

## We are reopening for Public Worship

Many of you will have heard the wonderful news that our churches can reopen for public worship. We have been working hard to make sure that when we do open it is safe for everyone and we are delighted to be able to announce that from Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020 we will be able to gather together once more. Public worship will not be quite what you are used to so to help you prepare for what is new please read on ....

### **When I can attend?**

We are starting with Sundays and Mass will be held at the following times:

#### **Sunday Eucharists are as follows:**

8am and 4pm in St Theodore's

9.15am in St Agnes'

11am in St Mary's and Holy Trinity

#### **Mid week Eucharists are as follows:**

Mondays 6.30pm at St Agnes' (*commencing 10 August 2020*)

Tuesdays 10.00am at St Mary's (*commencing 4 August 2020*)

Wednesdays 10.00am at St Theodore's and Holy Trinity (*commencing 5 August 2020*)

Wednesdays 11.00am at St Mary's (*commencing 5 August 2020*)

Thursdays 10.00am at St Agnes' (*commencing 6 August 2020*)

### **What do I do before mass?**

It will be essential that we know that you are coming along as numbers will be limited to make sure we can seat you all safely. To reserve your space you need to contact the Sub Wardens:

#### St Agnes'

Mike Howe            01639 414595

or Paula Durnell    01639 770829

#### In St Mary's

Christine Morris    01639 774982

or Susan Hughes    07572 211063

#### In St Theodore's

Suzanne Amos        01639 882880

or Sian Thomas      07791 303358

## In Holy Trinity

Karen Davies                      01639 892395  
or Johanna Munian              01639 767197

Booking will open on the Monday of each week and will close on Friday at 8pm. Please tell us if you wish to attend with members of your household and we will do our very best to accommodate you. Some of our sub wardens work therefore we would ask that you try not to call during usual working hours.

Please also let us know if for any reason you will not be able to attend after you have booked in. Numbers will be limited so if we can offer the space to someone else that will help make sure everyone has a chance to come along.

We will need your name and contact number and we will need to keep this information, not only to make sure we get our numbers right, but also for Test and Trace purposes (for 14 days after the mass).

### **What if I cannot get a space?**

We hope that we are going to offer enough services to enable everyone to attend Mass that wishes to do so. It may be that you cannot attend your usual church if the spaces are taken up so please consider visiting one of the other churches in the Benefice.

### **What will the church look like?**

There will be less places to sit with lots of space in between to make sure that we can stay a safe 2 metres (6ft 6!) apart. In St Mary's and St Theodore's the pews will be clearly marked to show where you can sit and where space must be left, in St Agnes' and Holy Trinity the chairs will be spaced out. There will be lots of signs and reminders about keeping our social distance and there will be a one way system in operation. Hand sanitising stations will be at the entrance and exit points. Please do not worry, the sub wardens will be on hand to help you get used to the new system and to answer any questions. Visit our Facebook page [or the website?] to see Fr Ben giving you a virtual tour!

### **What happens when I arrive?**

You will be greeted by the sub wardens and we encourage you to sanitise your hands on arrival. To make sure that we maintain safe social distances from one another we will ask you to move directly to your seat where you will find your service booklet. We ask you to remain seated until Mass begins. Some of you will be seated in households and the sub wardens will show you to the designated areas.

### **What will happen during the service?**

The mass will be a said mass and for the time being we will not be able to sing. We will be sharing the peace with a smile and a wave until it is safe to shake hands once again. There will be communion in one kind and it will be administered to you in your seat. Extra care will be taken when preparing and the Priest will hand sanitise before the start of mass, before the Eucharistic prayer and before and after administering communion. The Priest will be wearing a face covering to protect you and will be taking care not to make contact with you. There will be no words said as you receive Holy Communion. We would ask you to bring along your own hand sanitiser to ensure that you are able to sanitise your hands before and after receiving Holy Communion.

### **What do I need to do when the service ends?**

We need to leave the church in an orderly way to ensure a steady flow as we make our way outside. You may have to remain seated for a short while as the sub wardens will be advising you when to exit to ensure a safe social distance can be maintained as we leave. We know that we have not been together for a long time so the temptation will be to stop and chat but please remember that we have to keep the pathway to the doors clear. The cleaning team needs to come in and sanitise to make sure that we keep the church clean and safe for your next visit! Please remember to take your service booklet home with you.

### **Can I still watch online?**

Absolutely yes! We will continue to live stream a mass on a Sunday. The time will change from 10am to 9.15am and those at St Agnes' will be part of the 'live congregation'!

### **I am not sure if I am ready to come back yet...**

That is perfectly OK. After many weeks of staying indoors and limiting our social contact many of us may be anxious and perhaps not want to return just yet. We will be here for you when you are ready!

### **What about collection? Can I bring my weekly giving with me?**

There will be no passing of the plate but there will be an opportunity to leave your weekly giving as you depart. We continue to encourage online giving where possible as, just like the shops, we would like to avoid having to handle cash at the current time.

### **What if I have more questions before I come?**

Please do get in touch with the wardens or the sub wardens if you have any questions and we will do our very best to answer them.