



Abington Pastoral Letter No.30 17.09.2020

Dear Friends

### **How does the Rule of Six affects our church life?**

To give you a short answer, the public worship can continue and is exempt of rule of six. Our churchyard service is not affected therefore and is lawful to gather for worship more than six. We will, of course, always have to comply with the social distancing measure. Choir practices also can happen with more than six members but the government guidance suggests to minimise socializing and mixing. It does not clarify what mixing means. I think as long as we remain sensible and cautious, being considerate of others' safety and well-being, the essential part of the church life can continue as things stand now.

### **Booking your seat for indoor worship**

As announced we will have our service inside the church building first time in 6 months on Sunday 27 September. As I mentioned in the previous letter, the maximum number we can have is 30.

Once we have moved into the church building, it is essential that you pre-book your seat before you attend the service. Once you have attended the service then I ask you to kindly let others have the chance to attend the service by giving at least 4 weeks before you book your seat again.

If you phoned to book your seat and found that all seats are booked already, then Dianne will kindly help you to book your seat for another week.

Dianne is going to be on holiday from Monday 21. She is coming back on Friday 25 afternoon.

She said that she would appreciate if you could give her a ring either on Friday evening or Saturday to book your seat for Sunday 27 September. Or you can just tell her when you see her at the churchyard service on this coming Sunday. Her number is 01604 281264.

Our plan for worship for the next coming weeks is the following

20 September: Churchyard service

27 September: Indoor service

4 October: Churchyard service (Harvest)

11 October and onwards: Indoor services on Sundays at 10 am

2 November: Monday, All Souls Day Service (online at 7.30 pm. More details to follow)

8 November: Indoor Service at 10 am followed by Outdoor service at 11 am (Remembrance)

### **Celebration of Life for Evelyn**

It is with deep sadness that I write to inform you that our dearest friend and faithful follower of Christ, Evelyn Stafford, passed away on 3 September morning in the hospital. She was at peace and saw her family the night before. I know she was ever so ready to meet her Lord Jesus and I know that she now is embraced by him in his loving arms surrounded by her loved ones.

I give thanks to God for all that she was and is to us all. I give thanks to God for the loving support, friendship and care that she received from Jackie, Jim, Liz and from all in Abington Church. I know she was always deeply grateful.

Please pray for Evelyn and also for all those who mourn today. Although we cannot help but feel saddened by her passing, we know that heaven welcomes her with great joy and love for she has come home, her heavenly Father's house.

The church will receive Evelyn on 30 September at 5 pm. The funeral, the celebration of life of Evelyn will take place in the church at 11 am on 1 October.

Rest in peace, Evelyn. And rise in glory.

With love in Christ

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