



The West Hereford Team Ministry
The Team Office, Vowles Close, Hereford,
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Hello everyone,

This coming Sunday, 18th October, is the feast of St Luke, referred to by Paul as 'the beloved physician'.

It was on this coming Sunday that we had planned to hold our six monthly memorial service, inviting all those who have been bereaved in the last six months to come together, to come and remember, to come and be still, and to come and light a candle in memory of their loved one/s. We are not able to do this in 2020 and yet we recognise the importance of remembering, of being still, and of marking the remembrance in some physical way.

Therefore we would like to offer those who have been recently bereaved, and anyone else who would like to, a chance to remember a loved one. We will be using crosses or trees at each of our church buildings to hang doves with loved ones' names written on them to mark our memorial to them. This will take the place of the candles that we would have lit in memory during a service.

We have enclosed a dove with this letter. As we approach the season of 'remembering' in the Church's year, Please use this dove, if you would like, to hang up on our memorial trees a personal message to a loved one you have lost. You can either send the dove to the office at the above address and it will be placed with the other doves, or you are welcome to come to any of the churches to hang up the dove yourself. (*We will be taking any new doves away briefly to make them weather proof before rehangng them*).

You might like to pray this prayer as you write the name, or a message, on your dove:

Dear God.

Thank you for *(name)* and for all they meant to me and to others.

As I remember *(name)* in love, help me to know that you are there,

holding all my hopes, holding all I love, especially *(name)*, and holding me this day.

Be close with your peace and hope.

Amen.

And as we remember St Luke, the physician, this coming Sunday, pray for those researching a vaccine, pray for those physically ill at this time, pray for those ill with anxiety or other mental health issues, pray for those mourning, and pray for God's healing touch to fill all those in need, to take away fear and anxiety and replace it with God's precious peace.

We know that for many of you the uncertainty and anxiety about lockdown restrictions and health continues. We want to remind you that we are here for you. If you find you need a chat, prayer, or some practical help then do reach out – either by phoning 01432 273086 or by contacting your Pastoral Coordinator.

We hope these resources help you feel connected as we worship as a scattered Church. Please be assured that you are not forgotten and that you are remembered in our prayers – and that we long for the day when we can meet again as the whole church in one body and one place.

God Bless,
Ruth and Jo