



Bulletin 37

So, Here's the Plan!

Dear Church!

9th September 2021

Time marches on, and so does our progress in dealing with Covid.

Hurrah!

Even though infection numbers are currently high, we seem to be seeing the vaccine reduce most cases to very few symptoms at best and, at worst, a wretched, exhausting infection but one which is rarely a life-threatening one. There are exceptions however – some predictable and some apparently random. So, we need to continue to be vigilant, prudent, and thoughtful towards one another's feelings about distance and touch.

To date, we have striven to offer a building with as low a risk from infection as possible. As with everywhere in the wider community less and less people are now wearing masks and we feel, having delayed our decision to assess how new freedoms affect transmission and serious infection, it is time for our church to take that same step.

To continue to offer protection for the vulnerable, we suggest that any mask with a FFP2 classification ought to offer the same protection as hitherto. Medically they are registered as providing 95% protection against infectious airborne particles (ukmed.co.uk). In this way we hope to retrieve some of our lost practices and activities in worship as we claw back normality.

Perhaps one of the most helpful precautions (as suggested by Plymouth City Council) would be for our congregation to take lateral flow tests before a Sunday. Clergy already do this and for now, they will also continue to wear masks when actually distributing communion.

We look forward to the day when nobody wears a mask in church, but meanwhile there is an area of the church set aside for those who wish to maintain social distancing, and if you personally are not ready to do away with mask wearing just yet then of course feel free to wear one – there is even a supply of FFP2 masks available if you don't have one with you.

On another note, there is so much more to be excited about...

I am delighted to announce the return of the 6.30pm evening service from 12th September and, as advertised on the term card, we have much to look forward to in church life – the 151st Anniversary celebrations on the 17th/18th/19th Sept, Revs Robin Brown and Ann Hosking's ordinations at **11am** on 26th Sept with Bishop Nick and Harvest on 3rd October.

Every blessing as we rest in His grip and grace, Rev Karl