COVID 19 – LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS

Most restrictions have now been lifted. You are free to continue with any personal precautions which are helpful and reassuring to you. Please be respectful of the choices others make and continue to act responsibly and with due concern for others.

· Face coverings are **no longer** required in church **except** in confined spaces such as the Confessional. You are still **encouraged** to wear a face covering whenever there is a large congregation or congregational singing (e.g. Sunday 10.30 am).
· All seats **are now available for use** and it is no longer necessary to leave space between household groups.
· We are no longer required to collect information for contact tracing purposes but you are encouraged to check in with the NHS Covid app.

The following restriction still apply:

· **You must stay at home if you are unwell or required to self-isolate.**
· **Hand sanitizer** is provided and you are encouraged to use it when entering and leaving the church.
· Please remember basic hygiene regarding coughs and sneezes (**catch it, bin it, kill it**)
· Please respect those who wish to keep a degree of social distancing.
· We are required to keep the church as well ventilated as possible and so doors will remain open during Mass: please do not close them.
· The Holy Water stoops will remain empty for now, but Holy Water can be provided on request for use at home.
· You are requested not to share the sign of peace physically outside your own household.
· Holy Communion will continue to be in one kind and you are encouraged to continue receiving on the hand for now. If you wish to receive on the tongue you are asked to wait until others have received communion.
· The Sunday Mass obligation remains suspended, with the expectation it will return from Advent; therefore you are encouraged to make your own judgement about returning to church if you haven't done so yet, which might mean coming to quieter Masses during the week as a first step.
· Some Masses will continue to be live streamed for the benefit of those who cannot yet be at Mass.