

Returning for worship at St Paul's Church

We are delighted to announce that our 10am Sunday services will commence again at St Paul's Church starting this **Sunday 19 July**.

The PCC have been working hard on a full risk assessment making sure everyone's safety is paramount.

CHURCH LAYOUT

Many chairs have been removed to ensure safe spacing between households, and those that remain have been put in clusters of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 chairs. You will be directed to your seats when you arrive. This means it is likely that you will not get to sit where you usually do, and that you will sit in a different place each week! **If you have not let the church office know that you intend to come, then please do so immediately as it is helpful for us to know who is coming.** It is possible that more people will come than we can safely seat. If that happens, we will have no choice but to ask you to come back another time.

The church still has seating on the left and right with a central aisle and side aisles, but please note that if you are seated on the left then you must exit by the left-hand door. If you are seated on the right, you must leave by the right-hand door.

ARRIVING AT CHURCH

Please arrive at the main entrance as normal. If you arrive at the same time as others you may need to queue along the path that leads to the hall. Please maintain the social distancing requirements as you do so.

On arriving at church, you will be asked to hand sanitise. So that we don't have everyone using the dispenser a member of our welcome team will place a small amount in your hands.

In order to support the NHS Test and Trace programme, we are taking contact details (name and telephone number) for all visitors. In line with guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care, we will keep your details safely and in compliance with GDPR legislation for 21 days before securely disposing of or deleting them. We will only share your details with NHS Test and Trace, if asked, in the event that it is needed to help stop the spread of coronavirus. We will not use your details for any other purposes or pass them on to anyone else. A Privacy Notice explaining how the information about you will be used will be on display, and you can ask the Church Office to send you a copy. Thank you for your understanding.

You will then be directed to your seats.

Toilets: We need to have a one household in, one household out policy. The welcome team will be monitoring this upon arrival. Please sanitise your hands before entering. If you need to use the toilet before the start of the service, you should exit through the side door and re-enter the main entrance (if you are physically able to do so). Anti-bacterial wipes will be available so that you can clean any surfaces you touch (taps, door hands etc).

Doors & Windows: Please note that doors and windows will be opened at 9:30am to air the building and they will remain open throughout the service (weather permitting). This means it is likely to be drafty - please be prepared for this!

Face coverings: The welcome team and warden will be wearing face masks or visors. Though we will soon have to wear face coverings in shops, we do not yet know if this will apply to any inside environment. For the time being they are optional in church, so please bring a face covering with if you would like to. We will have some available in church if you do not have one.

LEAVING THE CHURCH

At the end of the service we will all leave the church one row at a time, through the nearest side door. If you are unable to walk far or step out of the side doors you may leave via the main entrance. Please remain in your seats until directed to leave the building.

On leaving the church you will be asked to hand sanitise. A member of the welcome team will be at the side doors to administer this.

There will also be a basket by each exit into which you may wish to place an offering/donation. The card reader will also be available.

THE SERVICE

The service will be a little different in the following ways.

1. **Singing** is not permitted and so there will be no hymns sung. There will be a song at the start and end of the service but please do **NOT** sing along however tempting this may be.
2. **Communion**: Only Matt will be taking the wine; not ideal we know but we must follow the guidelines. Individual wafers will be used. Matt will walk around the congregation and gently drop an individual wafer into your hands. Matt will do this in silence. It is good practice to hand sanitise your hands prior to receiving the 'bread' so please either bring your own sanitiser or raise your hand prior to Matt reaching you and the warden will place some sanitiser into your hands.
3. Please be assured that Matt will wash his hands prior to distributing the 'bread'.
4. **Bibles**: please bring your own NIV bible as we are unable to use the church bibles.
5. **Prayer Ministry**: Please note there will be no Prayer Ministry for a while. Please contact the pastoral care team in the usual way if you would like to talk to anyone.
6. **Refreshments**: At the moment we will not be serving refreshments. We hope to be able to do this soon. In the meantime, please bring your own bottle of water.
7. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the funds for the '**Live Streaming**' equipment. We are delighted to say that we have reached our target. It will be a little time before we can live stream our services so in the meantime we will continue with our online services as well.
8. We want to **keep the church family together** as much as we can and understand that we can't all return to church straight away. With this in mind we are working on a rota that still has those who can't return to church, reading and sending in their recordings. In this way we hope to keep everyone involved. Those unable to return to church will still find a service online in the usual way.

CRECHE AND SUNDAY CLUB

Sunday Club: Unfortunately, we will not be running a Sunday Club at the moment. We are very conscious of the lack of provision for children at this time but must ensure everyone's safety. Services will be child friendly and we will still hold monthly All-Age services. We are working on providing activities for the children to do during the service. Please bring colouring pens for your children to use!

Creche: The creche room will be available for families with young children to use. Families will need to ensure the correct social distancing is maintained between households. Please bring your own toys with you.

We look forward to welcoming you on Sunday and please be assured that we have conducted a full risk assessment for your safety. Yes, church will be different but at least we can start to get back and over time hopefully things will get back to normal.