



Advice if you wish to attend Public Worship at St Mary's, Plumtree

Before you come to Church

Please consider whether you are confident about coming to Church. We have done our best to assess the risks and mitigate them, but you may want to consider the added risk to yourself in a public gathering and the risk that you may pose to others.

If you (or anyone with whom you have been in contact in the past two weeks) show any symptoms of Covid-19 you must stay at home and follow NHS guidelines.

On arrival at the church, and inside it, we are maintaining 2 metre social distancing as far as possible and require all members of the congregation to observe this.

To conform with social distancing, there is a limit to the number of people that the Church can safely hold (about 40). Please be understanding if we cannot find you a seat. Social distancing also means that you might not have a good view. We're sure you'll understand why this is.

Following recent guidance from the Church of England, we now strongly encourage you to wear your own face mask / face covering to services.

Arrival in Church

You will enter the church through the porch. The doors will remain open; please do not close them behind you.

We may ask for your contact details for NHS Test & Trace; these have to be kept for 21 days.

You will be asked to sanitise your hands and pick up an order of service from the chest (large print versions are available). We will then direct you to a seat. It is likely that you will not be sitting in your 'usual' part of the church.

Music will be played on the organ before and after the service, and during communion. Please do not sing along.

Please remain seated throughout the service, except when receiving communion.

Receiving Communion

Although the symbolism of receiving communion in both kinds is usual, the Church has always taught that you receive the fullness of the sacrament if you receive in one kind.

Communion will be in one kind only - the wafers - which will have been kept in a sealed container which is only opened following the Peace.

To receive communion, please move out of your seat and into the central aisle, under the direction of the churchwardens. Do not return to your seat via the central aisle, but **via the nearest side aisle**.

If you wish to receive communion, please cup your open hands as you approach the priest, the wafer will be dropped into your hands to avoid contact.

If you wish to receive a blessing instead keep your hands by your side.

The Dismissal

At the end of the service please remain in your seat until the organ has finished playing. Then move out in an orderly manner, maintaining social distancing.

On your way out (via the main door), please place your order of service in the box on the chest.

If you wish to make a donation as you leave, there is an offertory plate by the door.

If you want to talk to your friends after the service, please move away from the paths so that other people can pass safely. Please observe all other government advice including keeping at least 2m distant from others.