



## **Temporary suspension of public worship**

The Rector and the Parochial Church Council of Parkstone St Peter and St Osmund with Branksea St Mary acting jointly authorise the closure of St Peter's Church, Parkstone until:

**Sunday 21st February 2021 (*under regular review*)**

Dear all,

The reason for the church closure is in light of the Government's latest guidance on preventing the spread of COVID-19.

As Rector, I am conscious of the numerous benefits of attending public worship. Worshipping together is core to our identity and an essential aspect of sustaining our mission and our ministry. Common worship is also necessary to sustain the health and wellbeing of faith community members engaged in caring for others.

It is therefore a very difficult decision to temporarily prevent gatherings in St Peter's Church. I very much hope that as the vaccination programme continues over the coming weeks, the current situation will be much improved by the Spring.

We will continue to offer local streamed worship via our YouTube channel and Facebook page, and other thoughts and reflections will be posted during the week.

### **Main worship – 10am on Sunday on YouTube and Facebook**

Online worship services will enable us to continue to reach those individuals who are self-isolating, or particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, as well as those who have joined our streamed worship during the earlier lockdown periods.

On behalf of the PCC and the ministry team, please do get in touch if you have any specific physical or pastoral needs. May we all cling to the hope found in Christ, and be there for each other over the weeks ahead, waiting patiently for the new shoots of Spring.

*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. (Psalm 46:1)*

Yours in Christ,  
*Revd Mike – Rector.*