

Christ Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd

ARRANGEMENTS FOR RETURNING TO CHURCH

In preparation for re-opening our churches for public worship, we have:

- ensured the churches have been thoroughly cleaned and aired
- provided hand-sanitizer close to the main doors, by the toilets, and elsewhere
- made arrangements for seating at 2m social distance
 - At CC, this means indicating available places with green 'tick' cards on the pews, and those not available with red 'cross' cards (reinforced by placing kneelers on pews not in use).
 - At GS, arranging chairs for individuals, couples, households and 'bubbles' to keep with their group but socially distanced from others
- carefully considered all elements of our services to ensure everyone is safe

We ask everyone to follow safe practice:

- Maintain 2m social distance at all times possible, including when entering and leaving the church as well as during the service
- Sanitize your hands on entry to the building and if using the toilets
- Use designated seats only (see above)
- Agree to your name being kept on a list for 21 days for 'test and trace' purposes
- Wearing of face masks is a matter of personal choice
- Please be patient!

What will be different?

- Services will feel very different. In fact, they will be more like those we have had in our homes over recent months than the ones we were used to before
- There will be no paper orders of service: words will be displayed on the screen
- Hymn-singing is not currently allowed.
- We cannot offer refreshments, and socialising after the service is not encouraged
- Children are welcome, but must stay with their parents/carers. There is no Junior Church
- There will be an offertory plate or box at the back of church, together with a contactless card reader.

Should I come?

- We have done everything we can to make the church safe. It is for each individual to decide for themselves whether you feel comfortable coming, especially if you belong to a vulnerable group.
- If you belong to an extremely clinically vulnerable group, the recommendation is to stay at home
 - We will continue to provide the online service and DVD for those not online each week
 - Do not come to church if you have Covid symptoms: keep everyone safe
 - If you are fit and well, it would be great to see you!

If some of this sounds obvious, my apologies: it has to be said anyway.

Rev Phil Wootton
(on behalf of Standing Committee)