

COVID-19: GUIDANCE STEP 4: 19.7.21

CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Covid-19 Route Map: Step 4 Guidance

You must not attend Church if you or someone you live with has cold or flu like symptoms

Introduction

As Step 4 is reached, we have reviewed our guidance about opening and attending the Church in the light of the latest updating of the rules. The general principles of continuing to create a safe environment in places of worship are not abandoned. Recognition of the presence of the virus in the population means that certain preventative practices will still be required. The overriding principles continue to be that we need to maintain preventative practices to stop the spread of the disease and protect our parishioners. We need to always consider the prevailing local conditions for the virus.

2. Mitigations

We will continue to provide hand sanitisers at entrances and exits and face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn by those in church. Please think of others who are more vulnerable. General cleaning to a good standard, with attention to frequent touchpoints is to continue.

3. Social Distancing and Capacity of Churches

While from 19th July, there will be no legislation on social distancing in England, For the moment we are reducing from the current 2mtr to 1mtr+. This will give us a capacity of 80 spaces [60 available to book on line. When booking, please indicate beside your name, the type of booking whether it is a household, couple or single.] **You need to book to reserve a place.**

BOOKING TO COME TO MASS

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/events/>

***Booking by phone if no internet available: you can call the parish office on 020 8904 6031
[press option 2 when prompted]***

4. Test, Track and Trace

As long as the NHS Test, Track and Trace system is in operation, we will have to continue with the booking system. [QR Codes are available].

5. One-way systems and movement of people

For the time being entrance will be **only** through the main doors of the Church. Parishioners are asked to exercise good responsible behaviour and should avoid getting too close to each other.

6. Stewards

We will continue to have stewards to show people to designated seats etc.

A. Celebration of Holy Mass

While **Holy Water Stoups** are not available we do have an automatic Holy Water Dispenser at the entrance to the Church. We also have Holy Water Bottles available on request.

Donations and Collection money: Please bring your **collection money** in an envelope and place in the box as you enter or leave. Please no coinage at this time. You can also use our automatic card readers at the exit to the Church.

The physical Sign of Peace will remain suspended, and its omission will help to reduce physical contact between people during the celebration.

Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind and in the hand. The minister will continue to sanitise their hands beforehand and wear a face covering whilst distributing.

Sunday Obligation

At present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holydays of obligation remains suspended. It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021.

As Sunday Mass capacity will be increased, if you feel more nervous, Mass is available during the week, Tuesdays and Fridays.