

Dear parishioners,

From this Sunday 5th July, we will be able to celebrate Mass together in the church again. Thanks be to God!

We do however need to follow government and diocesan guidelines in order to ensure everyone's safety and that is why Mass will for now be different from what we are used to. Among other things, Mass will be shorter, there will be no singing in order to minimise the risk of infection, we will not be exchanging the sign of peace and the Blood of Christ will not be offered to the congregation.

To put the guidelines into context, you may find it helpful to watch the Cardinal's message on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CLsyL5yggVI>

Please read all the information below carefully and if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the parish office on 020 89801845.

- The 2 metre social distancing requirement is maintained within the church. This means that the maximum capacity remains 32 individuals. Members of the same household may sit together, thus increasing the maximum capacity, but the 2m distance from other individuals or families will still need to be maintained.
- If you come to Mass, it will be for now on a "first come, first served" basis. Once the capacity number has been reached, the stewards will stop anyone else from entering the church. Again, this is for your safety and for everyone else's, in accordance with government and diocesan guidelines.
- During the live-streamed masses on Saturday evening and Sunday, however, it will be possible to sit outside in the playground and follow the Mass on Youtube or Zoom on your own devices and, at the time of Holy Communion, myself or a eucharistic minister will come outside for distribution.

Please do not come to Mass if you're isolating or showing flu-like symptoms.

Please remember that, due to the pandemic, there is **NO OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS** for the time being.

Those considered vulnerable and those over 70 are still being advised to stay home and, therefore, we will continue to live-stream the Saturday evening and Sunday morning masses on Youtube and Zoom.

Because of the limited spaces I ask, if you can, **TO PLEASE ATTEND MASS DURING THE WEEK, INSTEAD OF SATURDAY OR SUNDAY** and kindly leave space for those who for various reasons can only attend during the weekend.

PLEASE RESPECT THE GUIDANCE OF THE STEWARDS

- Clean your hands with the sanitising gel provided when entering and exiting the church
- Keep the 2m distance at all times
- Follow the one way system inside the building, clearly marked on the floor
- Sit only in the X marked spaces (unless you're sitting together with your family members).
- Parents, please keep young children with you at all times

It will only be possible to access the church via the main entrance on Mile End Road, however at the end of mass, you may choose to exit via the main door or the door leading to the car park/playground (only on weekends).

The toilets downstairs will be open but please make sure you disinfect them before and after use. Cleaning products will be available.

Mass and Opening times from Sunday 5th of July will be as follows:

Sunday: 10.30am-1pm - live-streamed Mass 11am and 5.30-7.30pm - Mass 6pm

Monday: Church closed

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 9-11am. Mass 9.30am

Friday: 5.30-7.30pm. Mass 6pm

Saturday: 11.30am-1.30pm- Mass 12.30pm and live-streamed Mass 7.30pm

Confessions: Saturday 11.30am-12.15pm + Sunday after 11am Mass.

Please note the following:

- Tomorrow, Saturday 4th July, the church will be open, as in the past two weeks, from 11.30am to 1.30pm and I will be available for confessions during these times. The vigil mass this Saturday will be at 8pm - live-streamed ONLY.

- On Saturday 11th July there will be no 12.30pm mass.

We can only keep the church open for Mass with your help

If you are under 70 and not at risk and can volunteer as a steward or cleaner, please let the parish know.

Please be sensible and patient. I think you will agree that these are difficult and strange times, but being in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, together with our fellow parishioners and receiving again after so many months the Sacrament of Holy Communion, is worth every effort.

God bless,
Father John