

A SUMMER ROADMAP FOR ALL SOULS

from 19 July 2021 (Step 4)

The Bishops' Conference of England & Wales has issued guidance for churches for Step 4 of the government Covid roadmap. It is heartening that we can begin to take further steps forward, but caution remains necessary while local infection rates remain high. Below I outline a local 'roadmap' for the next couple of months here at All Souls. I am confident that parishioners will exercise responsibility for their own decisions for the good of all who use our church. Unless otherwise stated, these measures take effect from **Monday 19 July**.

Hand sanitiser will continue to be available for people's use.

Track & Trace As long as the NHS Test, Track & Trace system is in operation, we will make available the means for people to sign in for acts of worship – the NHS App and QR code, and slips of paper in the black box.

Face coverings are 'strongly recommended' to be worn by everybody in church, particularly if you are singing.

Seating & distancing **From Sunday 1 August** all the pews in the nave (the long, central section of church) will be available for people to use. The two transepts (the side sections of the church near the small chapels) will be designated as areas of socially-distanced seating for those who would feel more comfortable being seated further apart from other people. We ask that face coverings certainly be worn by those sitting in these areas.

Stewards will carry on doing the excellent job of welcoming people into church. They will no longer direct people to a seat, but will point out where the 'socially-distanced' seating areas are. They will also continue to facilitate the orderly administration of Holy Communion, and to wipe down high frequency touch points after services.

One-way system The one-way system through church has worked very well indeed, so it will remain in place. Please enter church from Kingsland Ave and exit on to the driveway.

Holy Communion For the time being, Holy Communion will continue to be distributed in one kind only (the Host). If you wish to receive the Host on the tongue, please come forward to Communion at the end of the queue. Ministers of Communion will continue to sanitise their hands and wear a face covering during the administration of Holy Communion.

Ventilation Doors will remain open during services.

Singing Our plan is to gradually increase singing at Mass during the summer period (see the note above about face coverings).

Sunday Mass times **From Sunday 12 September** the pattern of two Masses will resume ie 9.30am ('Family Mass') and 11.15am (Solemn Mass). Please see the note from the bishops about the Sunday Obligation.

Collection We will not yet return to passing around the collection bags at the Offertory. The very effective system we currently have will continue for now. We strongly encourage online and contactless giving where possible.

Sign of Peace We will continue to exchange the Sign of Peace without physical contact.

Holy water stoups will remain empty for now. Please bring a bottle of water to be blessed.