KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH Five Churches One Parish One Lord

Re-opening of churches around Easter

Dear Friends,

In recent days our country has taken encouragement from the Prime Minister's announcement of the 'roadmap' out of pandemic restrictions, and news of the vast numbers who have been vaccinated, and signs of falling infection rates. This has given us confidence to plan for the re-opening of our churches for Sunday services.

We are aiming for a gradual re-introduction of in-person services around Easter, alongside the continuation of our online Zoom service. You'll be able to check the details on our website and in the newsletter, but in brief we will have a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00pm in St George's, and then Easter Day services in St Cassian's and St George's Churches. On the following week, Sunday 11th April, all our churches will be open.

Having chosen our two largest churches for those first services we trust there will be enough room for all those who want to attend: we are not using any booking system.

Covid-19 restrictions will still be in place, in that we will need to keep distanced, wear masks, sanitise hands, and we will not be able to sing. Holy Communion will use both bread and wine, with a drop of wine being placed on the bread - as we did before Christmas. At the end of the service we will need to leave row by row and not mingle, either inside the building or outside. However, we trust that this step towards being together once again as the Lord's people, face to face, will be both safe and welcomed.

Let's continue to pray for our journey through this pandemic, and the growing together of the Lord's people after such a long time apart physically, whilst also giving thanks for how the online service and other technologies have kept us in touch spiritually.

We look forward to seeing each other again and I, David, look forward to meeting many who have been kept away from church for so long and to discovering so much more about the parish.

Yours in Christ, David & Robert