

St James, Longdon and Christ Church, Lichfield

Revd. Janet Waterfield, Rural Dean of Lichfield

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Dear

I am writing to keep you up to date with worship at Christ Church, and what has been happening for some of us. As I hope you know, we opened for worship at the end of July, and are now having a weekly service of Holy Communion at 9.30 each Sunday morning. At the moment we can only have one service each Sunday, because unless we leave a 72 hour gap between events, we have to do a thorough clean of all hard surfaces that might have been touched.

This wouldn't be possible between an 8am and 9,30 communion service, but we may be able to start Evening worship at 6pm twice a month later in the year. Obviously this won't be Evensong as we have known it, without Peter we just can't have the responsorial psalms which were such a moving part of Evensong. However, if you have any suggestions about the type of worship you would like at the 6pm slot, please do let me know.

The church is also open for private prayer twice a week, from 12 noon to 2pm on Sundays and Wednesdays. Access is only available to the rear of the church and we would ask all who go to pray to observe social distancing if others are there, and to follow the hygiene guidelines on display.

If you are unable to join us in church for worship, please do follow our services as they are live-streamed on our Facebook page. You can also access them after the event via the Facebook page.

If you would like to join us in church on Sunday mornings, you will need to book. Please text your name, the number of seats you want and the date you wish to attend to 07752 098998. Because seating is limited you MUST book before you attend.

The current edition of The Beacon is available now, and has been delivered to most subscribers. If you would like a copy please contact Philip Price or Roy Fell, we are unable to leave copies in church for collection due to corona virus guidelines.

Sadly we have had to postpone the social events we had planned for the Autumn, including the Harvest Supper and Barn dance, and Lesley Smith

joining us as Peggy Knight. However, we hope we shall be able to get together socially nearer Christmas.

If at any time you would like to talk to Emma or me, or any of the church wardens please don't hesitate to get in touch. I hope you are also keeping in contact with friends and family, and that the lockdown hasn't been too difficult for you.

Those of you who have joined us at Places of Welcome might have been involved with the meetings over Zoom for the past weeks. We are hosting a socially distanced PoW on Monday 10th August, however places are limited so please contact Emma if you wish to join us.

On another topic, I am delighted to tell you that Bishop Michael, our Diocesan Bishop, has invited me to become a Prebendary of Lichfield cathedral, taking the Sandiacre stall. This doesn't mean I shall be leaving you, just that I will be an honorary Canon of the cathedral and will be entitled to have red buttons and piping on my cassock. My installation will be on Sunday 22nd November and I am hopeful that guests will be able to attend that service. I will share more details as I have them.

I hope that you have found this newsletter of use. If there is anything you would like included as we share information around our church family in this new way, please let me know.

You remain in my prayers, as I hope Emma and I are in yours.

God bless

Janet Waterfield