

# All Saints Crowborough

## Reopening for Services



*Dear Church Family,*

*Praise God for his love that never fails and has sustained us for the last four months! I am so excited that we can begin to meet again in our building as a church family.*

*The following information should help us all to know what to expect as we come back to church. Please do pray for those who can't make it yet, that they will be encouraged by our livestream services, as together we worship Jesus and feed on his word.*

*As Hebrews puts it:*

*'Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.'* Hebrews 10:24-25

*The staff team and I look forward to welcoming many of you back.*

*With love in our Saviour's name,*

**Steve Rees**

*Vicar of All Saints*

## Introduction

The information given below relating to our Sunday service arrangements will be kept under review. There are likely to be changes as government guidelines change. A full Risk Assessment has been undertaken.

Please be aware that services will feel quite different but we believe it will be worth the adjustments so that we can be together in person. Do be sensitive to each other; some will feel more anxious than others.

You **must not** attend if you are showing any COVID-19 symptoms.

Those who are shielded and those over 70 should read the latest government guidelines [here](#) and weigh the risk of attendance.

If, at any point, you develop COVID-19 symptoms please inform us: [office@allsaintscrowborough.org](mailto:office@allsaintscrowborough.org) so we can support you and play our part in NHS Test and Trace.

## Timing

We will begin services on Sunday 2 August. Services will be as follows, at least for the first six weeks

8.30am Holy Communion

10.00am All Age Service

11.15am All Age Service

4pm Holy Communion – monthly on the first Sunday

6.30pm Evening Service

We ask you to attend only one service each Sunday.

All services will be in the Main Worship Area and will be shorter than in the past, to allow time for safe entering and exiting and for cleaning. Please maintain social distancing of 2m at all times from all who are not in your household or support bubble. Handrails, door handles, chair frames and other frequently touched surfaces will be wiped down regularly. Please avoid touching surfaces other than when essential.

The Church of England strongly advise the wearing of face coverings for all in attendance to protect others. We encourage you to follow this advice.

## Online Services

If you are unable to attend, you can tune in to 8.30 and 10.00 livestream services [here](#). We hope to livestream the 6.30 service soon.

If you are attending the service and would prefer not to appear on the livestream, please ask the stewards to direct you to seats which are out of shot.

## Seating and Booking

All seating has been arranged with a minimum of 2m distance with seats arranged in singles, pairs and some groups of varying sizes to accommodate different sizes of households attending.

In order to keep to our new limited capacity, you will need to book for the service you hope to attend. Bookings will open on Tuesdays of each week, the first bookings opening on 28 July for 2 August. Please make bookings via MyChurchSuite or by following the links on the website or the emailed newsletter. If you do not have internet access, please call the office (01892 652081) to make your booking. This must be done by noon on Friday. You may find that capacity has been reached if you book later in the week.

When booking, one person needs to book for their household, choosing the correct ticket for the size of their household. So a person coming alone needs to book a single ticket, a family of five needs to book a '5-ticket', writing the additional names of the household members as directed. If the correct size ticket is no longer available, please book multiple tickets as appropriate, e.g. a family of 5 could book a 2-ticket and a 3-ticket. Each ticket represents a groups of seats in the building so when you arrive please sit in the group sizes you have booked.

If you have booked and can no longer attend please phone the office to cancel to allow others to come.

See also 'Arrival and Exit' below.

## Service content and children

The current government guidance prohibits congregational singing. Pre-recorded music will form part of the service and when this takes place, we ask you to refrain from singing.

Communion will take place at the 8.30am service and monthly 4pm service only. Only bread is permitted, wine being taken only by the member of clergy. The congregation will remain in their seats as the service leaders bring the

bread to the congregation, dropping it into hands without touching the recipient. All procedures will be explained at the time.

Children of all ages will need to be booked in as household members, and remain with their parents throughout. The 10 and 11.15 services will be more suitable for children. As there is no crèche, consider bringing a book or toy for your child(ren). We would be grateful if parents took responsibility to help their children respect social distancing and avoid physical contact at all times.

There will be no printed service sheets; all words will be on the screens. Newsletters will continue to be sent by email.

There will not be a collection. Government and Church of England advice is to try to avoid handling cash. Thus, if you previously gave by envelope please move to giving by standing order or, if this is impossible for you, give by cheque. If you normally give in the collection please give via our website or by texting "ALLSAINTSC give" to 07380 307 800.

## What to Bring

Please bring a Bible. An umbrella (or coat) is a good idea in case you need to queue in the rain. We encourage you to wear a face covering to protect others as per Church of England advice. You may like to bring a water bottle. You will be too far away from the chair in front of you to use it to help you stand, so you may want to bring a walking stick or similar.

## Toilets

The two toilets by the Picture Room will be open, but we strongly encourage you to go before you come. Use the hand sanitiser provided. Once you have used the facilities please wash your hands thoroughly. Toilets will be cleaned after each service.

## Arrival and Exit

The car parks are available as usual. Please maintain your social distance whilst in the car parks and leave promptly at the end of the service.

Please arrive in good time but no more than 15 mins before the service begins, so 8.15am, 9.45am, 11.00am, 3.45pm and 6.15pm. This will allow time for everyone to be checked, registered and seated before the service starts.

A one way system will be in operation. Please queue either on the path from the lychgate to the church, or the path from the rear car park through the archway. Maintain social distance and observe the signage. Entry will be through the main bell tower door and the refreshment area door to the right of that.

Stewards will be on hand to direct people and to help us enter the building as quickly and safely as possible. Please help the stewards by following all their directions. All stewards will be wearing face coverings, and high-visibility jackets to identify them.

When you enter the building you must cleanse your hands with the hand-sanitiser provided. You will then be checked in against your booking. Please then find a seat, or group of seats, to match your booking. Please do not move the seats.

If you need to sit within the hearing loop ask the stewards to direct you, otherwise avoid this area.

At the end of the service, the service leader will direct you to exit, one household at a time. Those in wheelchairs and with pushchairs will exit first through the main bell tower door. For others, exits are either the door by the organ and through the vicarage garden to the road, or down the stairs to the lower doors. If you would prefer not to use stairs, please choose seats on the right side of the building as this exit will be more suitable.

No refreshments will be served. Please disperse promptly.

No other areas of church will be open so it will not be possible to use the kitchen. No cards or books will be on sale and the pigeonholes are not in use.

23 July 2020