

Dear Friends

As I am sure you already know, Staffordshire has been placed in Tier 4, which advises us not to leave our homes unless it is absolutely necessary. Because of this the Church Wardens, Emma and I have concluded that we will not hold worship in church throughout January. Bishop Michael has given permission for this.

I know that many of you will be disappointed, but we all need to reflect on the bigger picture. The NHS is already full to bursting with people who are ill from Covid-19 and many other ailments, and I do not think we should be doing anything to potentially increase this burden.

I am hopeful that worship in church will recommence in February, but obviously the government and diocese will give us more guidance before that can happen.

You can of course join us for online worship on Sunday mornings at 11.00am on Sundays and 10.00 on Wednesdays, when Morning Prayer will be live-streamed from the Christ Church or St James vicarages on our St James Longdon Facebook page.

Despite this inauspicious start to 2021 I do wish you a happy New Year, and my prayer is that with the vaccination programme rolling out, and the good sense of our community, we shall be able to gather together again soon.

Take care and God bless,

Jan

Rev. Preb. Janet Waterfield

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