

St Simon and St Jude's, Earl Shilton and St Mary's, Elmesthorpe

I am pleased to announce that with the easing of coronavirus restrictions on 19th July, from Sunday 25th July 2021, we will be able to make the following changes to our worship:

- **To resume singing during services**
- **To receive the wine as well as the bread during communion**
- **For the 'children's area' at St Simon and St Jude's to be available again**

However, in line with Government advice on gatherings within enclosed spaces, we expect that people will continue to wear facemasks whilst in church and maintain social distancing.

Further detail is as follows:

- When entering church please continue to use the hand-gel available. The QR code linked to the NHS app will still be available as per Government advice.
- Pews will continue to be marked to allow for social distancing. However, if you would like to sit next to a friend (or friends) in a 'bubble' you may do so, provided that they are happy to do so. We would ask that you arrange this prior to arriving at church.
- Hymn books and service books will be placed in the pews before the service. Please place them in the box at the back of church as you leave.

At communion:

- During 'The Peace' please remain where we are seated. You may offer a handshake to those in the 'bubble' you are sitting with, providing that they are happy to do so.
- We will distribute the bread and wine while you are seated in the pews.
- The wine will be given by 'Intinction'. The Priest will slightly dip the communion wafer into the wine, before placing it in the hand of the recipient.
- If you prefer not to receive the wine, please let the Priest know beforehand.
- It is good practice to sanitize your hands before receiving communion.

At St Simon and St Jude's:

- We will now leave church by the South door rather than by the North door.
- We ask that parents supervise their children whilst in the Children's area.

These changes have been agreed by the ministers and churchwardens in consultation with PCC members. It is based on the latest guidance drawn up by the Church of England.

In making these changes we want to be able to enjoy again aspects of our worship that we have not been able to over the last year. However, as members of the body of Christ, we

need to do this safely, protecting the most vulnerable among us, and enabling as many people as possible to be able to attend worship in church.

Our online services will be continuing in their current pattern.

If you have any questions then do speak with myself, Pauline or one of the churchwardens.

Martin Castle – Priest in Charge

01455 843961

22nd July 2021