

Parish of Tettenhall: Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions post 19/07/21

After many months of legal restrictions, we have now moved to a phase of voluntary action. The focus is on the personal and corporate responsibility of individuals and organisations to protect others as well as ourselves. As churches, whilst avoiding being over restrictive, we recognise the needs of those more vulnerable than ourselves. Whilst amongst ourselves there are different attitudes towards risk, as the clergy and Wardens of the Parish of Tettenhall Wood, we encourage those in church to bear the following points in mind:

Track and Trace

- This facility will be made available on Sundays. Those who wish to use it can do so either through the displayed QR codes or through a paper record
- For those coming to Christ Church during the week for private prayer, only the QR code method will be available.
- Leaving your name and contact number is entirely voluntary and on an opt-in basis; records will be used for no other purpose than Track and Trace, and will be destroyed after 21 days

Sanitizing

- Hand-sanitizers remain available at entrances and exits, by toilets and elsewhere
- Please continue to sanitize on arrival, departure and before receiving Communion

Ventilation

- Doors and windows will be kept open wherever possible to maximise air-flow
- Our churches have extremely high ceilings, allowing air to circulate very easily

Social Distancing

- People are still encouraged to sit at a distance of 1m+ from those of other households
- Seating lay-outs will be amended to allow those who wish to sit together to do so, whilst respecting the space of those (currently assumed to be the majority) who prefer to keep their distance
- *Please have patience over the coming week as we work out what is the best practical layout*

Face-Coverings

- Face masks are strongly encouraged when social distancing is not possible
- Social distancing is generally not possible on your way in and out of church, and when receiving Communion, so please wear masks on these occasions

Liturgy and Hymns

- In the main Sunday services, the words of the liturgy and hymns will continue to be projected on screen, rather than using orders of service and hymn books
- Hymn-singing is now allowed, although there remain some concerns about the spread of particles on the breath. We are therefore encouraged to sing quietly and prayerfully, rather than loudly and exuberantly. We should remain seated for hymns, for the time-being.

Holy Communion

- The Peace: We will continue to share the Peace by word and gesture only, without physical contact or moving around the church.
- Holy Communion will continue to be offered in one kind (the bread) only. There will be no sharing of the chalice.
- Both the priest administering Communion and the people receiving should wear masks

- At Good Shepherd, it is intended to allow communicants to come forward to receive Communion individually at the front (as is already the case at Christ Church). The option of receiving at your own seat remains open.

Refreshments and Socialising

- Where refreshments are possible, they should be consumed outside, weather permitting
- Socialising should be outside of the church building. If the weather does now allow that, then conversations should be kept short

Cleaning

- Most enhanced cleaning measures remain in place
- The 'I sat here' cards are still to be available at Christ Church for those coming in for private prayer
- Same-day money counting can resume (without a week's quarantine). Money-counters to take great care with hand-hygiene.