

Dear Friends

This is the week that some of us are able to return to public worship at church. Unfortunately at this time individuals are not permitted to offer lifts to others so I know that will mean some of you are unable to get to church. Still others will be shielding or shielding others and some will just not feel ready yet. That is understood. Whether or not you return to church is an individual choice and must be your decision. There is absolutely no obligation. It won't be right for everyone. The newsletter will still be delivered in the usual way but on Saturdays so if you would like to follow the lessons please bring it with you.

The church will continue to be opened between 9am and 6pm for private prayer and Sarah will say morning and evening prayer as listed on the newsletter.

Public Worship: Holy Communion is offered at 9.45am on Sundays and a Service of the Word will be held at 9.30am on Wednesdays.

Things you may wish to consider for Public Worship:

The two metre rule will be observed at all times so entering church will be a slow process and you may have to queue. Please arrive in good time.

You will be met by a steward who will take your name for test and trace purposes either before or after the service.

To maximise the number of people the church can hold safely distanced, seating spots have been designated by a laminated card. You are asked **not** to move these up or down the pew and to leave them in place so that people who come for private prayer will know which seats have been used.

You will be asked to sanitize your hands as you enter church. Government guidance has changed and **people are now asked to wear a face covering in church**. We have a few disposable ones available. No collection will be taken during the service. A collection plate will be at the door. If you currently give in another way please continue to do

A steward inside the church will direct you to an available pew. Unfortunately, in order to maintain social distancing, seating is scattered throughout the church and you will not be able to choose your pew. Please remain in your seat space throughout the service.

Your service booklet will be on the seat and you are asked to put it in a box on the way out where it will stay for 72 hours before it can be re-used.

We will not be able to sing hymns or share the peace with one another.

If the service is Holy Communion people will be invited to receive the bread only. This is not compulsory. The bread will be brought to you in your pew by the priest wearing a face mask or visor. Hand sanitizer will be used by the priest before distribution.

Anyone feeling unwell is asked to stay at home. If you need to leave the service please ensure your name and contact details have been taken.

Everyone will need to leave church carefully to avoid congestion. It would be sensible if those nearest the door left first.

Obviously you will want to greet each other. Unfortunately we cannot offer refreshments and Church House will not be open. Please do not block path ways etc and keep your distance.

When you get home please wash your hands.

This will all seem very strange and slightly daunting at times so if you are anxious about anything please do contact me.

Finally our bell ringers are itching to get back into the bell tower. Unfortunately, they too must maintain social distancing rules and so not all the bells can be rung. This means that they will not be as tuneful as they would like. Government advice is that bells should only be ring for 15 minutes before a service. To enable as many as possible to ring they may also ring on Wednesdays when possible.