

Thought for the day - Wednesday 28th July 2021

Revd John Marshall

Vestry Prayers

In lockdown I have missed vestry prayers – in St James we are quite informal – but they brought us together before God ready for service.

In some places there are formal prayers and others pray as they robe.

I came across an article about this topic from Malcolm Guite (you remember he wrote the poems in David's Crown.)

He was musing on bringing these prayers up to date.

He remembers there may be a verse or a prayer for putting on a stole, for preparing to leave the vestry and enter the church.

He turns his imagination to creating new prayers for a modern age.

He suggests for putting the rechargeable battery in its charger.

Versicle: They that wait upon the Lord

Response: Shall renew their strength. Isaiah 40.31

For clipping on of the microphone.

V: I will magnify thee, O Lord

R: For thou hast set me up. Psalm 30.1

And for the discreet fumble to turn the microphone on.

V: Let not thy left hand know

R: What thy right hand doeth. Matthew 6.5

I am very grateful to those who have updated the sound system and our IT technology (Is that tortology?) so we may worship God together.

Let us thank God for the science, the practicality and generosity that has enabled this progress.

And thanks to the Holy Spirit for the words he gives when we do not know what to say.