

## **May 2021 Update for Shudy Camps Parish Council from St Marys**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back into the church over the next few months. When restrictions relax, and our confidence builds, we are expecting to see more parishioners.

Social – The church is opening up for services with singing (soon) and coffee afterwards later this month! We are looking to restart café church, etc so we can meet up and make good use of this community space; we aim to run events like the Harvest Supper and the Christmas Concert again later this year.

General – The church has been open to all during restrictions most days for quiet reflection and prayer with limited services held in line with the regulations.

Finance – We actively seek support for the church from the whole community and look forward to working closely together to safeguard the church's future. Fundraising events and some services were on ice during lockdown and congregations reduced. Finance remains an area of concern.

Church fabric – The recent Quinquennial Report is likely to recommend continuing maintenance and repair as well as highlighting matters to keep under review. The architect, Henry Freeland, carried out the inspection towards the end of March and we await his findings. The tower needs a good clean and pigeons banished; the nave ceiling requires attention and the tower has vertical cracks that need to be watched. The electrical and heating systems have been serviced and are in order.

The churchyard – Has been maintained well during the lockdowns. A big thank you to Colin Jobson, the team from Glebe House and everyone else who has helped. The trees seem to be standing and sound at least for the moment!

Electoral Roll – remains consistent though we look forward to welcoming anyone that wishes to get involved in any way no matter how large or small.

James Manning, Churchwarden