

WORSHIP ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SUMMER

After discussion with the PCC and the Standing Committee, new arrangements for worship during August have been agreed and a Risk Assessment prepared.

The main points are as follows:

- The 8am service of Holy Communion will be reinstated; services at 10am on Sunday and 11am on Wednesday will continue.
- Prior booking will no longer be required, but worshippers will be asked to supply their name and phone number for Test and Trace or use the QR code on display.
- Weather permitting, the 10am Sunday service will take place outside, with worshippers bringing their own seating or using chairs from church, no requirement for mask wearing and unaccompanied singing allowed.
- At the 8am Sunday and 11am Wednesday services, worshippers will be expected to continue to keep socially distanced, using the designated pew ends and wearing masks.
- If the 10am Sunday service takes place inside church, there will be no singing but mask wearing will be optional; alternate pews (other than those used at 8am) will be used to enable distribution of communion but otherwise seating will be at worshippers' discretion and social distancing within pews will not be required.
- Hand sanitiser will continue to be available and worshippers encouraged to bring their own; single use service sheets will be provided; and the sacrament distributed to worshippers in one kind.
- Worshippers will be asked not to move around or touch one another during the sharing of the Peace but to continue the current practice of nodding, waving etc.

These arrangements have been drawn up in the light of current guidance provided by the Church of England (www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance#na) and of the continuing risks and current uncertainties about the rate of Covid-19 transmission. Hopefully they mark a stepping-stone to a fuller relaxation in the autumn whilst acknowledging the concerns of those who have been faithfully attending worship but have appreciated the precautions operating up till now. I therefore hope that the stipulations about mask wearing and social distancing at the 8am Sunday and 11am Wednesday services will be respected. The summer weather will (hopefully!) provide the opportunity to be more relaxed at an outdoor 10am service, building on the experience of the outdoor Family Service.