



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS BEETHAM

Following the latest Government announcement regarding lockdown measures being re-introduced to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus, the Parochial Church Council has judged it prudent and necessary (in line with guidance from the Church of England) to once again suspend public worship and close the church building.

In such testing and difficult circumstances, we rejoice in God's constant promise to abide with us. Remembering that even though we are unable to meet together in our church building; the worship, prayer and service of the Church goes on. This will be revealed through our discipline of regular prayer at home, seeking to be nourished by the reading of Scripture and other forms of worship, and our support and care for our loved ones, friends and neighbours. By doing all this we will each continue to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, praying that his will might be done on earth as it is heaven, and his love manifested in the life of our wider community.

In these times of uncertainty and challenge we pray for grace to know the Lord's presence with us and so to find faith and encouragement to share it with others. We pray for calmness, compassion and courage to face the days that lie ahead. Praying that we may be renewed in our trust and belief in the God, made real to us in Christ, who is loving and faithful in and through the changing scenes of life.

As we move forward we will follow all the necessary legal guidelines issued by the Government, the Church of England and the Diocese of Carlisle, and look forward to being together again as soon as is safe and appropriate.

In the midst of these worrying times, the blessings of faith reminds us that God is not absent from our fears or anxieties, the God who in Jesus has overcome the old order of things and who gives grace that in the midst of adversity we can find strength, reassurance and comfort. Over this coming period may we be assured that the Lord is indeed with us, looking to him for guidance and support, and so in his company find our hope renewed.

If you have any questions or need any help or support, please contact the Priest-in-Charge:

The Reverend Andrew B Norman

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'Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.'

Romans 9.9-12