

Church Family Briefing note 1

Services in Christ Church – Covid Restrictions

Updated 01.04.2021

As we worship together in Christ Church please make sure that you are fully aware of current government Covid restrictions so that you keep yourself and others safe, we each come to church at our own risk during these times. There's a short video on our Church website of what to expect.

- As you wait to enter church please maintain 2m social distancing between permitted households/support bubbles.
- There are various notices in church explaining the use of hand gel, washing hands, way out directions and showing where people can and cannot sit. There is to be a degree of flexibility in the seating for where government guidance allows members of the same household to sit together & may occupy most of a single pew. Please follow the guidance.
- Following government guidance here will be no singing, no tea/coffee and the seating arrangements meeting appropriate social distancing with limited numbers.
- Communion will initially be taken from our seats bringing bread with us (see notice sheet)
- MOST IMPORTANTLY please do not come to church if you are feeling unwell or showing the warning symptoms given by our national press. If you need practical or prayer support let Rev Sue, Rev John or Geoff Birchmore know. If you are in the vulnerable category, please make yourself known on arrival and wait to be directed to a suitable safe seat.
- Bibles/books and Soft furnishings have been stored away. Please bring your own cushions if you need them.
- Wash hands immediately before leaving home and bring your own hand gel with you. Use sink in toilets to wash hands as needed. Hand gel is also available at various points in church.
- The current national and Church of England guidance on face covering is that the wearing of face masks is mandatory in church.

As you enter church

- Use either the QR code poster or complete a Test and Trace card provided as you enter. This is to support the NHS Test and Trace system all churches have been asked by the government to keep a record of everyone attending church worship, together with their contact details. We will hold these safely for 21 days, and will securely dispose of them afterwards. Unless you ask not to be included as you enter church we will assume you have given consent.
- Maintain government social distancing with others and sit with this space between your permitted household/support bubble and the next person. See notices on pews for which pews are open and which are closed.
- Please use your own pen to put names in the prayer book or sign the faith reference book.

During the service

- We will greet and share the peace by praying for each other rather than shaking hands
- We will not be passing the collection plate around. Please drop your offering in the offertory plates on the 'giving table' by the door as you leave church, or place it in the post box at the front of the giving table.
- Everyone will bring a small piece of bread with them and will stay seated for Communion.

As you leave church

- Maintain social distance with others and allow the rows behind to leave first.
- You may also leave out of the bell tower exit.