



St. Michael at the North Gate Church, Oxford
City Church of Oxford

Guidelines for individuals and households who wish to attend 8am Sunday Communion

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A Note from the Vicar

We are joyful to be able once again to meet and celebrate Communion together. Over the coming weeks, we hope to increase our offering, gradually and in a measured way. We are very thankful to be able to welcome visitors for prayer, and for services, and we have done all we can to make sure we continue to provide for those who are shielding or vulnerable as well as those able to attend services in person. To help us stay safe, please let me know if you plan to attend on Sunday, via email. If numbers wishing to come are large, we may add in a service.

If you wish to be in touch with me, or to let me know you plan to attend a service, please email vicar@smng.org.uk .

With very best wishes,

Revd. Anthony Buckley

Where and when

Our first service back will be Sunday 5th July at 8am. It will be a said BCP service. We will continue to stream our 10.30 service at this time.

Which parts of the church are in use?

At this time, only the main church is in use and prepared. We will not be opening the parish area nor the toilet for general use. If you need the toilet on your visit, you

will be able to use it, but because of the difficulties around cleaning between people, if you are able not to use our loo, that would be helpful.

Things you need to know on entering for a service during this time

If you are unwell, sadly, we have to ask you not to come to St. Michael's at this time, but please do contact us through our website or using the details above

If you develop Coronavirus symptoms within a week after visiting us, please let the church caretaker know on church.caretaker@smng.org.uk or by calling 01865 255779.

The entrance will be on the Ship Street side of the main gates, on Ship Street.

If a queue is needed, this will be East down Ship Street, with social distancing encouraged, using markers on the pavement. Anthony may ask some to wait, so that the flow into the church is regulated, if several people arrive at the same time.

We will be operating a one-way system around the church, which will be clearly signposted, as we do for private prayer.

Anthony will be at the church entrance to tell you where to sit: This is to make sure all are seated following social distancing.

We are asking everyone to use hand sanitizer (which will be provided) before entering the building

Pews where you can sit will clearly be marked.

Please do not touch ornaments or statues in the church during this time.

If you have your own copy of the Book of Common Prayer, please bring it to use at our 8am service. Please don't worry if you don't have a copy, however, as copies will be available.

Things you need to know about Communion during this time

There will be no collection. If you want to give, thank you very much - we would prefer you to do this online, through our website (<https://www.smng.org.uk/wp/smng-online/donate/>) or by contacting our Finance Manager (finance.manager@smng.org.uk). If you prefer, however, it is

possible to give using the box fixed at the back of the church: Please sanitize your hands before and after placing money in here.

Communion will be administered in one kind only. Anthony will explain how he would like people to come up to receive the bread. There will be a one-way system for coming forward for Communion, and all who can will be asked to receive standing, waiting behind each other at 2 metres distance apart. Anyone who is not able to come up for Communion in this way, please let Anthony know before the service and he will bring the bread to you.

Anthony will sanitize his hands before handling the Communion vessels before the service, and again before the prayer of consecration. The wafers will remain covered until after the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

After a service.

Sadly, during this time, we are asking people not to linger or mingle after services. If there are many in attendance, Anthony may ask people to leave a few pews at a time.

If you are new to St Michael's, Anthony may quietly ask you for your name and contact details, to help with Track and Trace if that is needed. You do not have to give this information, and if you do, we will store it only for 21 days, in a locked draw.

For more information

Please contact the church administrator: church.administrator@smng.org.uk