**Holy Trinity Normanton Le Heath**

**Covid 19 Risk Assessment**

**August 2021**

This risk assessment cover public worship and other services such as weddings/funerals within Holy Trinity Church. Seating arrangements will be needed to be considered at each service to support safe seating capacity.

| Hazard |  | Risk | Control measure | Revised risk |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Social distancing** |  |  |  |  |
| Main door | Parishioners not being able to social distance on entering church | High | Social distance signs to be placed on outer porch door and floor tiles.  Pump action hand sanitiser to be placed by door for use on entry and exit  There may be times when the distancing rule is difficult to maintain; it is a request for all to wear facemasks. | Low |
| Layout and distance between Pew’s | Less than 2m distance between pews | High | Attendees to be sensitive to social distancing and spacing | Low |
|  | Parishioner being less than 2m when arriving and leaving church | High | Parishioners to be encouraged to gather outside of the church for conversations. Church ‘greeter’ to manage flow through main door | Low |
| Refreshments | Tea/coffee toast served at Family Service | High | No refreshments to be provided at services | Low |
| Holy Communion | Less than 2m distance from clergy and parishioner | High | Communion to continue as bread alone with the use of wafers.  Minister will wear face mask at time of distribution and while consecrating elements |  |
| **Risk of infection from person to person** |  |  |  |  |
| Lack of ventilation |  | High | Main door to be left open during service | Low |
| Parishioners offering each other  ‘The Sign of the peace’ | Less than 2m distance | High | The practice of physically not sharing the peace to continue | Low |
| **Use of shared resources that can result in indirect transmission** |  |  |  |  |
| Risk of cross infection if parishioners place hands on pews, handle sound system etc | Risk of cross infection from handling now deemed to be low risk | Low | Any areas/pews/handles/  sound system to be wiped down with a suitable anti-bacterial solution during church cleaning | Low |
| Use of hymn/communion books | Risk of cross infection from handling now deemed to be low risk | Low | The lectern bible; giving out hymn books and service booklets and kneelers to be reinstated  2-3 hymns can be sung within a service. Parishioners to wear masks whilst singing | Low |
| Collection plate | Risk of cross infection from handling | High | Collection plate to be left at the back of the church | Low |
| Risk of handling collection money | Risk of cross infection from handling | High | Collection can be counted in church but sanitise hands afterwards Alternative online giving options displayed in each pew | Low |
| Caring and sharing | Risk of cross infection from handling | High | To be temporarily suspended | Low |
| **Emotional distress including anxiety** |  |  |  |  |
|  | Risk that parishioner may have been emotionally affected during the covid period that becomes distressed during service | Med | Clergy and parishioners to be advised to support verbally but to maintain the recommended social distance | Low |
| **Emergency situation** |  |  |  |  |
|  | Risk that parishioner may become unwell in church | Low | A set of PPE to be stored in the church  Up to date church risk assessment  Log to be maintained of who attended service for Test & Trace | Low |
|  | Infection after known exposure to someone with Coronavirus symptoms | High | If possible close the church building for 72 hours with no access permitted.  If 72-hour quarantine is not possible then follow Public Health England guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings.  If the building has been quarantined for 72 hours, then carry out cleaning as per the normal advice on cleaning. | Medium |

Items required for risk mitigation:

* Pump action hand sanitiser
* Disposable gloves
* Set of PPE- Gloves, Apron and Visor
* Bin with poly liner
* Social distancing stickers /signs