

GUIDANCE FOR THOSE RETURNING TO CHURCH WITH EFFECT JULY 13TH 2020

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE ATTENDING CEREMONIES

- There are two separate sections available each taking fifty people.
- **Section 1:** Enter and leave through James Street door and use the top half of the church.
- **Section 2:** Enter and leave through Mall doors and use bottom half of church.
- **The maximum number permitted at any ceremony is 100.**
- As soon as this number is attained there will be no further admission to the church.
- This number does not include priests, choir or volunteers who can be accommodated separately and safely.
- The directions of the stewards **MUST** be followed at all times.
- You may **ONLY** sit where you are instructed to so.
- A ceremony can only begin when full co operation has been attained.
- This document applies to all ceremonies, scheduled Masses, Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals.
- **PLEASE TRY TO BE SEATED TEN MINUTES BEFORE MASS.**

GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS

- The Sunday Obligation remains dispensed with, meaning you do not have to go to Mass on Sunday.
- Parish Live streaming and radio facilities will continue as during the Pandemic.
- While there will be music hopefully from soloists and musicians, full choirs cannot attend initially.
- Please do not participate in congregational singing at this time.
- Church doors will open 30 minutes before the start of Mass.
- Newsletters may be collected as you **LEAVE** the church.
- There will be no offertory baskets, boxes will continue to be left in church for envelopes.
- Please insofar as possible attend the toilet before leaving home.

WHO CAN ATTEND

- We encourage parishioners in Westport to attend Mass on weekdays at 10:00am insofar as possible.
- Weekend Masses should be reserved for those who genuinely cannot attend weekdays.
- A limited amount of seats will be held for families with Masses booked.
- **These MUST BE FILLED FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE MASS.**

COVID PROTECTION / SELF & OTHERS

- The wearing of masks is **STRONGLY ADVISED** as part of best practice.
- Anybody who is feeling unwell with flu like symptoms should not attend Mass.
- Follow correct respiratory etiquette – cover your face while coughing or sneezing.
- Please comply with the instructions of stewards at all times.
- There is no longer any such thing as your **'usual seat'** – this will be difficult.
- Those who do not obey the **'stewards'** instructions will be asked to leave.

ENTERING AND LEAVING SEATS / CHURCH

- Entry to the church in Westport will be through the Mall door for bottom half of church and James Street for top half.
- Please sanitize your hands on entering the church.
- Maintain the correct social distance of two metres at all times.
- There must be four metres between each section.
- Stewards will show parishioners to their seats, filling the churches from the top.
- When the church has reached capacity no further members of the congregation will be admitted.
- All members of the congregation are asked to be in their seats five minutes before the start of Mass.
- Congregation will be asked to leave seat by seat using all doors.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

- All lay ministers and volunteers will be required to sign a return to work form and complete a checklist.
- Eucharistic Ministers **MUST** wear provided face coverings and sanitize hands thoroughly.
- For the time being, those who wish to receive Holy Communion are recommended to do so only on the hand.
- Those receiving Holy Communion may also bring their own pyx if they so wish.
- Follow the instructions of the stewards for Holy Communion and stand on only clearly marked socially distanced places.
- One way system only for Holy Communion.