

• *COVID Restrictions*

As I wrote in last month's magazine (*August 2021*), and the situation has not really changed, we are still being advised that there is still a very real risk of infection, and that we must act responsibly. As I write, we are in the 2nd highest (out of 7) category for COVID infections, though having seen a decrease of 8% in the last 7 days. (There is an unbroken pattern at this level from Market Deeping south through Peterborough, and right down to Ramsey).

The PCC has reviewed the actions we have already taken, balancing the need to continue the best possible protection for all who attend church, while allowing some sense of normality to return. These are the changes we plan for the foreseeable future. Please note that these may change if circumstances change.

As I said in my previous statement, I want to emphasise that, as Christians, we act out of love for one another. Our own idea of freedom (or feeling of personal rights) cannot be the cause of distress or hurt to others.

As yet, none of the PCC have had any comments of concern over the relaxations we have already agreed.

The PCC have agreed, further to previous arrangements, that:

- we will open up all of the pews in the 2 centre rows. The far North row (pulpit side) will remain alternate for any who are not comfortable with all rows open. The far south row is already spaced out.
- We will continue to have good ventilation, but the Corpus Christi chapel door will be shut during services. As the windows will be open, you may wish to ensure you have warm clothes.
- We will increase the number of hymns to be sung. However, we will not yet sing the settings of the communion liturgy.
- From the 1st Sunday in October, we will resume the earlier pattern of 9.00am Holy Communion, and 10.00am All-Age service with Psalm 98.

As always, I welcome any conversation over any of these decisions.

Rev Mark