

# Whiston Parish Church

## Guidelines for Church Funeral Services

The church is currently closed for services of public worship, but there is a specific exception that covers funeral services. This allows a maximum of 30 people to attend church premises for a funeral without observing the 'Rule of Six'. As required, the church has carried out a risk assessment and taken all reasonable measures to limit the transmission of the virus.

If you or anyone in your household is showing symptoms of COVID-19, please do **not** come to Church because of the risk that you pose to others, but remain at home and self-isolate.

The following guidelines have been introduced with the aim of keeping everyone as safe as possible during the service:

- ❖ As you come into Church to attend the funeral, we are required to gather personal information about you. You will be able to scan the NHS QR code if you have a suitable smart phone or we will ask you for a name and a contact telephone number. This is to ensure that we can comply with the Government Track and Trace programme. Any details we take on paper will be stored safely and destroyed after 21 days.
- ❖ It is a legal requirement to wear a face mask during the service unless an individual has a valid exemption.
- ❖ You will find hand sanitiser at the entrance to Church and at strategic points around the building. Please use this when you arrive at Church and before you pick up a service booklet.
- ❖ There is a one-way flow to move around the building. Please follow this. Social distancing measures are in place in relation to seating.
- ❖ Upon arrival, people will be welcomed and asked to wait to be shown to specific seats. These will be allocated with two individuals to a pew but household groups and members of established 'bubbles' can be seated together on the same pew.
- ❖ Once in these seats, people are asked to remain seated for the duration of the service unless instructed otherwise. Please note: all cushions and kneelers have been removed for the time being.
- ❖ The toilets are available for use.
- ❖ Certain areas of the Church are closed to public access and these areas will be clearly marked.
- ❖ Single-use service booklets will be provided for you to use. Please take this home with you and dispose of it in your home bin.
- ❖ We ask members of the congregation to leave the Church immediately after the service has ended, following the one way system. When leaving the building please make sure you exit in a socially distanced manner.

- ❖ Once outside the Church please continue to keep a social distance and please observe the Rule of Six.

The Church will be thoroughly cleaned to meet Government guidelines. These guidelines are changing frequently as the COVID-19 situation progresses and we will respond quickly to ensure compliance with any new requirements.

We look forward to welcoming you safely at Whiston Parish Church.

Alan Teale and Colette White  
Churchwardens

10<sup>th</sup> November 2020