

Upton cum Chalvey: re-opening of churches and restoration of sacramental worship

Following consultation with the churchwardens and guidance received from her Majesty's government I am pleased to announce that the churches of Upton cum Chalvey will be re-opening in the coming weeks.

The opening times, and liturgies, will be as follow:

St Mary's:

Starting on Wednesday 1st July, the church will open for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with private prayer, from 12.30pm-1.30pm.

Starting on Sunday 5th July the church will be open for said mass and sermon at 9.30am.

Starting on Tuesday 7th July the church will be open for said mass at 10am.

The sanitary facilities will not be open, and there will be no catering.

St Laurence's:

Starting on Sunday 5th July the the church will be open for said mass and sermon at 11am.

Starting on Thursday 9th July the church will be open for said mass at 10am.

Sanitary facilities will be available, but there will be no catering.

St Peter's:

Due to the building works on the west window it is not possible to open St Peter's at present.

When the works are complete we anticipate opening for services on Sundays and Wednesdays.

For the moment worshippers are encouraged to attend other churches in the parish.

This will be the worship pattern for the foreseeable future. Worshippers are asked to sign into the churches, to observe the one-way system in place in each church, to observe social distancing, and to follow directions given for their own safety.

Communion will be given in one kind only. There will be no collection, but plates/boxes will be available to make a donation. There will be no singing, but there may be some music.

To summarize: the weekly pattern for the time being is:

Sunday:

9.30am Said mass and sermon at St Mary's

11am: Said mass and sermon at St Laurence's

Tuesday:

10am: Said mass at St Mary's

Wednesday:

12.30pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St Mary's

Thursday:

10am: Said mass at St Laurence's

When St Peter's re-opens this programme will be extended in accordance with whatever guidance is in place at the time.

Fr Alistair C Stewart

Team vicar

On the feast of SS Peter and Paul, 2020