

FAQs following the re-opening of St Peter's Church for private prayer

What is St Peter's church offering for individual prayer by members of the public?

From Monday 15th June 2020, following government guidance, we have taken the decision to open the church on a daily basis. From Monday to Saturday this will be from 10am to 12 noon. On Sunday, it will be from 2-4pm. This will be reviewed on a regular basis and adjusted according to guidance and how much the church is being used.

Can I be reassured that the church is clean and a safe place to be in? A thorough risk assessment has taken place, based on Church of England latest guidance. It has been deemed safe for the church to re-open and there has now been a thorough clean of the space that will be used for private prayer. Going forward, there will be a daily cleaning of this area.

Do I need to wear a mask and gloves? According to current government guidance, there is no need to wear gloves or a face mask in church. If guidance changes, our advice on this matter will be amended.

What is being done in terms of reminding people about hygiene and social distancing? There is now signage in church allowing for a one-way flow through church. We are asking people to enter through the south door and exit through the north door. Hand sanitiser is available and everyone is asked to wash their hands on entering and leaving the building.

Will anyone be present to monitor the church? The Church of England guidance says that there is no public health need to have anyone present in the church. However, we have decided that for at least the first week, there will be a member of the St Peter's team present whilst the church is open. That person will also be happy to chat and pray with anyone in church, as required.

Will the church look the same? Essentially, it is the same beautiful building that it has always been. However, due to the current pandemic, we have had to change some things within the church to comply with guidance. Only a limited part of the nave is in use and in this area there are chairs, spaced appropriately for social distancing purposes. The rest of the church will, for the time being, be out of bounds.

Are there books or Bibles out for our personal use? Sadly this is not allowed currently. Please bring your own if that would be helpful for you.

Are the toilets open? Unfortunately the toilets are currently unavailable to use.

When will the church re-open for public services? Unfortunately we are not able to give information on this and will await government and Church of England guidance. Be reassured we have already started planning for this day!