

Dear Friends

I imagine you have seen the news that the Government has authorised the opening of places of worship for private prayer, but not yet for public worship. This is welcome news, and we are working hard to make our churches safe and accessible for those who would like to use the special space they offer for their own prayers.

Since lockdown the churches have been closed for three months. As all our buildings are either old or very old so it will be necessary to clean them before allowing public access, and this may take a little time.

At the moment we anticipate opening Birkin Church on Wednesday June 24 from 11am to 12pm. There will be three 15 minute bookable slots available for individuals, couples or small, close family groups, this is to allow us to clean between visitors. If you would like to book a slot, please contact **Rev Anna Burr** on **01757 270325** or email her at [burrannav@gmail.com](mailto:burrannav@gmail.com)

Once we are confident that we can offer opportunities for you to come into our other churches for private prayer, we will let you know and give you details of how to book a time for you to come.

#### **What will Personal prayer in church look like?**

We cannot provide bibles or books for you when you come to the church but hope to offer some prayer sheets to take away. If you have a personal bible or prayer book you use, please do bring this with you.

Church will be clearly set out so that you know where you can sit or kneel to pray. Hand sanitiser will be available, and we recommend you apply this before coming in. Volunteers will be on hand to support you, however we are unable to come within two metres so please do respect this, as many volunteers may themselves be in a vulnerable group. Volunteers may be wearing gloves and a mask to protect their own health.

If you have symptoms of Covid 19 you should follow government advice to stay at home and stay safe. We will sadly not be able to offer drinks or hospitality at the church at this time. You will only be in church for up to around 15minutes, to allow as many people as possible to come in.

We hope you are continuing to enjoy our services online or DVD today's is a special service to mark 'Fathers' Day'.

Please keep in touch and keep praying for all those affected by the pandemic.