

Parish of St. John of Kronstadt, Bath	Drafted by:	James Jackson, secretary to the Parish Council
	Reviewed by:	All members of the Parish Council
	Valid:	1st September - 31st December 2020

What is the circumstance?	What is the risk?	Who is affected?	What control has been put in place to manage the risk?	What is the residual risk?
There are two separate congregations worshipping at St. John the Baptist church.	There is a risk that Covid 19 may spread from one congregation to the other.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Parish will worship in the Lady Chapel of the church building, and our parish will worship only in the main nave of the church building. A sign will be placed at the entrance to the Lady Chapel to prevent access by members of our Parish. 	Shared facilities in the church hall, particularly toilet.
Both congregations will use the same doors to access the buildings.	Covid 19 may settle on hard surfaces at access points.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bottle of hand gel will be placed in the entrance lobby with a sign instructing all users to sanitise their hands upon entry. Parishioners will be instructed not to linger in the lobby, but to quickly sanitise their hands and then move into the body of the nave. A bottle of hand gel will be placed within the church next to the exterior doors with a sign instructing all users to sanitise their hands before exiting. 	None identified.
A larger number of orthodox parishioners will wish to attend services on Sundays within the church building.	A larger number of participants increases the potential to spread Covid 19 amongst the congregation.	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the exception of the clergy in the altar and up to four singers in the choir, all parishioners must wear a face covering at all times inside the church (unless a valid exemption is required). The requirement to wear a face covering will be placed on posters and advised to all parishioners. Children should remain with their parents. Parishioners will be encouraged to use the narthex as well as the nave during services. Seats in the nave will have 'reservation' cards placed on them to encourage social distancing. 	Services are public and guests may arrive unannounced.

A parishioner may attend a service while suffering from Covid 19	People gathering in confined spaces increases the possible spread of Covid 19	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of the parish will be instructed not to attend services if they have any symptoms of Covid 19, or have been in contact with anybody who has. Parishioners or parties of parishioners attending the service will be required to register their full name and a contact telephone number to assist the UK Government's Track & Trace scheme. Parishioners will be asked to take precautions before and at the service, including hand cleansing and the wearing of appropriate face coverings. 	Assymptomatic carriers may still attend services.
Following a service, somebody becomes ill with Covid 19	The sick person may have infected others before becoming symptomatic.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parishioners who subsequently become ill should contact a member of the Pastoral Team to explain the situation. Individuals who attended the service with someone who subsequently became ill will be informed of the situation. The list of the individuals attending the service with their contact numbers will be provided to NHS Track & Trace if requested. 	None identified.
Different parishioners will have different understandings of the risk of Covid 19.	Actions of individual parishioners may increase the possible spread of Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All parishioners will be informed of the revised arrangements via an e-mail bulletin. A reminder of key arrangements will be placed at the entrance to the church hall. 	Parishioners may forget the revised arrangements.
The vestry is currently housed in the church, used by the Anglican Parish.	The two sets of clergy may transmit Covid 19 to each other while using the space.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objects required for Orthodox worship, including the altar, icons, analois, and candle stands and the altar will remain in place in the body of the church, and not put away at the end of services. The Anglican vestry will be used only as a corridor for moving from the Orthodox vestry to the body of the church. Activities that would otherwise have been carried out in the Anglican vestry during our services will now be undertaken in the nave of the church. Members of the clergy team will sanitise their hands frequently, and particularly before and after the service. If, for any reason, the Anglican vestry must be used, any tables will be sanitised before members of the clergy leave the church. 	None identified
Cleaning between services.	Covid 19 may settle on hard surfaces at access points.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Door handles and high-contact points will be wiped down with alcoholic or soap-based solution after services. 	None identified.

