To all licensed clergy

1 December 2020

Dear all,

I have been asked to draw to your attention a letter from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. It indicates how Communion can be distributed in both kinds.

The arrangements seem to me to be potentially quite difficult in a time of pandemic. In forwarding it as I am bidden to do, I want to emphasise what they say about the priority of keeping people safe and being pragmatic. I also want to emphasise that receiving Communion in one kind is receiving Communion. Although in normal circumstances we are used to receiving the sacrament of Communion in both kinds, bread and wine, in present circumstances people have accepted the exceptional practice we have adopted of giving the sacrament in one kind without the practical difficulties associated with the advice given by the Archbishops.

I therefore forward their letter and suggest you think very carefully about whether and how you return to the practice of distributing the sacrament in both kinds. Unless there are pressing pastoral reasons, I suggest that you continue to distribute in one kind, bread alone.

I do hope all goes well for you as we come out of lockdown and look forward to joining in worship with others.

Advent blessings,

+Nicholas Sarum