

Normal services at St Peter's Dumbleton under the Government's Step 4 of its COVID-19 roadmap

Government guidance says that:

"Vaccination cannot be the sole means of containing the spread of the virus: hand and respiratory hygiene, social distancing, face-coverings and good ventilation are also important factors in lessening the spread of the disease. While these are not mandatory after 19th July, they are still important public health mitigations and ought to be recognised as such when planning public worship and other church activities."

We will therefore retain many of our protection measures while the risk of infection is of concern although they will not be mandatory.

Risk Assessment: We have updated our risk assessment in line with Government and Church of England guidance and regulations. It can be read at:

<https://www.stpetersdumbleton.org.uk/coronavirus>

Booking: There will still be some social distancing, and this will affect seating capacity, so it would help if you would let us know if you will be attending a service by sending an email to:

info@stpetersdumbleton.org.uk

or by ringing 01386 882049.

Test and trace contact details: In order to support the NHS Test and Trace programme, visitors will still have the opportunity to register their contact details. Whether you are willing to supply these for this purpose is optional on your part. (There is a QR code poster in the church for those who wish to use it, or you can leave your details in written form or give them to a steward.)

In line with guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care, we will keep your details safely and in compliance with GDPR legislation for 21 days after the service before securely disposing of or deleting them. We will only share your details with NHS Test and Trace, if asked, in the event that it is needed to help stop the spread of coronavirus. We will not use your details for any other purposes or pass them on to anyone else. (A relevant Privacy Notice can be viewed at <https://www.stpetersdumbleton.org.uk/privacy-notices>.)

Face coverings: We strongly recommend the wearing of a face covering while inside church in order to protect yourself and others, although this is again your choice. This protection is particularly sensible when close to those one is not in regular contact with, when singing unless as a member of the choir, for larger gatherings, and when attendees come from a range of geographical areas.

Please do not attend if you:

- have tested positive for COVID-19
- are showing symptoms associated with COVID-19
- are self-isolating due to a possible or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the household, or because you have been requested to do so by NHS Test & Trace.

Those vulnerable: Those who are considered to be extremely clinically vulnerable to COVID-19 are advised to take particular care. They should, for example, avoid gatherings with large numbers of people, especially indoors, because they significantly increase the risk of viral transmission.

Children: If accompanied by children, parents or guardians are asked to oversee them appropriately, particularly ensuring they touch as few surfaces as possible for their own safety, and to follow appropriate hygiene precautions.

On arrival at church:

- We ask that you enter through the north door on the village side of the church, which will be opened around 20 minutes before the beginning of each service.
- Please queue along the path leading to the entrance respecting other people's wish for social distancing.
- A steward will explain the collection of details for Test and Trace purposes where necessary. You can opt out if you wish.
- Please do not enter the church until you are invited in by a steward.
- You will then have the opportunity to sanitise your hands thoroughly at the sanitising station by the door.
- A steward will then indicate where we would prefer you to sit. Some pews will be marked no entry and it is recommended that these should not be used.
- Attendees may form a group and choose to sit together, but we prefer that these groups are kept at least 1 metre apart where possible.
- When moving in the building, people will be encouraged to keep a reasonable distance from others not in their group.
- A service sheet/booklet may be taken from the bookcase in the nave as you enter. It is suggested that you sanitise your hands before doing this. Please return it to the bookcase as you leave the building.
- A hymn book may be taken from the bookcase in the nave if you wish to sing. It is suggested that you sanitise your hands before doing this. Please return the hymn book to the bookcase as you leave the building.
- Please observe any suggested restrictions on movement, and respect other people's wish for social distancing.
- We ask that the church entrance, exit and aisles are kept completely clear of all obstructions.

Alterations to services and other aspects:

- A choir can sing in the chancel area. We intend that singers will be positioned at least of the order of 1 metre apart and away from the congregation, and that singers will face away from others. Face masks can be removed by the choir when singing.
- It is suggested that members of the congregation wear a mask when singing if they sit less than two metres from the person in front of them, for the safety of others. Singing is optional.
- It is requested that "The peace" is not shared physically.
- Kneelers and cushions are not available for use at this time.
- Children's books and toys will not be provided for use in the church.
- The collection will not be taken physically – we ask you to make your offerings directly to the church bank account if you can. (Please email info@stpetersdumbleton.org.uk or ring 01386 882049 for details.) Cash offerings of up to £30 can be dropped in the container by the north door on exit.
- If Holy Communion is taking place, it will be received in one kind (consecrated bread) into the hand only, and will be brought to you at your seat. It is suggested that people should sanitise their hands before and after receiving communion. You would therefore need to have your own personal wipes or mini hand gel bottle with you as you prepare to receive communion.
- Doors and windows may remain open to ensure maximum ventilation.

At the end of the service:

- The serving of refreshments at the end of the services may resume for those willing to take the associated risks.
- We ask that worshippers leave the building at the conclusion of the service without encroaching on the personal space of others, especially if face coverings are not worn.
- Please leave the church through the north or south door.
- You will have the opportunity to sanitise your hands as you leave the building.