

Guidelines for being in church together from 16th August

I am sure we are all familiar with the general Government rules and guidelines that everyone is being called to follow – and of course, churches are no exception...

As with most things at the moment, returning to the past 'norm' is not possible and so we have had to adapt and make the best of an uncertain and unknown situation so that we can all be kept as safe as we possibly can.

A lot of work has gone into the planning and risk assessing, and for that, on behalf of all of us, I would like to hugely thank Sally Woods for the great deal of time and commitment she has put into this – along with Lynley Griffiths – to make this possible. Thank you SO much, Sally.....

For those of us who are able and feel they want to return to worshipping and gathering together Sunday by Sunday in our church building, these guidelines will hopefully give you some idea of what to expect.

I am sure we will all get the hang of things – like everything, it is sometimes more complicated to read the instructions, than to actually make the thing happen!

GUIDELINES:

- First and foremost – everything is set up to help us observe the social distancing of 2 metres.
- We should all be wearing masks unless exemptions apply (service leaders, readers and those leading prayer) The Priest will wear a mask during the administering of Communion. Please see the Church of England guidance for more information.
<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-08/COVID%2019%20advice%20on%20face%20coverings%20v3%20DRAFT.pdf>
- There will be facilities outside the door to sanitise our hands on arrival
- Please bring along any Test and Trace consent forms or complete one as you arrive
- The Stewards will help you in guiding you as to the 'flow' of travel – and where best to sit
- The chairs are set out accordingly – with seating for two people from the same household as well as individual seating.
- Notice sheets will be on the seats – please kindly take these home with you.
- **Services**
 - 8am – Regular Service – people will be asked to take home their service sheets and bring them each week
 - First Sunday – All Age Communion
 - Second Sunday – Parish Communion
 - Third Sunday – Service of the Word (on screen)
 - Fourth Sunday – Parish Eucharist (on screen)
 - Fifth Sunday – Parish Communion

We will see how things go – but we will start off with this worship pattern.

- There is no hymn singing – but there will be recorded music.

- We will be attempting to livestream the services – only the chancel will be filmed – please be assured, the congregation won't be on camera or readers/intercessors if they choose not to.
- Offertory – please put offerings in the offertory plate as you come in / leave
- **Communion**
 - There will be no physical sharing of the Peace.
 - Communion will be received in one kind only – there will be no chalice
 - People will be guided to receive Communion from the chancel – entering from the north side (left-hand side looking towards the altar) – and walking around the outer aisles back to one's seat.
 - Those who are unable to do so will be offered Communion at their seat.
- Toilets – toilets can be accessed via the main door and entering into the Leverton Hall via the double doors near the toilet. Please wash hands thoroughly and sanitise using the dispenser outside the toilets.
- Leaving
 - People are discouraged from socialising for too long after the service – and please remember to keep the social distancing measures! 😊