

PRESS RELEASE FROM CHRIST CHURCH EPSOM COMMON

The Coronavirus pandemic has created considerable unrest within all aspects of our individual and corporate lives and the suspension of public worship by the Archbishops is like many others in being unprecedented.



At Christ Church we shall be in full compliance with Church of England and UK Government guidelines. This does not mean that we have shut up shop rather that we are discovering different ways of being church.

Church is often thought of as a building where people gather, but it is also the people that make up the community of faith and share witness and fellowship together.

What is clear is that we are unable to offer public worship for groups of people to attend together. Regrettably until further notice, there will be **no**

Mon - Thurs 9am Morning Prayer

Weds 9:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 10am Parish Communion

Also no monthly 11:45 Traditional Communion, 4pm Source, 6:30 Essence, 5@5

nor Sacred Space on 4th Saturdays

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals at Christ Church are also postponed until further notice.

Instead a member of the Staff Team (unless they themselves are affected or in isolation) will say **Daily Prayers at 9am** on behalf of the parish and leave the **church open for 1 hour** for individuals to drop in for private prayer. Hand sanitiser will be left just inside the door alongside a note pad for prayer requests and battery-operated candles.

The church shall also be open for **1 hour 11am-12noon on Saturdays.**

On **Sundays at 10am** the President will be present to offer a simple said Eucharist on behalf of the parish in the nave and we will investigate ways of streaming this live via our Facebook page.

Other church-based activities also ceasing until further notice include

- CC Kids and Youth

- Wheels and Squeals
- MU
- Choir and band rehearsals
- Bellringing
- Homegroups

All other business and social meetings are postponed (e.g. Easter Experience and Swishing Event) or under review pending the situation going forward.

Our Office administrator Helen Sygrave (as long as she is able) will continue to monitor the office phone, which should be used as a point of emergency contact (01372 743133) and emails office@christchurchepsom.org.uk

In conjunction with the incumbent Revd. Rosemary Donovan, Helen will seek to continue to produce weekly bulletins for social media, website and email posts.

The 'church', (the people) will continue to love and care for our own members and the wider community. In particular Home Group leaders to make weekly contact with each of their members. The members of the Pastoral Team to check in (email/text/phone) regularly (fortnightly) with all those on their specific visiting list and those identified as particularly vulnerable or testing positive / in isolation on alternate days. Sue Matthews to be the central point of contact for updating the vulnerable / affected list. (01372 724080)

Revd. Rosemary Donovan (01372 720302)

vicar@christchurchepsom.org.uk

Deputies are the Church Wardens

Andy Hards 01372 273165

John Warburton 01372 372855

Only in real emergency Area Dean, Revd. Des Williamson 07948 273075