

Priory Update Pentecost 2021

The Priory Reopens

I am delighted that The Priory is able to be open once again as restrictions ease. I am very grateful to our many volunteers who give of their time to enable The Priory to offer a welcome to our visitors. So many volunteers have returned to help in this way and we have also been able to encourage new stewards.

Cartmel Priory PCC is committed in doing all that we can to ensure the safety of all as we are learn to operate as The Priory Church whilst we all live with Covid-19.

The Priory Easing of Restrictions

As part of the governments easing of restrictions I wanted to outline how we are changing the safety protocols for Sunday Worship. From this Sunday, 23rd May, we will be reducing the required seated social distancing from 2 metres to 1 metre. It will be possible to receive Holy Communion from the altar rail. Wafer only at this time. Eight people will be admitted to the rail at any one time whilst observing social distancing. A designated standing position will be identifiable at the rail with the use of a floor positioned cushion. Stewards will be in place to direct communicants as we observe a one way system.

Members of The Priory Choir will be singing elements of the communion service at the main 10.30am gathering. Congregational singing is still not permitted.

I hope that we will be able to safely introduce further easing of restrictions in line with the government road map. We wait to hear what the recommendations will be in the coming weeks.

The Peninsula Pastoral Reorganisation

Lockdown restrictions have curbed our personal freedoms to meet in person. For those who have the technology Zoom and Teams has been a welcome and necessary means of communication. The Priory PCC and sub committees have been meeting throughout the pandemic using Zoom calls. Our Wardens have been working with The Archdeacon in relation to a pastoral reorganisation for the peninsula churches. I am delighted to confirm that an agreement has been reached that has the support of all local parishes, The Bishop, The Rural Dean and The Diocesan Pastoral and Mission Committee. The current team ministry will be dissolved and in its place the formation of three benefices. Cartmel Priory will be a single benefice. There is much work to do for this to be put in place and may take up to 12 months to complete the process. The Archdeacon is seeking for parishes to start to operate, as they can, with the new structure while the legalities are put in place.

If I can help with points of clarity or with any Priory enquiry please do not hesitate to contact me or alternatively please contact a Priory Churchwarden.

Please do be praying for the many varied ministries of Cartmel Priory as we seek to move out of the current situation maintaining The Priory as a beacon of Christianity as was our founder, William Marshals, vision.

Blessings

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'Nick Devenish', with a large flourish underneath.

The Reverend Nick Devenish