



St Clement's
Church

OXFORD

Returning to Church:

what to expect #4

Our Services:

In Church

During September we have been piloting the following monthly Service pattern:

	10.30am Morning Service	6.30pm Evening Service
1 st Sunday of the month	All Age Worship (Children and youth join us in the Service; children's resources provided for families)	Quiet, reflective Communion Service
2 nd Sunday of the month	Communion Service (Junior Church and Youth Church meet)	Quiet, reflective Evening Worship
3 rd Sunday of the month	Morning worship (Children and youth join us in the Service; children's resources provided for families)	Quiet, reflective Communion Service
4 th Sunday of the month	Communion Service (Junior Church meets)	Quiet, reflective Evening Worship

Services are rather different from before Covid-19. So, for example:

Service Details: Services will continue to be shorter than before lockdown, and we'll be as prayerfully creative as we can in worshipping in our new circumstances.

In morning Services, everything you need during the Service will be displayed on the screens. For evening Services, we'll supply service booklets.

We are not able to use the Church Bibles, so bring your own if you can.

Music: Whether inside or outside, sadly we cannot sing aloud in Services. However, we can worship through declaring Psalms and words of praise and thanksgiving; as well as listening and silently responding to recorded hymns and songs, or to our musicians.

Children and Youth: The Service pattern above includes St Clement's Junior and Youth Church. You are welcome to contact Freya or Dave for more information. Inside Church, we've had to remove the soft play area. However, in its place, we're providing seating and resource pack tables for families with crèche and primary age children, to help you worship and enjoy the Service, as family groups sit together in Church.

Online

A simple online service is available each Sunday from 10.30am. These services are an online version of the service taking place in church each Sunday morning. Click [here](#) for our Youtube channel.

Practicalities:

COVID symptoms and shielding: Please do not come to Church if you or anyone in your household has a temperature, a persistent cough, loss of taste or smell. Similarly, please do not come if you are shielding or have been given medical advice not to go into public spaces.

Numbers: The exact number we can welcome into Church will depend on how many people come and whether they come alone, in a couple or in a family group. We are not booking ahead, so arrive in good time, and be aware you may need to wait to come in.

Entrance and stewarding: We are operating a one-way system, so please come in through the main doors under the tower (unless you need to use the ramp at the side for access) and leave through the side door. You will be asked to sanitise your hands as you enter the building. Welcomers will guide you to a place to sit.

Social Distancing: Please keep 2 metres away from people outside your household.

Registering: In order to assist the NHS Test and Trace programme, you will be asked to complete a form. Your details will be kept for 21 days, and then destroyed. The information you give will not be used for any other purpose.

Face Coverings: are now required by law to be worn in places of worship.

There are valid legal exemptions for some individuals to not wear a face covering in these settings. You can find more details [here](#).

One of the exemptions is for those leading Services and those who assist them (for instance by reading, preaching, or leading prayer) - though leaders still need to wear a face covering where physical distancing cannot be maintained (for example in distributing communion).

This exemption does not apply to worshippers, who should wear face coverings consistent with the requirements for any other public space.

Toilets: Toilets will be available for essential use.

Refreshments: Sadly we're not able to offer anything to eat and drink at the moment.

Leaving church: Welcomers will guide you to leave, one pew at a time. Please continue to observe social distancing in the churchyard when chatting and be sensitive to those who may not want to stay.

Finally - please be assured that much prayerful thought continues to be given to the way forward for St Clement's worship and missional activities. As we continue to pray, to listen to each other, and to respond to government and Church of England guidelines, our patterns of worship and welcome will continue to develop and respond to the challenge of this extraordinary time.

We'll keep you updated along the way. And please do join us in praying for our Church community and parish as our pattern of shared Worship continues to evolve.

Thank you! *If you have further questions or comments, please contact the Parish Office at parish.office@stclements.org.uk*