



**WREXHAM MISSION AREA**  
**ARDAL GENHADAETH WRECSAM**

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, RHOSTYLLEN**

Samuel Erlandson BA BTh MA ARCO FGMS  
The Vicarage  
Vicarage Hill  
Rhostyllen  
Wrexham  
LL14 4AR

30<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

May the love, peace, and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all as we continue to struggle through these extraordinary times. I am longing for the day when some form of gathered worship may resume in our Churches, although there, at this moment, seems to be no definite news on this topic. I am doing all I can for you as a faithful pastor during this time through online worship, on our facebook pages and websites, as well as through these printed materials. Hopefully, they are just about enough to keep the flame of the Holy Spirit burning within us. However, even I am beginning to struggle to sustain a deep and passionate faith when I am unable to pray and worship with the flock God has entrusted to me.

It has been a genuine delight to phone around the congregation, to catch up, and to touch base. Whether the conversation lasts just two minutes or over an hour, it gladdens my heart to keep in touch with you all, to hear how well you are all keeping strong in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the genuine love and concern you have for each other. These troubling times have brought out some remarkable qualities within us, and true charitable love for each other seems to be one of them. This shows that even in the darkest moments nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord, and that God's glory can break through some of the most difficult times.

Brothers and sisters, I urge us to remain strong in this faith. To hold to the cross is to hold onto hope. Although we all yearn for the day when we can worship together without fear, I feel that there are plenty of difficulties left to come post-lockdown. The worship we come back to may have so many restrictions in place, it may not feel like the worship we're used to, the nations economy has taken a huge blow, and this will effect even more of those who are already struggling. The nation will need us to be shining more brightly than ever with the love, hope, and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is quite a responsibility, especially if we are among those who are suffering, but this is our vocation.

I pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit to strengthen, encourage, and enliven us as we face the next stage. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Rev Sam Erlandson BA, BTh, MA Holy Trinity Church Rhostyllen, 114 Wrexham Rd, Rhostyllen, Wrexham LL14 4DN

[www.holytrinity.wrexhamparish.org.uk](http://www.holytrinity.wrexhamparish.org.uk)

[s.erlandson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:s.erlandson@hotmail.co.uk)

01978 513716

Eglwysi Anglicanaidd Wrecsam: Escobaeth Llanelwy, Eglwys yng Nghymru Wrexham Anglican Churches: Diocese of St Asaph, Church in Wales