

Returning to Mass

"I rejoiced when I heard them say, let us go to the House of the Lord"
Psalm 122

To everyone registered with Most Precious Blood.

As the country works towards an easing on the coronavirus lock-down, we also prepare for the return of Public Mass. From Sunday 5th July all services will continue to be live-streamed but also a limited number of people will be able to attend some celebrations of Mass in the Church. The Church remains closed at all other times.

Until further notice no one is required to be at Mass. We are not expecting everyone to return straightaway and the general Government guidance remains in place:

- stay at home as much as possible
- work from home if you can
- limit contact with other people
- keep your distance if you go out (2 metres apart wherever possible)
- wash your hands regularly
- **Do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has symptoms.**

There is also specific guidance for those in the vulnerable groups and for those who are shielded which must be followed. I look forward to welcoming you back to Church at a later date.

We will do our best to make the Church Covid-Safe but you must assess for yourself the overall risk of attending Mass and travelling to and from Church in the light of your own health and personal circumstances. For the moment, do not come if you have to use public transport, particularly if there is a Catholic Church closer to you.

To make coming together as a group for Worship safe we are dependent on each other to not only follow the guidance whilst in the Church but also to follow the social-distancing guidance at all other times. At this key-stage in controlling the pandemic we don't want to become the focus of a localised outbreak and stall the unlocking process.

We need Cleaners, Stewards and, of course Worshippers. I have attached documents which cover what is expected from these three groups. We do need more of you to volunteer to Clean the Church and to act as Stewards. To do these jobs you must be over 18 and under 70 and not in a shielded group. Please read the "Job descriptions" and email me if you are able to help.

If you intend to attend Mass at the Church then you must read and follow the instructions in the attached "Guide for Worshippers" which includes the revised Service Schedule. Once in Church you must follow any directions from the Stewards.

I am available to hear confessions but this must be by prior appointment. As we get used to these new arrangements the time immediately before Mass will certainly not be convenient. Funerals may now take place in Church but as a non-Eucharistic celebration. The sacraments of Baptism and of Holy Matrimony remain suspended until further notice.

We have members who are not technologically aware. If you know anyone in that category, please share this information with them: give them a call or give them a print-out.

Finally, I have come to see this last few months, traumatic and tragic as they have undoubtedly been, as an evangelistic opportunity which will change and shape our ministry here at MPB for the better.

Lift ye then your voices, swell the mighty flood, louder still and louder, praise the Precious Blood!

Yours in Christ
Fr Christopher

28 June 2020

(You have received this because you are registered with this Parish. If you no longer wish to be on the roll, please let me know.)