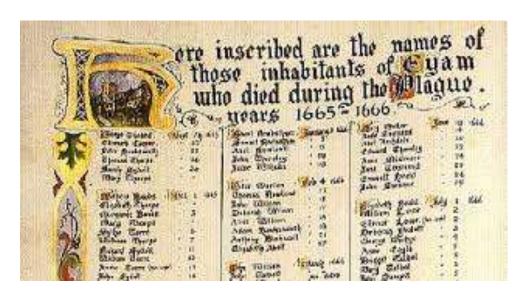# A REFLECTION ON SACRIFICE

In September 1665 during the outbreak of the Bubonic Place a bundle of cloth was transported to the Derbyshire village of Eyam. With that cloth came the Plague.

As people began to fall sick the village took the decision to isolate themselves from the rest of their world. Led by their village priest, Rev. William Mompesson, and his predecessor, Rev. Thomas Stanley the quarantine was established

A boundary stone was set up where villagers placed money in a bowl of vinegar water and people from neighbouring villages and outlying farms left food.

By the time the Plague had ended in Eyam over a year later in November 1666, over 250 people had died out of a population of 350.

The sacrifice of the people of Eyam spared neighbouring villages from the Plague.

During this season of Lent we are looking towards the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
His willing sacrifice on the cross shattered the power of sin.

Resurrection is the triumph of life and victory over the power of sin and death and evil.

As we approach Easter do we allow the power of the Resurrection to set us free from the power of sin or are we still caught up in our pride and selfishness?

The villagers of Eyam decided to sacrifice themselves so that others would be spared.
Jesus sacrificed himself so that we would be spared the crippling effects of sin.

How do we respond to that sacrifice and allow the Holy Spirit to transform us both in the light of Easter and the Corona Virus?

Songs of Fellowship 12: The Servant King

Lord, as we approach Easter the spread of a virus reminds us of the easy spread of sin. The effects of a virus remind us of the damaging effects of sin.

Help us to focus on the cross of Christ and to be set free from the power of sin so that the sacrifice he made transforms us and the world around us.

For all those whose self-sacrifice and compassion is shining through at this time we give you our thanks.

In the name of Christ we pray. Amen

Rev. Heather Cooper, Superintendent