



St John The Divine Rastrick

Reopening Arrangements following Lockdown

from 16th August 2020

The PCC and church wardens are very happy to welcome you to services in church. In the first instance there will be just one service at 11am each Sunday there will be no early morning worship. Services will alternate between Morning Worship and Holy Communion. Under current guidelines these services will be said services, there will be no singing and will last approximately 45 minutes

While it is not possible to eliminate risk completely, or guarantee a risk-free environment, St John's is committed to undertaking a thorough risk assessment to mitigate risks. The risk assessment will be reviewed and updated on an on-going basis following government/diocesan guidance, as Covid-19 restrictions continue to be either eased further or re-imposed.

Arriving and Leaving

We will enter by the main door nearest St Johns street and leave by the door at the rear right of the church. The social distancing rule of 2 metres apart will remain in place, except in situations where closer contact cannot be avoided. Under the latest government guidelines face coverings are required whilst in church. Use of the toilet should be avoided if possible. There will be no refreshments served

Worshippers will be asked to:

- Sit on one of the chairs where an order of service will have been placed
- Complete an attendance card to record contact details for track and trace purpose (to be destroyed after 21 days). This should be completed and put in the box as you exit the building. Please bring your own pen/pencil.
- leave their collection on the plate at the back of church on arrival.
- Sanitize hands on way in and out of church

The Liturgy

- The service will be said, music may be played to accompany the service, but there will be no singing
- If you are reading, please bring your own bible or a printout of the relevant passage
- There will be no physical exchange of the Peace

Holy Communion

- The Priest alone will take the Sacrament in full; everyone else receives the bread only. The Priest will sanitize their hands before the Consecration Prayer and again before the distribution of the bread, (or wear gloves)
- People should wait in their seat until they move to the communion rail in one line, maintaining social distance they will return to their seat through the vestry or the Lady Chapel.
- Should a blessing be required you should come forward but keep your hands by your side – the blessing will be without physical contact

On-Line Services

Many people have appreciated the online services and the Church wardens and PCC wish to thank all those who have contributed to these services during the lockdown, in the immediate future they will continue to be available weekly on the St Johns website www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk and will as far as possible mirror the worship taking place in church.

All welcome

We appreciate that coming into a church setting for the first time or after a long time can be daunting and will be tinged with the uncertainty of the last 5 months and the future. Whether you have been a regular attender at St Johns in the past or not, and whether you have worshiped with us during this lockdown period or not please do be encouraged to attend a service in church when the time feels right for you.

We thank God that we are able to place into His hands the things that are difficult and often seem impossible, full in the knowledge that He will be with us and bless us as we face the challenges that are before us.

With every blessing

Hilary Cartwright and David Marshall

Churchwardens