

**ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH WOOLTON L25 7RJ**

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

MINISTER: Rev. Peter Hughes

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*Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays
will not be received by him until Saturday.*



SUNDAY May 3rd 2020

Dear friends –

How much we have relied on the structure of the week! Now there is no Sunday as a kind of punctuation mark in our days, and we constantly ask “what day is it?” – as if it mattered. All days are the same.

On the other hand we could learn to treat every day as a Sunday; the medieval church pictured Heaven as one everlasting Sabbath – not a time, though, for simply doing nothing, but a time actively filled with enjoying God. There’s something to aim at!

Please pass on any news you have, good or bad.

I can’t keep up with a funny picture every week, but we liked this one of a street sign in Sicily

The road sign means NO PARKING ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ROAD.

I wouldn’t like to try even getting a car anywhere near it.

Keep safe !



The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, with the blood of the eternal covenant: make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is live and reigns with you, in the unity of the holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

ST. JAMES' CHURCH PRAYER CIRCLE ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE

We have promoted this in our notices on occasion for anyone to join in but just want to make everyone aware what it actually is. The people who are in this prayer circle share and pray for anyone or any situation that is in need of our collective prayers.

It is not exclusive; anyone who has access to a mobile phone and has an app called 'WhatsApp' on it is very welcome to join us in our growing list of 'prayers'. It is a lovely way to prayerfully keep in touch and to combine our prayers. For more help or information please contact Jayne McLaren.

RENEWED CONGRATULATIONS

To Pam Draper, whose heroic walk round her garden ended yesterday and has so far raised £1760 plus £360 gift aid for NHS charities.

RAINBOWS OF PROMISE

We have many windows in our church hall building with nothing happening behind them at the moment. Perhaps we could cheer up those passing our building by having some Rainbow pictures in the windows.

There will be many budding artists amongst our St. James' family, and others who are not, of course - HOWEVER we would be so pleased if as many of you as possible will draw a happy Rainbow of Promise. A4 size only please.

You can send your pictures one of three ways:

Pop into the Hall post box (this will be checked every day).

Post them to Wendy Doig

Send them via email to Wendy.

FROM BECK DAVIES

Would you please put a little message in this week's church notes thanking everybody for all the cards, emails, thoughts and prayers that we have received following the death of Pete's parents. Everyone's support is very much appreciated at this time.

CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE

Our church Facebook page which Amy keeps updated daily is accessible to anyone who has access to the internet (you don't have to have Facebook).

If you have access to the internet, go to the church website <https://www.stjameswoolton.org/> and in the bottom left hand corner; there is a Facebook symbol, click on that and you can see all that is shared.

Amy has started "sing together A worship song a day" when lockdown began. Every day I upload a song (a mix of traditional and new) that people have sent me for everyone to sing along to- if you would like to nominate a worship song/hymn please get in touch with Amy via mobile, email or social media,

We may not be able to be together but we can still sing together (albeit in our own homes).

A MESSAGE FROM WOOLTON COMMUNITY LIFE

We have been going through very challenging times due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. This has been particularly and severely affecting some of our vulnerable elderly residents of this Community.

We, at Woolton Community Life, have been striving to support our beneficiaries both individually and through their designated befrienders.

We are now entering into a shared partnership with Salvation Army and Life rooms, to reach out to those in our Community most in need at this very difficult time.

During our Trustees' meeting there was a suggestion that we could perhaps enthuse our younger members of this Community to write to our lonely residents here in Woolton and the surrounding area, just to uplift their spirits and let it be known that we are thinking of them.

We are trying to work out the logistics of posting any letters, cards, pictures, drawings from young people which will be such a wonderful thing during these dark days.

I should be grateful if you could discuss the possibility of getting those materials, addressed to say 'Dear Resident/ Fellow Woolton resident'. We will arrange to collect those letters etc and post them to our elderly residents. I am sure that will cheer them up.

Catherine Higgins, chair of our Trustees, has her office in Woolton Village and is happy to collect those letters and post them if you can drop them through her letterbox. Her office is on Allerton Road, opposite the News Agent: Catherine Higgins Law, Solicitors.