

## All Saints' Church

Cottenham with Rampton



**15<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Dear Church Family,

Re: Re-opening the Church for Worship

You will know that the Government and the Church of England have given the go-ahead for Places of Worship to resume services in their buildings. The Church of England has produced detailed guidance about what we need to do to keep people safe and prevent the spread of Covid-19. We are absolutely committed to keeping you all safe!

On Wednesday last week, the PCC signed off a Risk Assessment that myself, Graham Appleby, Churchwarden, and Chris Lowe have been working on, and agreed to re-open All Saints' Church, Cottenham for worship in two stages.

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, the 8.30am service of Holy Communion will resume, followed by the 10.30am service from Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Services will continue online in their current format up to and including Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September, and there will be a shorter online service from Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September for those who are either still shielding or want to continue worshipping at home.

In the same way that your weekly shop, appointments at the GP, or popping into the Post Office are different at the moment, church will also be different going forward.

The great welcome will be the same but we will ask you to sanitise your hands as you arrive and depart, and collect your own service booklet from the table. You will then be guided to a seat by one of the sidespeople.

Communion will continue to be available and there will be some helpful footprints on the floor showing you where to stand. As was the case prior to lockdown, Communion will be received in one kind – the bread – and I will receive the wine on behalf of us all.

At the 10.30 service, whilst congregational singing isn't permitted (yet), we will be creative so that we can continue to enjoy music as part of our worship.

Everyone who wants to come to a service will be accommodated. We are blessed with a large building that enables us to seat a good number of people sitting 2m apart. Chairs used at the 8.30am service will be sanitised before the 10.30am, as will touch points such as doors, handles, lectern, etc.

Unless the guidance changes, you do not need to wear a face covering unless you would like to. We have some available or you can bring your own. Sidespeople/welcomers will be asked to wear a clear visor so that they can welcome you with a smile.

After the service, do chat at a safe distance in the churchyard whilst we are unable to offer tea and coffee. It will be good to say hello to people and catch up.

With this letter comes either an online or paper questionnaire. Do please complete this as quickly as you're able so we get a feel of numbers returning. If you receive a paper copy, please give to Maggie/Graham as they deliver next week's Pastoral Letter, or pop into the post to me at 6, High Street, Cottenham.

The online questionnaire can be found at: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RETURNTOALLSAINTS/>

If you normally attend Rampton Church, we will be thinking in the next few weeks about what sort of service you might like to have in the autumn, acknowledging that the size of the church will significantly restrict numbers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either myself (01954 583651) or Graham Appleby, Churchwarden (07803 932453).

We look forward to welcoming you back, whenever that might be.

Yours in Christ,

Revd Lynda Davies

(On behalf of the PCC).

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