

St James News: Thought for the day – Wednesday 29th July 2020

Thankfulness – Revd John Ohen

Life in a church after Lock down.

What can we do differently as we go back to our place of worship? Whoever would have predicted that there will be social distancing in a Church? Who would have thought that there would be no singing, no communion wine and also no socializing after service? Who would have predicted that people would be told to leave the church as soon as service is over? Where is true fellowship and active life of the church?

What is the world coming to? During this Pandemic, we have seen protests like “Black Lives Matter” and every institution including the Churches have been looking at black history and the injustices of both the past and present. Also, we have seen the extraordinary use of Zoom for meetings and services. Many were told to work from home and there is the prolonged 'shielding' of the elderly and vulnerable. Even now, people are still wary of travelling in public transport or going out of their homes. What has happened, or happening, to our freedom of movement and interactions?

We seem to have entered into a period of rethinking about what we took for granted in the service of God and how, as the people of the 21st Century, we would tackle the current problem of dissociation, that is if there is any real solution. However, it is still possible for us all, in the circumstances to feel free to worship our God in spirit and in truth.

We thank God for the invention of Zoom and the opportunity it gives to keep us together in fellowship. The least we can do now is to find something we can do better than before so that we can draw more people to our God, physically and spiritually, help them to be more part of our worship and also let people see Christ in our lives. Let us truly open our minds to new ways of doing church and reaching out to the community. Just a thought!