



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

Covid-19 - Opening of churches for private prayer Our Lady of the Angels and St Peter in chains

Guidance for attending Mass

Mass will be celebrated from **Monday 6 July 2020** initially at the following times:

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday: **6pm**

Saturday: **5:45pm**

Sunday: **10:30am**

1. Please only attend if you are well and it is safe for you to do so.
2. There will be space for at least 50 people and possibly more if families are able to sit together. Please listen to the volunteers on duty who will advise you about seating, so that we can accommodate the maximum number of people for each mass
3. The doors will remain open during all times that the church is open.
4. The toilet and confessional will remain closed at all times.
5. Please do not enter the sanctuary or sacristy unnecessarily.
6. The guidelines for 1m plus social distancing will be followed, so It is required that everyone (apart from those under 5 or with breathing conditions) entering the church use a face covering at all times to minimise the risk of contagion to all present.
7. Alcohol-based hand gel will be available and must be used on entry and departure from the church.
8. There will be a one way system to follow and indication of which spaces are available for use. Please observe social distancing at all times.
9. No candles will be lit in the body of the church during this time and veneration of statues by touching is not permitted.

10. Please keep personal possessions should to a minimum when you visit and remember to take these away when leaving the church.
11. Any children under the age of 16 should not visit the church alone and should be under adult supervision at all times.
12. There is still no obligation to attend mass on a Sunday, so please consider attending during the week if you are able to.
13. The parish missals and hymn books are unable to be used and there will be no congregational singing.
14. The prayer of the faithful will be omitted.
15. There will be no offertory procession or collection.
16. After the prayer and its response "Behold the Lamb of God...Lord I am not worthy," the Fr George will hold up the Host to the Congregation and say audibly "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." Communion will then be distributed in silence. Please remain in your seat and Fr George will move through the body of the church to distribute communion. Communion will be given on the hand only.
17. Parishioners wishing to make financial donations are encouraged to do this online or via a standing order, but a collection box will be available in the porch for any cash donations.
18. Please leave promptly when the celebration of mass ends to allow for the cleaning of the church

This guidance has been created following a risk assessment and using the advice issued by the archdiocese. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please contact Fr George.