



## *Church of the Holy Spirit, Mossley*

“Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.”

(1 Chronicles 16:11)

Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago, the Northern Ireland Executive announced that church buildings could reopen. This is encouraging news and we are all looking forward to being able to meet as a church family. As you would expect, a series of reopening procedures have had to be followed and I would like to thank everyone who has given of their time in preparing our church building for us to meet in.

It is our intention that the church building will be **open on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020 for a service of Morning Prayer at 11am.** We are really looking forward to this, but it is important to note that many things will look and feel different when we regather as a church family. The reopening procedures that we have in place may appear strict, but they are in place for the health and safety of all of us.

- There will be one service each Sunday in our church building. This will be at 11am and the front doors of the church will be open from 10.30am. Anyone planning to attend this service should enter the church only through the front doors.
- Due to social distancing restrictions the occupancy of our church building is greatly reduced. These measures are in place for everyone's health and safety and must be strictly adhered to. We, therefore, need to forward plan attendance numbers at services and kindly ask that you contact either Mrs Winifred Clarke (07749064808) or Mr John Nesbitt (07954150067) to confirm your attendance at a Sunday service. This can be done from Monday morning until Thursday evening each week.
- Please arrive at church in good time and use the hand sanitiser which is available in the porch. The use of face masks has been strongly encouraged. You can bring your own or we have some available in the porch.
- The churchwardens, or other stewards, will direct all parishioners to a seat. Please note that you may not be able to sit in your usual pew. Seating must be in keeping with social distancing measures and we will begin by seating people from the far side of the church and will work towards the door as the church fills.
- To maintain social distancing, some pews are not to be occupied and these have been marked with a red cross.
- Part of the reopening procedures encourage us to engage in contact tracing. This means that each person will be required to fill out a tracing form as proof of attendance at the

service. Please bring a pen with you to the church service to enable you to fill out this form.

- Members of the same household can share the same pew but please be conscious of maintaining proper social distances from other parishioners.
- Please do not attend church if you, or a member of your household, is experiencing or recovering from symptoms of COVID-19. These include cough, high temperature, breathing difficulty, sudden loss of smell or taste, and flu-like symptoms.
- People who are shielding are encouraged not to attend church until medical advice indicates that it is safe to do so.
- Books will not be handed out in the porch. You are encouraged to bring your own books with you or follow the service on the screens.
- The service will last approximately 35 minutes and, for the time being, there will be no congregational singing.
- When the service concludes, please wait for the churchwardens (or other stewards) to direct you towards the appointed exit. As you leave, please continue to maintain social distance from other parishioners and use the hand sanitiser which is available.
- No collection will be lifted during the service but Free Will Offering envelopes can be placed in the offering plate which will be located on the Font. Your tracing form can also be placed in a box at the front of the church.
- We will continue our online services on Sunday mornings (on YouTube, Facebook, the Dial-In Facility, and our website [www.mossley.org](http://www.mossley.org)). These will be the same as the services that will be provided in the church building.

We would like to thank you for your support during the lockdown period and for your cooperation with all these instructions! Things will look different when we regather, but we are thankful for the opportunity to meet safely as we worship God together. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Every blessing,

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