

Pastoral Letter 26 March 2022

COVID Safety:

While we are in this transition period from Pandemic to Epidemic, we are continuing to assess risks in church regularly and will seek to keep you informed. This is a summary from our latest Risk Assessment.

Current Advice:

- Wearing face masks to church services is now optional, but we want you to feel comfortable to do so if you want. If you are wearing a mask to protect yourself, not just protect others, the recommendation is to use FFP3 standard masks.
- The use of hand sanitiser on entry is still recommended.
- Please leave the seats in the side hall for those who are vulnerable and need extra social distancing.
- Please space out around the building when we serve refreshments and be mindful of those who wish to take a more cautious approach to social distancing.
- We ask that you do not attend services if you have COVID symptoms or know that you are infected.
- We will continue to live stream the Sunday 10.30am service for now.
- Tuesday morning services have many fewer people and are a good option for those who are vulnerable.
- Those distributing Holy Communion will wear face masks. The common cup will not be used at the moment, so we continue to use wine on wafers. We are still pressing for a national change to allow individual cups to be used.

Going Forward:

We review local infection rates each week and will adjust the advice if it seems necessary. This week, in New Bilton, infection rates are below the national average and going down, and deaths are very low; although the number of patients being admitted to Hospital in Coventry is rising.

Longer Term:

The PCC is exploring the installation of opening windows to improve ventilation. We are also looking at the costs of installing an air purifier in the side hall.

Our aim, as it has been all through the pandemic, is to make worship both accessible and as safe as possible, for a wide range of people. If you have any concerns, please feel free to talk with a churchwarden or one of the clergy.

God bless,



Alan