

Rector's letter – August 2020

Sunday services at the Priory will start again on Sunday 2nd August. However, things will be very different. Please bear with us. These are interim measures whilst we adjust to co-exist with the threat of coronavirus in the medium term. They may last many months, but the Priory remains committed to re-establishing its full range of services as soon as possible and to being a champion of the Anglican Choral Tradition. In the meantime, please note:

- There will only be one service on each Sunday.
- It will be at 10.30am and will be a Celebration of Holy Communion every week.
- There will be a limit of 50 people allowed in the church.
- There will be no choir, but the organ will be played. There will be no singing.
- Bring your own cushion if you wish – the cushions on the pews have been removed.
- You will be asked to sanitise your hands at stations near the door as you enter and leave.
- You will be asked to give your personal details for tracking and tracing purposes.¹
- You will not be able to choose where you sit.
- There will be no physical contact at the exchange of the Peace.
- Only the bread will be administered at Communion.²
- There will be no coffee/tea served afterwards

¹ The information will be gathered for coronavirus tracking and tracing purposes only. It will not be used for any other purpose. It will be stored securely for 21 days and then destroyed. It is your right not to disclose the information requested.

² Both bread and wine will be consecrated. Only the President will consume the wine on behalf of the gathered people. You are still receiving full Holy Communion even when you receive only the bread.

- People will be ushered straight out of church at the end of the service a pew at a time. Loitering is discouraged.

Please note that it takes a team of four volunteers three hours to clean the church after each service in order for us to maintain this limited amount of worship. If you could volunteer to be part of a cleaning team, please contact churchwarden Jan Wattleworth on 07449 466689.

In order to free up capacity for cleaning, and in response to limited demand, from the 1st August the Priory will only be open for personal prayer two days a week: Wednesdays and Saturdays between 10.00 and 11.00am.

I am concerned that nobody should feel under any pressure to come to church. Please do not come until you feel safe to do so. The 10.30 services will continue to be streamed live on the Friends of Bridlington Priory Church Facebook page and will subsequently be available both on that page and on the Bridlington Priory Church YouTube channel.

Please also remember that, in addition to the 10.30 services, the Priory's Messy Church is streamed live every Friday at 4.00pm on Facebook. From September onwards the Priory choir will be broadcasting a Songs of Praise service each alternate Sunday at 6.00pm. That will be available on Facebook, on the Priory's YouTube channel and on the choir's YouTube channel.

Stay safe. I'm looking forward to seeing everybody as soon as possible.

Matthew.