WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH
St Bartholomew's and St Chad's

This is a summary of the guidance - it's intended as a pocket-sized "aide memoire". It doesn't include all the details – please refer to the full guidance document for those. The numbers in brackets by some of the headings refer to the full guidance notes.

Planned Restart Dates and Service Times (p 1)

St Chad's From May 23rd – 9.30 am
St Bartholomew's From May 23rd - 8.00 am on 1st & 3rd Sunday
11.15 am on 2nd, 4th Sunday
St Chad's midweek From May 26th – 10.15 am

Numbers Attending (p 1)

Up to 7 households at St Bartholomew's
Up to 16 households at St Chad's
You must book your place in advance, otherwise you might find that the limits have already been reached.

How to book a place (p 3)

Book by email from Monday morning for the service the following Sunday, or Thursday morning for the service on the following Wednesday. You cannot book before bookings open at 9am.

Email for bookings: servicebookings@thurstaston.org.uk

You should include your name and phone number; the date and time of service you wish to attend; names of all those attending, with ages if under 16; if you have children who will be in a pram, pushchair or on your knee for the whole service please let us know. If you will be in a wheelchair, please also inform us so we can make appropriate arrangements.

We would encourage you to sign a consent form for the NHS "Track and Trace" system for each service you attend. There is a copy of the form at the end of the main document (on page 5) which is downloadable from the front page of the website and will be available in physical form when you arrive at church.

If you cannot send an email and do not have a friend who can do it for you then you can book by phone on 07553 099 388. If you can send emails, please do not use the phone number.

Arrival at Church (p 3)

A steward will ask you to confirm that you are well, remind you about face coverings and ask you to use the hand sanitiser. On your first service under these arrangements, another steward will invite you to pick up an envelope with two service books – Morning Worship and Holy Communion. You should take these home after the service and bring them with you the next time you come.

When it is safe to do so, we will ask you to return them for general use again but until then they will be your personal copies. Please write your name on the envelope.

The stewards will show you to your place, starting at the front. You will not be able to sit next to anyone who is not in your household or support bubble.

In St Chad's, please ask the stewards for help if you need to bring chairs together for your household.

Some quiet music will be playing. Please use the time before the service for private prayer and reflection.

Safety is paramount (p 2)

We will follow the guidelines of the Church of England and the Government. Symptoms of Covid-19: new continuous cough, high temperature or change in or loss of your sense of taste and smell. If you have any of these, please do not attend church as you could infect others. You should self-isolate at home immediately.

The church will be cleaned before and after every service and left for 48 hours (the time recommended at present) before it can be used again. That means just one service per building on Sundays.

Face coverings

Everyone in the building must wear a face covering which covers mouth and nose. More details and the legitimate exemptions are shown on page 2 of the full guidance notes.

Other changes in the form of the services

- Children and young people are always very welcome but please supervise them, with appropriate precautions. For the time being, there will be no Junior Church at St Chad's.
  You might wish to bring some "quiet" toys or books for your children, as none will be available in the churches.
- There will be no singing.
- You will be able to greet other people, with social distancing, outside the church after the service.
- Doors and windows will be open for the duration of services, so if it is a cooler day, please bring something warm to wear.
- For our Giving, we are encouraging people to set up Standing Orders if possible. Otherwise, there will be a collection plate at the back of the church for cash and cheques.
- Receiving Communion – when these services are started, only bread will be distributed, not wine. You should stand to receive, as the altar rails cannot be used. The priest will come to you. If possible, please sanitise your hands before and after removing your face mask and before and after replacing it (do not touch the front of the mask).
- At St Chad's, only the disabled access and baby-change toilet will be in use – but only in an emergency, please.
- At St Chad's - No refreshments will be provided after the service.