

## Parish of St. Anthony & Our Lady of Mercy

Kingston Upon Hull

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We are now open for Sunday Mass **BUT by invitation only** as the capacity for the church will be 50 people due to social distancing compliance – there will be official inspections to ensure we comply with COVID-19 regulations, and we can be closed down if we do not comply with those rules. We currently have an average mass attendance of 200+. Therefore people cannot just turn up, we need to know exactly who will be coming. The fairest way to achieve this will be to allocate places on an alphabetical basis. This means one Sunday Mass a month until restrictions are lifted. If you can go to a Mass during the week, or watch on the internet, please do so and leave Sundays for those who work and cannot go during the week. Everyone for whom we have details (from the census) has been contacted, and if you have not replied we will assume you do not wish to risk coming to Mass during the pandemic.

### **Important:**

- **You must reply as soon as possible to the invitation to Sunday Mass; if you do not wish to come please let us know. If you decline to come a rapid reply allows us to invite someone else.**
  - **You must not come to church unless you have been invited and replied. A steward will be checking all people on arrival to see if they are listed.**
  - **You must bring a piece of paper with your details (see below) for the NHS “test and trace” information with you EVERY time you come to Mass**
  - **You must arrive at least 5 minutes, preferably longer, before Mass is due to start, Only 2 stewards and one household are allowed in the porch area at any one time so there is “controlled entry” to ensure social distancing on entry and getting to allocated seats. This will slow down entry significantly.**
  - **When arriving at the church please remember social distancing whilst queueing.**
  - **You must follow the stewards’ instructions – they are there to help protect everyone from COVID-19, so by obeying their instructions you are “loving your neighbour”.**
1. Do not attend if you have any symptoms of cold, cough, temperature or unwell in any way.
  2. Wash your hands thoroughly before coming to church; you will be asked to sanitise your hands again on arrival – dispensers in the porch area. Please bring your own sanitiser for your use prior to you receiving communion. You may wish to wear disposable gloves.
  3. A face covering is essential unless medical reasons prohibit you from wearing one. If for any reason you cannot wear a mask you must inform a steward before you go to your allocated seating area. Please put your facemask on before entering the porch.

Arriving at church:

Queueing 2 metres apart & waiting (patiently).

Hand sanitiser and container for your track and trace form

Hand sanitiser in use, face mask in place



4. Do not bring prayer books or any other loose personal items with you. Ladies please if you bring a handbag please bring an over shoulder one and do not remove from shoulder while in the church. No items to be placed on seats or on the floor as they are potential infection risks to others; all items must be kept on your person at all times. Please avoid touching any surface as all surfaces are infection risks.
5. Please bring a piece of paper with your name, address, telephone number and email address, and it must be SIGNED in order to comply with GDPR. This is needed for “NHS test and trace” purposes in case anyone tests positive within 3 days of Mass. Please ensure your contact details are clearly printed. On arrival place the piece of paper in the box by the hand sanitisers for “test and trace”. **Please print clearly** and state how many from your household that you are the contact point for “NHS Test and trace”. **If you forget your form there are spare ones at church BUT you must bring your own pen.** However, filling in a form on arrival takes time so will slow down entry for others; if there is a queue you may be asked to wait outside until all those with the form have entered. What the church looks like under COVID-19 regulations:



6. Before you move from the porch into the main part of the church building please use the hand sanitisers, and then the steward will show you to your seat. You will not be able to sit in the same place you used to sit as you will be shown to the next available seat, all of which are marked with a green disc (please do not move the discs). There is no choice in where you sit, except families can sit together in a special area by the side chapels. If anyone needs to exit their seat for any reason there is NO squeezing past other seated people to get out as that breaks the social distancing rules. All people between you and the end of the pew will need to get out and social distance before you can get out. If you have a problem please raise your hand to attract the attention of a steward.

FRONT ROW – for those Needing help only



Green disc – on ledge (not on seats) of main pews



Family seating areas by side chapels



7. There will be no kneeling during mass and no standing either, except to go to Communion.
8. There will be no singing or communal responses during the Mass
9. The Mass will be shorter than usual, so please try not to use the toilets. If you have a medical reason that you know will mean you are likely to need the toilet during mass please inform the steward as you will need to be seated on the end of a row. Note that you might not be allowed back into the church again (for example if communion distribution has started).

