

Lancaster Priory Saturday March 18th 2023

9.30am to 4pm

Timetable

Exploring the Stories of COVID

A day exploring the impact of COVID from a personal, community and faith perspective by listening to our experiences and reflecting on the implications of those experiences for our communities.

Background

The words unparalleled and unique were frequently used to describe the events that unfolded as COVID swept across the world. The measures taken to try and manage its spread were unprecedented and, in many ways, untested. So many stories have been left unsaid or swept under the carpet as the world rushes to move on. It feels important to give voice to some of those stories and in doing so reflect on how we might ensure those stories are not lost as well as consider how to help communities create safe enough spaces for those stories to be shared and support offered as needed.

Aim:

Create a space where we can hear people's stories around COVID

Think theologically and pastorally about how we might respond as individuals and as communities.

Draft outline of the day

10.00 Opening reflections	Bishop of Carlisle – Rt Rev James Newcombe lead Bishop for Healthcare
10.30 The hidden story of COVID and Public Health	Dr Sakthi Karunanithi (Director of Public health Lancashire) TBC
11.00 Time to ponder and reflect Three words that capture your experience Light a candle Finding images that speak of your own experience Tea and coffee	Guided reflection led by Rev Leah Vasey-Saunders
11.40 The cost of caring during the COVID pandemic	Dr Emily Cooper Associate Specialist in Anaesthesia and Critical Care Wrightington, Wigan & Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
12.00 Being a hospital Chaplain during COVID	Rev Canon Anne Edwards Chaplaincy & Spiritual Care Manager Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
12.20 Mental health conversation cards Conversations in small groups Time to ponder	led by Rev Canon Anne Edwards All the delegates
13.00 Lunch	
13.40 Theological ponderings	Rev Dr Susan Salt Curate Lancaster Priory

14.00 Living with long COVID

Rev Dr Isabelle Hamley
Secretary for Theology and Ecumenical Relations
and Theological Adviser to the House of Bishop.

14.20 Holding our stories workshop
learning to hear each other by listening well

Alison O'Brien (TBC)
Director of Ashar, a charity promoting good mental
health across Shropshire, Mid Wales and Lancashire

15. 20 Break

15.30 Questions and suggestions around what next

Speakers / delegates
Chaired by Bishop James

15.50 Summary and close

Leah Vasey-Saunders
Vicar of Lancaster

Priory booking system for events

Charge £10 to cover the cost of a packed lunch and tea and coffee (£5 for students and unwaged)

Encourage people to come by public transport as parking is tricky.