**Resuming public worship in our buildings: update**

(09.07.20)

We are very grateful to you all for the on-going hard work of assessing and mitigating the risks of resuming public worship in our buildings. As you do this,

* please remember the importance of a formal risk assessment which is agreed and signed off by or on behalf of the PCC
* you’re encouraged to speak to your Area Dean (or Archdeacon) if you are concerned that the note in the national guidance concerning a request to the Bishop for dispensation may apply in your situation.

**Test & Trace** - the online Gov.uk COVID-19 guidance page for Places of Worship has been updated to include a template consent form for places of worship and also hyperlinked to the recent, very detailed guidance from the NHS on Test & Trace

**Social interaction** - we have been asked to reinforce that worshippers should limit their interactions with anyone they are not attending the Place of Worship with, i.e. if they are attending a communal service with one other household, wherever possible they should try not to engage in conversation with anyone outside of this group. We hope being clear on this will protect people and make any Test & Trace activity easier.

**The Venerable Jenny Tomlinson, Archdeacon of Birmingham**

**The Venerable Simon Heathfield, Archdeacon of Aston**

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