

Church of St. Augustine, Solihull – re-opening of the church for private prayer only:

It is intended to open St. Augustine's Church for private prayer only starting on:

Wednesday 24th June between 10.30am – 12.30pm, with a subsequent opening on

Sunday 28th June between 10.30am – 12.30pm. Thereafter, every Wednesday and Sunday at the same times until further notice.

Please read the following advice to minimise the risk of spread of Covid-19:

1. A 'one-way' system will be in use inside and outside the church. Please follow the signposts. Entrance to the Churchyard will be via the small gate in Herbert Road. This will facilitate queueing along by the side wall of the Church (if necessary) and entry to the Church via the Herbert Road entrance. Exit from the Church will be via the front porch (facing Station Road) and exit from the Churchyard will be via the Station Road gate.
2. Parishioners are reminded that the latest government guidance is that public transport should only be used for essential work purposes, if no other alternatives exist.
3. The law is that everybody who uses public transport must wear a face covering. People without face coverings may be refused access to public transport.
4. Those who are shielded, otherwise vulnerable or who have mobility problems are requested to carefully consider the risks to themselves and others of attendance.
5. To conform with social distancing the capacity of the Church will be limited to 28 prayer stations plus 4 family prayer stations with the former having space for an individual or a couple from the same household or an adult with 2/3 small children, and the latter having space for a larger, single household family. A section of the Church will be reserved for the vulnerable and elderly with mobility issues, but please see note 7 below.
6. Parishioners are requested to follow the stewards' directions at all time. The stewards will ensure that those wishing to pray privately are accommodated in clean, disinfected prayer stations. If a parishioner wishes that a votive candle be lit, they should ask the steward, who will light the candle for them. The candle should not be blown out after prayers.
7. Please follow the social distancing, government guidance inside and outside the church.
8. Alcohol-based hand gel will be provided at the entrance and the exit from the church and must be used.
9. Each prayer station will be cleaned with hot, soapy water by a volunteer cleaner, then dried with a disposable, 'one-time use' towel, after it has been vacated. Before a prayer station is re-occupied the cleaner will disinfect it.
10. Toilets will be closed and out of use.
11. Please observe the 'do not touch' notices.
12. Please, if at all possible, wear face coverings.
13. Children, aged 16 years or younger, should be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times.
14. Parishioners are requested to minimise the personal possessions they bring with them because any such items left in the church, particularly handkerchiefs and tissues, will be destroyed when the church is cleaned at the end of the session to avoid contamination.