

Reopening St Margaret's and the Convent Chapel for the celebration of the Mass

All public Masses at St Margaret's will be live-streamed.

Applying the guidelines from the Church to our circumstances, we will put everything we can in place to minimise the risk of the spread of Covid-19. Please remember that if you or a member of your household are displaying Covid-19 symptoms, you should not come to Mass. You must stay at home. Those who are particularly vulnerable should also remain at home. In these coming days, we will need to ensure that social distancing and all other measures, such as hand sanitising provision, are in place.

- The general dispensation from the Sunday obligation to attend Mass remains in place.
- You will not need "to book" to come to Sunday Mass. The capacity of St Margaret's is 70 and the Convent Chapel 100. Once those numbers have been reached no one will be allowed to enter the church. We hope that when we are able to resume all the services, including weekday Masses, there will be enough room for everyone who wants to attend. You may need to consider coming to a different Mass, especially those who normally attend the 12 noon Mass at St Margaret's.
- when you come to Mass, you will have to wait to be seated by one of the ushers to ensure social distancing and that all people are seated in an ordered fashion. You will not be able to sit wherever you please. Therefore, it is important that you come to Mass in a very good time so that you can be seated and that Mass can start promptly. Latecomers, if there are still spaces available, will have to wait until an appropriate moment during the Mass to be seated to minimise disruption or if the church is full, they may be advised to return in good time for another Mass. In all these matters, we ask for your respectful cooperation with the ushers and stewards.
- You will have to wear a face mask.
- Toilets in the Parish Hall will be open only for "emergencies" only. Toilets in the Convent Chapel will remain closed. Please make sure you go to the toilet before you come to Mass.
- You will be required to hand sanitise when you enter and exit the Church.
- All the measures that we are putting in place will be continually assessed and reviewed. These circumstances are unprecedented, and we appreciate your understanding and patience as we work hard to ensure the safety of all people who will gather again in the presence of Jesus.

Following bishops' guidance there will be some changes to the way we celebrate the Mass:

- There will be: no bidding prayers, no singing, no sign of peace and no Offertory procession
- Communion is in the hand only, (only the Host) and will be received in silence.
- There will be a one-way system to go to Communion. Please follow the guidance from stewards.
- The benches, handrails and door handles will be sanitised between Masses in the church
- You are advised not to congregate socially after Mass especially in church or outside. This is a great temptation as we haven't seen each other for months but social distancing won't be possible.