

All Saints Chillenden

Proposed format of services from 8 August 2021

We would like to welcome everyone to All Saints Chillenden for the resumption of physical services from August 2021. The safety and wellbeing of everyone in our congregation is our utmost priority and we want to ensure everyone is comfortable and confident in the measures we have put in place to ensure you can enjoy the peace and joy of worshipping in our church.

We have taken into account the guidance and recommendations from the Church of England as published on 19 July 2021. We have carried out and updated our risk assessments with the knowledge and experience of running services in this small rural parish church and understanding the characteristics of our congregation.

With this in mind we have reshaped our services to balance necessary sensible precautions (such as limiting movement in and out of the church, etc) with the desire to begin living with Covid as well as respecting people's personal and individual choices about their own comfort and safety.

Until further notice therefore, our services will follow this general pattern, commencing at 9am:

1. The congregation will gather outside the church for a simple briefing, notices and the signing of the first hymn.
 - a. Hymn books and service sheets will be provided at the entrance. Please place them back there at the end of the service
 - b. Face coverings will be recommended but not compulsory. We will respect people's choice. Please respect theirs.
 - c. We will ask people to maintain as much space around each other people as is practical. Whilst full social distancing is not mandatory, please recognise that not everyone will be comfortable about close contact.
 - d. Hand sanitiser will be provided and suggested that everyone uses it prior to entry and on exit, and will be available prior to the communion
 - e. A simple register of attendees will be taken, and people are asked to check in on the NHS venue QR code
2. It is requested that family groups, households or 'bubbles' use the pews on the north side, and singletons spread themselves around on the south side pews.
3. We will keep the windows and the door open throughout the service to ensure as much ventilation as possible.
4. The second & third played hymns will not be sung but played through by the organist for quiet contemplation
5. Communion will be in two parts, with the wine provided in individual cups. Queuing and passing will be minimised to limit close contact.
6. The final hymn will be sung outside after the blessing.
7. Coffee will be left on trays for self-service. People will be encouraged to take coffee outside and to not socialise inside. We will provide single-use cups.
8. Collection plate will not be passed round but left at entrance for individual offerings.
9. In the event of inclement weather hymns will not be sung outside