

19 July 2020

Holy Communion in Church at 9am Sundays - in addition to Zoom worship which continues

Dear Friends,

Last week the PCC agreed to open our Church doors, in a limited way, on Sunday mornings at 9.00 a.m. The service will be a short Holy Communion, using the Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship. Zoom hosted services will continue at 10.00 a.m.

As we open the Church our priority is the safety and wellbeing of all. Therefore, although you are welcome to attend, you must feel **no obligation** to come to this Church service. If you consider yourself one of our older parishioners, or you feel in any way feel concerned about the risks, then please be sure that your decision NOT to attend is the right one. Also, if you are shielding or you need to isolate yourself then **you must not attend**, for your safety and the safety of others. Meeting in a group, even when following all the guidelines, is still more risky than staying at home and we urge anyone thinking of attending to be cautious. Our advice is, 'if in doubt, do NOT come!'

Over the Summer we will continue the 10.00 a.m. Zoom hosted service and we will continue to make our worship available on the Church website.

For those considering attending, please note that the following restrictions and guidance:

- We are limited to under 40 attendees including priests and those helping in the service. We are only using a third of the pews in order to keep to social distancing. We hope that there will be far fewer than forty attending. If there are more, we will have to reconsider our approach.
- We are limited in what we can do in Church. For example, we cannot sing or chant or take wine in communion. We cannot share the peace and must keep more than 6 feet from people at all times.
- We can only use the Church once on Sunday and we must close it for 3 days before and after.
This means that the Church will only open on Wednesday for individual prayer.
- We cannot easily take either money or envelopes by way of collection.
- We must take the name of attendees for Covid19 tracing if needed.
- We must follow strict hygiene rules, asking attendees to use the gel provided, to sit at most two individuals in a pew (keeping 6 feet apart) and to consider wearing a face covering. The latter may become compulsory.

This a tentative step towards corporate worship: Please pray for all those involved and also please be assured that we will be monitoring it closely and will amend or stop services should it become necessary. Our priority must be the safety and wellbeing of our community.

Kind regards

Peter Drysdale

Church Administration team