



Archdiocese of  
**Liverpool**

Cautious reopening of our  
churches for public worship

# **What to expect**



# Before you arrive



You should stay at home if you are unwell. People who are vulnerable or who feel unsure about returning to Mass need to consider the wisdom of doing so.

Remember the Sunday obligation has not been reinstated and live-streaming of Masses will continue.



You will need to bring your own face covering. All people entering church must wear a face covering at all times.



You should avoid bringing any unnecessary items into church, e.g. shopping bags, as you will not be returning to your seat once you have received Holy Communion.



# When you arrive



You will be welcomed by a volunteer steward and you may be asked to give your contact details.



You will be directed to the hand sanitiser.



You will be directed to a bench. It may not be where you usually sit.



You must adhere to social distancing guidelines in place.



Any children accompanying you must do the same.



Baskets will be available at the entrance (and exit) for your weekly envelopes or other contributions.



Toilets will remain closed at all times except for a genuine emergency.



The piety stall will be closed.

# During Mass



There will be no Sign of Peace.



There will be no singing.



Holy Communion:

- Will be distributed *after the final dismissal of the Mass*.
- The words “The Body of Christ” and the reply “Amen” will only be said once at the beginning of distribution. They will not to be repeated for each person receiving Holy Communion.
- The volunteer stewards will direct you to approach the altar to receive Holy Communion.
- People receiving Communion will be instructed to approach the altar with their arms outstretched so as to maintain a reasonable distance from the minister.
- You may only receive the Sacred Host in your hand and not on your tongue.
- Communicants must avoid skin to skin contact with the minister’s hands.
- You must then step to one side, lower your face covering and place the Sacred Host in your mouth then follow directions to leave the church immediately.

# After Mass



Please take home any newsletters, Mass sheets and other papers you may use.



Use only the designated exit.



Please do not gather in the church porch or on church property for conversations.



Continue to wear your face covering until you leave the area where other people are.



We know that many people are excited about returning to church. We want to make sure that you can do so safely and comfortably as social distancing guidelines are still in place.

Because of social distancing we will have to limit the numbers in church so we would encourage people, if possible, to attend weekday Mass as an alternative to Saturday evening or Sunday – the Sunday obligation is still suspended.

The Mass will be different to the way we are used to celebrating but it is to ensure everyone's safety.

Thorough cleaning and sanitisation will need to take place after each Mass and that may mean the number of Masses may need to be reduced.

**While we will attempt to take appropriate precautions consistent with the advice of public health authorities, parishioners should understand that they assume the risk of contracting COVID-19 any time they enter a public space since such precautions do not eliminate the risk of infection.**



**Liverpool Archdiocesan Office**  
Supporting Evangelisation

[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)