

## REOPENING OF CHURCH – UPDATE ON PRAYER & PUBLIC WORSHIP

Although the government and media are saying that churches can open for public worship from 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020 we are taking a cautious and measured approach. St. Michael's Church Pelsall will not be resuming public worship until the Government and diocesan guidelines are published and circulated to all parishes for guidance. From there we can begin to reflect, plan and implement as we take a bespoke, careful and sensible approach to reopening our own particular church for public worship. Our top priority is keeping you safe whilst being with us, so we're taking great care to put social distancing, hand sanitizer arrangements and cleaning measures in place.

So as a first step, we are delighted once again to offer a welcome to all who want to come and pray. On **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020**, we will be open from 10am to 11am for prayer time. This is the first phase of re-opening our buildings as the lock down restrictions begin to ease. In order that you feel comfortable on your visit we ask you please to take note of the following guidance before you arrive:

- Entrance is through the normal foyer doors and exit is via the West door
- Hand sanitizer is available on entry which **must** be used before entering the church
- Chairs are placed according to social distancing regulations and seating will be allocated for you to ease flow of movement around the church building
- Toilets, coffee area, kitchen and parish office are restricted areas and are not in use.

It seems a long time since the doors of the church were open but we do warmly welcome you, the parish and the community to God's house of prayer. Someone will be on hand to ensure everyone is kept safe and all abide by the distancing measures.

We simply ask you please to observe and follow all social distancing guidelines on entrance, exit and during your visit and that you will respect the atmosphere of prayer in church.

We can assure you that the church will be open for public worship as soon as logistically and feasibly possible **but** we must strive to keep all safe during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Once we are in a position to safely open for public worship we will let people know via Facebook, website, ACNY and other communication.

It is worthy to note that the response to opening of church for public worship will differ from church to church as at present the diocese is saying that we may open when and if we feel safe to do so but at present it is not mandatory.