



Archdeacon's Newsletter for the Parish of Godalming

May 2020

Dear Friends

I do hope this letter finds you safe and well during this Covid-19 Pandemic. This is such a challenging time for us all and I want to pay tribute to William and Beatrice your Churchwardens, Sheila your Assistant Curate and Mike for all the help that he has given; Sarah who is managing the office and each of you for the ways in which you are doing all you can to help and support each other and reach out to your communities with the hope of the risen Jesus.

I'm very aware that it's now over six months since Jane, your Rector, was taken into hospital which has been followed by a lengthy sickness absence. I have been keeping in close contact with Jane during this time and doing all I can to support her and Mike. Clearly, none of us expected her to be away from her ministry for this long. She is, however, making progress and sends her love to all. Her sense of call to serve Godalming remains strong.

As Jane's absence extends, I feel that we may have to put in some interim leadership support to help William and Beatrice and to provide additional clergy support for Sheila (if you are not already aware, I'm very grateful to the Revd James Rattue for taking on the role of interim supervisor for Sheila). I'm keeping in touch with the Churchwardens and will write to you again as soon as we're clearer about what interim arrangements might look like.

Assuring you of my support and prayers during this time.

*As ever,
Paul.*

The Venerable Paul Davies
Archdeacon of Surrey