

COMING TO MASS AT St. GEORGE'S

Should I come to Mass or not?

While we would all love for everyone to come to Mass, we should all think about our own wellbeing and the good of other people. You should not come to Mass if you have symptoms or feel unwell in any way. You should not come to Mass if you are very elderly or have health conditions that may mean you are particularly vulnerable. Think carefully about how you will travel to church and whether you can get there and back safely.

How often can I come to Mass and when?

We are asking people to come to Mass once a week. That can be any Mass on any day. Sunday may be busier so come during the week if you can.

What will I have to do?

Everyone will be asked to wear a face covering (except for Holy Communion). You should bring your own face covering and take it away with you. The mask or covering should cover the nose and mouth and be fitted properly over the face. Everyone will be asked to use the hand gel on the way in and out. You should sit in the seats indicated by the yellow and black tape (not either side of it). Please don't bring anything with you to leave behind other than your offering (which has to be given as you leave in the buckets by the exit door). Do not leave any litter or tissues.

What about a weekly newsletter?

These will be available but it is also possible to download from the Parish website. You must not leave this behind in the pew but take it home. This is very important.

What about social distancing?

We will follow the '1 metre plus' rule. This means you must be prepared to wear the face covering i.e. a mask. If there is a queue, stand *at least* 1 metre apart. At the end, you will be asked to leave your seats one row at a time. Please do not interact physically with other people.

What things will not be available?

There will be no access to the repository, sacristy, parish centre or the parish office. Use of the toilets can be available – but only in an extreme emergency. We don't want anyone to be in an embarrassing situation and caught short. Please go before you come to church! There will be no tea or coffee after any Mass. Please bear all these factors in mind before deciding whether you should come to church.

Will the car park be open?

Yes, the car park will be available, but you should think about walking if possible. If you get blocked in the car park there could be a problem if you or others cannot get into the church because it is full.

What will the Mass be like?

We will be following the instructions for Mass issued last week by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. These instructions are there to help keep the whole operation as safe as possible. Because we want to reduce the amount of time spent indoors, Mass will be shorter. There will be no singing or other ministries (e.g. no altar servers). On Sundays there will be no second reading.

What will the procedure be for Holy Communion?

At the end of Mass the priest will hold up the host and say: "The body of Christ". You are asked to reply "Amen". Holy Communion will then be distributed at the end of Mass, on the way out of church. You will be asked to leave the church by following the one-way system, beginning with the back rows. Those seated in the top side aisles will come after the central pews are cleared. You should remove

your mask, stretch out your arms and receive the host on the hand in silence. The priest will not say anything and you should not say, 'Amen' or anything else.

What is the capacity inside the church?

The capacity in the church is about 100 places. This is for individuals or couples (counting couples as one place). If you are a family (more than 2 people) you should take one pew for the whole family group. Couples and families mean people who live in the same household – not extended families that live in different households.

What times will Mass be celebrated?

Monday-Saturday: 9.30am

Saturday: 6.15pm (vigil) Sunday: 8.30am, 9.45am, 11.15am & 5.30pm

The church will close after each Mass to receive a thorough cleaning and then open half an hour before the next Mass.

When will this begin?

Public Masses will begin on Saturday 4th/ Sunday 5th July 2020.

What about going to confession?

Confessions will be initially on Saturdays at 5.30 - 6.00pm as from next week. Please use the hand gel on the way in to the church. You should wait in the benches on the side aisle down from the statues. In the confessional room, the confessions will be heard at the screen only (not face to face). You should remain standing - do not kneel. Your confession should be brief and to the point. You should say your penance outside or on the way home – please do not return to the spaces in the church unless you are staying on for Mass.