Toilets have to be thoroughly cleaned after each use by the individual (cleaning material for this will be available). Children will have to be accompanied by parents and the toilet cleaned by the parent after use.

10. People will not be able to wander round the church, as we use to do, and children will need strict control by parents. Many areas are out-of-bounds!

Statues/candles



Side chapels



Sacristy



Kitchen



11. Communion will be distributed as normal but only one person receiving a host and one person standing 2 metres away as “next in the queue”. Stewards will instruct you when to stand up and go forwards – one block at a time, each block starting from the back. On the Lady Chapel side the family pews will go first; on the other side of the church Communion will start with the centre block of pews. Please follow the direction of the stewards. There is a one way system to ensure social distancing is maintained.

Communion-Others wait to be called forward. Priest wearing protective visor



Communion-straight arms mask in place - previous person 2 metres away returning to their seat



Communion - Move away several paces, then remove mask enough to eat host then replace mask



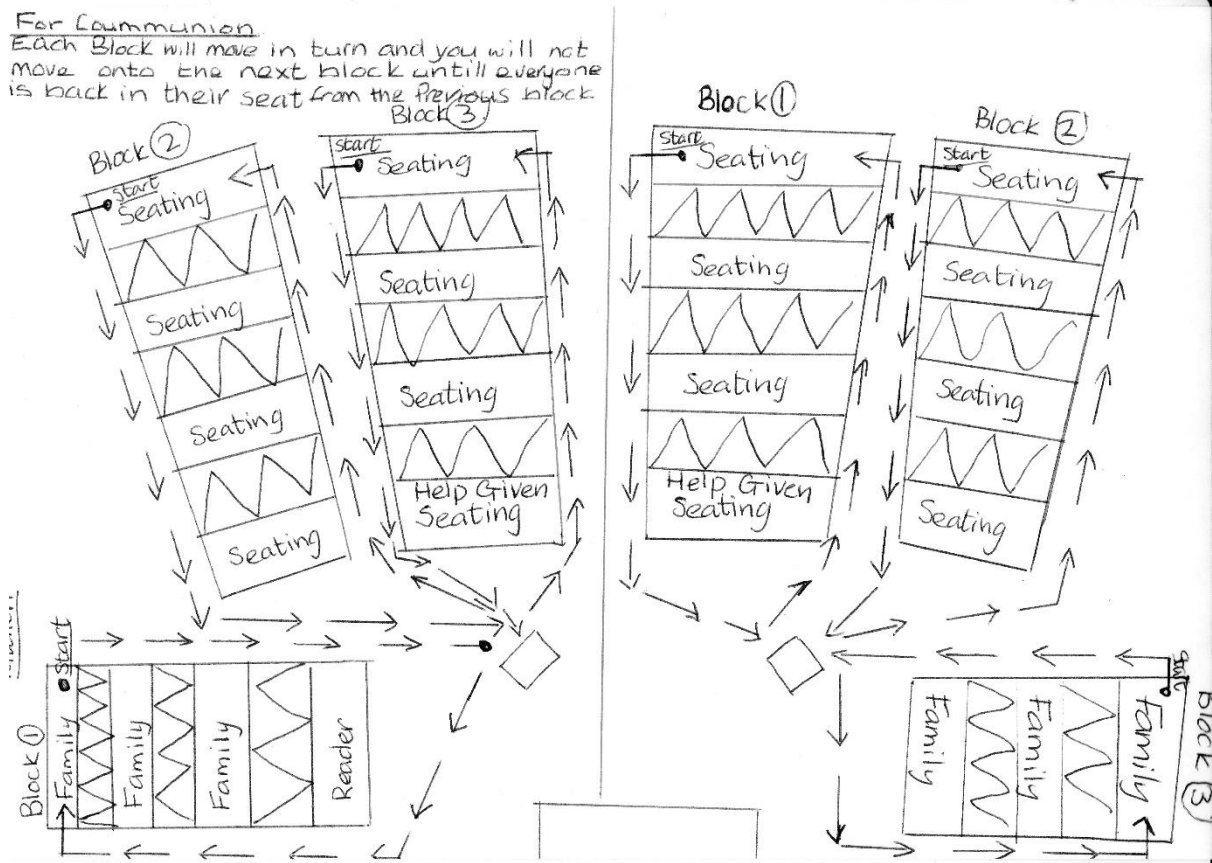
- a) Please keep your face mask in place, stretch out your arms fully in front to you, palms upwards, and minister will drop host onto your palms
- b) Then take several steps to one side in the direction you will be returning to your seat
- c) Remove your mask just enough to allow you to place the host into your mouth

