

# Waltham Abbey Church

## Covid 19 Guidance

### Worship

Following the easing of the COVID restrictions, we have reviewed our guidance around worship to ensure that we all continue to remain safe and approach these changes with caution. We understand that this may be a very anxious time for some people and would like to assure you of our continued commitment to enabling you to return to worship whilst providing a safe environment for you. We hope that these changes will provide you with some reassurance both of your safety and an opportunity to visit the Abbey Church.

We will no longer be restricting the number of people at each service, nor asking you to book a place.

Please use the QR code on entering the church or sign the register in the porch.

Hand sanitiser will be available throughout the church.

### Safety measures

- We will continue to leave spaces between the pews to enable the continuation of social distancing and members of the congregation are encouraged to maintain a comfortable distance between each other.
- If you are feeling nervous about returning to church and do not wish to sit too close to other people, please let the wardens know when you arrive and we will facilitate this.
- While the government has advised that face masks/coverings are no longer required, the church is seeing increasing numbers of our church family returning to worship. We therefore strongly encourage you continue to wear face masks or coverings if possible during the service to protect both yourselves and each other.
- We will continue to share the peace in a non-contact way.
- The use of the communion cup for distribution of wine is still not regarded as a safe option at present, so Holy Communion will continue to be distributed in one kind only (just the bread of the Eucharist), for the foreseeable future.

### Singing

The singing of congregational hymns has now been restored at the Abbey Church at the 10.30 a.m. Parish Eucharist on Sunday mornings. If you do not wish to attend a

sung service, the 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion is a spoken service which you may prefer to attend for the time being.

### **Visiting, Sightseeing and Private Prayer**

It is still not possible for us to open the Abbey Church every day of the week, but for the time being (and subject to services) the church will be open to visitors every weekend as follows:

Fridays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.  
Saturdays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.  
Sundays 12.00 noon to 4.00 p.m.

If you wish to raise any concerns or make suggestions, please direct these to the Churchwardens.