

## **Churchyard Policy Regarding Reservation of Grave Spaces**

Under Canon Law a qualifying parishioner has the right to be buried in a churchyard, provided that there is room, and may apply for a faculty to reserve a grave space (often for 25 years). However, part two of the application requires the support of the Incumbent and PCC before this might be granted.

On 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 the Parochial Church Council of St Luke's unanimously passed the following resolution:

'Faculty applications to reserve a plot in the churchyard and a plot in the Garden of Remembrance will not be supported by PCC'.

Although this might be a great disappointment to some, we felt compelled to reluctantly take this course of action because the churchyard now has very few spaces available for new graves - approximately ten at the time of passing this resolution.

We were aware that if we were to support any application for grave space reservation that there are many PCC and church members who would like to reserve a space for themselves and their families, forcing us to apply to have the churchyard officially closed.

Most importantly, this would mean that parishioners dying in the near future, even though they might predecease by many years those who have reserved places, could not be buried in St Luke's churchyard.

Further information can be obtained from:

liverpooldiocesanregistry.co.uk/faculty-jurisdiction/churchyards