Mary's trust, her courage, her utter reliance on God enable the transformation of the world.

We need those qualities of Mary now, just as the world needs God's wonderful news.



10:30

Said Eucharist

You'll find the service books for this week's Eucharist laid out on the seats in church. Please place the books in the boxes that you'll find as you leave church at the end the service.

The Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

2 Samuel 7. 1 – 11, 16

Read by Julia Warner

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.'

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies.

Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

Luke 1. 26 – 38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words

and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

4:00 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Please see separate order of service.

Doors will open at 3:30pm for this afternoon's Carol Service. We'll also be using the same procedures we introduced at Advent Carols earlier in the month, when you come to enter the church. To ease everyone's access, and to prevent a logjam, we'll ask you to use the hand sanitiser placed on the tables outside the church, rather than using the servery as we do on a Sunday morning. Fortunately, the weather forecast for Sunday is dry and we thank you in advance for your understanding in doing this.

When you enter church, you'll find the seats have been arranged to allow those larger households and bubbles who have requested it to sit together. We ask that if you've only requested a pair of seats or a single seat that you sit in one of those. You'll also find reserved signs on a number of seats

We're pleased to say that we are at capacity for the service. Unfortunately, this means that if you arrive for the service and haven't reserved a seat, we won't be able to let you enter the church. As Leicester remains in a Tier 3 Zone, we advise that you don't make a special journey to church if you haven't already let us know that you wish to attend.

Forthcoming Services

Friday 25th December:	Christmas Morning Sung Eucharist	10:30am
Sunday 27th December:	Said Eucharist	10:30am

CHRISTMAS DAY Unlike our Carol Services, we're not asking you to let us know if you're going to be with us for our mid-morning service on 25th December. We've been able to add a few extra seats in the nave, which has increased our capacity slightly. We'll also be putting together some larger groupings of chairs to allow family bubbles to sit together.

SUNDAY 27TH December The Bishops Chaplain, the Reverend Rosie Woodall will be taking our Said Eucharist service on the First Sunday after Christmas.

BISHOP GULI It was announced on Thursday that Bishop Guli, currently the Bishop of Loughborough, is to be the next Bishop of Chelmsford.

Appointed the first Bishop of Loughborough three years ago, the Rt Revd Guli Francis-Dehqani became the first Suffragan Bishop in the Diocese of Leicester, assisting Bishop Martyn in his work in all geographical areas across Leicester and Leicestershire.

Bishop Martyn said: "Bishop's Guli's contribution to the Diocese of Leicester has been hugely significant. She has championed our work with BAME heritage people and grown our links with a number of partner organisations. She has renewed our vocations work and helped to support clergy through the demands of the pandemic and lockdown. I give thanks to God for her ministry among us and assure her of prayers as she prepares to take up this new and demanding role. She and her family will be a wonderful gift to the Diocese of Chelmsford."

It is expected that Bishop Guli will take up her Chelmsford role in the spring.

ZOOM/HOUSE GROUPS I hope everyone has now had a chance to read the article in The Shell 'To Zoom or not to Zoom...?' If you would simply like to know more please come along to a post-Christmas Zoom meeting that I'm hosting on Sunday 27th December at 3.00 p.m. For details on how to attend please either email me at: **A.F.Jagger@dunelm.org.uk**, or if you don't have access to the internet leave a message on the office phone (0116 254 2111) by 23rd December. Just leave your name and phone number and I will get back to you. Don't forget - you don't need a computer to join a Zoom call, you can just use a phone. **All the best, Angela Jagger**

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?

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).

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

The Church of St James the Greater
Leicester



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