



20th June 2020

Re-opening of Church

Dear Friends,

Firstly, I'd like to thank all of those who sent me comments and thoughts on the re-opening of churches, and specifically opening our church in Keston. They were much appreciated and I also appreciate the time you took to seriously consider this.

It was clear that the majority of yourselves are: a) happy to continue private prayer in your homes and on your walks b) would be waiting until we can gather together, in some way, before going back into church. I also attended a Zoom Clergy Chapter Meeting this week where there were several churches in the same position as us.

For a couple of you who would like to go into church it is not possible for you to do that safely at the moment. Which was the outcome of the PCC Meeting on Tuesday, it was agreed that if we were to follow the guidelines and seek to keep everyone safe, it would be difficult to do that in our building. Together with the fact that Keston Church is not ordinarily left open and unattended during normal circumstances.

We did agree that our churchyard is a beautiful, peaceful place and can be used for private prayer and meditation, with several lovely benches in place now. Going forward we would like to make more of this by placing aids to prayer around the churchyard.

I did also agree that if any of you particularly wants to meet with me I am more than happy to come to you, and sit at a distance in the garden, (*my flask has had several outings now!*) or even meet in the churchyard, where we can chat and pray.

May the Lord bless you and keep

Carol x

Rev Carol