

The aim was to support those who might not be able to access church worship during the first lockdown, although it was open for all.

All calls are free from UK landline and mobile numbers and the service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The service has continued since April last year and recently celebrated its 500,000th call.

There are a regular and faithful group of people for whom DailyHOPE is a lifeline, with some calling more than once a day. As it continues its ministry, we would love to encourage parishes and other churches to keep sharing the free telephone number: 0800 804 8044 with their members and friends.

Reflecting on continued need for the DailyHOPE telephone service as we emerge from the lockdown, the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell said:

DailyHOPE is all about bringing prayer and words of encouragement and comfort direct to people in their homes which is amazing. I am praying that all who have called to listen in will have found words that spoke into their lives and brought hope in what has been a difficult time.

And while as a nation we are finding out how measures might begin to ease and church buildings begin to reopen, it's important that we remember the many thousands of people who may be vulnerable due to their health or their age and who still want to stay in touch on the phone or online.

Since its launch, a range of new material has regularly been added to the telephone to support those who are regularly engaged with its service including Sleep Well with DailyHOPE, mental health reflections from Pam Rhodes, specific content for Thy Kingdom Come and much more.

Over the summer, the much loved material from last summer, Holiday at Home on the Phone on option 3 will be returning. Whether you are going away, or just staying at home, this option has a mixture of readings and sounds for the summer.

Here's a taster of what to expect: <https://soundcloud.com/the-church-of-england/dailyhope-holiday-at-home-day-taster>

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