

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE –
18th OCTOBER 2021



We have now received a communication from the Bishop of Connor and I am quoting below the most relevant parts for our church worshippers.

“With the recent easing of Covid-19 restrictions in various sectors across the community, there are some new updates which affect our Church buildings, acts of worship and parish meetings. Despite some easing of the restrictions, we still have to be mindful that the transmission rate is very high and therefore have to continue to do everything we can to keep everybody safe.

Face coverings: It remains a legal requirement that face coverings are worn when entering and leaving the church building and when moving around. It remains vitally important that face coverings are worn during congregational singing because Covid-19 is an airborne virus. It is recommended that face coverings are worn during the whole service, but they may be removed when people are seated and not singing but that is a matter of personal preference.

Entering and leaving the church building: The Chief Medical Officer and Chief Scientific Advisor remain concerned about potential spread of the virus when people chat informally outside the doors of the church before and after services. In those more relaxed settings people tend to let down guard and can easily forget the risks from close contact with those who are not of their household. It would be worth reminding people of this.

Parish Contacts

During the Vacancy the Rural Dean, Rev Canon Kevin Graham, Rector of St Bartholomew's, will be in charge of the parish with Canon Ken continuing in his usual role as Assistant Minister.

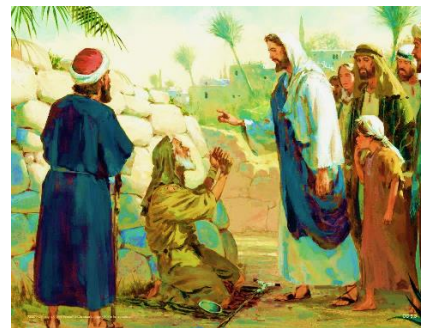
Contact details are as follows:

Canon Graham 07964 663 745

Canon Ken 07922 358 091

Email 'kenmcreynolds@hotmail.com'

St Aidan's Parish Church
Enabling people to find a Living Faith in a Loving
God by Serving 'Christ in the Community'
Sunday 24th October 2021 5th Sunday before Advent



Today's worship is the
Service of Morning Prayer as per
The Book of Common Prayer
(page 101)

Our services are also
available live on Facebook.

Hymns for today's Service

- 324 'God whose almighty word'
- 124 'Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes'
- 642 'Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound'
- 512 'From you all skill and science flow'

Collect for today

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Help us to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

Psalm 34

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 My soul shall glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.

- 3 O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant
and your faces shall not be ashamed.
- 6 This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him
and delivers them.
- 8 O taste and see that the Lord is gracious;
blessed is the one who trusts in him.
- 19 Many are the troubles of the righteous;
from them all will the Lord deliver them.
- 20 He keeps all their bones,
so that not one of them is broken.
- 21 But evil shall slay the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.
- 22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants
and will condemn none who seek refuge in him.
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen.*

Bible Reading Mark 10: 46-52

46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you

want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher,* let me see again.' ⁵²Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Sunday 31st October 2021 (4th Sunday before Advent)

11.00 a.m.

Harvest Thanksgiving Service



Once again this year we will not be decorating the church (hopefully next year we will be free of all restrictions) but will have a 'token' display in the chancel.

Therefore we do not require gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables for decorating. Also, we are not inviting worshippers to bring harvest gifts for distribution but would like everyone, if possible, to give a monetary contribution and a special basket will be available for these gifts.

This money will be forwarded to the local food bank and will enable them to buy what they need most - and wherever they can get the best prices and offers!

The Right Reverend Harold Miller, retired Bishop of Down & Dromore, in a recent broadcast on Sunday Sequence, spoke of how St Aidan's Church had given tremendous support to his mother and her family, growing up in Renwick Street at the beginning of the last century.

He remembers her frequently speaking of the practical support, especially, that they received at a very difficult time for many families in the city.

At a time when so many families face uncertain and worrying times isn't it a great privilege to have the opportunity to carry on the good work of our predecessors at St Aidan's?.



Our Parish Prayer Line number is now 07501 117 888