

Letter from Father Kieran

You probably have heard that places of worship will be able to re-open for services from 4th July. Therefore Holy Mass will be celebrated at Holy Cross from 5th July.

Things are of course going to look completely different and the number of people able to attend will be limited. The same protocols that are in place for personal prayer will still apply. For now numbers will be limited to 18 for social distancing of 2 metres. A one-way system will be in operation, entering by the Main door and exiting through the sacristy. (As the present protocol.)

Please remember that at present the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended, so can I encourage you if you are able, as an act of generosity, to come to Mass either on Monday or Thursday where the time remains at 10am. This will ensure that all those who cannot get to Mass in the week can attend at weekends. It is also important to point out that there are no toilets available. The Church will be open half an hour before all Masses. For track and tracing you will be asked to give your contact details to one of the stewards; this will apply at all Masses.

Stewards will be required to monitor access to the church; to check that all visitors to the church sanitise their hands on entry; to maintain the trace and trace system; and to ensure that the social distancing regulations are adhered to at all times. They are present to guarantee the safety both of parishioners and of the whole community; please be cooperative with them. If we do not have sufficient stewards or cleaners then it will not be possible to celebrate Mass.

Readers at Mass will be required to wear disposable gloves (that will be supplied). Because of social distancing there will be no servers. There will be no music or singing. There will be no offertory collection or procession. The collecting box for cash offerings will be placed at the exit to the church. Can I encourage you, where possible, to make your donation to the church via standing order.

The reception of Holy Communion will be different. All changes will be communicated to you during Holy Mass.

Finally can I please implore you to help as stewards and/or cleaners for each Mass. It's a stark fact that without you Masses will not be able to be celebrated. If you are able to help please contact Kath Franklin, Frances Nieduszynska or Fiona Hutchings as soon as possible.

The most important thing is that we respect each other and keep safe.

Please note: if you are late for Mass, or if the limit of 18 persons has been reached, you won't get in!

God Bless you all
Fr Kieran