

Dear church family,

A lot has happened since I wrote the notice sheet on Thursday .

I received a second letter from Bishop Christopher late last night, copying a letter from Commander of the Met police, and separately a letter from Bishop Dame Sarah of London and lead for C of E on Covid response . All three underline the permission for churches to remain open for public worship . They also make very clear the critical situation London as a whole is in. In discussion with Isabella and other members of the standing committee we felt it both prudent and wise that the church should close to public worship on Sundays for three weeks, so that we are acting in solidarity and with the spirit of the current request for people to act as if they were contagious, thereby limiting any opportunity of interaction and contagion of the virus.

We have been informed via government authorities and via the diocese that the situation with the current virus and infection rate has escalated and is getting out of hand. As a church, we have been proactive and conducted another risk assessment on Friday the 8th of January and ensured that the church has adequate spacing within the building, and clear means of safe, socially 2m-distanced entrance and exit, with ample opportunity for hand sanitation. However because of request for everyone where possible to limit their movement, we believe that closing the church at this time for a period, and reassessing in due course, would be the right course of action; so that we are supporting the general population in reducing any risk at all of transmission.

Our services will be live streamed from church on Sunday morning .

May you know God's blessing peace and comfort in these very difficult days ,

Part of today's morning Psalm:

Psalm 2 : 10 Now therefore be wise, O kings; •

be prudent, you judges of the earth.

11 Serve the Lord with fear, and with trembling kiss his feet, •

lest he be angry and you perish from the way,

for his wrath is quickly kindled.

12 Happy are all they •

who take refuge in him.

Note: the word 'worship' is rooted in the same wording meaning to draw near to kiss. May you know Him to be your refuge and strength and May you in your own home draw near to worship him .

With my love Amanda