



Guidelines for congregation attending St Catherine's Dominican Church, Newry during Covid-19 and the return to the public celebration of Mass & the Sacraments.

(Updated 26th July 2020)

These guidelines have been developed in response to the Framework Document of the Bishops of Ireland and in accordance with guidelines for social distancing from the Northern Ireland Executive. June 2020

Introduction

We are delighted to advise of the resumption of the 11 am Mass Monday to Saturday, which will be in addition to the current daily Masses that are open to the public. Daily public Masses no longer need to be booked in order to attend; however, the Saturday vigil and all Sunday Masses will need to be booked via the Lectio Centre (028 3026 2178).

Public Mass Times

Day of the Week	Public Mass Times
Monday	7.30 am & 11 am
Tuesday	11 am
Wednesday	11 am & 7.30 pm
Thursday	7.30 am & 11 am
Friday	11 am
Saturday	11 am & 7.30 pm (Vigil – need to book)
Sunday	8 am
Need to book all Sunday Masses	9 am
	11 am
	12.15 pm

The Church will be open to allow people to attend the Rosary before 11 am Masses.

Holy Communion will be available between 4 and 6 pm on Sunday afternoons.

All Masses will continue to be available online for those who remain at home.

The opening of further Public Masses will be reviewed and is dependent on the availability of Stewards.



It is important to remember that we are still in unprecedented and challenging times and it is vital that we all continue to play our part to ensure the safety of you, the congregation, the Priests and the volunteers to minimise risk.

It is acknowledged that the measures that have been put in place remain dependent on the availability of volunteers to ensure that the guidance issued by the Bishops of Ireland can be delivered safely.

The following guidelines have been put in place to ensure everyone's safety and we ask that you strictly adhere to these.

Thank you in helping us to help you.

Safety:

*Maintaining social distance remains the **safest** way to prevent spread of Covid-19 and risk to self and others. It is important that people who are shielding, vulnerable or unwell, and especially those with symptoms that might suggest Covid-19 infection, should stay at home and, if possible, participate, as now; via webcam, social media, television or radio. The same applies to those who have been in recent contact with someone who has the virus in accordance with public health advice.*

Approaching the Church

1. Adhere to social distancing outside and inside the church – note ground/floor markings.
2. You will be greeted by a Steward.

Entering the Church

3. Bless with Holy Water from non-touch dispenser.
4. Sanitise hands from foot operated dispenser.
5. A Steward will guide you to your seat.

Holy Communion

6. Follow one-way system at all times via centre aisle to your seat and to attend Holy Communion. A steward will guide you.
7. If you do not intend to receive Holy Communion please sit to the inside of the seat to maintain social distancing and not infringe on others' social space.
8. Please adhere to 2-metre floor markings when going up for Holy Communion: a steward will guide you.
9. Prior to receiving Holy Communion please re-sanitise your hands: dispenser located at the top of centre aisle. **Holy Communion can only be received in the hand at this time.**
10. Return to your seat via side aisles, again being mindful of social distancing.



11. **If wearing a face mask:** remove face mask prior to receiving Holy Communion and sanitise your hands as instructed in point 9 above.
12. **If wearing gloves:** remove gloves prior to receiving Holy Communion and sanitise your hands as instructed in point 9 above.
13. **DO NOT TOUCH** statues or Divine Mercy Picture.
Candelabra: please follow non-touch guidance and disposal of taper.

Exit

14. **Do not Linger:** as soon as Mass is over please leave the Church when guided by the steward following the one-way system up the centre aisle and exiting via the side door beside the Sacristy in an organised manner adhering to social distancing guidance.
15. Bless with Holy Water from non-touch dispenser.
16. Sanitise hands from foot operated dispenser.

Holy Communion for those unable to attend Mass

For those who are unable to attend Mass, Holy Communion will be available on Sunday afternoons in the Church between 4 and 6 pm. If you or your relative are unable to come into the church, the Priest or Eucharistic Minister will be able to take Holy Communion out to your car at the front steps of the church.

Confessions

There are plans to resume the Sacrament of Penance in the church in the near future. In the interim, anyone wishing to receive confession can contact the Priory on 028 3026 2178 to arrange with a Priest.

Thank you for your cooperation to make attending Mass a safer experience for everyone.

Prior, Brothers and the Coordinating Team. July 2020