Not all parishioners will be able to attend	Members of the parish may feel isolated or try to attend services when room is not available.	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services will be live-streamed through the internet from the church building. Sermons and other texts will continue to be shared by email or through the parish website. 	None identified
The length of Orthodox services means some parishioners will need to use the toilet	Toilets are a high-risk area for the transmission of Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The toilet seat, door handles and sink surfaces should be wiped down with alcoholic or soap-based solution after every use. Disposable wipes to be provided in each toilet to allow users to clean surfaces themselves. These wipes should be flushable if possible, or users instructed to place them in the litter bin. The toilet shall be cleaned after each service if it has been used. 	Relies on personal hygiene of toilet users.
Access to the church hall is required for use of the toilet	Members of the parish may congregate in the usual access points, risking the spread of Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to the church hall will be controlled by locking the main door to the hall, and the key will be required to gain access. Hand sanitiser will be provided inside the door of the church hall and should be used when accessing or leaving the church hall. 	There remains residual risk of Covid 19 resting on hard surfaces.
The accessible toilet is used by members of both parishes	Toilets are a high-risk area for the transmission of Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox and Anglican parishes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have agreed with the Anglican parish that the accessible toilet should only be used when truly required. For our parish, this would include those with accessibility requirements. 	The accessible toilet will need to be cleaned thoroughly.
Sunday School for children was held in the parish hall..	Interaction of children may increase the transmission of Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will be socially distanced when seated in the hall, with a 2m space between family groups. 	Parents will need to maintain physical distancing.
Hospitality after the Sunday Service was held in the hall.	Sharing of food and drink increases the possible spread of Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only coffee, tea, water or squash will be offered. No food will be prepared. All drinks will be prepared by somebody who has maintained strict hand hygiene practices. A socially-distanced queue will be maintained. Any seating will be laid out at 2m intervals. 	Parishioners sharing tea and coffee must restrain their physical interactions.
Orthodox worship involves kissing icons.	Kissing shared objects may spread Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox Parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parishioners will be instructed not to kiss icons (or each other). 	Relies on self-restraint of parishioners.
Cash donations are frequently made, including for candles	Handling of cash increase the possible spread of Covid 19	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No financial transactions will occur in the hall. Parishioners will be told not to bring money to services. Parishioners will be encouraged to donate to the parish online, or to 'save up' donations for the time being. 	Parishioners may still touch more than one candle by accident or design.

Candles are habitually blown out.	Blowing out candles increases the risk of transmitting Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A candle bell will be provided for each candle stand. Candles must be put out, not blown out. 	Relies on self-restraint of parishioners.
Orthodox communal worship requires sung or chanted responses	Singing greatly increases the possible spread of Covid 19	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The choir desk will be segregated from the rest of the nave using chairs. Consideration will be given as to whether this can also effectively prevent access to the Lady Chapel. No more than four choristers will be able to sing at each service, one for each part only. Choristers will be required to maintain a 2-metre social distance whilst singing. The choir leader in a service will be responsible for taking reasonable steps to maintain social distancing. 	Covid 19 may settle on the printed music.
A large volume of printed liturgical music is required during services.	Covid 19 may settle on the printed music	Cantors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The choir leader will be responsible for handling all printed material, ring binders and folders. Where possible, separate music folders should be used between services. 	Relies on personal hygiene practices of choir leaders.
Old testament, prokeimena and epistle readings are usually chanted by a reader	Chanting increases the possible spread of Covid 19	Members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reader will stand either two metres behind, or to the side of, the festal icon. The reader's materials will be separate from those of the choir or the clergy. 	None identified.
The altar area requires liturgical movements.	Smaller indoor areas increase possible exposure to Covid 19.	Members of the Orthodox clergy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only one priest and up to two altar servers will be allowed into the altar in any one service. Clergy are to observe two-metre physical distancing throughout the service. Altar servers shall be encouraged to wear masks if this is practical and not already covered by an exemption. Clergy shall regularly sanitise their hands during the service at appropriate moments, particularly before and after handling printed materials or vessels. 	Relies on the personal hygiene practices of the clergy.
The holy cross is usually kissed.	Use of common vessels may increase transmission of Covid 19	All members of the Orthodox parish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parishioners shall not to kiss the cross but to bow in veneration. 	Relies on self restraint of individuals to not kiss the cross.

This risk assessment will be reviewed by the Parish Council no later than 31st December 2020, and at any point that a decision is made to offer the Holy Eucharist to parishioners.