



St James' Church, Rudry

Walking with Jesus

Web site: rudry.church

PRODIGIOUS WORK OF CARE (Church Assistance Request in an Emergency)

The CARE Project, set up by the parishes of Rudry, Bedwas, Machen and Michaelston-Y-Fedw in response to the help people needed during the lock down, started on Monday 23rd March, and has been in operation for a little over a month. Yet, during this short time, it has taken over 3,000 telephone calls and helped over 700 adults and 400 children.

The work has been carried out by a committed team of over 100 volunteers who have been providing food parcels, prescription deliveries, Click & Collect shopping deliveries, and pastoral care.

MAGNIFICENT GRANT

The Wales Council for Voluntary Action and the Welsh Government have recognised the important work of CARE with a tremendous award of a £43,000 grant. This will help secure operations for the next six months. It will be used to pay for vital infrastructure such as telephone lines, IT services and the salaries of an administrator and operations manager, who will ensure the smooth and efficient running of the CARE Project.

CHURCH AND PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER

We cannot thank our communities enough for their displays of love, encouragement and support. In great numbers, our members of the public have joined forces with the local Church in the area, offering their time and energy to volunteer with us. Many others have given their money and food donations to us for the sake and benefit of others.

BEYOND COVID-19

Working in the CARE Project has opened our eyes to a significant level of poverty in our area: financial, physical, emotional and mental. A good deal of this poverty is hidden and undisclosed. Shutting down the CARE Project once the Pandemic is over would leave a large number of people to struggle with little or no support.

Therefore, we wish to make an appeal to the general public for continued donations of time, food, and money. We will continue to seek out grant funding, but would still need your support too. Together, we can ensure the permanent presence of the CARE Project as a vital support line to those who need it for many years to come.

For now and in the immediate future, you can donate time, food or money as follows:

Time: To offer yourself as a volunteer, **please fill in this form**

Food: Call 02921 880 212 Monday-Friday between 9:00am and 3:00pm.

Money: Either, text the word CORONAVIRUS and the amount to **700 85** (e.g. to donate £5, text **CORONAVIRUS 5**), or donate online by clicking **here**

For any of you needing help during the lock down, our message is **PLEASE DON'T STRUGGLE ON YOUR OWN**. CARE can assist in five ways:

1. **Food Parcels** – delivery of free food and essential items
2. **Click & Collect food delivery** – collecting and delivering what you order online
3. **Prescription collection** – collecting and delivering your prescriptions
4. **A listening ear** – chatting with those who are home alone
5. **The support of the local vicar** – pastoral care for anyone who wishes to have it

Call 02921 880 212 Monday-Friday between 9:00am and 3:00pm. Or, use our website: **www.bmmr.church/coronavirus**



OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP DURING LOCK DOWN

Sundays: For anyone who would like to join in common prayer with others, each Sunday morning at 9am there will be Online Morning Prayer. **You can find details of how to log in here.** The link includes how to telephone into the conversation, if you prefer.

Thursdays: An informal Morning Prayer is held each Thursday morning at 9am. This includes an update on what's going on in the area as regards the work of CARE. All are welcome. To log in by video or phone, **please see this link.**

PARISHES OF BEDWAS, MACHEN, MICHAELSTON-Y-FEDW & RUDY (BMMR)

Updates since the formal appointment of our new Rector and Vicar, Rev. Dean Roberts:

- New website for all 6 churches and 4 parishes of Rudry, Bedwas, Machen and Michaelston-Y-Fedw: **<https://bmmr.church/>**. Individual websites for each of the 6 churches either also exist already, e.g. **Rudry.church**, or are coming soon.
- New email address for Rev. Dean: **dean.roberts@bmmr.church**
- New email address for the office of all the parishes: **office@bmmr.church**