

Dear All

What marvellous weather we are enjoying, we hope you are able to take advantage of it.

Update on Return to Services

We are delighted to report that our **first service will be at 0930 on Sunday 23rd August**. Rev. Andrew Stamp will be leading the service for us. We will also be open on Sunday 30th August and again on 6th September. Currently we have no cover for Sunday 13th September but will be open again on 20th September.

Given the current restrictions, at the moment we can only safely accommodate 22 people in St Mary's and it is therefore likely that we will have to ask people to book a seat for the 23rd and possibly beyond.

More details will be sent next weekend but in the meantime here is some basic information.

- **Everyone will need to wear a face covering during the service** (unless of course you have a medical exemption) which will only be removed before and after taking communion.
- Although we will provide hand sanitiser you may like to bring your own bottle to use during the service when your face covering is removed/re-worn.
- There will be no collection during the service but there will be a retiring collection. We can provide a gift aid envelope when you arrive but you will need to bring a pen to complete it. Money should not be placed in the envelope but be put loosely in the collection receptacle with the amount you have given written on the front of the envelope. (You will be able to take additional envelopes home for future use).
- Only 2 persons can sit in each available pew unless of course you are visiting as a household of a greater number.
- In order to comply with the government's track and trace obligations on arrival we will need to take a name and telephone number for each household that attends. This information will be retained for 21 days.
- Churchwardens and sidespersons will guide you regarding entering the building and seating arrangements.
- There will be no singing although there will be music during the service.
- At the end of the service you will be guided to leave immediately in small groups and must not gather outside of the door or in the church grounds.
- The churchwardens will be setting up the church for the service and will be shutting everything afterwards.

As we say, more detail next week, including booking details.

OPENING FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Advance Notice

St Mary's will not be open for individual private prayer on Wednesday 19th August (as there will have been a funeral on 17th) or Saturday 22nd August to allow us to open for a service on 23rd.

N.B. Going forward, each time we are able to offer a service on Sunday St Mary's will not open on the Saturday.

Wearing of Face Coverings

The wearing of face coverings is mandatory in places of worship from 8th August.

In light of this, **if you are intending to visit St Mary's during the openings for private prayer, please bring a face covering.**

- Saturday 8th August 2.00pm-4.00pm
- Wednesday 11th August 1000 – 1200
- Saturday 15th August 2.00pm – 4.00pm
- Wednesday 19th August CLOSED
- Saturday 22nd August CLOSED
- Wednesday 26th August 1000 – 1200
- Saturday 29th August CLOSED
- Wednesday 2nd September 1000 -1200
- Saturday 5th September CLOSED

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This week is the **Ninth Sunday after Trinity.**

Thank you to Stephen for continuing to produce the **pewslip.**

We hope we can all meet again very soon. In the meantime, if you have any questions do please contact us. Remember to stay safe.

Carol & Willem