

A close-up photograph of several snowdrops (Galanthus nivalis) in bloom. The flowers are white with a yellow center and are set against a dark, blurred background. The stems are green and slender.

# FEBRUARY

## 2021



**All Saints' Church**  
*Preston on Tees*

# Is God calling you to serve?

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:10-11*

God gives each of us gifts to use within the body of the church and you may already be serving in one of our ministries at All Saints'. It may be that God is prompting you to perhaps take on something new and if He is, there are plenty of things you can do.

Over the next few months, we are specifically looking for people to serve in the following ways...

At the next APCM we will be looking for someone to take on the role of church warden.

Whilst the idea of becoming a church warden may seem a little daunting, we are fortunate to have a team of assistant wardens and our church administrator deals with much of the admin. If you feel this could be you then please email/phone Anne or myself.

Last October John Belmont very kindly offered to take on the role as treasurer for a short period until we appointed a new treasurer. We are now looking for someone who can work alongside John, initially as assistant treasurer and then take over the role once they have learned the ropes. If you feel called to this ministry but you are not ready to be our next treasurer, we have other roles on the finance team that will allow you to use your gifts. If you would like more information about the roles, please email/phone John Belmont or the wardens.

The pandemic continues to restrict our ability to get together physically as a church but through the wonders of technology we are still able to worship together on a Sunday morning. However, this can only happen if we have people who are able and willing to control the live streaming equipment each Sunday. If you think that you could be part of this team then please contact Adam Burns or the wardens.

We are also going to say goodbye to the team who will be moving to St Paul's after Easter. Their departure will leave some gaps in our ministry teams and you may be just the person to fill one of those gaps.

It might be that God isn't prompting you to take on one of these roles, but please pray for the right person to take on each of these.

**Martin Howard**  
Church Warden



# Youth Ministry Update

I think it is fair to say that this has been the start of a new year unlike any other! We find ourselves in the midst of a 'new normal'. For our young people this means school online everyday, being distanced from friends, and spending more time in their home than ever before.

As a youth team we continue to invest as much time and energy as possible into supporting them during this time. We want to help them keep Jesus as their firm foundation! It is a real joy to meet them for online Life Groups and Youth Church every week, at the Doulos leadership course and at our socials. We are available to meet, support and pray for any of our young people online whenever they need us, and we continue to seek God for new ways to encourage them.

We enjoy creating consistent social media content designed to help them grow closer to Jesus. In the midst of a global pandemic God is still meeting with our young people and it is a privilege to be a part of that!

Prayer requests from our young people:

"This time has been difficult for everyone in the youth group as we cannot meet together in person. Please can you be praying that we do not lose hope or faith during this difficult time and that we will not worry about a situation outside of our control. Thank you." (Anna Wheeldon)

"Please pray in this time of uncertainty that the youth find peace." (Eliya Trevorrow)

"Please pray that the youth use this lockdown to become closer to God." (Eve Cooley)

At the moment we are studying the eight 'I am' statements of Jesus as a youth group; I am the bread of life, I am the light of the world, I am the alpha and the omega etc.

It has been a great encouragement to us, that in the midst of ever-changing guidelines and a turbulent situation, Jesus does not change and will continue to be all that we need.

**Kathryn  
Belmont  
Youth Pastor**



# Pastoral Team Update

Feeling weak, weary, emotionally or physically drained? Confused, angry, disappointed? Worried, scared, hopeless, lonely and bereft? Struggling spiritually, questioning whether God really cares? And that's even before the unwelcome arrival of Covid-19 and its increasingly deep effects on our lives. We are none of us immune from such feelings and reactions, they are part of our humanity and part of life.

The Lord IS with us and he DOES care for us, even though we may at times find this difficult to recognise. We too, as family, care for and come alongside others in so many ways. I recently reviewed the list of vulnerable church members and was encouraged to discover how much support is being given by so many of our church family, with much of it happening 'behind the scenes'.

Our pastoral team too continue to provide support and, faced with increasing calls on our help as the impact of the pandemic become increasingly evident on all of us, we are aware of the need to not only care for others but also to look after our own emotional and spiritual health to avoid stress and burn-out.

We have recently welcomed Kate Pickover to the existing team of Peter Gray who co-leads the team with me, Nicola Dursley, Evelyn Leadbetter, Chris Vass, Jeremy Atkinson, Karen Killick and John Taylor. If you have any pastoral concerns, please feel free to contact either Peter or me in the first instance and we will do our best to help or direct you to the appropriate support.

Jayne Davies  
Pastoral Team Co-Leader



# LENT IN LOCKDOWN; STAY HOME AND CARRY ON

The Christian season of Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday on 17th February. It is highly likely that this Lent we will still be under some level of lockdown restrictions.

Lent is a time for repentance and reflecting on our own selves. In a way the difficult situation that we continue to find not only ourselves in, but our families, our nation, and our world in - can bring us closer to the essence of it. While staying home we are doing a lot more than we think. Right now, it is probably the best way of taking care of others. We naturally worry about the health of our elders and the well-being of our families. For now, the ultimate way of “loving our neighbour” is protecting them.

And by limiting our freedom we are giving the vulnerable and the people working to make the world go round the protection they need. But more than that, without being distracted by certain influences, this Lent we are able to reflect on our minds, bodies and souls.

We so often “give something up” during Lent, in a season where we feel that we have had to give so much up – seeing friends, travelling around, sharing communion together - maybe this Lent is one where we can “take something up”. Maybe commit to contacting someone each day who has been on our mind to encourage them, commit to reading one of the Gospels, a chapter a day.

Our minds are occupied with news about how the world is sick but we can find peace in God, while praying and spending time with him this Lent.

Trusting in God will help us overcome not only the pandemic but also the anxieties we feel about it and the time we spend apart from society. So as we each stay home and live under restrictions this Lent, unable to do many things we would like to do, we could think of it as a preparation, a time to strengthen our faith and develop a closer relationship with God.

Soon we will celebrate Jesus' death and his victorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. Hallelujah!

**Margaret  
Vaughan**



# SUNDAYS FEBRUARY 2021, Live streamed.

## SUNDAY 7 FEBRUARY

9am Morning Worship  
100% Jesus: 100% Human  
Colossians 1:15-20,  
John 1:1-14  
Preacher: Amy Burns

## SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY

11am Morning Worship  
100% Jesus: 100% Divine  
2 Kings 2:1-12,  
Mark 9:2-9  
Preacher: 11am Sandra Griffiths

## SUNDAY 21 FEBRUARY

9am Morning Worship  
Journey of Faith: Repent and  
Believe  
Genesis 9:8-17,  
Mark 1:9-15  
Preacher: Scott Linnett

## SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY

11am Morning Worship  
Journey of Faith: Living Belief  
Genesis 17:1-7,15-16,  
Romans 4:13-end  
Preacher: Kevin Storer

Our live streamed services and any of  
our previous services can be watched  
on our YouTube Channel:

[www.youtube.com/AllSaintsVideo](https://www.youtube.com/AllSaintsVideo)

## MORNING PRAYER



EVERY WEEKDAY at 9am via ZOOM,  
the Zoom code is: 835 4592 5539  
or use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83545925539>

## COFFEE, CHAT & PRAYER



EVERY SUNDAY AT 10am via ZOOM,  
the Zoom code is: 878 4408 5000 or use  
this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87844085000>