

**To all Friends of Christ Church, West Wimbledon:  
MICHAEL'S MESSAGES NEWSLETTER 20**

**RE-OPENING FOR WORSHIP:** On 23 June we heard that places of worship are permitted to open for public worship from 4 July. Whilst this is good news, we know we must move forward with caution and await further information and guidance about how we enable this to happen at Christ Church. Yesterday, 29 June, the Government finally published its guidelines for all faiths to enable worship to resume. We will now have to wait for the Diocese of Southwark to translate these guidelines for our specifically Anglican practice. There is still no advice yet on how and when we might be able to reopen our hall and allow our groups to meet again. Please continue to hold all those making decisions about our buildings in your prayers. The PCC and I are planning within the best of our ability and hope to have more information for you as soon as possible. The PCC will be meeting next week to consider the question of returning to worship in church and if you have any thoughts about how you feel about this, please let me know.

The press release from the Church of England (22 June 2020) <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/news/reopening-churchbuildings-public-worship> recognises that *"We will not be returning to normality overnight - this is the next step on a journey. We've been planning carefully, making detailed advice available for parishes to enable them to prepare to hold services when it is safe and practical to do so. It is important to say that the change in Government guidance is permissive, not prescriptive. Not all church buildings will be ready to hold regular services from July 4. There will still be restrictions and we must all still do everything we can to limit the spread of the virus to protect each other, especially the most vulnerable."*

Before I with the PCC can decide when it is appropriate to re-open the church for worship, there is work to do, both in terms of risk assessments as well as the physical work of making the church building usable within the restrictions. **Therefore, for the time being we will continue with the 10am Sunday Zoom Services.** We would eventually hope to be able to enable the streaming of services from the church after public worship recommences and this is another challenge that the PCC will face in the coming weeks as we work out how we can best worship together once again.

*"Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing upset you.  
Everything changes. God alone is unchanging.  
With patience all things are possible. Whoever  
has God lacks nothing. God alone is enough. "*

*— Teresa of Ávila*

AS HEARD ON: TURNING TO THE MYSTICS PODCAST

With my continuing best wishes, thoughts and prayers for you all, *Michael Burns* 30/6/20