



St Mark & St Cuthbert

St Peter's Church



The Church of England in Harton and Cleadon Park

Guidance for Private Prayer

The PCCs of Harton & Cleadon Park are pleased to announce that following the lifting of government restrictions, worship and prayer will once again be held in our church buildings, from Sunday 16th August.

We have undertaken comprehensive risk assessments, adopted implementation plans for the recovery of public worship, and produced guidance which outlines how worship will be conducted. All of these documents have been put together within the guidelines set out by the government and the Church of England.

While we are in this period of limited capacity, we are working to find a way to facilitate as many people's access to worship as possible, by scheduling duplicate services and restarting midweek worship from September. Although there has not previously been a habit of opening the churches for private prayer, we consider that this would be a good opportunity to perhaps enable those who would like quiet time for reflection to have it, and also that it may help ease the pressure on worship space. Our focus in the first instance would be to open St Peter's for this purpose.

There are of course security as well as health considerations beyond simply opening the door – can we leave the building open, should we have stewards (if so our lone working policy comes in), what is our cleaning schedule to be or how will we quarantine the building if we need to host a funeral. Sensibly, at present it is best to say that we will endeavour to make a set time available for prayer in the building each week, however depending on steward availability and funeral bookings, times may need to reflect this.



All who come for private prayer must be alert and vigilant and remain responsible for their own safety and the safety of others. You must not come to church if you have any of the symptoms of COVID-19.

Our church buildings have been laid out in such a way as to facilitate social distancing of 2 metres; please play your part in ensuring this so as to help others remain and feel safe. We currently have a reduced capacity of up to 14 households (St Peter's) and approx. 25 households (St Mark & St Cuthbert's).

Please wear a face covering which fully covers your nose and mouth. Hands must be cleansed with sanitiser on arriving and leaving church, which will be made available.

We have been requested to record, with permission, for track and trace purposes if the need arise, names and times of presence in a building. This record will be kept securely for 21 days and then be destroyed.

There will be a steward to welcome visitors and direct you to a seat. There will be no re-use of seating within one session or without cleaning.



We very much look forward to welcoming you back to pray in church.

Our worship online continues for those unable or hesitant to return to public worship or private prayer.

For more information, please visit our web pages: stpetersharton.org.uk ✕ thechurchinthepark.org.uk