



Guidelines for Public Worship

from Sunday 9 August 2020

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone in our church community, the Parochial Church Council has agreed the following guidelines for public worship. Thank you very much for your help and support in ensuring that we can worship and meet together responsibly and carefully.

- If you or any member of your household are exhibiting any symptoms associated with Coronavirus (*a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell*), please do not attend public worship, but stay at home and self-isolate.
 - Those over the age of 70 are at an increased risk, regardless of medical conditions. They are asked to stay home as much as possible. But their decision to attend public worship is theirs to make freely.
 - Those who are shielding in the ‘*clinically extremely vulnerable*’ group are advised to stay at home, respecting Government advice.
- We are asking that those wishing to attend public worship on a Sunday morning to arrive from 10.45am, in order that we can limit our time together in the church building. It is best not to arrive too early and to leave promptly at the conclusion of the service.
- To comply with guidance from the Government and the Church of England in line with requirements established by the NHS Test and Trace system, one of the Churchwardens will make a note of who is present at public worship which will be kept for 21 days. It would be helpful if those attending worship could make sure that their details have been recorded. This information will be held securely for a limited period, and only used in the event of needing to contact people if someone in the congregation develops a symptom of Coronavirus.
- Following guidance from the Government, the wearing of **face coverings** by congregations in church buildings is now **mandatory** and strongly advised in order to protect others, unless you have a medical condition which advises against wearing one. If you do not have a face covering, there will be some available in church for you to use.

- Please ensure that you observe social distancing guidelines, keeping a **two metre** distance from others at all times.
- Entry into the church building will be through the main south door in the porch. The doors of the church building will be kept open during the service to aid ventilation.
- You will need to sanitise your hands thoroughly before entering and leaving the church building.
- There will be no service books or hymn books in use. A single-use service sheet will be provided for our worship. Please take it home with you and recycle if possible.
- A steward will direct you to those parts of the church where you can sit.
- Please sit in a pew with a 'runner' in place, avoiding sitting in front of others.
- Please avoid unnecessary touching of surfaces or moving around the church building.
- Please refrain from speaking too loudly, there will be no singing for the moment, though the service will be accompanied with music on the organ.
- There will be no collection taken physically - a plate will be available at the back of church.
- There will be no physical sharing of The Peace.
- For the distribution of Holy Communion (which will be received in one kind) please listen to the advice given to you by a steward, those sitting at the back of church will be directed to receive the sacrament first. Please observe a two metre distance from others when moving and use the hand sanitiser before and after receiving the sacrament. The sacrament will be received standing and in silence. There should be more distance than usual between you and the priest, please stretch out your hands with palms flat and the consecrated bread will be placed carefully in your hand. Please return to your seat down the south aisle, observing social distancing at all times. Those not wishing, at the moment, to receive Holy Communion will be able to pray a prayer of spiritual communion.
- For the moment, there will be no social time or refreshments served at the end of the service.
- When leaving church please leave down the nave aisle using either the main south door in the porch or the Lady Chapel door. Please use the hand sanitiser again before leaving.
- The toilet will be available for use, but only in case of emergencies.