

Coronavirus Update September 2020

Dear St Saviour's,

We are continuing to explore how we can best hold services and events with the current Coronavirus safety guidelines. From September we will trial adopting the following service pattern.

Wednesdays - 10.30am Traditional Communion (Church)

This service will have a traditional feel and offer Coronavirus safe communion. Along with various safe hygiene practices this currently means receiving communion in one kind only (just the bread).

Sunday - 10.30am Morning Worship (Church and Zoom)

This will be a blended or hybrid service that broadcasts live to Zoom from the church building. This can be attended either in person by booking your seat or logging on to Zoom (details below). As it is still not yet practical for us to hold an in person group for children or all age service we will continue to have a children's group on Zoom. We will also aim to upload an edited recording of this service to YouTube and the church website.

These services will both be open to all, but as space is limited in the church building we are asking people to book to reserve a space (booking details are below). In the event that we reach full capacity, priority for in church seating will be given to those who cannot access Zoom.

For those attending in person we are taking the following safety precautions.

- 2 metres distancing is maintained throughout.
- Hand sanitizer will be used on entry and exit.
- The services will be shorter approx. 30-40 minutes.
- Congregational singing is not permitted.
- Facemasks are worn (unless there is valid exemption). The church has a small supply if you don't have your own.
- Due to measures around cleaning and hygiene the toilets remain temporarily closed and refreshments are not possible.
- Please bring your own Bible.
- It is still recommended that financial giving is done via standing order if you possibly can. However, if you have been putting cash aside for church to put in the collection we would ask that you put your donations in an envelope with a note to indicate they cover a number of weeks as this will make it easier for us to claim gift aid. This can be done anonymously. If you already use the Blue Gift Aid

envelopes for donations then please carry on as normal. For more information please contact our treasurer Andy Walker (details below).

- If anyone has coronavirus symptoms (a high temperature, new and continuous cough, a loss or change in sense of smell or taste) they will need to remain at home and follow the government guidance on self-isolation.

As usual these measures are subject to change in line with church and government guidance. Your ongoing patience is greatly appreciated as we continue to adapt to changes in the guidance and adjust to using technology in new ways.

It continues to be a challenging time and we are grateful for the way everyone is supporting one another. In our autumn sermons we will be considering Paul's letter to the Philippians. A good title for the series would be *Struggling with joy*. The apostle Paul wrote the letter from prison, a place of real struggle and yet the letter overflows with the joy he finds in his relationship with Jesus. Sometimes joy can feel beyond our reach and we can understandably struggle to find it because of our circumstances. I pray that Philippians will encourage us to find deep joy, whatever we are feeling and whatever we face, because of the great hope we have in our saviour Jesus Christ.

With much prayer,

Ben Clayton

Booking a seat in Church

To reserve your seat for services in church contact Ali Barnett.

Email: alisonbarnett11@gmail.com

Phone: 01777 701865

Text: 07870 831220

Joining us online

Zoom is a video and phone conferencing platform. You can join the Zoom meetings in several ways.

- If you have internet access but are not yet receiving the church email, please email Ben (rector@stsavioursretford.org.uk). We can then send you details of how to access the meetings online.
- You can also phone into the meeting (you won't be able to see anyone but we should be able to hear each other) by dialling 0208 080 6591. When prompted you will need to enter 876 915 053 into your phone keypad then press # if prompted you may need to type in the meeting password: 029737. Call charges will apply.

Contact details:

Rev Ben Clayton (Vicar)

rector@stsavioursretford.org.uk or 01777 704211

Martin Dawson (Churchwarden)

chezdawson@rocketmail.com or 01777 703121

Andy Walker (Treasurer)

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Bill Gibbings (Administrator)

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