

A returning to church prayer

*Commended by the Bishop of Southwark
during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Trinity 2020*

O God from whom all blessings flow,
I turn to you in gratitude for this place [or name of church];
for every faithful footstep taken within its walls,
and every petition prayed,
for every story shared,
the ordinary and the extraordinary
from generation to generation.

Thank you that in the silence of our absence
You were still here, as well as with your people.
As we begin to return,
grant to us all the wisdom to stay safe,
the comfort of your peace
and joy in coming home.

Now these doors are opened once again
let your Spirit flow out of me and all who come here,
bringing life, hope and healing
to our community.
Amen.

