

Coronavirus (Covid-19) approach to Worship in Phase 3 of Government Roadmap out of Lockdown

Attending St. Columba's

Now that our Kirk Session and minister have carefully considered Scottish Government and Church of Scotland Guidelines and having obtained Presbytery permission to proceed with the re-opening. They have decided that St. Columba's should re-open for worship on Sunday 18th October 2020 at 10.30 a.m. and each Sunday thereafter. Services will last approximately 40 minutes and Scottish Government guidelines remind us that numbers in any church are limited to a maximum of 50 people in total. For St. Columba's unfortunately this limit is being set at approximately 30 people in total, this includes the minister, organist, stewards and the screen operator.

When we reopen and to avoid the disappointment of anyone arriving at church to find that our quota of people has been met, we will adopt a booking system whereby anyone wishing to attend church on any given Sunday should contact Anne Inglis preferably by email at anne.inglis@ntlworld.com or by phoning 07895 437011 on the Thursday and Friday morning of that week between 9.00am and 12.00 noon giving their name, the number of people attending with them (partners or household groups only please) plus their contact details. Should the church quota be full for that week, your name, etc. will be entered onto the list for the next consecutive Sunday should you so wish.

Should you realise that you are unable to attend after booking a place, we would be most grateful if you could again contact Anne to let us know, this will allow your place to be offered to someone else.

We would also respectfully ask that if you feel in any way unwell, even if that's on the Sunday morning, you give serious consideration to worshipping from home.

When you arrive at church, please remember at all times:

- To "socially distance" at a distance of 2 metres
- To use Sanitising Hand gel as you enter and leave the sanctuary (this will be provided for you)
- To use your mask in the sanctuary (unless a medical condition prevents this)
- Name and contact details will be recorded in the attendance register when you book your place.
- To place any offerings that you might want to make in the plate at the exit door
- To sit only in designated "locations" to which you will be guided as you enter
- To remain seated as there will be NO Congregational singing, nor should you hold conversations with those from other households while in the Sanctuary.
- To indicate to a duty steward should you require to use the toilet or if you are feeling unwell
- To enter and exit using the signed one-way system as requested

- Ensure that where children and young people are part of our worshipping community, they should sit in their family groups when in the sanctuary.
- While in the church grounds, before and after the service Scottish Government guidance on meeting with others applies.

Should you feel unsure, based on your own feelings and circumstances, of coming together with others for worship. To assist you in deciding whether you wish to return to Sunday worship at this time the Church of Scotland have prepared the accompanying 'Health Assessment Tool', which may help you in your decision making. Please remember you can still access our service as it will still be available via YouTube, the web site and by CD as previously.

We are pleased to be re-opening our church and we look forward to welcoming you all back, and, although the layout of our sanctuary and the way that we worship will be different from before and perhaps not necessarily the way we would want it, for all of our sakes and so that we can move forward, we must abide by the rules and guidelines.

Related Documents:-

[Health Assessment Tool](#)

[Questionnaire](#)