

Dear Friends,

I mentioned in church last Sunday that the Diocese has now provided guidance in response to the decision by the government to move to Step 4 of the road map out of lockdown. The guidance sets out what is possible and not what has to be done. So after consultation with the Church Wardens I would like to begin to introduce the changes that have been proposed but not all at once. I will still need to consult with the PCC about some of the changes in our present patterns. Here is what I am proposing:-

- We have been encouraged to complete a new risk assessment which takes into account the lifting of restrictions, and we will be doing so in due course.
- Congregational singing is now allowed and we are encouraged to wear masks but we respect people's personal choice in not wearing one. However, we are encouraged to adopt the generally accepted principle that when moving around the church, we show some consideration for others by wearing a mask, but when seated, masks can be removed during the service.
- We can now use the hymnals and the usual order of services as we have enough copies to be placed in quarantine prior the next week service(when required).
- In regard to receiving Holy Communion, we recognise that for a long time people have been receiving in one kind and we suggest that we continue to do so for the next few weeks after which it will be reviewed in the PCC meeting in September.
- We will continue to have the church cleaned prior to our Sunday services.
- All entering the church building will be asked to sanitise their hands on entry however we will no longer sign-in and neither will we keep a track and trace list.
- We can now enjoy a cup of tea/ coffee following the service in church.

We are seeking to be cautious with these transitional steps and all measures will continue to be reviewed in the light of the national situation.

The service pattern is changing in the month of August as we resume worship in Saunderton Church. Sunday (**August 1st**) is the first time we return to Saunderton for Holy Communion service since lockdown. The service will be at 10.30am. There will be no service at Holy Trinity. Please do come and support the congregation at Saunderton.

We will resume worship at Horsenden on September 26th.

Norbert