

## **Reopening of QMC for Worship.**

### **\* *Welcome Back***

We are delighted that we are able to reopen Church for Sunday morning Worship on Palm Sunday 28 March 2021.

We have diligently followed the guidance provided by the Government and the Methodist Church to make sure that we are ready for Services, and Church Council met on 9 March and agreed that we work towards Reopening for Worship.

Please read this important information about what to expect before, during and after each Service.

### **\* *Symptoms.***

If you have any symptoms that may be associated with COVID 19, or if you have been ill with any other symptoms recently, including a cough and/ or cold, sickness and/ or diarrhoea, You Must Not Attend Worship.

Stay at home, and if necessary, seek medical advice by calling your GP or 111.

If you attend Worship and subsequently develop symptoms associated with Coronavirus you must let a member of the Leadership Team know immediately.

### **\* *Clinically Vulnerable* ( moderate risk)**

The Government consider everyone aged 70 or over to be Clinically Vulnerable, as well as those with certain specific medical conditions and illnesses.

If you are in this category, or are in another Vulnerable category, you are asked to bear in mind carefully the advice given by the Government and the NHS, especially concerning:

Staying Alert and Safe ( Social Distancing)

Those who are Extremely Clinically Vulnerable ( High Risk) will have received more specific guidance by letter from the NHS.

If you have received the coronavirus vaccine, you will have been given updated information about your vulnerability.

### **\* *Face Coverings***

It is a Government and Methodist Church requirement that you must wear a face covering when you attend Worship, unless you have an exemption. Please bring your own (although we do have a small supply for emergencies). The face covering must remain in place while you are inside the building.

**\* *Recording of Attendance***

You will be asked for your name and if, you are not on our Pastoral List, your telephone number. This is to comply with the Track and Trace requirement. The information will be kept secure for 21 days and then destroyed.

**\* *Hygiene*** . Hand Sanitiser.

This is provided at the entrance, please use it as you enter, and after using toilets.

**\* *Social Distancing***

It is important that you distance yourself appropriately from other people and we encourage 2 m ( 6 ft) , although the Government considers 1 m plus may be appropriate. There must be no kissing, hand shaking, or other physical contact with people outside your household/bubble.

**\* *Weekly Notices***

These will be sent by email, and displayed on notice boards. A summary will be on the screen. This is to reduce touching of papers and the associated risk of spreading disease.

**\* *Numbers in Church***

To ensure Social Distancing, the numbers allowed in the Worship Area, and other parts of the building, are limited. Notices show the numbers allowed, which include those conducting and helping the Service. If the numbers arriving are likely to exceed that allowed, you may be asked to go to another part of the building.

**\* *Ventilation***

Doors and windows may be open to help ventilation throughout the Service and you should wear appropriate clothing to keep comfortable when temperatures drop.

**\* *Refreshments***

We cannot provide tea/ coffee/ biscuits after Services at present. You may bring a bottle of water for your own use, ( remember to replace your face covering after drinking) and please make sure you take it away with you.

**\* *Toilets***

These are open, but restricted in facilities, and for two people ( and carers) at a time. Please sanitise the toilet after your use. Ensure you wash your hands thoroughly and dry them using disposable paper towels.

**\* Offertory**

A plate will be at the rear of the Worship Area for your Giving and Donations. It will not be passed around.

A card reader that also allows contactless Giving is available. You are encouraged to avoid cash and use the machine, cheque standing order, online or telephone banking.

Please contact Laurence or Tony about different methods of giving.

**\* Children's Area**

This will not be in use. Children can bring their own item and not share outside their household/bubble, and keep it with them at all times.

**\* In Church**

We need to limit movement around Church, and ensure that social distancing is maintained, while allowing as many as possible who wish to attend to do so.

You will be asked to sit in specific places and therefore are unlikely to be able to sit where you usually used to.

There will be indicators showing you where you can sit. Households and bubbles can sit together, and there are areas marked for this, otherwise you must keep the social distance.

Please do not move around once you are seated, or during the Service, unless you need to for personal comfort reasons, or emergencies.

**\* Worship.**

Services should last for 30 to 45 minutes. This is to reduce the length of time that people sit close to each other.

At present Singing is not allowed. Therefore we have not put out hymn books or service books. The Order of Service will be on the screen

There will be not be an organist or pianist, we hope to be able to provide recorded music.

A soloist from the Music Group may be present at some Services to provide music.

Arrangements for Holy Communion will be shared closer to the time that this takes place.

**\* After the Service**

It is important that everyone leaves safely and without rushing.

You will be asked to leave in an orderly manner, in the reverse sequence to that when you arrived. Please wait until you are invited to leave.

You are asked to leave without stopping for conversations with others. If you wish to speak to others please do this outside at a safe distance, taking care not to obstruct others, and not be at risk in the car park from vehicles.

**\*Thank you.**

We very much look forward to welcoming you back, and hope that the arrangements we have made reassure you and help you in your return to Worship.

QMC Leadership Team.

18 March 2021.