



## Christ Church West Wimbledon Michael's Messages Edition 17

September 2 2021

Dear Members and Friends of Christ Church,

### **REVIEWING THE CURRENT RESTRICTIONS OF OUR CHURCH LIFE**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) met last night (1/9/21) on Zoom to undertake a review of our worship arrangements at Christ Church. Although the ultimate responsibility for church worship rests with me as the incumbent, I would always consult the elected members of Christ Church PCC. At our meeting, a revised plan for the continued opening up of our church life was agreed. The following decisions were made, which will come into immediate effect:

- **CONGREGATIONAL SINGING** will be reinstated. This means that we will resume the singing of hymns and the musical setting we use at 10am. Please note it is **not** compulsory that you have to sing, nor do you have to sing loudly! Some may choose to hum! Some may prefer not to sing. Face coverings do not have to be worn while singing but you are actively encouraged to wear them if it is not too uncomfortable and restrictive to your breathing. But it is your choice.
- **SEATING** – to enable everyone to feel safer when singing, we will revert to the previous reduction of seating capacity in the main block of nave pews to allow more social distancing. However, we reserve the right to release the extra seating if congregational numbers dictate.
- **AFTER SERVICE REFRESHMENTS** will be reinstated as soon as possible, once we have been able to reactivate the volunteer's rota. We will encourage those serving refreshments to wear a face covering. We will put in place a one-way queuing system (via the font by the middle cross aisle) and ask you, once you have your drink, to spread out in the church to prevent overcrowding, taking care not to spill your drinks! Biscuits will not be served at present to prevent the unnecessary handling of food, though we will allow the children to take a biscuit as they will always expect/demand it!!
- **THE PEACE** will continue as at present.
- **THE COMMUNION** will continue to be administered for the time being in **one** form only (bread). Do remember that the official church advice is that this is regarded as full communion.
- **SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES at 6.30pm** will now be sung.
- **JUNIOR CHURCH** will resume meeting in the Hall from **September 12 onwards**.
- **SERVICE BOOKLETS AND HYMN BOOKS** will continue to be collected on entry and left on exit.
- **THE EXTERIOR CHURCH DOORS** will remain open during the service until the cold descends!

**NB: PLEASE REMEMBER – DO NOT ATTEND CHURCH** if you develop any symptoms of Covid or you or anyone in your household tests positive. Please do keep yourselves and others safe.

In all of the ongoing changes, we hope that we are able to show generosity and understanding towards those who want to move more quickly or more slowly in the steps that we take - our building should be a safe and secure place where all can be present to worship with the church family. We continue to pray for all those who are finding the changes difficult, those who are still nervous about returning and those for whom being back together to church is a big step.

With my prayers and best wishes to you all for the autumn.

*Michael Burns*