

Services of Public Worship at Selby Abbey

Spring 2021



Welcome Worship Witness

Selby Abbey is open for public worship (including funerals) and private prayer. The Abbey will continue to be open every day from 10.00 to 3.00pm although access may be restricted during service times.

We will be following Government and Church of England regulations and guidance in order to avoid the spread of coronavirus and so various restrictions will remain in place for the time being, including the use of face coverings except for those exempt. Please read these notes in order to help you understand how this may affect you if you choose to come to a service or visit the Abbey.

There will be two services of Holy Communion on Sundays and two during the week on Mondays and Thursdays. Holy Communion will be administered in one kind (bread) only. People will receive Communion into their hands while standing (or seated in a wheelchair) from the Priest and will form a single file queue spaced 2m apart as they come forward to do so.

Seats in pairs will be designated for each service and will be at least 2m apart from other pairs of seats. People from the same household (or equivalent 'bubble') may sit together (extra seating may be provided on request if there are more than two in the group) otherwise people should sit on their own. Orders of service will be provided on the seats and should be left there after the service to be collected (they will not be used again until the following week).

On entering the Abbey, stewards will ask for names and contact details of those coming to worship. People should then take their seat and remain there until the end of the service except when they come forward to receive Communion or if they need the toilet. (Only two toilets are currently in use, including the accessible one). Hand gel will be available by the door and people are encouraged to use it (or the wash basins) on entering the building.

Services will be limited in length, probably 30 to 40 minutes, with a short sermon (probably not that provided as the weekly 'Reflection' on the Sunday Sheet). Singing is not permitted but music (recorded or from the organ) may be provided. No collection will be taken (a plate will be available at the back).

Social distancing (2m apart) should be observed throughout the building except for those from the same household/bubble. There will be no refreshments served inside the Abbey before or after services for the time being.

People who are considered to be in a 'clinically vulnerable' group with potentially increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19 are reminded that they are advised to stay at home as much as possible and to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside of their household if they do go out. They should bear this in mind before deciding to come to services but are welcome to do so at their own risk.

Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend worship or visit the Abbey due to the risk they may pose to others.

We will continue to produce our Sunday Sheet with materials for prayer and worship at home for the foreseeable future. If you do not already receive these by email or post, please let us know. (Copies are also available in the Abbey).

Details about the specifics of each service are below. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact us on 01757 703123 or office@selbyabbey.org.uk

John Weetman (vicar)

Sunday 9.00am: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Entry (and exit) will be by the south door which will be open from 8.45 to 9.05am. The service will take place in the Choir. Cushions will be placed in pairs on the pews and people are asked to sit on one of the seats so designated and not move the cushions. Entry to the Choir will be through the Choir screen only. No other visitors will be admitted during the service.

Sunday 10.30am: Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Entry (and exit) will be by the west door which will be open from 10.00 to 10.40am. Only those requiring level access may use the south door. The service will take place in the Nave. Chairs will be spaced in pairs throughout the nave and people are asked to sit on one of the seats so designated and not move it. After receiving Communion people will return to their seats by the side aisles. No other visitors will be admitted during the service. ***This service is also available on Youtube (see website or Sunday Sheet for the link).***

Monday 12noon: Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Entry (and exit) will be by the south door. The service will take place in the Choir. Chairs will be spaced in pairs at the front of the Choir and people are asked to sit in one of the seats so designated (not the pews) and not move it. Entry to the Choir will be through the Choir screen only. No visitors will be admitted to the Choir during the service but visiting may continue in other parts of the Abbey.

Thursday 10.00am: Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Entry (and exit) will be by the south door which will be open from 9.45am. The service will take place in the Choir. Chairs will be spaced in pairs at the front of the Choir and people are asked to sit in one of the seats so designated (not the pews) and not move it. Entry to the Choir will be through the Choir screen only. No visitors will be admitted to the Choir during the service but visiting may continue in other parts of the Abbey.

