

## Thought for the day – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021

By Revd Kit Gunasekera

### Collaboration in Mission

Having reflected on the collation and induction service for a day, i was struck afresh how it was a much it was an collaborative occasion. Of course a church community is much more than individuals collaborating together, it is a spiritual family. But this working together is an important part of being a church.

The incumbent designate renews their ordination vows and the people of God are commissioned for mission. On both occasions we say - with the help of God I/we will. And so this collaborative, missional community consists of the vicar, the bishop, the people of God and God the Holy Trinity. And St James collaborates with other such collaborative churches in mission. "We are in this together" as the saying goes. And last Sunday had this wonderful feeling of us being in this together!

It is worth reflecting on the commission once again.

### **THE COMMISSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

Bishop: My brothers and sisters, we who are baptised are called to worship and serve the living God. As a new chapter begins in the life of this parish, let us recommit ourselves in the service of God and neighbour that the good news of his salvation may be known in our lives, our homes and our community.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers

**With the help of God, we will**

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**With the help of God, we will**

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

**With the help of God, we will**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

**With the help of God, we will**

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

**With the help of God, we will**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

**Amen**

My heartfelt **Thank You** for your partnership in the work and mission at St James!