

## **SAFE RETURN TO MASS – what your Parish has done**

The public celebration of Mass recommenced in Donnybrook church on 29 June 2020 at the usual scheduled times. This was a joyous moment for our local Church. Here's what Donnybrook Parish has done to make the return to Mass as safe as possible:

- 1. Established a Covid planning team**  
Members are the Sacristan, the Parish Deacon, a Member of the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Administrator and parishioners with expertise and experience.
- 2. Additional cleaning between Masses and use of cold-fogging machine**  
Commonly touched surfaces will be cleaned by volunteers between Masses. A cold-fogging machine will also be used in the Church to inactivate viruses in the air and on surfaces. The machine uses a natural combination of pure salt and water that is scientifically proven to be highly effective against bacteria and viruses. It is commonly used in medical facilities and in food sanitation.
- 3. Prepared signage**  
Various kinds of Covid-related signage have been posted around the church, relating to physical distancing, seating, routes to communion and to exit, and reminders about hygiene etiquette.
- 4. Set up new entry and exit routes**  
Separate entrances and exits have been identified.
- 5. Set up sanitising stations**  
Sanitising stations have been set up both outside and inside the entrances and exits and on either side of the sanctuary. Holy water fonts have been emptied.
- 6. Appointed stewards**  
Stewards have been appointed to assist and direct people within the Church.
- 7. Clearly identified seating areas**  
Seating has been measured and marked out to enable safe distancing.
- 8. Distribution of Holy Communion**  
Holy Communion will only be distributed in the hand. Ministers of the Eucharist will sanitise their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion and additionally as may be required. Ministers will be required to wear face masks when distributing the Blessed Sacrament.
- 9. Adapted the liturgy where necessary**  
Some adjustments have been made to how we celebrate our liturgy.
- 10. Communicated with parishioners, ministers, staff and volunteers**  
Protocols for safe attendance at the Church and reminders about personal responsibility will be advertised in the Church Notices, published on the Parish Website and on display at the entrances of the Church.

For more information on the protective measures being taken by the Parish to ensure your safety visit [www.donnybrookparish.ie](http://www.donnybrookparish.ie)