

Update from February 2022

The updated Covid guidance from the Bishops' Conference acknowledges the importance of continuing to create a safe environment in places of worship and parish buildings whilst finding the way forward. This must be a collective endeavour of all involved in the daily life of the Cathedral.

There is still no obligation to fulfil the Sunday obligation at this time and all Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral.

Whilst accepting that the pandemic is not over, we are continuing with some guidelines for those attending Mass at the Cathedral commencing at the end of January and implementing some changes to help us encourage a slow return to normality.

Face Coverings & Social Distancing

The recommendations that **people continue to wear facemasks and maintain the sanitising regime** remain in place.

On entering the Cathedral, **people will continue to be directed to their seat** by one of our Stewards and are asked to maintain social distancing.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion will be distributed from the altar steps and people will be instructed accordingly by the Stewards.

Please approach the altar via the central aisle from wherever you are seated and return to your place via the side aisles. We ask that you continue to respect the distancing that others may wish.

As always, if you require Holy Communion brought to your place, please mention this to the Stewards when you arrive for Mass.

Due to the ongoing risk of infection, the norm for receiving Communion remains on the hand. For those who wish to receive Communion on the tongue, please come to the altar when the rest of the congregation has received, as the Minister of Holy Communion will need to sanitise his/her hands after every person receiving on the tongue. There is no offence intended by this distinction and we ask that you respect also the health of the minister and of the rest of the congregation if you wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue

Confessions will continue to take place in the Lady Chapel.

Use of toilets

The Sacristy toilets will remain closed but if anyone needs to use the toilet please speak to one of the Stewards who will direct you to the toilets in the Reception area and return with you to the Cathedral.

We kindly ask that you clean the facilities using the sanitising wipes supplied, both before and after use and dispose of them in the bin provided.

Holy Water will be available in the side vestibule stoups or if you require some for home, please speak to a Steward.

During our opening hours the Stewards will assist with the signing of Mass cards.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.