

S.^TJAMES'

Bicentenary 2019-2024

The Reverend Andrew Sempell
Rector

22 October 2021

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

It is once again a great blessing to be able to participate in communal worship, receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, enjoy the Choral music, and experience fellowship with each other.

The move from the 70% to 80% vaccinated milestones happened quickly, and the indication is that we will achieve the 90% level in the next couple of weeks. There are only a few changes to our practices at this stage, however the main one is that fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, and unvaccinated people are allowed to attend worship. The current government restrictions are as follows:

- People must register using the QR code or written register at the entrance;
- Physical distancing remains under the 4 sqm rule, with seating at the green dots on the pews unless from the same household;
- Masks must be worn while inside the building;
- Members of the congregation are not allowed to sing during services;
- Communion is distributed 'in one kind';
- The use of hand sanitiser, and the cleaning of surfaces is required; and,
- People must not attend worship if feeling unwell.

Refreshments

From this Sunday (24 October), refreshments will be served in the Covered Courtyard after the 10am Eucharist, and those attending do not need to be seated to participate.

Worship Services

The worship schedule remains:

- **Sunday Services**

8am - Said Eucharist: A maximum number of 30 people may attend this service. Entry is by the North Porch, and all will be seated at the sanctuary end of the nave.

10am - Choral Eucharist: A maximum number of 90 people may attend this service. The Choir will sing, but members of the congregation are not allowed to sing in the service. Entry is by the Tower Porch, and all will be seated at the tower end of the nave. The Choral Eucharist will continue to be livestreamed at 10am.

4pm - Choral Evensong (last Sunday of the month): Regulated as per the Choral Eucharist.

Kids @ Church: Kids @ Church will continue to meet on Sundays at via Zoom Conferencing.

- **Weekday Services:**

6:15pm Wednesday - Choral Evensong: A maximum of 70 parishioners may attend, entering by the Tower Porch and seated at the tower end of the nave. The Choir will sing, but members of the congregation are not allowed to sing in the service. Choral Evensong will continue to be livestreamed at 6:15pm.

12:30pm - Lunchtime Eucharists: Weekday Lunchtime Eucharists at 12:30pm have recommenced and are conducted in the Holy Spirit Chapel. A maximum of 6 people may attend this service, entering by the North Porch. Communion is received in one kind.

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer: Morning and Evening Prayer continue to be conducted on Zoom each weekday. 8:30am – Morning Prayer and 5:00pm – Evening Prayer.

7:45pm Tuesday - Resting Space: Resting Space continues to meet bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 7:45pm via Zoom.

Registration – QR Code, Scanner, and Written

All people entering the church also need to register their attendance, usually by using the QR code at the door. For those who do not have smart phones there is also the opportunity of registering on a form. We are still looking at the possibility of obtaining a scanner for QR cards.

Conclusion

There will be continual reviews of the safe management of activities in the parish, including the conduct of St James' Institute activities, concerts, and what we do in worship.

We are heading toward a more liberal and flexible approach to management of the pandemic in the wider community, however we should continue to be cautious about transmission of the virus, behave in a responsible manner, and keep to the regulations for everyone's benefit.

Every blessing,



The Reverend Andrew Sempell
Rector of St James'