

# Welcome back to Mass!!!!

I am thrilled, that we are to be able to gather again to meet Jesus in the Mass. There were times in the last three months when it seemed as though this day would never come. Below are a lot of details and requests, please follow them but don't allow them to interfere with the joy of our return.

Fr Robert

## Before Mass

Please **sanitize** your hands on entry using the sanitizer provided.

Find a seat at the places marked with praying hands. Those from the same household are of course welcome to sit as close as they like but otherwise we're asked to keep **1m** (3 feet) apart.

Except for children under the age of 11, please wear a **face covering**. However please do not wear gloves as this increases the risk of cross-contamination.

Please put your giving in the appropriate place (Money, Food, CDs etc etc) as you enter. A collection plate will not be passed around at Mass.

## Holy Communion

After "Behold the Lamb of God...Lord I am not worthy," the priest will hold up the Host to the Congregation and say "The Body of Christ" to which the people should respond "Amen." In the same way, he elevates the chalice and says, "The Blood of Christ" and again the people respond "Amen."

It will be necessary for everyone to continue to remain 1m apart from each other while communion is being administered. When you approach the priest, please remove your face covering and then hold out your arms at "full stretch" so that there is a good distance between the priest and the communicant. Your hands, palms upwards, one of top of the other, should be extended as flatly as possible. **Holy Communion will be given silently in the hand only**, with the communicant standing, and avoiding any physical contact. Having received Holy Communion, please consume the Blessed Sacrament, make the sign of the cross and replace face covering before moving back to your place in an orderly manner. The chalice will not be offered at the moment.

## After Mass

Please **allow time** for the Priest to remove his vestments and to return to outside the door before leaving.

Sadly there will be no refreshments after any of the masses and at the moment we're not encouraged to linger chatting to others.

Please try to observe the required distance from each other as you leave. All of these precautions will have been worthless if we go outside and immediately start glad-handing each other. More importantly, we will be seen by our brothers and sisters in the parish to be reckless.

Please take this notice and your mass sheet home with you.

## An Appeal

These precautions may seem too stringent to some, and not stringent enough to others. In this, as in everything else, we must try to act in the most loving way possible to each other. We must, please, treat others as if they were the most cautious person we can imagine. Only by doing this will our Church be seen to be the loving and nurturing place it is. Please, therefore, do not go closer than 1 metre (with a face covering) to people who are not of your household, or assume that others, even if you are their friend, will be happy for you to come closer than a safe distance.