

WE ARE RE-OPENING!

ST. MARK'S CHURCH IS WORSHIPPING AGAIN

~

SUNDAY 12 JULY at 10.30am

for a Eucharist

to mark the return to our building

after all this time!

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We look forward to welcoming you all back to our Church, which has now been prepared for public worship, following the Covid-19 regulations issued by the government and the Church of England authorities at the beginning of July.

Do join us once again ... but you will need to be aware of the changes required within the building, as follows:

There will be ONE Service per week, which will be a Eucharist at 10.30am on Sundays.

You will be required to follow all the Sanitising instructions: upon entry and exit of the building, and before you receive Communion. Sanitising Stations have been set up within the Church.

You will notice that there is a one-way system throughout the building, marked clearly by arrows and guiding tape, which you are required to follow.

You must try to follow the social-distancing requirement of being at least 6 feet apart from other people at all times.

Everyone must only sit in the designated areas – and you must sit alone, or with your "family bubble". However tempting it is to want to sit with friends, that is to be avoided if they are not part of your 'bubble'.

Stewards will be greeting you as you arrive – and please follow any instructions which they give. It is for your own safety.

No monetary collection will be taken during the Service. Please leave any cash gift in the glass jar at the back of the Church, and put any 'planned giving' envelopes on the plate beside it.

Please keep to a minimum the touching of any surfaces within the building. Antiseptic wipes are available if you wish to use them – please ask one of the stewards.

EVERYONE is welcome to join us! We ask that any children be kept as supervised as possible, but realise that they may 'wander around', which is OK. There is no play area available, so please bring your own toy or colouring-book – and don't forget to take it home. Make sure that you sanitise their hands as you enter the building. Be aware that no "Bread of Friendship" will be available.

Older People (70+ years and/or vulnerable) are also WELCOME. Church of England guidelines leave it to your discretion as to the risk of entering a public building; the government would prefer you to stay away, but do also acknowledge 'personal choice'. Be aware of your own health issues, and act accordingly ... but we do hope to see you, if we can!

People who are shielding must NOT attend our Church at this time, in order to comply with Public Health England guidelines.

Upon entry to the Church, you will be required to give the steward your name and contact details in order to comply with Public Health England's "Track & Trace". We will keep that information for the statutory 21 days, and then will destroy it, in compliance with Data Protection (Covid-19) Regulations.

Should you need to use the toilet, please discreetly speak with the steward to check that it is available – do not form a queue! You must follow all the necessary hygiene requirements, of fully washing your hands and sanitising them afterwards before returning into the main part of the building.

The wearing of face-coverings is not required, but you are free to do so if it feels more comfortable.

The Service will be Said, with no singing. The Peace will not be shared.

Communion will be administered standing at the Nave altar-rails. You will be asked to sanitise your hands before individually stepping forward. Stewards will guide you to form a socially-distanced queue.

Communion will be in one kind only, the wafer being dropped into your upturned palm. There will be no words said.

There will be no refreshments after the Service – and you are encouraged to hold any [socially-distanced] conversations outside of the building

The text of the Service will be provided on a 'single-use' sheet; no books or bibles will be available, so we encourage you to bring your own bible if you wish to follow the scripture readings. Don't forget to take it home with you afterwards.

Please do not feel obliged to come forward for Communion if you do not feel it appropriate.

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*All of this may seem very regimented – and we apologise if it all looks rather alarming – but we are confident that all will be OK, and on the day we should have the amazing sensation of being back in Church, worshipping God, and savouring the sacrament, prayers and wonder that is our faith.*

**WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL JOIN US!**

**SUNDAY 12 JULY at 10.30am ... and [hopefully] every week thereafter**

Fr. IAN