

Welcome back to in-church worship

General:

- Everyone is welcome to worship – there is no limit on the numbers worshipping, so long as we maintain social distancing
- If you are unwell with a high temperature or are experiencing COVID19 symptoms, please do not come until you have consulted your GP. Also if you have been self-isolating in the previous 2 weeks, please do not come just yet
- Those who have been ‘shielding’ should only come if medical guidance does not prohibit it
- Face coverings can be worn, if preferred. As face coverings are encouraged in all indoor public places, they are also encouraged in church.

On arrival:

- Please do not park anywhere you may block others at the end of the service or near the side door. Please also be considerate to residents around the church. You may need to park slightly further away
- Go to the side door to enter. There will be no entrance via the main door
- Keep apart when entering – please don’t gather in groups around the entrance
- A warden at the entrance, or soon after, will record names and contact numbers of all attending for track and trace (contact tracing) purposes – these records will only be kept for a maximum of 4 weeks
- Hand sanitize inside the door on entering
- Collect an Order of Service at the hand sanitizing station
- Green Books of Common Prayer will be placed on those pews being used – please leave in pew at the end of the service

Movement around church:

- A one-way movement system will be in place – entry by the side door and exit via the main door at the back of the church
- Those entering first should move to the back of the main body of the church to be seated, with seats being filled in order from the back
- Only sit on those pews in use, which will be marked
- Move to the next available seat
- Please sit in the inner part of the seat, away from the aisle, with a maximum of 3 in each pew. People in the same household can sit together, but please follow Executive guidance regarding sitting with people not in your own household
- The left transept (font side) will be set aside for those who would prefer to be a distance greater than 2 metres from others.
- Except to receive Holy Communion, do not move around the church before and during the service – if you need anything, signal to one of the wardens

After the service:

- Take your Order of Service home
- Leave the Book of Common Prayer in your pew
- Exit in order via the main door at the back – back pews leaving first, then next to back and so on. Then people in pulpit/eagle side transept, then people in font side transept
- Do not gather in groups in the aisles. Please remain seated and exit your pew and the church when you can at a distance
- Those in wheelchairs or with prams should wait until it is possible to leave via the side door at a distance from others
- Collection plates/baskets will be in the porch for envelopes and cash donations
- Hand sanitize in the main porch when leaving
- Please move away from the exit door quickly – if you wish to chat, you can do this well away from the door keeping your distance

General guidance:

- Services will be shorter than normal thereby reducing the risk of spreading virus.
- It is planned that services will not be held within 72 hours of the previous one, thus restricting the possibility of any lingering virus being caught from hard or soft surfaces, like pews and pew cushions.
- No congregational singing is permitted so hymn books will be removed, as will pew bibles.
- Music will be recorded or sung by a small number of singers well apart from each other and the congregation. There will be no robed choir
- Collection of offerings will not happen during the service – you can place your offering in a receptacle in the porch on the way out
- The Parish Centre will not be open, so there will be no toilet facilities
- If anyone is unwell during the service, or in the event of emergency, or needing to leave urgently, signal to a warden and/or leave by the nearest door
- Procedures are in place for dealing with a suspected COVID19 case in the church

Additional spacing

- We wish everyone to return to worship when you feel comfortable. To assist those who have been shielding, and those who are nervous about being back in church, we will leave one area where the congregation are much further than 2 metres apart
- The side transept where the font and sound system is situated is reserved for those who prefer to have additional spacing
- Please mention to the warden on entrance

Holy Communion

- The Eucharist is the central act of Christian worship and reverent obedience to the Lord's command in the Upper Room is absolutely essential to all that we are. However our experience of communion will be different for a while. Some will experience it only in a spiritual way, while others will experience it partly in a physical way. Nonetheless it will still be authentic
- When the service is Holy Communion, we will receive it in one kind only for a while, although both bread and wine will be consecrated. Review will happen by end of October at the latest
- Apart from the Celebrant, no-one will physically receive wine, although we can all receive the blood of Jesus spiritually
- Only the Celebrant will handle the Communion vessels
- Bread will be in the form of individual wafers
- Before and during distribution of bread, the Officiant will hand sanitize
- Bread will be distributed to each communicant in the central part of the church near the lectern, not at the Holy Table
- We are aware not everyone will wish to receive bread. That is absolutely understandable.
- Those who wish to receive bread will come in pew order to the central point of the church
- The Celebrant will wear a face covering to reduce the possibility of droplets being spread when speaking