



SEPTEMBER 2020

# RE-OPENING

Official information from Helensburgh Parish Church regarding the re-opening of our church buildings and halls. An update for September 2020.

After much careful planning and consideration, we are pleased to announce that Helensburgh Parish Church will re-open later this month.

The Kirk Session has agreed this will be done on a phased basis, beginning with Sacred Space – a time of music, prayer and reflection – which will take place in the sanctuary on Wednesdays September 23, October 7 and 21 from 11am till noon.

Our first physical service will take place in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 8 – Armistice Sunday – and thereafter weekly from Sunday, November 29, the first Sunday in Advent.

As we are all aware, the national situation and guidance is continually changing and we may therefore adapt opening times and services accordingly and at short notice.

Numbers at both Sacred Space and physical worship will be limited and a booking system is being introduced. Unfortunately, anyone who does not book in advance will not be permitted to enter the church. Bookings can be done online and via telephone. More details will follow.

In accordance with government guidelines, strict measures require to be observed. The wearing of face masks within the sanctuary is mandatory (with the exception of the worship leader and those exempt for medical reasons) and test and trace details must be given.

Entry to and exit from the sanctuary will be clearly signed, as will social distancing requirements and hand sanitisers. Please note that the toilets will NOT be in use. A walk-through video of what to expect on arrival at the church will soon be available. You will find it on our [Youtube channel](#).



There will be no pew cushions, no Bibles, no orders of service, no singing and no fellowship opportunities however the ministry team and our director of music will endeavour to make the experience as enriching as possible. Simply being together in our building – albeit at a distance – will, we hope, be important and uplifting for many of you.

Online worship will continue when physical services begin.

A considerable amount of work has gone into ensuring our sanctuary is as safe as possible for those attending, however we urge those in high risk categories to consider very carefully whether they will be comfortable with the new arrangements in place before booking a seat. You can access a self-assessment form to help indicate if you fall into a high risk category here:

[https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/68719/Appendix-4-060820.pdf](https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/68719/Appendix-4-060820.pdf)

We are also aware that not all of our members have internet access so we ask those of you who do, especially elders, to advise them of the new arrangements.

These arrangements have received the necessary approval from the Presbytery of Clyde.

Please continue to check our Facebook page, website, church noticeboard or speak to your elder for further details.

We look forward to seeing you again soon.

***HELENSBURGH PARISH CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM***



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[EMAIL: OFFICE@HELENSBURGHCOS.ORG](mailto:office@helensburghcos.org)

