



29 July 2020

St Nicholas, Sutton: open for Private Prayer and Reflection

from Revd Frances and churchwardens John and Geoff:

"How amiable are thy dwellings thou Lord of Hosts" *Psalm 84*

We are pleased to be opening St Nicholas Church tomorrow, 30 July, for the first time since lockdown began on 23 March. You are invited to come for private prayer and reflection. Risk assessments have been conducted, guidelines observed and we've been working hard to make sure the church can open again safely. Thank you to the PCC and to all who have helped make this possible.

It will be different to the 'Open Thursdays' we are used to, but we are thankful to God that we can open the church once again for private prayer.

It will take us longer to re-open for public worship, although planning is underway. We will let you know as soon as possible when this is likely. In the meantime, you will find a Sunday service booklet and readings sheet available on the website each Sunday for you to worship at home and the Southwark Archdeacons have made available a series of online sermons for parishes during August (please look at the website).

Certain groups of people may be at increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19, including people who are aged 70 or older, regardless of medical conditions. Those who are considered to be extremely clinically vulnerable to COVID-19 will have been advised to shield. We will all have our own feelings about coming back to church, as with other restrictions being eased; you are most welcome as and when you feel ready. The church will continue to be open for private prayer each Thursday from 10:30am-12:30pm, depending on the current situation.

We ask for your prayers and understanding as we open this sacred and special place again.

God bless,

Revd Frances, John Kerr, Geoff Rendall

What to expect

- For the sake of each other's safety and sensitivities, adults are strongly advised to wear a face covering while inside the building (please bring your own). Children under the age of 11 and those with exemptions will not be required to cover their faces
- The entrance will be through the south porch
- Please note that, for safety reasons, we will have to limit the number of those in the building at any one time - you may be asked to queue
- You will be provided with hand sanitiser on arrival
- You will be asked to provide your name and contact details in case they are needed for the NHS' 'Test and Trace' programme. These details will be kept for 21 days and then destroyed
- There will be a designated route through the church to reinforce social distancing guidelines
- Please observe 2m social distancing at all times
- The stewards will indicate the seats that are available (as already marked)
- Exit will be through the west door
- We cannot offer refreshments
- Unfortunately there are no toilet facilities available
- Please follow Government advice and do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has Covid-19 symptoms

Arrangements for opening the church are subject to change if either Government guidance or local circumstances change. There may be other safeguards we need to put in place. If you have any questions you can contact the Parish Office at administrator@suttonteamministry.org

We look forward to welcoming you.

This short video will help you prepare for your visit:

<https://youtu.be/O-3a5lpXDAo>

St Nicholas, Sutton
Registered Charity Number 1134049
020 8643 8271
administrator@suttonteamministry.org

stnicholas.suttonteam.org.uk