

Dear Everyone

23rd December 2020

It was a very difficult decision to reach, but through prayer and discussion and a real sense of unease amongst church members, I took the decision to halt meeting in St Mary's building for worship, or prayer, until there is a clarity going forwards in January 2021.

The NHS Norfolk and Waveney letter is on the website and the serious rise in the Virus Variant, in addition to the ongoing Coronavirus, has prompted a real concern to go further in trying to care for Everyone in the best way possible by encouraging people to stay at home.

This morning the Diocesan Senior Staff are meeting and there will be an update coming from them in due course. I will keep vigilant concerning the Government and Church of England guidelines and local developments and we will let you know when we feel safe to meet again.

You will note the livestreaming of both the 8.00pm Vigil Service of Holy Communion on Christmas Eve and the 10.30am Christmas Day Service of Holy Communion are going ahead (without congregations present).

I'm so thankful to the dedication and commitment of the St Mary's Team of Volunteers, including those wrestling with technical solutions which arise and need constant rethinking and also to Revd Kyla and Licensed Lay Ministers, Vergers and PCC members and all those Pastoral Buddy Leaders and others continually giving support to us and to many others. We proceed with caution and with hope. The days are already getting lighter....

In prayer and care and huge thanks: Your Vicar, Gerry