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**Emerging from Lockdown**

Guidance issued by HM Government over recent weeks has led to detailed conversations regarding when and how we begin to open the three churches in our team. As a first step we planto open them for private prayer from the beginning of July 2020.

This will be done on an incremental basis and initially will be byprior arrangement so as to promote and safeguard the well-being of us all.

For the first couple of weeks or so, prayer slots will be available as follows:

 **Wednesdays (July 1st, 8thand 15th) St George’s, Tyldesley 10.00am-12.00noon and 5.00pm-7.00pm**

 **Fridays (July 3rd, 10th and 17th) St. Stephen’s, Astley 4.00pm and 7.00pm**

 **Saturdays (July 4th, 11thand 18th) St John’s Mosley Common 10.00am and 2.00pm**

Please contact Susan Mallon, our Team Clerk, on **07873 149627**or by email atmcteamclerk@gmail.com to book an available time [to allow for safety and cleaning prayer times will be allocated in 45 minute blocks].

To comply with government guidelines there will be a maximum of 4 appointments available in each 45 minute block. Whilst we welcome the opportunity to begin the tentative process of opening our churches our priority must be continuing to keep everyone safe.

In relation to your own health please continue to follow government guidance and **if you, or anyone in your immediate family are showing signs of having Covid-19 please do not come to church.**

When you do come in to church for private prayer it is vital for your, and everyone else’s safety that you follow guidance and any signs on display.

* On arrival, you will be directed to an available seat.
* It will be important to ensure social distancing and maintain covid-19 health standards.
* Hand sanitiser will be available on entry and should also be used when you leave.
* Where toilets are available the guidance on use of paper towels, cleaning etc must be followed.
* We will be unable to use shared bibles or hymn books, so if these are important to you for prayer, please bring your own with you.
* No music or singing will be allowed during periods of private prayer.

These arrangements will be under constant review and may change at any time if Government or Church of England advice is amended.Further messages will be published in due course on local social media sites and church websites.

Revd Martin Cox

Team Rector

on behalf of the Clergy and Churchwardens

of the Team