d) Immediately replace the mask and return to your seat entering the pew from the opposite end to that you exited from.

Only one person at a time near the minister so maintaining 2 metres distance always.

**Everyone in the pew must come forward to the minister – either to receive Communion or to have a blessing; this is important as one cannot squeeze past someone seated in a pew whilst maintaining social distancing.**

One way system for distribution of communion – under the instructions from stewards:



12. There will be no collections; a basket for offertory donations in the bucket by the centre aisle at the doors. However, a better way to give is mentioned at the end of this information sheet.
13. Gather all your belongings before you leave.
14. Leaving the church will be done at the direction of the Stewards so please be patient. It will be one row at a time starting from the back, and as only 2 stewards and one household are allowed in the porch area at any one time it will be a slow process. The Lady Chapel side of the church will leave through the doorway to the ramp, the other side will leave through the main doorway. As soon as you are clear of the gravel area beyond the steps, please sanitise your hands using your own sanitiser, then remove your mask. Please do not gather in groups outside the church but disperse immediately. You must return to the pavement on Beverley Road or the car park immediately as others will need to exit after you so please do not stay in the area in front of the church as it will obstruct others leaving (2 metres social distancing rules).
15. **If anyone at that Mass tests positive for COVID-19 withing 3 days of Mass then all**

**who were at the mass will have to self-isolate for 14 days, and we will be passing on your contact details to NHS “Test and Trace”.** The church will have to close as the priest and deacon will also have to self-isolate.

16. Remember, your mask decreases your chance of passing COVID-19 to others, it does not protect you from catching it – social distancing and good hand hygiene do that.
17. We are looking for more volunteers to be stewards as we need at least 2 teams. We especially need people to help clean and sanitise the church after mass. If you are able to volunteer to serve your neighbour in this way please inform a steward or contact Deacon Bob.

Obligation to attend Sunday mass is suspended.

If you are extremely vulnerable or over 70 you should stay at home.

We are looking at streaming Mass from the church via You Tube as not everyone uses FaceBook, which is how the current streaming happens from Fr Antony’s phone, every day. Streaming will continue as long as is needed.

If you are sick or admitted to hospital don’t forget to contact the hospital Chaplin or Parish Priest.

Gift Aid envelopes for 2020-21 are in the porch at church. Collect yours on the way into mass as the one way exit system may prevent you collecting them on the way out.

If you hold Gift Aid envelopes with the following numbers please let Deacon Bob know so he can contact the church treasurer, Ian Appleyard:

Gift Aid envelopes numbers: 8, 13, 21, 36, 37, 39, 40, 43.

**Please also keep giving as our expenses have not gone away but have increased.** The best way to do this is by bank “Standing Order”. This can easily be set up through your bank, through online banking if you have account access that way or in person at your local branch.

Please respect the stewards and their instructions.

This will be trial and error at first but once we reach 50 we will have to refuse entry. We will be checked on by officials that we are compliant with the rules.

Please contact Deacon Bob and advise him if:

- you do not wish to attend services because of COVID risks, so we can invite others who do want to attend. If you change your mind contact Deacon Bob to be re-instated to the invitation list
- if you have a visitor in your household who wants to come to Mass with you

Remember the 50 limit includes the number of adults and children who attend.

If you turn up without replying to Deacon Bob you will not be on the list and if we are full, you will be turned away. Good communication is essential, please.

Thank for your continued support and please keep all our community in your prayers.

***Keep looking at our webpage for the latest news.***