

COVID-19 Government regulations on public funerals.

Funeral Masses and Funeral Services may take place with the following restrictions.

Up to 30 mourners are permitted to attend a funeral in church.

(This does not include those working in the church - the priest, stewards, organist, undertakers etc.)

Communal singing is not permitted in church.

Face coverings must be worn at all times in church.

A bench may only be shared by people from the same household or bubble.

All those attending a funeral are required to socially distance from other people both inside and outside the church building.

At a Funeral Mass Holy Communion will be distributed as you leave church at the end of Mass.

For the number of mourners permitted to attend a service at a crematorium please ask your funeral director as this varies from place to place.

Planning a Catholic Funeral

Your Parish community joins you in grieving for your loved one. We hope we can support you and your family at this difficult time. We can support you in praying for those who have died, entrusting them into the merciful hands of God, and in declaring our hope in everlasting life with God in heaven.

Once you have spoken with your Funeral Director they will contact the Parish Priest, Fr Mark, to try to sort out a date and time for the funeral to take place. Once a date has been decided for the funeral Fr Mark will meet with you to talk through the arrangements and help you to choose appropriate readings and hymns and how family members might be involved in the service. *With Covid-19 restrictions we are currently having to make these arrangements by phone.*

For the service in church you will choose either a Funeral Mass or a Funeral Service.

It is good to ask this question: What is the most appropriate way for us to pray for and celebrate the life of the person who has died?

This could be a Funeral Mass, but if the majority of the mourners would not be able to fully participate in a Mass it may be more appropriate to have a funeral service without the prayers of the Mass and Holy Communion.

Fr Mark is very happy to talk through with you what will be best for your family.

The funeral can take place in church, but if it is not a funeral Mass it can be held in the chapel of the crematorium immediately before the committal without coming to church first.

Any church fees are all paid through your Funeral Director and included in the bill you will receive from them. You do not pay the Church. All Church fees are set annually by the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

Fr Mark and our parish volunteers are here to support you in any way we can. Please call 01254 460154 if you have any questions.

St Chad's Graveyard

Because of the limited space left in the graveyard at St Chad's new graves are now reserved for people resident in the parish or for people who have a strong link with our parish. It is not possible to buy a grave in advance of need.

In the past some graves at St Chad's were sold with the understanding that it would be for the burial of up to four people. Over the years the ground may have shifted or too much space may have been left between coffins to allow four people to be interred. It is not always possible to lay to rest as many people in a grave as had been hoped. Please talk to Fr Mark if you have any concerns about this.