

Reverend Canon Peter Brooks

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### **To All on the Electoral Roll of Three Cliffs Parish**

The Benefice PCC for Three Cliffs met on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss amongst other matters controlled opening of churches under the current COVID regulations

It was decided at that meeting that a decision to use St Teilo's Bishopston as a Parish place of worship on Sundays and potentially Wednesdays each at 10.00 am would be explored with the hope of opening on the 11<sup>th</sup> October.

I have met with your Church Officers and discussed this with others in the Ministry Team and on the PCC and the matter was put to the Church Council to give their approval if wished for to this venture.

I can now tell you that the approval was given to re-open St Teilo's under COVID 19 regulations by the Church Council, Another document that accompanies this letter also lays out the conditions under which we can open and the steps we are taking to provide a safe worshipping environment.

A Church in Wales Risk Assessment has been prepared and passed to the Archdeacon for authorisation. He of course must stringently follow the Welsh Government guidelines

There are a number of things however that we need to do.

- a) As the places in Church are limited (Not just to members of St Teilo's) then anybody who wishes to come to church on the following Sunday or Wednesday must email or phone the Vicarage up to and including the Thursday before the following Sunday and Wednesday to reserve a place.
- b) Other churches are already doing this and its working well.
- c) If you are unable to get the day of your choice e.g Sunday you may be offered the Wednesday or the following Sunday and so on.
- d) This may not be easy as of course everybody wants to be back in 'their church' but as a resource for the whole Parish we must look as to how we may gather together safely in one place for the time being.

- e) Of course we must be in a position to help each other here and regardless of what church you are from I would ask if we could have some volunteers to Steward the opening and the closing of the church on the day of worship.
- f) If this works then after month and providing the current COVID 19 regulations at that time allow us we may look to open another church.
- g) I was asked about Giving and I know that during this time many of you have set up Standing Orders direct your Church accounts. There will be an offertory plate at the back as you leave or enter but there will be no collection in the service.
- h) As you can see by the document I have attached to this there are a lot of things we must all bear in mind to make this happen and I know that you will all do your best to support it.
- i) Ideally we would like to make the church available for those who have not been able to access online worship either by You Tube or Zoom but are also aware that many may still feel insecure about coming out and mixing again in a place of worship under such restrictions.

Therefore if you wish to attend worship on the 11<sup>th</sup> October please email or ring me on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> October to reserve your place. There are 4 places in the gallery and I would ask that those who feel able to offer to use that space in favour of someone less mobile.

This information is being posted out to those who do not receive online communications

Many thanks for your support and help and also your valued prayers as we look to move forward even if it is only in very small yet significant way.,

*Peter*

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Vicar of Three Cliffs and Area Dean Greater Gower